

Finnish Ambassador Visits Gwanda with Felm and ZCC Delegation

Her Excellency Saana Halinen, the Finnish Ambassador to Zimbabwe, recently joined a delegation on a partner monitoring visit to Ward 13 in Gwanda District, where the Zimbabwe Council of Churches (ZCC) is implementing the Scaling Up Livelihoods and Resilience Program, funded by the Finnish Government through the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission (Felm). The delegation included Marja Alastalo, Felm Senior Program Manager, and Ruusa Gawaza, Felm Climate Resilience Advisor, and was led by ZCC General Secretary Rev. W. Dimingu and Director for Humanitarian Services and Diakonia Maria Tendai Dendere and the District Development Coordinator's Office.

Since 2022, ZCC has implemented three projects in Gwanda with support from Felm. The four-year program (2022–2025) aims to complement government efforts by strengthening vulnerable households against recurrent climatic and socio-economic shocks, with a focus on:

1.
**Food
Security and
Nutrition**

2.
**Livelihoods
and income
generation**

3.
**Gender
equality and
disability
inclusion**

4.
**Disaster
preparedness
and climate
resilience**





The Ambassador's visit reflects Finland's continued support for locally-led, faith-based development efforts that empower communities and advance inclusive progress in Zimbabwe.