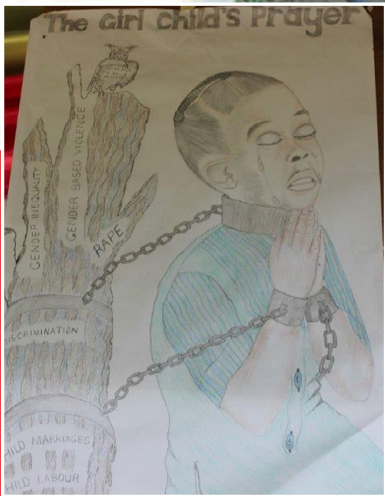


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Annual
Report
2015

Who We Are

OUR VISION

A Zimbabwe without poverty and injustice in which every person enjoys their right to a life of dignity.

OUR MISSION

To work with people living in poverty to eradicate poverty and injustice.

OUR VALUES

Mutual Respect: requiring us to recognise the innate worth of all people and the value of diversity.

Equity and Justice: requiring us to work to ensure equal opportunity to everyone, irrespective of race, age, gender, sexual orientation, HIV status, colour, class, ethnicity, disability, location and religion.

Honesty and Transparency: being accountable at all levels for the effectiveness of our actions and open in our judgements and communications with others.

Solidarity with the poor: powerless and excluded will be the only bias in our commitment to the fight against poverty.

Courage of Conviction: requiring us to be creative and radical, bold and innovative - without fear of failure - in pursuit of making the greatest possible impact on the causes of poverty.

Independence: from any religious or party-political affiliation.

Humility: in our presentation and behaviour, recognising that we are part of a wider alliance against poverty.

Contents

| | |
|--|-----------|
| List of Aycronms | 5 |
| 1. Development Context | 6 |
| 2. Strategic objectives and key change promises for 2015 | 8 |
| 3. Strategic Objective 1 achievements, challenges and lessons | 9 |
| 4. Strategic Objective 2 achievements, challenges and lessons | 15 |
| 5. Strategic Objective 3 achievements, challenges and lessons | 21 |
| 6. Finance Report for 2015 | 26 |
| 7. AAZ funding sources, donors and partners 2015 | 28 |
| 8. Geographical Spread of AAZ activities | 30 |
| 9. Human Resources and Organisational Development Report 2015 | 31 |
| 10. AAZ Staff 2015 | 32 |

ACRONYMS

| | |
|---------|--|
| AAI | ActionAid International |
| AAZ | ActionAid Zimbabwe |
| AGRITEX | Agricultural Extension Services |
| ARIPO | African Regional Intellectual Property organisations |
| AU | African Union |
| BPRA | Bulawayo Progressive Residents Association |
| CAADP | Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program |
| CBO | Community Based Organisation |
| CHRA | Combined Harare Residents Association |
| CP | Country Programme |
| CRSA | Climate Resilience Sustainable Agriculture. |
| CSDCs | Child led School Development Committees |
| CSO | Civil Society Organisation |
| DOMMCP | Diocese of Mutare Community Care Programme |
| EAWAG | Eawag Aquatic Research |
| ECD | Early Childhood Development |
| FACE | Family Action for Community Empowerment |
| FACT | Family AIDS Caring Trust |
| FBO | Fixed Based Operator |
| FCTZ | Farm community trust Zimbabwe |
| FGG | Fair Green and Global |
| GBV | Gender Based Violence |
| GMO | Genetically Modified Organisms |
| HEFO | Health Education and Food Security Organization |
| HRBA | Human Rights Based Approach |
| IHART | ActionAid International Humanitarian and Resilience Team Arrangement |
| INGOs | International Non-Governmental Organisations |
| ISAC | Investment In Agriculture Coalition |
| ISALs | Internal Savings and Lending Schemes |
| IYWD | Institute for Young Women Development |
| KCP | Key Change Promise |
| LDP | Local Development Programme |
| MTC | Mvurwi Town Council |
| MURRA | Masvingo United Residents and Rate Payers Association |
| NFIs | Non-Food Items |
| NGO | Non-governmental organisation |
| POSA | Public order and security act |
| PPA | Programme and Partnership Arrangement |
| RWA | Rural Women's Assembly |
| SADC | Southern Africa Development Committee |
| SCC | Safe Cities Campaign |
| SDC | School Development Committees |
| SDC | Swiss Agency for Development Corporation |
| UN | United Nations |
| UNICEF | United Nations Children's Fund |
| VAWG | Violence Against Women and Girls |
| WARESA | Women Resources in Southern Africa |
| WASH | Water Sanitation and Hygiene |
| WILD | Women In Leadership Development |
| ZBC | Zimbabwe Broadcasting Cooperation. |
| ZIMSOFF | Zimbabwe Smallholder Farmers Forum |
| ZIMVAC | Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee |
| ZINWA | Zimbabwe National Water Authority |
| ZWLA | Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association |

between 2.4 and 2.6 million people required food assistance due to an El Nino phenomenon induced drought in the 2015-2016 farming season. It is noted that the prevalence of poverty in Zimbabwe stands at about 63% according to the ZIMVAC 2014 report. Poverty is more widespread in rural households (76% being in rural areas) compared to the 38% in the urban areas.

It is within this context that AAZ together with partners and other key stakeholders both public (government departments) and the private, managed to provide support through the Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) to the most vulnerable and most needy people particularly women, youth and children. This report thus exhibit the nature of support provided, the outcomes, impact, challenges faced and the lessons learnt in the process to inform future programming.



Health issues always come out as one of the women's challenges. Here a woman lead other women from Nyanga identifying community priorities as part of AAZ participatory planning processes

2. Strategic objectives and key change promises for 2015

In 2015, AAZ implemented the following three strategic objectives in relation to the development and socio-economic context above:

- Promote improved livelihoods and enhanced rights to land and natural resources for at least 40,000 rural smallholder producers (25,000 being women and 15,000 being men) and their households.
- Support people living in poverty being 153,000 adult women, young women and men and children to engage the government and corporates for improved social service delivery.
- Ensure that 300,000 women and girls can break the cycle of poverty and violence, build economic alternatives and claim control over their bodies.

AAZ used three key change promises (KCPs) 1, 2 and 3 for the three strategic objectives above respectively. The KCPs which simply mean impact objectives will be elaborated in the main programme achievements. In 2015 AAZ interventions countrywide reached a total of 64,107 people comprising 36,645 females (which include girls, young and adult women) and 27,462 males which included boys, young and older men.

3. Strategic Objective 1 achievements, challenges and lessons

Promote improved livelihoods and enhanced rights to land and natural resources for at least 40,000 rural smallholder producers (25,000 being women and 15,000 being men) and their households

Key Change Promise (Impact objective) 1

Sustainable livelihoods, food and nutrition security for 40,000 smallholder producers (at least 25,000 being women) by 2018

3.1 Achievements in 2015

Strategic Objective 1 interventions included Climate Resilient Sustainable Agriculture (CRSA), Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Emergency Response activities.

CRSA interventions

Interventions supported by AAZ and partners saw a total of 9,465 people, 2,244 being male and 6,121 being female reporting increased food security as a result of CRSA in AAZ Local Development Areas (LDPs). LDPs are the AAZ localised operational areas. A total of 8,008 farmers comprising 4,643 male and 3,365 female practised CRSA through reduced external chemical inputs, diversified crops and increased soil and water conservation through various activities supported by AAZ and partners.

Some of the CRSA activities included the following:

- Setting up of conservation demonstration plots in Nkayi District in Matabeleland North Province, showcasing the tenets of the AAI CRSA model.
- Mulching and reforestation initiatives by planting indigenous trees to curb rampant soil erosion in Nkayi.
- A gully reclamation campaign in five wards in Nkayi.
- Participation in an annual National Traditional and Organic Food and Seed Festival which seeks to encourage and support farmers to develop vibrant community based seed systems. The festival is a platform for farmers to exchange seed and knowledge about the different varieties which they have retained.
- Supporting local seed diversity fairs in Nkayi District in order to increase awareness and share the rich knowledge, experiences and practices that smallholder farmers have on conservation, management and use of agro biodiversity. A wide range of traditional seeds, fruit and food such as millet, sorghum, indigenous okra, OPV maize and wild fruits were on exhibition.

- Supporting 150 farmers to venture into seed multiplication for locally adapted seed and they rehabilitated their household seed storage systems in Nkayi.
- Rehabilitation of a seed bank and construction of two additional ones to promote indigenous seed varieties.
- Supporting eight Junior Farmers Clubs which have been formed in schools to pioneer climate resilient sustainable agriculture approaches in Nkayi.
- Implementation of livestock interventions in Mbire and Nkayi Districts, directly benefiting 8,008 farmers through improved livestock management practices, provision of supplementary feeding, fodder production for enhanced livestock nutrition and improved farmer organisation culminating into better marketing strategies.
- Delivering various livelihood enhancing activities through the Rural Women Assembly platform (RWA). In Makoni LDP, AAZ worked with RWAs to construct a value addition centre for locally available products e.g. making peanut butter from groundnuts. AAZ and partners also formed and strengthened the Internal Savings and Lending Clubs for the RWAs. AAZ and partners facilitated the development of 106 ISAL groups in Chiendambuya and Nyanga LDPs. There are about 4,000 RWA members in the AAZ LDPs.

At national level AAZ lobbied for a 10% allocation of the national budget to the smallholder agricultural sector through the ISAC whose mandate is to lobby, negotiate and encourage the Government of Zimbabwe to effectively implement the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP). As a result, the Government of Zimbabwe is actively engaging stakeholders, including the AU and NEPAD to ensure that it adheres to the CAADP principles.

WASH and Emergency Response interventions

Under the Small Towns Water Sanitation and Hygiene Project being implemented by AAZ with support from UNICEF and the Australian government, AAZ worked towards improving accountability to Mvurwi residents through setting up effective and better coordinated systems. AAZ facilitated the training of Mvurwi Town Council (MTC) and ZINWA front office staff, management and technical staff who have direct interface with the public on customer care. In addition AAZ supported MTC to develop and implement Customer Care Plans and Service Charters to deliver quality services to residents. AAZ also supported the establishment of a complaints and feedback mechanism in the town-erecting six suggestion boxes at strategic locations. This was meant to encourage the accountability of MTC to residents in service delivery. Community members and council staff were trained on the Citizens Supporting Service Delivery Concept as a way of educating residents on their WASH rights and equipping them to demand equitable service delivery. AAZ set up a WASH Steering Committee in Mvurwi comprising all the critical stakeholders, including residents representatives, for strengthened WASH sector coordination, planning, management and knowledge management in the town. Mvurwi

has a population of about 10,942 people who stand to benefit from the MTC WASH programme.

Beginning September 2015 and with support from Swiss Agency for Development Corporation (SDC) and in Partnership with Eawag Aquatic Research (EAWAG), Farm Community Trust of Zimbabwe and Combined Harare Residents Association, AAZ started implementing a Hand-washing Campaign in Harare. The main objective of the Campaign is to promote hand washing with soap at all critical times among 31,243 school children, at least 2,000 caregivers and about 1,000 other family members and policy makers in Zimbabwe. The project started with road shows and the training of 80 community based caregivers in 22 districts in Harare to promote awareness raising on hand washing. AAZ provided 22 schools with soap and buckets at the end of December 2015.



Students from Holy Rosary Primary school in Mvurwi practising hygiene following WASH trainings by ActionAid



A handwashing road show in Mufakose, Harare

To enhance water security and sustainable water management, AAZ, secured 57 bags of cement and rehabilitated Phumuz-Amanina Dam which benefits communities in Nkayi. Five boreholes were rehabilitated in Nkayi to improve community access to safe and clean water.

AAZ drilled three boreholes and rehabilitated four at three schools at Nyakomba Irrigation Scheme to ease the water challenges in Nyanga District following a typhoid outbreak that killed four people and affected more than 700 people. Four (4) blocks of flush toilet system (2 for men and 2 for females) under one roof were rehabilitated at Nyamaropa Business Centre in Nyanga with running water which is being piped from a dam constructed as part of the typhoid response programme.

AAZ secured water guard, soap and water buckets with lids for water storage. These were distributed to 5,033 households (26,225 people) in three wards which were severely affected by the typhoid outbreak in Nyamaropa LDP in Nyanga District. To enhance community understanding of the purpose and how to use the hygiene kit, environmental health technicians and village health workers delivered health promotion and hygiene messages and also carried out demonstrations during the distribution process benefitting over 26,000 people.



A woman from Chatindo of Ward 1, Nyamaropa, Nyanga District happy to be fetching water following the rehabilitation of the borehole by ActionAid

AAZ responded to floods in Mbire District through the provision of farming inputs to 1,140 households (benefitting 6,306 people) to enable flood affected farmers to replant maize in their fields. AAZ also provided food assistance to 300 severely affected and displaced households, representing 2,701 people, in the district. The food assistance programme targeted child-headed families, widowed women and single mothers and the elderly. AAZ also provided veterinary kits to the community based animal health workers.

To promote resilience within communities and prepare communities to be able to cope with emergencies of any nature, AAZ facilitated training on Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Response Planning for 10 of its partner staff who in turn trained 300 community members and local authorities in their respective LDPs. By December 2015, disaster risk management and emergency response plans had been developed for selected wards in Mbire, Nkayi, Nyanga and Chiendambuya LDPs.

AAZ supported the Hazard Programming Framework project funded by DFID through the ActionAid International Humanitarian and Resilience Team Arrangement (IHART) by inputting into the development of the drought and flood frameworks. AAZ validated the drought framework in Nyanga and Mbire districts.

Challenges and Lessons

Some of the lessons under Strategic Objective 1 include that there is need to actively engage government stakeholders to build their capacity in CRSA for greater sustainability of interventions. It is beneficial to set up and strengthen community institutions. This increases value for money, builds ownership of the project among community members and enhances sustainability. The challenges which daunted the implementation of Strategic Objective 1 included constrained human resources and funding restraints.

3.2 Story of Change

Small grains Promotion pays Dividends for Nkayi residents

Nkayi communities have for many years suffered from food insecurity due to erratic rainfall patterns experienced in the district. This has also created poverty as farmers start selling the few beasts they have so as to get food. ActionAid has helped reduce the effects of climate change in Nkayi through the promotion of diversified livelihoods. The case of Sibusisiwe Dube (36) represents more than twenty seven similar cases in Ward 20 of Nkayi alone.



Maria Ndlovu of Nkayi standing near her harvested sorghum. She is one of the famers in Nkayi who are diversifying their farming

Sibusisiwe remembers that as she grew up, food was plenty as her parents depended on the then plentiful rains. But, today out of 50 farmers who go out to plough in the dry land, only 15 bring home meaningful harvests in Sibusisiwe's community. This is attributed to the changing climate.

Sibusisiwe said: "ActionAid and Health Education and Food Organisation (HEFO) have clearly demonstrated to us that the cycle of poverty is caused by dependency on crops that are not adaptive to prevailing climatic conditions. Nkayi no longer receives enough rains to support the growing of maize. I am one farmer who took HEFO and ActionAid a lot of time to convince. I believed that rains would be there every year. However, I continued to suffer as I toiled in the fields for nothing as the rains have been erratic. I sold all I had in the past three years which included goats and chickens."

"After attending the traditional seed and food diversity fair held in Ward 21 and organised by HEFO and ActionAid, I suddenly realized where my solution lay – growing small grains. I asked so many questions on how I could benefit from the campaign and the extension officers took turns to explain to me", said Sibusisiwe. She said that she then began to see her life unfolding before her. "I took all the facts about how to fight poverty through small grains. When I saw my fellow women farmers displaying their food wares during the agricultural diversification campaign shows, I vowed that I would be the winner come July 2016, says Sibusisiwe with renewed vigour in her voice".

In the 2015-2016 farming season, Sibusisiwe was ready to plant a record all – small – grains – two hectare plot. There are 223 women in Nkayi vowing to end poverty through small grains production. This feeling being instilled into farmers by HEFO and ActionAid is believed to eradicate food insecurity by 2018. Small grains thrive well when there are erratic rains. The farmers are producing millet and sorghum as some of the small grains that do well in their environment.

ActionAid and HEFO have worked in partnership with the government Agricultural Extension Services Department (Agritex) in conducting training on agro biodiversity and seed banking benefitting 1,420 farmers, 1,057 being women in five wards in Nkayi.

4. Strategic Objective 2 achievements, challenges and lessons

Objective

Support people living in poverty being 153,000 adult women, young women and men and children to engage the government and corporates for improved social service delivery

Key Change Promise (Impact objective) 2

By 2018, through holding central government, local governments and corporates to account, AAZ and its partners will facilitate improvements in the quality, equity and gender responsiveness of public services for 340,000 adult women and young women and men, children and other people living in poverty in selected rural, peri-urban and urban communities in Zimbabwe

4.1 Achievements in 2015

Following various AAZ and partner engagements with councils during the year under review, seven local authorities namely Harare, Chitungwiza, Masvingo, Bulawayo, Ruwa, Makoni and Goromonzi Rural District Council have taken steps that demonstrate responsiveness to residents' needs regarding the provision of quality, gender responsive services. For example Chitungwiza City Council increased nursing staff by 20% at Chitungwiza General Hospital to cater for increased demand from residents following concerns over the nurse to patient ratio. This was done after dialogue meetings facilitated by AAZ and partners on inefficient service delivery systems at the local hospital. Goromonzi RDC constructed water trenches in Chinamhora District and drilled two boreholes to curb water shortage problems for people and livestock. The drilled boreholes are providing safe drinking water to 1,500 people (55% being women). A total of 7,764 people comprising 1,654 male and 4,456 have experienced improvements in quality and gender responsive public services following the above programmes implemented by various councils in Zimbabwe where AAZ is operational.

Residents from Mpopoma and Nketa in Bulawayo lobbied the Zimbabwe Republic Police to set up a police base to curb increased crime and gender based violence in the areas. The establishment of the police post has benefited approximately 3,455 women and 2,500 men through improved security in the two residential areas. Women and girls mainly complained about gender based violence and criminal activities in Nketa and Mpopoma. Bulawayo City Council provided land for the construction of the Police Post.

Women in Bulawayo successfully lobbied for their inclusion in the budget making process. Consequently for the first time Bulawayo City Council had a Women's Budget Consultation Meeting, which provided women with the opportunity to present their priorities in the 2016 Budget. Ruwa Local Board constructed toilets at Masasa Shopping Center to cater for shoppers and vendors who are mostly women. Makoni Rural District Council reduced flea market fees from US\$10 to US\$5 per month after the traders mostly women engaged with the local authority. Masvingo United Residents and Rate Payers Association worked with the women vendors to organise accountability meetings with Masvingo City Council. The meetings culminated in a demonstration to push council to build toilets at Chitima Bus Station and collect garbage at that vending market. Masvingo City Council responded by constructing a block of toilets at Chitima and has employed someone who cleans the toilet and garbage is now collected every day from the market that has improved sanitation facilities to 1,000 women and 500 men.



A woman from Cowdry Part in Bulawayo says access to water has improved in the area following the women's engagement with local authorities

Women, men and youths have been consulted in gender responsive service delivery meetings in six communities of Mutoko, Murehwa, Buhera, Damafalls in Ruwa and Harare. This has resulted in the construction of toilets and drilling of boreholes in these areas. There has been a realisation of 30% increase of payment of levies by residents and 10% of levies paid by residents which have been ploughed back in the communities for service delivery in road infrastructure leading to accessing services and markets by residents. This has been facilitated by Public Expenditure Tracking survey and accountability meetings on financial transparency that took place between residents and Nyanga Rural District

Council. Harare City Council has consulted community women in Mabvuku and Tafara who expressed the need for improved water provision at waiting mothers' shelters which has resulted in the drilling of boreholes at Sunningdale, Mbare and Mabvuku clinics in Harare. Pregnant women no longer bring buckets of water when they come for delivery at these clinics.

Women in Bulawayo lobbied council to come up with a gender sensitive budget to be reflected in the 2016 budget. Residents in Harare have requested council to provide more information on council operations and this has resulted in the Mayor's Quarterly Address that provides information on the council's performance. Relations between residents and council have improved as seen in the decrease of conflict by almost 20% in Harare. The development of an Accountability Toolkit and use of other social accountability tools has enabled youths and residents in Zengeza, Epworth and Harare to engage council on public service provision.



Egness Muleya of Kububa, Binga pointing at bricks her community has moulded towards the building of a clinic in the area

Harare City Council drilled four boreholes in Mbare, Sunningdale, Mabvuku and Glenview while Goromonzi Rural District in Mashonaland East Province drilled two boreholes to enable communities to access clean and safe water. Community health promoters have been increased by 20% to ensure residents awareness on the importance of a clean environment and reduce occurrences of diseases such as cholera and dysentery. There has been construction of blocks of toilets at two shopping centres and bus terminus for

vendors and commuters in Ruwa, Harare Metropolitan area and Masvingo. Harare City Council has replaced faulty water meters which were causing faulty billing resulting in water disconnections in residential areas. Harare City Council has come up with payment plans for water bills for residents to avoid water disconnections and ensure that residents have normal water supplies. The establishment of the Police Posts in Nketa and Mpopoma in Bulawayo has reduced the occurrence of criminal activities in the two areas by 25%.

One coalition comprising seven residents associations and five CSOs was established to campaign against pre-paid water meter installations. The coalition has managed to push local authorities to shelve the installation of pre-paid water meters without enough studies on the impact it had on the right to water for residents and putting the prerequisite infrastructure that will ensure that residents will have constant supply of water.

A total of 450 Youths in three wards have used score cards to rate service delivery in the two areas and Epworth Local Board has started consulting the youths on budgets and service delivery issues especially the provision of water. Three Youth partners and AAZ have engaged seven local authorities to demand accountability in the provision of reproductive health, sanitation and other public services.

The participation of Child led School Development Committees (CSDCs) in school administration has resulted in children advocating for an improved school environment. Their participation has resulted in refurbishment of classrooms, fencing and building of toilets in five schools. School fees payment by parents has improved by 30% due to engagement of the SDCs by the school administration due to improved transparency and accountability of school budgets. AAZ and partners worked with 42 Child led SDCs which engage school administration on how the schools are run to ensure that children's rights are upheld.

Five Women Study circles in Chimanimani, Chipinge and Buhera with support from their development trusts filed litigation against Mining Corporates that were polluting the Save River. The matter has been brought to the Constitutional Court and the mining corporates have been found guilty but the final judgement and charges were yet to be announced at the end of 2015. The Environment Management Agency which is a government department has been called by communities in the mining areas to charge the mining companies which are causing environmental degradation. More than five companies have since paid fines for the damages they have caused.

AAZ has joined the Stop Zimbabwe Bleeding Campaign which was launched in September 2015 during the National Mining Indaba. The campaign was highlighting the amount of revenue that Zimbabwe has lost through illicit financial flows in the mining industry. The campaign was calling on government to provide citizens with access to the contracts they sign with corporates and an end to investment incentives that are causing Zimbabwe

to lose a lot of revenue that could be used to fund service delivery. Government has not given an official response to the proposal that was given by the CSOs.

Challenges and Lessons

One of the challenges faced by AAZ as it implemented Strategic Objective 2 include lack of access to information such as council budgets, council minutes and contracts signed between government and multi-national companies. This makes advocating and demanding accountability difficult. One of the lessons therefore was that there was need for a sustained dialogue and constructive engagements with duty bearers in order to promote the responsiveness of government.

4.2 Story of Change

Young women in clinic breakthrough

By Danny Nyasha Nyamushamba, IYWD

Institute for Young Women Development (IYWD) is pushing for effective social accountability in Mashonaland Central, province in Zimbabwe. 50 young women from Chikwidibe Ward 2 in Guruve District, Mashonaland Central have taken a pivotal role towards putting their leaders to task hence contributing towards the development of their area leading to the establishment of a clinic within the ward.

The clinic, which was yet to be officially opened at the end of 2015, is being established at a former farm house which had been idle for some years. It is entitled Nyamfuta Clinic. "We saw the necessity to renovate this farm house and provide a clinic for Chikwidibe villagers," said Ward Councilor Mr. Victor Mabido. Plans to provide a clinic were implemented back in 2006 but up to 2015 no progress had been made. Nevertheless, after attending IYWD advocacy trainings and workshops which enriched them with knowledge about social accountability, service delivery and sanitation young women appealed to the council to provide a clinic and end their long time plight of travelling 30km to the nearest Gota clinic.

"Unavailability of a local health centre mostly affected us young women because we are the ones who are in the age range of giving birth. We had to hire scotch carts or cars when labour approached", explained Farisai Moffat (34). They were charged as much as US\$20 to be transported to Gota clinic. Communities in Guruve rely on farming and their earnings are seasonal and many young women cannot afford the US\$20 for hiring vehicles to go the nearest clinic.

There are reports of mothers who gave birth on their way and some babies lost lives due to complications associated with poor maternal health care. Some women would not go for regular checkups during pregnancy because of the 30km distance to the clinic. Besides maternity challenges, the Chikwidibe community as a whole faced the problem of walking long distances to seek medication. As such, establishment of Nyamfuta Clinic will resolve numerous health problems that have been affecting the community for a long time. "I am delighted we managed to achieve our goal and now we don't have to hire transport to seek medical attention", said the leader of the young women community working group Surudias Munuhwa (34) with a smile.

Renovations were at an advanced stage at the end of 2015. Beds, medicine and fridges had been put in place. Two health workers, Nurse Nyanzara and Dr. Sandengu from the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare were recruited in September 2015. "We have already started our work and in October 2015 we immunized a good number of babies", said Dr. Sandengu. Nurse Nyanzara highlighted what was needed for the clinic to be fully functional were drugs, benches, curtains and mattresses for the beds. "Once these things come and the building renovations are done we are keen to start our work in full force," she explained. About 1,250 households from 21 villages will benefit from the initiative according to Councilor Mabido.

Meanwhile the young women from Chikwidibe have expressed gratitude towards IYWD for empowering them with knowledge and facilitating engagement with their local authorities. IYWD in partnership with ActionAid; is empowering young women in Mashonaland Central by strengthening their voice through various programmes using structures such as the Community Working Group where the 50 young women are part of.

In Shamva District another group of young women, affectionately known as the "sisters club" steered the establishment of a water well to ensure continuous supply of clean water to communities and were supported by IYWD. Also in Guruve, a young women community working group offered voluntary assistance at Nyamanje Primary School where an Early Childhood Development (ECD) classroom block was being built.

The young women who are mostly affected by lack of services such as water and health facilities, have taken it upon themselves to actively utilise their citizenry role to advocate and lobby their leaders to deliver on their duties. They have positively put into practice what they continue learning through programmes delivered by IYWD.



Chikwidibe villagers pose for a photo outside the clinic

5. Strategic Objective 3: Achievements, Challenges and Lessons

Objective

Ensure that 300,000 women and girls in Zimbabwe can break the cycle of violence and claim control over their bodies

Key Change Promise (Impact objective) 3

By 2018, 300,000 Women and Girls living in poverty have control over their bodies and sexuality, through challenging and rejecting Gender Based Violence and securing access to comprehensive care and quality support services including Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and other socio-economic as well as legal rights

5.1 Achievements in 2015

The year under review saw AAZ implementing interventions on Gender Based Violence (GBV) within the home and sexual reproductive health in rural areas while the emphasis in urban areas was on GBV in public spaces and comprehensive sexual reproductive health targeting adolescence. As part of the Strategic Objective 3 programming, two campaigns were implemented namely the Safe Cities and the African Union (AU) Campaign to End Child Marriage in Africa applied in urban and rural areas respectively.

The Safe Cities Campaign

The Safe Cities Campaign (SCC), a global programme aimed at creating a safe and free public space for women and girls in urban public spaces was launched on 20 May 2015 by the Deputy Minister of Women's Affairs, Gender and Community Development, Honorable Abigail Damasane. The event made the SCC visible as it was widely publicized. Thereafter a Safe Cities Campaign Network was formed. More than 10 organisations which are already working on SCC activities formed the network under the leadership of ActionAid Zimbabwe. The network meets bi-monthly to discuss various activities being conducted by individual organisations and others to be done by the network members jointly. One organisation called Young Voices Network raised awareness on how women are harassed in public transport and at bus termini by the touts. The organization went on to train the touts on how to be gender sensitive especially in handling women and girls

who use public transport. The touts are beginning to advise each other to stop violence against women and girls. Katswe Sisters, a member of the SCC held an event in Harare gardens to discuss the situation of violence against women and girls in public spaces in Harare. Members of Parliament graced the event. ActionAid Zimbabwe and partners utilized the services of a popular talk show host called Mai Chisamba to publicize the issue of violence against women in public spaces and how it relates to gender responsive public services. Two shows were aired on Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation (ZBC) Television on two Sundays for a duration of one hour each.



The ground breaking launch of the safe cities Campaign in Harare

In Chitungwiza, Harare Metropolitan area there was an increase in the number of women and girls reporting violence in private and public spaces using hotline and toll free numbers administered by one of the implementing partners called Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association (ZWLA). Fliers were distributed with hotline numbers during community meetings and 979 women and girls reported. There was also an increase in the number of women and girls who reported violence through a help desk which was established. The help desk was a relief for women in Chitungwiza who cannot afford bus fares to seek legal aid elsewhere. The desk also provides impromptu assistance to women who have been referred by the Court. During the reporting period 65 clients were assisted in court processes and legal information.

In Chitungwiza, ZWLA, organised a meeting between police and community members to discuss the response of police to reports made by women. Police officers urged women to work closely with them in order to curb violence in societies and women were encouraged to report all cases of violence to the police. This is one of the responses of the state to protect women from violence. The Parliamentary Portfolio committee

Campaign against GBV in the home

AAZ awareness programmes on GBV saw 1,054 women reporting their cases in the LDPs. LDP partners set aside some funds to assist survivors of GBV with transport needs. The availability of the financial support to survivors helped to improve the confidence of communities in reporting and following up on cases of GBV and child marriages. Some court cases which were about to be dropped because the survivors were not attending court sessions due to unavailability of bus fares to courts were resumed and perpetrators sentenced. A total of 10 GBV survivors were assisted to access health and legal services, four of them were assisted with bus fares and payment of Ultra Sound Scans and X rays during medical examinations. Five GBV survivors were assisted with travel allowances to Rusape town to attend Regional Court sessions. Of interest to note is a case which was about to be dropped as the survivor of rape had failed to attend court sessions for two years because she could not afford to go to one of the towns called Rusape where the Regional Court is situated from the rural home. After the intervention of FACE, an LDP partner, the case was continued and concluded and the perpetrator was sentenced to 10 years in jail.

In Nyanga, the Victim Friendly Unit created a WhatsApp platform for stakeholders who implement GBV and child rights where they share information and tip offs from the community. They agreed to work in solidarity with stakeholders on the cases. In the same district, the Ministry of Justice Legal and Parliamentary Affairs holds an intergovernmental meeting every month to reflect on and discuss Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) issues:

5.2 Story of change

Rural girl rejects early marriage to claim her right to education

At the age of 13, Enisia Musaruro of Kanyimo Village, Ward 4 of Nyanga District, shocked members of her community by refusing to follow her father's order to drop out of school to marry an older man from the same church.

Enisia, now 16 and doing form two (in 2015) defied all odds by becoming one of the few girls in her community, whose religion forces girls into early marriages, to unlock herself from bondage of premature matrimony.

Enisia, who is from a polygamous family of 25 children, her mother being the first wife of three wives married to her father, has not only managed to free herself from captivity. She has fought for the freedom of two of her half-sisters who were on the brink of being married at a juvenile stage. The two half-sisters were doing form one in 2015, however after staging a contest with their father with support from Enisia, they succeeded in convincing him to abandon the idea of marrying them at an early age.

The three girls are the first in the family to reach secondary education as the older sisters were all married off to older men at Primary School level. Of the four boys from the family who went to school, two did their education up to form 4 while two ended at Grade 7.

"Four of my older sisters married in polygamous set ups when they were in Grade 7. When I was doing Grade 7 my father, who used to go to Johane Masowe Apostolic Church asked me to marry an older man from the church to become the second wife. When I refused, he beat me thinking I would give in. Realising the beatings continued for some days, I ran off to my older sister who stays in Nyanga far from my home to seek refuge.

"A few months later two of my half-sisters followed me and also ran away from my father who had also asked them to marry when they were supposed to start Form 1," Enisia said.

The exodus of the three children from their father's home knocked sense into the father's head and he realised that he was violating their rights. Enisia's father also came into contact with Family AIDS Caring Trust (FACT) Nyanga, a local rights programme partner of ActionAid, whose field officers provide trainings on the negative effects of early marriages at community level in Nyanga.

"After dropping out at school for a greater part of the year that I was supposed to finish my Grade 7, my father called me home and asked for my forgiveness. I started going to school. He also called back my two sisters who had also ran away from home to start school. He had sourced some money from a non-governmental organisation with support from FACT Nyanga and the three of us are having fees paid by the well-wisher."

Enisia's father's motive for not allowing the girls to proceed to secondary education was that he claimed that he could not afford to pay for the girls fees although he was able to source funds to support the male children to do their secondary education. Religion and cultural extremists in some sectors of society in Zimbabwe prioritise the education of the boy over the girl because it is assumed that the female child will marry "anyway".

Enisia owes her courage to challenge her father to the teachings about her rights she received from FACT Nyanga. This organisation has since 2014, in partnership with ActionAid Zimbabwe, been running a campaign on STOP Child Marriages which have rocked the Nyanga community, where the apostolic religion is dominant. At community level, FACT Nyanga has been working in collaboration with the Rural Women Assembly (RWA), a community watchdog comprising mainly women which advocates for the rights of women and girls.



Enisia Musaruro speaking during the launch of the Stop Child Marriages Campaign

Enisia's family members including the father have now changed their church and are now members of a conventional apostolic which does not support early marriages.

Enisia was bold to provide her testimony in the presence of her "converted" father, traditional leaders, like-minded NGOs and relevant government ministries during the launch of the STOP Child Marriages Campaign in Nyanga on 3 December 2015 conducted by ActionAid Zimbabwe in partnership with three of its partners operating in Nyanga namely FACT Nyanga, Dioceses of Mutare Community Care Programme (DOMCCP) and Simukai Child Protection..

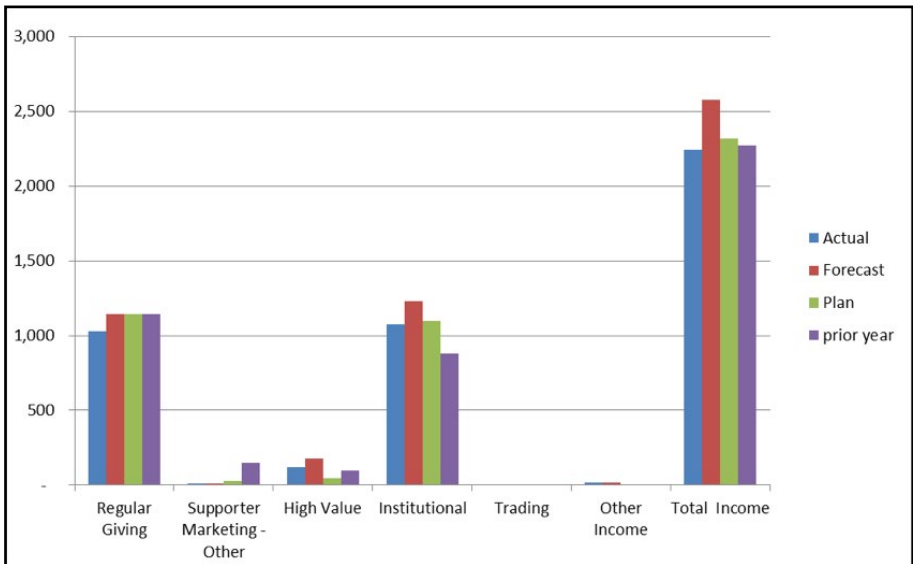
6. Finance Report 2015

FINANCE

Movement in Income

The CP's overall income has been on the increase since 2007 until 2014. In 2015 the Country programme received GBP2,245k which is 3% less than the planned GBP2,319k. In 2015 the CP received GBP2,245k which is 1% less income than the income of GBP2,238k received in 2014. The CP received less income than plan by 3% with the variance being on reduced Regular Giving income in 2015 which was 10% less than planned income and 10% lower than 2014 RG Income received. Partnership income was 2% less than planned income but 22% more than 2014 income and this was attributed to new funding sources from Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation supporting the Handwashing Project and the New Zealand Aid supported project on Nutrition. High Value Income was also 144% more than planned and 21% more than 2014 income due to the coming on board of the Danish Television Project.

Figure 1



**2015 Actual Income Vs. Plan & Prior Year
Income by Category**

The Regular giving/Supporter Marketing income portion constitutes 46% of CP income and decreased by a further 10% from previous year. Total Institutional income constitutes 48% of total income whilst High Value income accounts for 5% of the received funds by December 2015. Partnership Income (Institutional and High Value), however, constitutes 53% of CP Income.

Figure 2
2015 Actual Income by Category Vs Prior Years

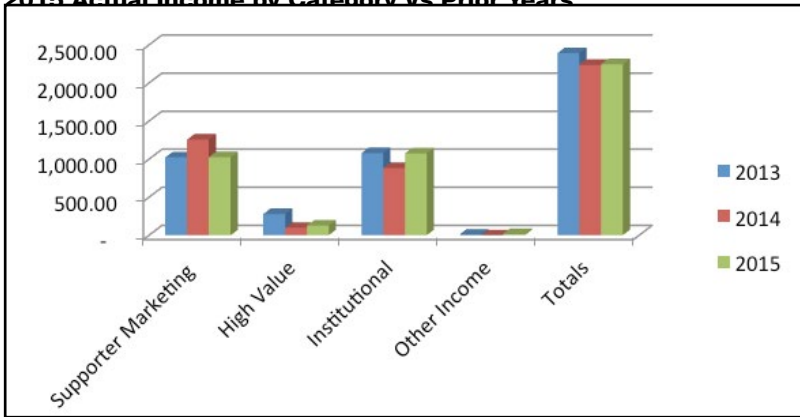
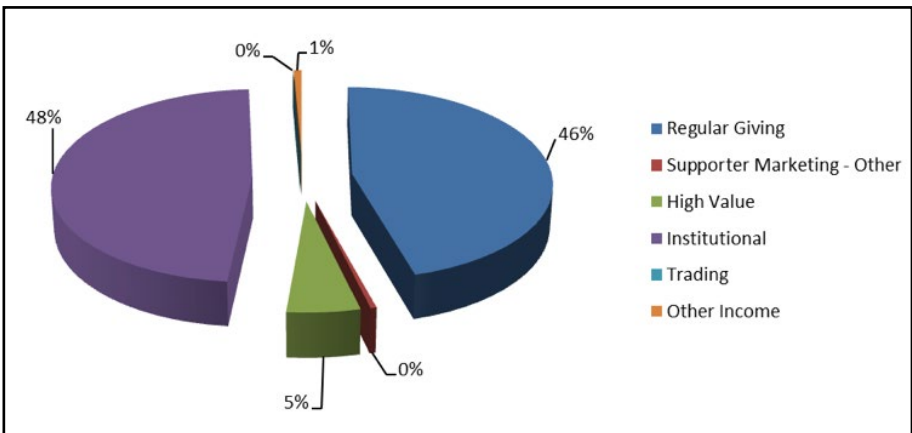


Figure 2b

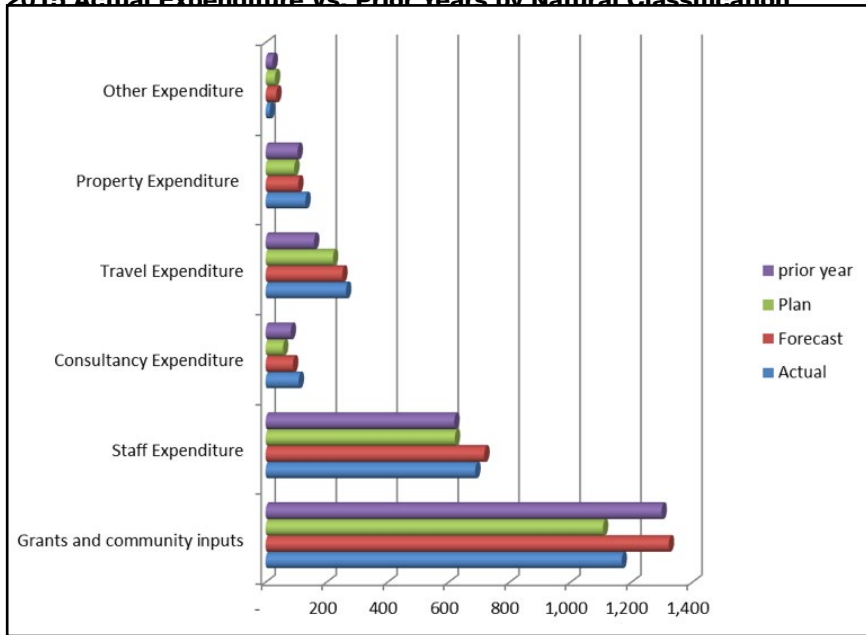


**2015 Percentage of Actual Income by Category
Movement in Expenditure**

In terms of expenditure by natural classification, when compared to the year 2014, CP expenditure for 2015 was GBP2,372k almost the same with 2014. Figure 3 below shows that Grants and community inputs were GBP1,168k, 15% less than same period in 2014. Staff costs were GBP688k, 11% more than 2014 expenditure due to additional staff for new projects. Capital Costs also decreased by 28% with procurement of a smaller vehicle for local errands. Office costs were 24% more due to costs related to office relocation to new premises.

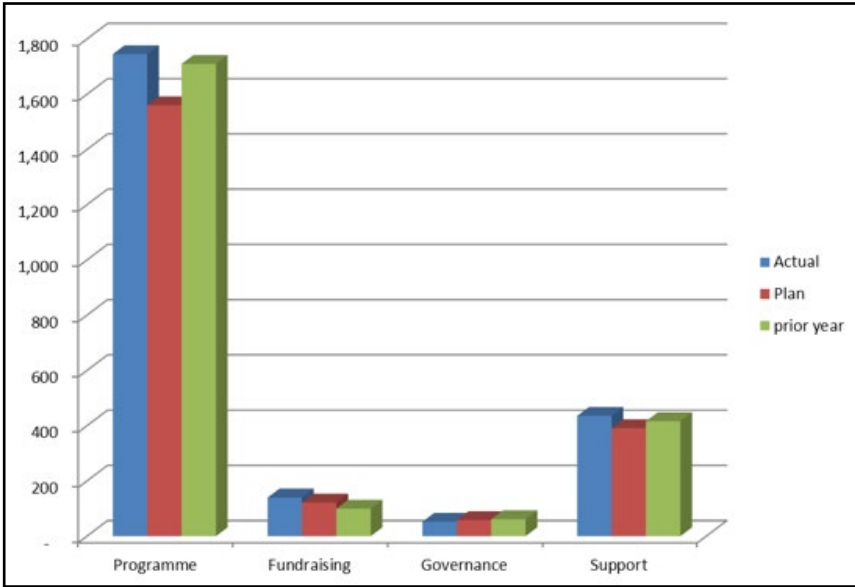
Figure 3

2015 Actual Expenditure Vs. Prior Years by Natural Classification



Comparison of 2015 expenditure by statutory costs classification with the year 2014 reflects that the 2015 expenditure was almost similar to 2014. In Figure 4, Program costs increased by 2% due to improved programme work, coming on board of new programmes and implementation of new Country Strategy. Governance costs increased by 5% in 2015. Fundraising costs increased by 4% due to engagement of a Fundraising Manager. Consultants were also engaged to develop some proposals at negotiated rates. Support costs increased by 15% due to purchase of new small motor vehicle for local errands.

Figure 4



Q4 2015 Actual Expenditure Vs. Q4 2014 by Statutory Classification

7. AAZ funding sources, donors and partners 2015

Sponsorship income

Child sponsorship contributed 46% of the total income for the Country Programme. Sponsorship funds are raised through linking children in LDPs with sponsors in the northern countries. The CP funding affiliates under Sponsorship Income are as follows:

- ActionAid UK
- ActionAid Greece
- ActionAid Sweden
- ActionAid Italy
- ActionAid Brazil

Donors

About 53% of AAZ resources are derived from institutional and high value donors, individuals, trustees and foundations as follows:

- Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA)
- ActionAid Netherlands
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)-Australian Aid
- Department for International Development (DFID)
- Jersey Overseas Aid Commission (JOAC)
- Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation (SDC)
- New Zealand High Commission

AAZ Partners

- Aids Counselling Trust (ACT)
- Basilwizi Trust
- Batsiranai Programme
- Bulawayo Progressive Residents Association (BPRA)
- Combined Harare Residents Association (CHRA)
- Diocese of Mutare Community Care Project (DOMCCP)
- FACE Zimbabwe (FACT Rusape)
- FACT Nyanga
- Farm Community Trust of Zimbabwe (FCTZ)
- Health and Food Organisation (HEFO)
- Institute for Young Women's Development (IYWD)
- Masvingo Residents and Rate Payers Association (MURRA)
- Students and Youths Working on Reproductive Health Action Team (SAYWHAT)
- Seke Rural Home Based Care
- Simukai Child Protection
- The Women's Trust (TWT)
- Women In Leadership Development (WILD)
- Youth Agenda Trust (YAT)
- Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association (ZELA)
- Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association (ZWLA)
- Zimbabwe Young Women's Network For Peace Building (ZYWNP)

8. Geographical Spread of AAZ activities

Harare Province and Metropolitan areas

Dzivarasekwa
Mabvuku
Tafara
Ruwa
Chitungwiza

Manicaland Province

Buhera
Makoni
Nyanga
Mutare
Chipinge
Chimanimani

Masvingo Province

Masvingo urban
Gutu

Bulawayo Province

Bulawayo Urban

Matabeleland South Province

Gwanda
Umzingwane
Insiza

Mashonaland East Province

Mutoko
Hwedza
Goromonzi
Murehwa

Mashonaland Central Province

Mbire
Guruve
Bindura
Mazowe (Mvurwi)
Shamva

Midlands Province

Gweru
Shurugwi
Zvishavane
Gokwe

Matabeleland North Province

Binga
Nkayi
Lupane
Umguza
Nyaminyami

9. Human Resources and organisational report 2015

ActionAid trounced in friendly community sporting matches As AAZ promotes community rootedness

On the morning of Saturday 2nd October 2015, a battle of the games began in Rusape, situated in Makoni LDP, in Manicaland Province, an operational area for AAZ. ActionAid staff dressed in their weekend “not for work” clothes divided themselves into netball, volleyball, soccer and sack race teams competing against school pupils from Rukweza Primary School where ActionAid has supported in various development programmes.

Local government officials, partner organization staff members, school head, teachers, community parents and local community members engaged in friendly banter as opposition team members lined up. Members of the RWA, local community and school children formed rival teams to challenge ActionAiders for victory in the various sporting events.

As the whistle was blown signaling the beginning of the games, female ActionAiders positioned themselves against their rivals on the netball court. It did not take long for the visibly fitter and more agile RWA members to pronounce their mastery of the game.



AAZ staff and Rukweza Primary School pupils tussling it out during a soccer match

ActionAiders tried in vain to keep up with the fast pace and accurate passing actions of their community rivals. Pearls of laughter were heard as unfit ActionAiders tumbled to the ground as they tried in vain to counter the agile movements of their athletic community rivals.

Parallel rivalry for supremacy on the soccer field was punctuated with intermittent shouts of glee as the school soccer team scored against their ActionAid counterparts.

After three hours of sporting rivalry, much sweat, dusty garments and resounding laughter, the games were brought to an end with ActionAiders gracefully accepting all round defeat.

Exercise books were handed over to the school representatives. These were presented courtesy of ActionAid and FACE Zimbabwe, the ActionAid partner in Makoni LDP. ActionAiders said farewell to their sporting rivals, local community members and government officials as a most rewarding day was brought to an end.

The community outreach programme was part and parcel of a broader AAZ HROD objective of team building, and a thrust of exposing staff to the ActionAid programme activities as we deepen the impact of our work in communities. As ActionAid continues to push for community rootedness and facilitating communities to take lead in solving their challenges, AAZ partners, community members such as the RWAs, children and other stakeholders are critical in the achievement of our vision of “A Zimbabwe without poverty and injustice in which every person enjoys their right to a life of dignity”.



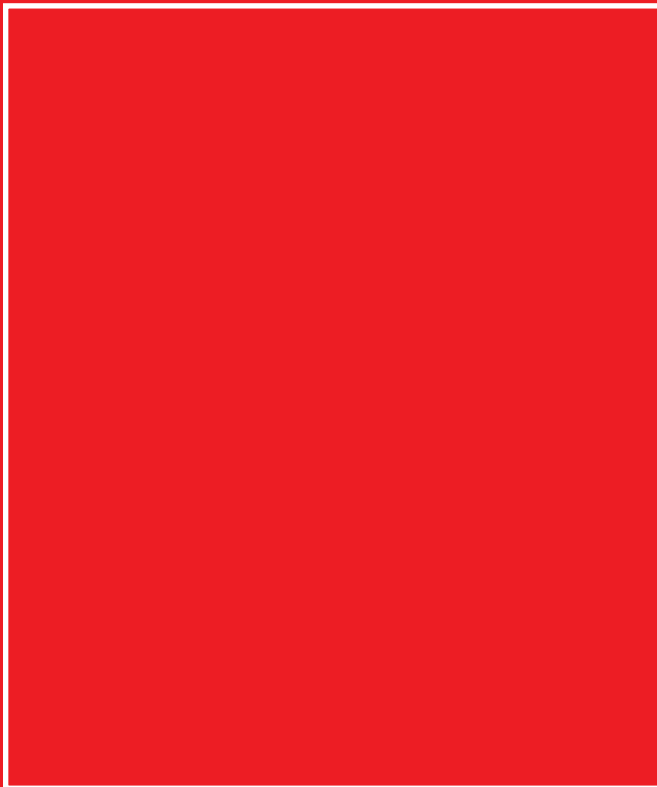
Students from Rukweza Primary school show off stationery and ball games donated by FACE Zimbabwe in partnership with AAZ

AAZ Staff 2015

| Name | Position |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1 Abraham Mapfumo | Graduate Trainee - WR |
| 2 Adele Manuel | Head of Human Resources & Organisational Development |
| 3 Beauty Jonga | Internal Auditor |
| 4 Betty Sithole | Program & Policy Manager - Womens' Rights |
| 5 Blessing Muyambo | Project Officer - Womens' Rights (She Can Project) |
| 6 Chipo Maruza | Child Sponsorship Officer |
| 7 Clever Mhakayakora | Project Officer (WASH) |
| 8 Eben Tombo | Programme Quality & Effectiveness Manager |
| 9 Ellen Mukonde | Graduate Trainee - Child Sponsorship |
| 10 Elvis Augustin | Graduate Trainee - Child Sponsorship |
| 11 Enock Muzaka | Driver/External Liaison |
| 12 Esau Mushunje | Caretaker |
| 13 Evans Gomera | Accountant |
| 14 Faith Muperi | Graduate Trainee - Communications |
| 15 Farirayi Gumbu | Child Sponsorship Officer |
| 16 Garisai Nharingo | Graduate Trainee - IT |
| 17 George Matonhodze | Campaign Manager - WASH project |
| 18 Godfrey Mandinde | Head of Finance |
| 19 Gracious Madyira | People for Change (P4C) Facilitator |
| 20 Joseph Madzvamuse | Project Officer (SHE Can) Cover |
| 21 Joseph Mugaiwa | Graduate Trainee - Governance |
| 22 Joyce Mapfumo | Office Assistant |
| 23 Lillian Matsika | Program & Policy Manager - Governance |
| 24 Linda Motsi | Graduate Trainee - Finance |
| 25 Lloyd Masunda | Fundraising Manager |
| 26 Marvellous Mapulanga | Graduate Trainee - WASH |
| 27 Mary Makuku | Administration Assistant |
| 28 Nigel Kanengoni | IT Coordinator |
| 29 Paddington Makovere | Finance Officer |
| 30 Peter Matimati | LRP Manager |
| 31 Precious Gombera | Program & Policy Officer - Governance |
| 32 Ronnie Murungu | Country Director |
| 33 Selina Pasirayi | Program & Policy Manager - DRR & CRSA |
| 34 Takaitei Bote | Communications Officer |
| 35 Tanatswa Chinenere | Graduate trainee - Administration |
| 36 Tinashe Chidawaya | Graduate Trainee - Finance & Admin (LDP Office) |
| 37 Toendepi Kamusewu | Head of Programs & Policy |
| 38 Tsurai Kambunda | Project Officer - Danish Television Project |
| 39 Turo Bore | Child Sponsorship Manager |
| 40 Wadzanai Mudzongo | Graduate Trainee - DRR & CRSA |
| 41 Xanthe Chikarara | Graduate Trainee - HR & Admin |

Volunteer Interns

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Leonel Pedzisai | Intern - Finance |
| 2 Tonderai Murwira | Intern - WASH |
| 3 David Kamonere | Caretaker/Gardener |



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Main Cover Picture: Holly Rosary Secondary School, Mvurwi students demonstrating how to do 10 steps on how to wash hands during the Global Handwashing Day 2015

Small Cover Picture: One of the posters displayed at the Stop Child Marriages Campaign launch in Nyanga in 2015

Credit: Girl Child Prayer art by Gift Mabvuma of Nyanga