

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

World Vision
ZIMBABWE

FY20 Q2



Literacy



Maternal and Child Health



Child Protection & Spiritual Nurture



Resilient Livelihoods



Water, Sanitation & Hygiene



It takes you & me
to end sexual violence against children

COVID-19 In Zimbabwe - Crisis Upon Crises. The second quarter of FY20 brought about some added challenges. At a time when almost 7 million are in need of humanitarian assistance, following the Cyclone Idai disaster which left thousands affected and displaced and the current drought reported to expose millions to increased levels of food insecurity. Zimbabwe, along with the rest of the world has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, World Vision Zimbabwe has intensified its efforts, leveraging existing programs and structures to protect communities we work in from exposure to COVID-19 infections. We remain committed to respond and save the lives of children, their families and communities that we serve!



wwi.org/zimbabwes

WE ARE CHRISTIAN | WE VALUE PEOPLE | WE ARE COMMITTED TO THE POOR | WE ARE STEWARDS | WE ARE PARTNERS | WE ARE RESPONSIVE

COVID-19 Coronavirus



ZIMBABWE
CURRENT STATS
24 APRIL 2020

CONFIRMED
32

DEAD
4

RECOVERED
5

ACTIVE
23



The world didn't expect this; neither were we ready for it. Pandemics of this scale, or any scale, disrupt everyday life as we know it, and require us to remain stable in the faith, and hope for brighter days to come. A cluster of viral pneumonia cases, were first reported in Wuhan City of Hubei Province in late December 2019. The Chinese government announced that the pathogen was initially identified as a new type of coronavirus. However, much remained unchanged into mid-March when lockdowns began around the world and international air travel significantly reduced or stopped in some places.

Countries around the world began taking as many preventative measures as they could, and Zimbabwe is no exception. The end of the quarter marked the beginning of a national lockdown.

World Vision Zimbabwe initiated a response to the coronavirus in late February, 2020. Of utmost importance was the health and protection of our communities, partners and beneficiaries. As WV we remain committed to respond to the extent that is possible. That said, we welcomed exemptions by the government to allow humanitarian and development organizations to continue with food distributions and other critical interventions. As we continue these interventions we will be following strict guidelines in order to minimize risks for our staff overseeing distributions and those individuals receiving food or other assistance. This includes relevant personal protection equipment for staff, hand washing facilities for all and even donations of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to the Ministry of Health and Child Care. This and other interventions will enable us to continue providing critical assistance to approximately 500,000 people in need of humanitarian assistance.

What happens in the long-term due to the effects of the virus? There are still a number of unknowns but we know we will continue to focus on Covid 19 while also continuing with our other programs, with some changes in terms of how we engage and interact with communities.



WASH YOUR HANDS REGULARLY WITH SOAP AND RUNNING WATER

AVOID TOUCHING YOUR FACE

WEAR A FACE MASK IN PUBLIC IF YOU'VE SYMPTOMS

COOK ALL YOUR MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS THOROUGHLY BEFORE EATING

STAY AT HOME IF POSSIBLE

USE A TISSUE WHEN YOU COUGH OR SNEEZE AND DISPOSE OF IT IN A BIN OR USE YOUR INNER ELBOW

AVOID CLOSE CONTACT WITH PEOPLE

EDUCATION AND LIFE SKILLS

The last 6 months have seen much progress in improving literacy efforts through the Unlock literacy model. The model continues to gain traction across all APs. This included the continuous rollout of the model in teachers’ training, reading camp facilitators training and establishment of new reading camps. Across Hwange, 20 more volunteers were trained, 16 reading camps established enabling 640 children of Nekatambe ward a chance to access extra reading time and space over weekends and holidays. Seven APs also implemented the Youth Ready model and in turn help prepare the youths for employment. Ninety-two youths in Mhakwe, Chimanimani, graduated from Youth Ready model and one group of 16 (11 males, 4 females) who are into commercial egg production sold 709 crates in just 4 months raising **ZW\$42,826, (approximately USD1,700)** which they used to buy stock feeds, household food and even to pay school fees for their siblings!

122 SCHOOLS
43,712 LEARNERS
1,070 TEACHERS

BENEFITED FROM 143 SUITCASES WITH 48 TABLETS IN EACH SUITCASE FROM THE PROFUTURO PROJECT

ECD LEARNERS TO GET ACCESS TO LITERACY & NUMERACY LEARNING MATERIALS

THROUGH THE MOBILE PLATFORM DESIGNED BY VIAMO

THE TECHNICAL PROGRAM (TP), IS ALSO IMPLEMENTING A COVID RESPONSE PROJECT OF USD\$75 000,

FUNDED BY ECW ON IEC PREVENTION ACTIVITIES

1,300 FORM 1 LEARNERS RECEIVED BICYCLES

ON CONTRACT TO LEARN

LIVELIHOODS

In the quarter WVZ took over the operations of the UNCHR funded Tongogara refugee WASH and Livelihoods Project. The project has an annual budget of USD 350,000 which is expected to expand to USD 800,000 by the end of 2020. GOAL Zimbabwe, who have operated in the camp since 2015 are assisting with all required takeover processes. Following the inception and planning meeting with WV staff, the Technical lead and SLT members visited the camp in order to appreciate the context and realities so as to offer necessary support to the project.

Also during the quarter, an internal evaluation was conducted for the Private Non Sponsorship (PNS) livelihoods projects funded by Hong Kong in NNN and Chimanimani Area Programs. The projects integrated WASH, Livelihoods and Health programming. Preliminary evaluation findings from the NNN project indicated that of the total 840 households in the project, 84% had their crop yields increased while 73% had their household income increased as a result of the project. Project members cited the direct major benefit from the crop production interventions as increased food and nutrition security.



Part of the vegetables grown at the rehabilitated Vurasha irrigation scheme (NNN Project archives).

FAITH AND DEVELOPMENT

In the quarter, the Faith and Development unit continued to contribute to the well-being of children, their families and communities through various faith partnerships and programs. New partners such as Biblica, a partner recommended by the region, have come on board to work with WVZ in the area of Spiritual nurturing of children. They provided 8,000 copies of the Reach 4 Life book, which is a life skills manuscript for youths to be used in AP communities through partners such as Scripture Union and AWANA.

Tearfund UK has also become a partner and introduced the Church and Community Mobilization Process (CCMP). This is a faith-based model that equips faith groups with community mobilization methods and tools to transform their situations resulting in improved well-being. The CCMP will be done in APs that are transitioning to ensure the faith communities remain fully charged to continue mobilizing their communities- currently Insiza AP is pioneering this process.

The department also set up a broad team of trainers for the core models in order to assist the Faith and Development team in meeting the high demands for training by APs and Grants.



ADVOCACY

New Education Act: A Giant Step in the Right Direction

Zimbabwe signed into law a new Education Act! We advocated tirelessly for some of the changes enacted in the bill, and we couldn't be more pleased. Although there's always room for more towards the rights of children, currently we are satisfied with the key highlights of the Act:

1. Basic education is now free for all children at state-funded schools. Basic education covering the period from ECD to Ordinary Level.
2. Corporal punishment by teachers and school staff is now illegal.
3. Pupils can no longer be chased out of school or sent home for failure to pay tuition "fees."
4. It is now illegal to expel a female child from school on the basis of pregnancy.
5. The government will provide free and adequate sanitary ware to all children in schools. This does not only involve wearables such as sanitary pads but also the toilets, places of disposal and clean water.

Now that the Act is in place; we will continue to advocate for appropriate implementation.

FREE BASIC EDUCATION FOR ALL CHILDREN AT STATE-FUNDED SCHOOLS

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT BY TEACHERS AND SCHOOL STAFF IS NOW ILLEGAL

PUPILS CAN NO LONGER BE CHASED OUT OF SCHOOL OR SENT HOME FOR FAILURE TO PAY TUITION

IT IS NOW ILLEGAL TO EXPEL A FEMALE CHILD FROM SCHOOL ON THE BASIS OF PREGNANCY

THE GOVERNMENT WILL PROVIDE FREE AND ADEQUATE SANITARY WARE TO ALL CHILDREN IN SCHOOLS

RESPONSE

World Vision Zimbabwe is committed to protecting the vulnerable from physical injury, disease, disruption of education, separation of family and all the terrible effects that come with disasters. Although we have had our fair share of tragedies of late as a nation, in this issue we will focus on how as an organisation we work with communities and also with staff to help mitigate against such risks.

Pre-flood school simulation drills prepare children and communities for future risks.

Disaster risk reduction is becoming one of the most vital aspects in development work globally as the effects of climate change are increasingly being felt in various forms of emergencies. Zimbabwe is increasingly vulnerable to a number of climatic hazards. It is disheartening that children and the most vulnerable are usually the most affected by these disasters due to ill preparedness to risks.

To ready our communities more in case of future flooding World Vision Zimbabwe in collaboration with Plan International and Save the Children launched the Disaster Risk Reduction/Pre-Flood school wide and community linked stimulation drills. The Chipinge and Chimanimani areas were chosen as they were adversely affected by Cyclone Idai.

Seven thousand children in 45 schools as well as their parents were targeted with an intent to empower these communities to prevent, mitigate, prepare and respond appropriately to disasters that they are prone to.

“Drills will inform the communities on what to do as it prepares them to disasters that they are prone to experience in the future. With the help of Aktion Deutschland Hilft this project was made possible and we are determined that it will help so many people in the long run,” said Dr Tapiwa Muzerengi, Project coordinator for Education in Emergencies and ADH-Cyclone Idai Preparedness and Resilience in Schools and Communities.



World Vision Zimbabwe participates in the drone technology training

The use of drone technology is gaining momentum in disaster preparedness and responses. There are many compelling humanitarian, safety, and economic reasons to use drones before and after disasters, helping communities to recover and strengthening their resiliency. The adoption of drones makes it easier to:

- map the vulnerabilities and capacities of households prone to disasters
- reduce risks and increasing preparedness.
- further inform the capacity building and response activities.
- enables interventions to be more agile and precise.
- faster and informed decisions are made based on the analytics from the mapping software.
- by building national and local capacity and integrating drones into Disaster Risk Mitigation processes and protocols, the use of drones can be tailored to the risks and needs in the local context



GRANTS RESPOND TO COVID-19

World Vision in Zimbabwe improving access to education for children during the COVID-19 lock down

When disasters strike they affect everyone including the most vulnerable. Children are always a vulnerable group in any emergency and the coronavirus pandemic has changed how millions around the globe, including Zimbabwe, are educated. Amid the public health emergency, schools in the nation had to shut down abruptly in an attempt to contain the spread on the COVID-19 virus. The situation in the country is worsened by the reality that most learners have no/limited access to internet connectivity and therefore cannot continue learning at home following the school shutdowns. Without access to education, children run the risk of failing to reach their full potential.

World Vision Zimbabwe is leveraging on its existing partnerships, programs, grants and structures in the response to COVID 19. The main focus with regards to education includes mitigating the immediate impact of school closures, particularly for more vulnerable and disadvantaged communities, and to facilitate the continuity of education given the context and under the restrictive circumstances. The UK Aid funded Improving Girls Access through Transforming Education (IGATE) project came up with an initiative to ensure children have access to education during the national lockdown. The project, which has always supported learning camps during school holidays initiated the Holiday Virtual Learning program where children receive literacy and numeracy activities via the Whatsapp mobile platform through their parents. Unlike internet connectivity, statistics in Zimbabwe show that mobile penetration stands at about 86% nationwide.

WV provides access to data bundles for community volunteers and a daily literacy and numeracy challenge that can keep learners across many grades actively learning but does not require a teacher to lead. For the past two weeks this has been piloted with 4 schools per district to learn how it can work in very remote schools while also monitoring to assure the health and safety of learners and volunteers.

IGATE program director, Janelle Zwier-Marongedza, said they aim to encourage more learners to join this platform with the help of the parents and caregivers. This model which is being implemented in selected four schools through community learning champions in Chivi, Insiza, Mberengwa and Mangwe districts has had overwhelming response and is currently reaching more than 40 learners a day per volunteer.

“We are happy to report the idea is taking off with volunteers dispatching to many caregivers and parents and supporting many small groups of learners for home-based study. The intention is for this to snowball (grow organically and in a targeted way).” she said.

As a result, more WhatsApp groups are forming per districts where daily activities and exercises to assist children within their vicinity are posted. Through the existing structures, the project has managed to convince residents and willing teachers to also assist community champions to mobilise learners and to clarify the daily activities being tasked to the children.

Social Norms and Community Engagement Technical Manager for IGATE, America Ndlovu said working with community volunteers has been a great experience for her.

“I really appreciate the community volunteers that we have been working with, although not all days are great. Some days when the volunteers are busy in the field they will assist around 20 children each, but then on a good day they can reach out to more than 40 children per volunteer. My role is to support and encourage them,” she said.

America said they are following and adhering to the COVID-19 prevention health guidelines in order to minimize risks for children and our community learning champions on the ground helping us make this innovation a great success.

To date we have 30 volunteers and this is growing on daily basis. With one volunteer reaching 40 learners and supporting multiple groups... we are hopeful!



IN OTHER NEWS

World Vision spearheads children’s issues at the Africa Regional Forum on SDGs

Child rights advocates have challenged African leaders to prioritize the most vulnerable in their quest to accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals for the next decade. World Vision made this call during a side event we hosted during the Sixth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development meetings. Themed, **“SDGs Decade for Action and Delivery: What it means for most vulnerable children,”** the side event was meant to provide synergies between the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals with regards to children and Agenda 2063. The event also shared actions that Governments should undertake to ensure that no African child is left behind in the implementation phase; 2020-2030: A Decade to Deliver a Transformed and Prosperous Africa through the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. Vianney Dong, World Vision Southern Africa Regional Advisor on Advocacy and External Engagement said children should be at the forefront in order for sustainable development goals to be implemented fully.

“The most vulnerable children are those who face extreme deprivation, for example those who are malnourished, do not have access to basic services and facilities. This also includes children who are orphaned, abandoned or neglected. We are talking about children not in school, living in public property or slums. So as World Vision we are calling countries to come up with strategies to end poverty in its all forms which contribute to Sustainable Development Goals one, two, three, four and five. So, as we implement activities to achieve these goals there is need to prioritize children,” she said. One of the panellist Anna Magocha, Youth Delegate from Zimbabwe who is a World Vision Zimbabwe Advisory Council member underscored the need to put an end to child marriages in order to fully attain a peaceful and prosperous Africa. **“Child marriage is one of the worst injustices that can happen to a girl child. It stops them from having the freedom to realize their full potential,”** she said. Another panellist, Aloiso Chiuswa, a Faith Leader from Zimbabwe said children should also be empowered with life skills so that they are not vulnerable in future.

Busani Sibindi Core Group member of Together 2030 implored world leaders to standardize and universally apply the legal age of majority across the globe. He made reference to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child charter which describes a child as a person under the age of 18, unless national laws mandate an earlier age of majority. According to him, this has increased the vulnerability of children in some countries. Sibindi argued that United Nations charter has been ratified by more than 120 countries yet its implementation has not gone beyond 50 countries in terms of totally outlawing child marriages.

Also present as an invited panelist during the side event was Vitalina Papadakis who is the Superior Appeal Court Judge in Mozambique. She explained how in Mozambique they had used the legal frame work to reduce the vulnerability of children. **“In our country civil society organisations have come together to fight against child marriages, together with national and international Non-Governmental Organisations, community leaders, faith leaders, government institutions and Parliament, which saw the enactment of the Law on Prevention and Fight against Child Marriages,”** she said. Papadakis further recommended the need for greater community awareness and training of magistrates and police officers on the new law, as well as putting in place law implementation monitoring instruments. More than three quarters (76%) of people around the world know of a child victim of violence, and the majority of people (62%) believe the problem is increasing. As World Vision, We are determined to end it!



IN OTHER NEWS

WVZ unveils a five-year updated strategy to enhance the well-being of vulnerable children

To significantly enhance children’s well-being, World Vision Zimbabwe has just finalised a new comprehensive strategy to be implemented between Financial Year 2021 and Financial Year 2025. It is meant to fulfil our organisations’ mission and deliver on the commitments made to the Sustainable Development Goals. The updated strategy aims to address the real needs of the communities especially the most vulnerable. It also aims to influence the hard to reach areas and aligning to partnership global strategy **“Our Promise.”**

In light of Covid 19 we plan to do a slight update of the strategy to take into account some of the broad potential impact of the pandemic in Zimbabwe and therefore requiring some likely adjustments with some of our interventions.

To achieve the five-year strategy, World Vision Zimbabwe will focus on four child wellbeing objectives:

- Children report an increased awareness of God’s love **(180,000 boys and girls)**
- Increase in girls and boys protected from violence. **(1.4 million Boys and girls)**
- Increase in children protected from infection and disease **(470,000 boys and girls)**
- Increase in primary school children who can read **(400,000 girls and boys)**

“There are a total of six child wellbeing objectives which field offices aim to align to. Of these, World Vision Zimbabwe has chosen four. These were selected following a rigorous assessment process of our landscape so that we address real community needs. They will be addressed through the Technical Programs - Education, Health & Nutrition, Water Sanitation & Hygiene, Livelihoods and Advocacy & Child Protection.” Mthabisi Msimanga, World Vision Zimbabwe Knowledge Management Coordinator.

Over these five years World Vision Zimbabwe’s goal is **to reach nearly 2.5 million vulnerable children.** We will work to sharpen our focus on the most vulnerable children who are marginalised, and help them improve their foundational skills to enhance their future.



Child’s Call partners with WVZ to assist Cyclone Idai affected children

Child’s Call Association partnered with World Vision Zimbabwe and donated stationery worth 85,000 South African rands to Nyanyadzi and Dirikwe Primary schools in Chimanimani, two of the many schools in the area negatively impacted by Cyclone Idai. Child’s Call Association is a non-profit organisation made up of a group of South African based women. Stationery donated included exercise books, pens, pencil, mathematical sets and rulers among others. Thank you Child’s Call for heeding to the plight of the needy!



COMMS CORNER

COMMUNICATIONS

The newly formed Advocacy, Communication, Faith & Development and External Engagement team (ACE) has been brought together in order to leverage on the commonalities within the different portfolios. ACE aims to capitalise on the areas of synergies in order to tell our story better both internally and externally as a major support to the resource acquisition team and processes. The main focus for the year will be increasing and growing our social media presence. Social media is one of the fastest and easiest ways to communicate, re-inforce a brand and build a community; Facebook reports approximately 2.45 billion active monthly users while Twitter records 330 million monthly active users worldwide. Our social media platforms allow us to communicate easily and directly with donors, stakeholders and partners. To support this documentation of our evidence of impact, we have hired two graduate interns:

Meet our new communications kids on the block!



Kudzai Mpangi

Kudzai Mpangi a young and energetic lady from Bulawayo the city of Kings and Queens. She is a creative, ambitious and motivated young lady who is passionate about making the world a better place through story and article writing. She is a holder of a Bachelors Arts Honors Degree in Language and Communication Studies with Lupane State University and an award-winning journalist. She will support the Southern Region working under the SEL team.



Yvonne Feresu

Yvonne Feresu, a bold, feminist and dreamer. Joining World Vision started her on a new and exciting learning trajectory (her words not ours). Did we mention that learning is one of her favourite hobbies, in tight competition with reading and dancing? She graduated from the University of Zimbabwe with an Honours in Psychology, though sadly she cannot read minds. When she's not doing her part to save the world through World Vision, you'll find her feverishly writing for her blog. She will support the Northern Region working with Munyaradzi Nkomo

WVZ staff trained on Communications

Our Communications Team hosted workshop trainings for Area Program and Grant field officers across the country. These were held in Mutare and Bulawayo in March. More than fifty participants were capacitated in order to cascade the skills learnt and contribute to the organization's communications efforts.

The two-day workshops saw participants gaining a number of communications skills including the following: importance of communications in development work, internal and external communication, success story writing, photography and branding. Apart from theory participants also participated in practical sessions. It was agreed that participants will be focal communications persons in terms of communications needs where they will be sending resources at least once a quarter from their area of operation.

Most participants were happy to have attended the workshop with expectations being met.

“My main goal when attending workshops is to learn something I don't already know...that's how I judge whether a workshop was a waste of time or not. This was definitely worth my time.” – Tawanda, AP Officer.



Commemorative Days

From January to March we've had many reasons to celebrate, and we took these commemorative days to highlight some of our achievements and celebrate our staff.

- **27 January, 2020** was the International Day of Education, and we couldn't help but talk about our Unlock Literacy model which served over 122,000 early grade learners in 2019. Education is a basic necessity that every child deserves
- **8 March, 2020** was International Women's Day, as women are a large part of the World Vision Zimbabwe taskforce, we needed to celebrate this day. We launched our first feature of Faces of World Vision on social media on this day, featuring Maria Tokwani, our Education Technical Manager
- **14 March, 2020** a sad day that marked the anniversary of Cyclone Idai was one that we approached with hope because of the extensive work World Vision Zimbabwe has done and is still doing to help communities affected to recover from the devastation. In case you missed the video of our progress one year later, watch it here.
- **22 March, 2020** the world over, including us, celebrated World Water Day. The importance of water, especially safe, clean water can never be over-emphasised, and with our WASH initiatives, we do our part to give communities better access to clean water.



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