



**Zimbabwe
Idai Recovery
Project**

financed by  THE WORLD BANK
managed by  UNOPS

ROAD TO RECOVERY: BUILDING RESILIENCE IN CYCLONE AFFECTED COMMUNITIES

2021 in Review



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Prepared For :



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FROM THE PIU MANAGER'S DESK



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2021 was overall a successful year for the Zimbabwe Idai Recovery Project as the project passed its two year mark. Communities have benefitted from the collective effort of the 8 UN agencies working in their specialist areas under one project. Collaboration and integration between the agencies has amplified the impact of the project in food security and livelihoods, health, WASH, education, Gender-Based Violence (GBV) support, displacement tracking implementation, rehabilitation of damaged community infrastructure and comprehensive resilience building.

The focus in the two years has been to deliver a surge of high-impact, immediate interventions for enhancing the coping capacity of affected communities, in line with humanitarian operations through FAO, IOM, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNOPS CI, WHO and WFP. The immediate response component has been successfully achieved. WFP, IOM, UNICEF Education, and WHO completed their interventions in 2021.

The project is geared now toward medium-term recovery, which includes the restoration of community productive capacities and rehabilitation of critical community infrastructure, across multiple sectors; and, interventions to reduce community hazard risk vulnerability through community level structural and non-structural rehabilitation and/or development. Some of these works progressed significantly in 2021.

The successes of 2021 are highly commendable as agencies sought innovative ways to manoeuvre and deliver their objectives in a challenging environment brought on by COVID-19. In all the interventions, sustainability, environmental and social safeguards have been embedded to ensure that the vulnerable communities that ZIRP is working in will be protected from future shocks.



Restoration of Agricultural and Livestock Production



In the aftermath of the disaster, food security was an urgent need for many households as their food supplies, and cropping fields have been flooded. Immediate response under ZIRP provided this support. The revitalisation of agricultural livestock became the next step through a collaborative approach between specialist agencies WFP, FAO and UNOPS CI. WFP utilised the Food for Assets model to rehabilitate community assets so that communities could recommence farming activities. FAO provided agricultural inputs which included seed, fertilisers and chemicals.

With agronomy support, and capacity building for the irrigation management committees, productivity in the schemes has improved significantly. Market linkages for farm inputs and outputs have transformed the schemes into profitable enterprises. For instance, 140 tons of sugar beans produced and sold in 2021 by 907 farmers in the 7 irrigation schemes.

ZIRP has also supported livestock productivity. After providing stock feed, farmers have now been trained to grow lab lab to produce supplementary feed for the lean season. This has seen an improvement in animal health. WFP rehabilitated dip tanks and through collaboration with FAO, acaricides for these and other dip tanks in the districts have been provided. Sheep, cattle, chicken and goats have been vaccinated to strengthen livestock health. Restocking of domestic animals was conducted in 2021. Communities received stockfeed, indigenous chickens and goats. The restocking of livestock strengthens food security and nutrition; and also builds resilience to future shocks as livestock is a source of income and wealth in rural communities.

"I am grateful for the reconstruction of the weir dam. We planted vegetables, maize and beans. The surplus I will sell so that I can get money to buy soap and pay fees for my children,"
Jane Chinyavabvu,
Chairperson of
Zimunda Weir

WFP completed its intervention under ZIRP in April 2021

239,324
people benefited through conditional and unconditional food assistance

13
community assets rehabilitated under the Food for Assets Program including weirs and dip tanks

"We were assisted a lot in linking us to the contractor and technical agronomic advice given on the production of chilli pepper since it is our first time to grow the crop. As of May 2021, a total of 1.700kg of chilli was picked and processed at the irrigation scheme,"

Mr. Maibvise, the marketing committee chairperson at Gudyanga Irrigation Scheme



"I have five cattle and when I see them I see my bank or investment. When they breed well you know you have some good wealth. Sadly, the dip tank was destroyed during cyclone Idai and it affected our livestock's health. No one would be willing to buy a sick beast so you can see how deep the cyclone robbed us. We were left with nothing but the clothes that we were wearing."

Elizabeth Mutsemi, aged 66, Dakate Diptank



"From these birds, many households will benefit nutritionally and financially, with proteins from meat and eggs and income that can come from the selling of eggs, chicks or chickens. People in the community can then use that income to pay for school fees or any other day to day needs. In addition households can use the chicken droppings as organic matter for the nutrition garden at their homesteads," Local authority leader, Mutiusinazita, Buhera, Ward 27 Councilor, Mr Charles Mukanwa.



"Before the FAO training on onion production, I used to get about \$300.00 USD from one boon (300 square meters) of onions. This season I managed to get \$1000.00 USD from one boon. I planted onions on seven boons used the money from onion farming to construct a shop which is now at window level and also to pay school fees for my child at the university," Mrs Agnes Sithole

Rebuilding healthy c



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"I had to come back today to thank ZIRP, they saved my life. I could not walk and here I am today doing great. I am even back at work. If it was not for ZIRP I would have died. I could not have afforded to get the treatment I received and I am forever grateful to them for the love and care they provided me. They even went on to use their own car to take me to the hospital," Tendai Sama Mungosa, TB survivor and resident of Matende Village in Chimanimani.

3,784,821

people reached with community sensitisation on health promotion interventions

606,327

people provided with basic health package services and support

Capacity building completed for

2,843

village health workers in 9 districts

Revitalisation of Access to Health Services

In addition to the support to the mission hospitals and outreach clinics, 2021 saw the rollout of support for COVID-19 response in all ZIRP districts. Capacity building, supervision support, motorbikes and digital devices were provided across the districts. ZIRP also supported transportation of samples for COVID-19 testing. 1 PCR machine was installed at Old Mutare Mission Hospital. 4 ambulances were procured and handed over to 4 mission hospitals through the Zimbabwe Association of Church Hospitals (ZACH). WHO successfully completed their interventions in December 2021.

With support from UNICEF, under ZIRP, Village Health Workers (VHWs) continued to play a pivotal role in community based health. In the midst of the pandemic, VHWs became instrumental in child development monitoring as lockdown restrictions limited movements. 983 VHWs were supported by ZIRP and these will be transitioned to the national VHW program for support beyond ZIRP.

"The donations of the ambulances is therefore greatly appreciated. Nurses transferring patients will feel at ease as they will be able to monitor vital signs and patients will definitely feel safe. These ambulances are ideal given the distances from provincial and central hospital for specialized care and will reduce maternal deaths for pregnant women" Vuyelwa Sidile-Chitimbi, ZACH Executive Director



"Being a Village Health Worker is an important job in my community. We have had cases where children are born at home and grow to 4 years without ever being exposed to the world beyond their home. It takes the Village Health Worker to reach those people and encourage them to take their babies for immunisation,"
Prisca Gwenzi, Village Health Worker



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Satchels of hope

ZIRP supported the continuity of education by providing learning supplies to 134 schools in 9 districts. The distribution of classroom tents, school-in-a-box kits and recreation kits was followed up with end user monitoring to ensure that the support from ZIRP, funded by the World Bank, is being put to good use- to benefit the pupils in the cyclone affected communities.

"I used to walk 2 km to school, carrying my books in a plastic bag used for bread. The others would mock me the whole way. I am very happy that I have this backpack because my mother could not afford to buy one. My bag has given me confidence. I had felt discouraged when the others would laugh at me and the plastic sack I was using. I had even thought about dropping out of school."

Yolanda Bvute, 12, of Marume Primary School.

unicef 

Restoring Access to WASH services

"We lost relatives because of cholera but now chances of contracting it are very slim and things are looking good for us. We used to walk at least 2km to fetch drinking water but now I think it is only 15 metres away and we are very happy," Mrs Gweshengwe, Muranda Village

2021 saw the completion of small piped water schemes in the ZIRP districts restoring access to water and sanitation services to 25,547 households. Capacitation of the District Water Supply and Sanitation Committees (DWSSC) will ensure the sustainability of the WASH interventions under ZIRP.

ZIRP influenced the design of latrines in schools to provide menstrual hygiene support for the girl child. Toilets are now fitted with hand basins, mirrors, cupboards and screen doors. Screen doors provide the girls security from prying eyes. All institutional latrines have ramps and rails to give independence and protect the dignity of people in wheelchairs.



Engendering rehabilitation works

2021 saw the progression of significant work on the rehabilitation of irrigation and roads infrastructure using both community workers and contractors. The cash for work modality has proved successful in providing temporary income opportunities and skills training for these vulnerable communities. While such opportunities would normally have been reserved for men, more so in these patriarchal communities, under ZIRP, UNOPS has enforced the inclusion of women.

Firstly, the beneficiary targeting mechanism for ZIRP requires that at least 50% women are included in each intervention. For rehabilitation works, ZIRP has gone a step further to eliminate some of the challenges that impede the engagement of women in such non traditional roles. All work sites have menstrual hygiene friendly ablutions. The biggest challenge for women is the conflict between their societal roles and their work commitments. UNOPS has set up child care facilities at work sites where women can bring their young children during work hours. Children are fed and looked after in these easy to set up child care centres, giving the women peace of mind to contribute to the rehabilitation works.



Communicating risk to enhance disaster preparedness

ZIRP installed the first community owned and run radios in Zimbabwe in the two Cyclone affected districts of Chimanimani and Chipinge in 2021. A third one was installed in Nyanga. Community members have been mobilised and trained to manage and operate the radio network; providing skills and income generating opportunities for the youth in the target communities.

56 young community members attended the training to learn skills to design and produce different programmes and operate the technical studio equipment. "We felt helpless in the aftermath of the Cyclone and are happy that now we can participate in spreading early warnings to help our communities prepare better in the future," remarked one of the participants. Community radios will be an established early warning system that will also address misinformation and flag fake news.



Under the comprehensive resilience building component, flood and risk mapping was conducted in 2021 to inform land use planning. This maps will also support disaster preparedness. UNESCO also launched the Visual Inspection for defining Safety Upgrading Strategies (VISUS) in 2021. This is a new methodology which facilitates risk assessments in school facilities and provides fact-based practical information to help decision-makers identify areas of concern and prioritize investments. The pilot study covered 15 schools in Chimanimani and Chipinge. The findings provided insights for use in educational facilities and contribute to comprehensive resilience building in the disaster-prone communities.



World Bank recognizes UNFPA Zimbabwe for outstanding work on Gender Based Violence under ZIRP

One key intervention under ZIRP, is the delivery of GBV mobile services in remote and hard to reach areas, through the mobile One Stop Centre (OSC) model run by multi sectoral outreach teams composed of specialized counsellors, paralegal officers, working in close coordination with nurses and police victim friendly units. Provision of mobile OSC services were integrated within the broader mobile clinics model, led by WHO. Within this component, UNFPA has provided technical assistance to the WHO team on the ground by training mobile clinic medical staff on clinical management of rape, in order to ensure continuous provision of timely services. Teams are also trained to apply the survivor-centred approach, which includes principles of respect, confidentiality, privacy and non-discrimination.

The integration within mobile health clinics has enhanced GBV service uptake, as the mobile health clinics works as an entry point to GBV survivors who might access the clinic for other reasons. Survivors of GBV, both male and females, have embraced the model. They appreciate how the OSC has been able to bring a comprehensive package of expertise under one roof and, on wheels, reaching them in the most hard-to-reach areas. The mobile OSC model has therefore proved to be highly effective in enhancing service uptake in remote and hard to reach areas, including during the COVID-19 lockdown.

Mainstreaming IDPs in ZIRP programming

Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) system contributed immensely to key information and critical insights into the situation on internally displaced persons (IDP) and affected persons in the targeted districts. Through the surveys and assessments, WHO were able to reach 2,246 IDPs with health care services in Chipinge and Chimanimani districts covering 5 IDP camps. UNICEF Education supported 94 learners based in 2 IDP camps (Ngangu and Dzingire) with Education in Emergency supplies, 46 GBV survivors from the IDP camps have received services including counselling, legal support and referrals for clinical services as well as other specialized services. 5 IDPs are engaged in communal rehabilitation work at Chipendeke irrigation scheme.





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ZIRP Overview December 2021

Food Security and Livelihoods

58

dipping sessions
conducted



More than
230,000
people
received food
assistance to
date



1,902,367

cattle were
vaccinated/treated

Rehabilitation of
6

irrigation schemes
in progress



14,527

households supported
through agricultural and
livestock inputs

Health & WASH

3,784,821

people reached with
community
sensitisation on
health promotion
interventions

1,868

households have
constructed
latrines



Capacity building
completed for

2,843

village health
workers in 9 districts



28,042

households have
restored access to
water and sanitation
services

656,575

people provided
with basic health
package services
and support



Education

88,516

students in 134
schools benefited
from teaching and
learning supplies



64,418

school backpacks
distributed

92

classroom tents
distributed



RapidPro Survey
administered

500

units of school-in-
a-box distributed

400

Early Childhood
Development (ECD)
kits distributed



300

recreational kits
distributed

Cross-Cutting Elements

1,013

community workers
engaged in
rehabilitation of
infrastructure



2

access roads
completed. 4 access
roads undergoing
rehabilitation

24

one-on-one bilateral
sessions held with TAs
on IDP mainstreaming in
programming



5,021

GBV survivors reached
through mobile OSC
437 survivors were
provided with
transport for higher
level of care



10

Displacement Tracking Matrix
surveys and assessments incl.
final trend analysis conducted
and disseminated

COVID-19 Response



4

ambulances, 2 four-wheel drive vehicles and 1 PCR extraction machine purchased and handed over to mission hospitals to strengthen disease surveillance and response



130

Environmental Health Technicians (EHTs) were trained on disease surveillance and are now deployed

580

VHWs recruited, trained and deployed increasing the coverage in the targeted districts to at least 81% of villages with VHWs

812

community peer supervisors were identified and oriented on supportive supervisory, mentorship and coaching skills



168

health workers from 19 Health Facilities (7 ZIRP-supported mission hospitals and 12 Regional Council Clinics) were trained on case management and IPC ; and are now deployed



36

EHTs provided with laptops, tablets and phones to use in disease surveillance



18

motorcycles procured for delivery specimen transportation



99,839

specimens have been transported to government labs for testing



10

art murals have been completed for community messaging targeting nearly 2.5 million people indirectly in the 9 ZIRP districts



5

ZIRP-supported mission hospital labs received supplies and consumables



4,276

UNICEF VHWs and 9 UNICEF Health training centres in Chimanimani and Chipinge districts received PPEs and IPC



Design works for rehabilitation of **12-bed** isolation ward at St. Peters Hospital was completed

In addition to procurement of PPE, ZIRP is supporting the health systems response to COVID-19 through capacity strengthening at institutional and community level by reinforcing COVID-19 surveillance, lab support, case management, IPC, including RCCE and continuity of essential services in line with the COVID-19 National Response Plan and priorities.