

Zimbabwe Idai Recovery Project

MONTHLY OVERVIEW MARCH 2023



INTRODUCTION

Activities progressed well in March 2023 despite disruptions from heavy rains earlier in the month. Good progress has been made on the rehabilitation of dip tanks by FAO, with diptanks completed. Works are in 21 progress at the remaining 11, with works on target for completion by May 2023. Construction of large piped water schemes is progressing well, with 45 large piped water schemes completed and 9 pending completion by May.

Major milestones were achieved under the community infrastructure component. UNOPS CI saw the completion of three health facilities including the maternity unit at Mutsvangwa Clinic (pictured above) and St Peters Mission Hospital.

In addition Tiya, Budzi/Chipika and Zororo/Kopera Roads were completed bringing the total of rehabilitated community roads to eight. The remaining three are on track for completion by May. The achievement of these milestones is testament to the interventions which were made to accelerate works.

Signing of the new UN2UN agreement with UNFPA was completed. Continuation of the GBV surveillance and response project subcomponent is now in place until 30 June 2023.

Construction works in schools were disrupted by rains and progress ranges up to 65%; the cover page shows the progress on Hode Primary School. Supervision at school sites has been strengthened to ensure completion on time.

The project also saw a visit by the World Bank Country Manager to sites in Gutu and Chikomba, an opportunity to share and exchange on the next steps of the project.





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Black Soldier Fly (BSF) Production

Through demonstrations conducted by FAO in past months there has been an increase among the 570 registered cluster farmers taking up BSF production at various scales and stages of production in both wards. 193 farmers (136 female, 57 male) have managed to complete the full cycle of production and have managed to harvest and dry the larvae at average 3rd instar. Of note is that there is now a third generation of BSF adopters from the first group trained in BSF, and farmers are innovating and experimenting with different substrates using the Farmer Field School approach. Farmers are now BSF producing using numerous substrates such as different wild fruits, goat manure and crop residue like watermelons, pumpkins, groundnut shells, maize stock etc, which are readily available to them; with goat manure ranking as the top best substrate based on the farmers' experience.



Dip tank rehabilitation

3 dip tanks were completed this month, bringing the cumulative total to 21 completed in Chimanimani and Mutare districts.

Treatment of livestock

Vaccination of goats and sheep against pulpy kidney vaccine in 8 ZIRP districts targeting 500,000 sheep and goats



Market Linkages

Registration for SeedCo and GMB contracts for sugar beans are underway in all the 7 targeted irrigation schemes. A workshop on market linkages was successfully held in Mutare where irrigation scheme farmers, Nyahode valley farmers, produce buyers, the Agricultural Marketing Authority and ZIMTRED met and exchanged ideas.

Health





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Construction works at all 3 targeted health facilities (Mutambara Mission hospital, Mutsvangwa Clinic and St. Peters hospital) were completed this month. The workmanship at the three completed health facilities is of a high standard and beneficiary communities are elated at the new infrastructure.





Mutambara Mission Hospital

All outstanding works were completed as per the scope of works.



60

Mutsvangwa Clinic

All outstanding works were completed as per the scope of works.



St Peter's Isolation Ward

All outstanding works were completed as per the scope of works.



Brick dressing, interiror painting, plumbing and electrical installations have all been completed for Mutsvangwa Clinic. For a closer look at the design of this site, please turn to In Depth (p.10).

Education



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Below left: Kushinga Primary School; Right: Hode Primary School







Good progress has been made at all schools this month. At Hlabiso, several milestones were reached including ring beam concrete pour on the toilet block and ongoing external works. At Hode, the project has successfully completed the truss framing and installation on both the classroom block and toilet, which is a significant step towards the completion of the superstructure. At Chimanimani High School, work is progressing well, with the superstructure brickwork phase complete. Construction has moved into the ring beam phase and is anticipated to finish on schedule. At Mukombiwani and Dzingire works are paused while new contractors are onboarded. At Kushinga Secondary School, despite delays in delivery of materials, the superstructure brickwork for grade 1, 2, 3, and 4 is now 98% complete up to the bottom of the ring beam.



Percentage of work completed in the construction of schools

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self-sponsored latrines were constructed by households across the 8 districts.



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community entities trained on O&M



People provided with access to safe drinking water through water supply interventions



people were provided with key health and hygiene messages this month through door-todoor campaigns and Community Health Club sessions.



Large piped water schemes were completed. Work is ongoing at the remaining 9 schemes in Chipinge district.

In total, **473** water systems have been rehabilitated: **272** boreholes **35** springs **75** deep wells **46** Small Piped Water Schemes **45** Large Piped Water Schemes

Community Infrastructure & Risk Reduction ©UNDPS



Progress on the completion of roads

This month, culverts at Tiya Road were finished, bringing the site to completion, and Budzi/Chipika and Zororo/Kopera roads also reached completion, showing strong progress towards achievement of targets. At Nyamusundu, culvert crossing works are underway and the site is nearing completion. It is currently at 95% progress. At Kushinga road, the project has experienced delays due to plant breakdowns, but gravel processing is nonetheless in progress. At Zororo/Kopera road, 9 out of 11 culverts have been rehabilitated.





Jopa Market

The Jopa Market project has achieved significant progress with the completion of setting out, excavations, foundation blinding, reinforcement, and strip footing concrete pours. The project has made substantial progress with substructure brickwork up to the slab level. Additionally, the project has successfully completed foundation backfilling, a critical step towards the project's overall success.

Image: Vendors at the current Jopa market.





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Highlights on March Results





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COVID-19 Response

4 36 130 ambulances, 2 four-wheel EHTs provided with Environmental Health drive vehicles and 1 PCR laptops, tablets and Technicians (EHTs) were extraction machine phones to use in disease trained on disease purchased and handed surveillance surveillance and are over to mission hospitals now deployed to strengthen disease surveillance and response 168 812 580 health workers from 19 community peer VHWs recruited, trained Health Facilities (7 ZIRPsupervisors were identified and deployed increasing supported mission hospitals and oriented on the coverage in the and 12 Regional Council supportive supervisory, targeted districts to at Clinics) were trained on case mentorship and least 81% of villages management and IPC; and coaching skills with VHWs are now deployed 99,839 4,276 specimens have been **100%** of rehabilitation works UNICEF VHWs and 9 UNICEF transported to Health training centres in have been completed at St. government labs for Peters Isolation ward Chimanimani and Chipinge testing districts received PPEs and IPC 10 18 5 art murals have been motorcycles procured ZIRP-supported mission completed for for delivery specimen hospital labs received community messaging transportation supplies and targeting nearly **2.5** consumables million people indirectly in the **9** ZIRP districts

In addition to procurement of PPE, ZIRP has supported 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. Health interventions, with the exception of construction works, are now complete.

IN DEPTH: Participatory design in action





Completion of the Mutsvangwa Clinic this month showcases the benefits of design processes which consult the community on their needs.

This month, a major milestone was reached under the ZIRP with the completion of Mutsvangwa Maternal Health Clinic in Ward 23, Chimanimani District.

Located approximately 10 kilometres from the Mozambican border, the Mutsvangwa Clinic serves a local population of around 11,000, where child marriage is common and early pregnancies often put young girls at risk of maternal death and infant mortality. The lack of healthcare facilities in the region has reinforced the cultural practice of home births by traditional midwives practitioners who lack the medical training to deal with complications when they arise. As a result, Mutsvangwa Clinic often receives women in the midst of complicated births, putting pressure on their limited facilities.

Identified as a priority site for building back better after Cyclone Idai, clinic staff were delighted by the news that the ZIRP would carry out infrastructure improvements and create an environment to better support its patients. UNOPS contracted Mass/NLE, an African design consortium, and together with UNOPS, decided that a participatory design process was essential for this project. Composed of interviews and focus group discussions with nurses, patients, health committees, committees, and local government officials, participatory design draws valuable information directly from beneficiaries in order to inform interventions. It is especially important in serving women, people living with disabilities, and other marginalized groups.

"Participatory design enables women to be directly involved in the decision-making process." explains Felida Nkhoma, Community Mobiliser at UNOPS Zimbabwe. "It means that what they feel is important for them to give birth safely is taken into account. And it provides a sense of ownership in the project."



IN DEPTH: Participatory design in action

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The process brought several concerns to light. Participants highlighted that a lack of space was discouraging mothers from attending the clinic, due in part to strong cultural beliefs in the importance of safety from witchcraft during pregnancy, as well as the expectation to manage the pain of labour in a private environment, free from external judgement. "Mothers want privacy during the labour process as they fear that people who hear them and see them screaming will go about telling everyone," reported one team member. "Culturally, women are told to endure the pain and not scream so as to show how strong they are."

Stepping into the completed clinic, the design response to these problems is clear. With five buildings clustered around a central canopy structure, the new clinic incorporates segregated wings for labour and delivery, as well as partitioning to prevent crowding. In addition, a dedicated space has been created for expectant mothers to come with their partners or mothers while they wait to give birth. Given the long distances and weak road infrastructure in the region, early arrival at the clinic ensures that



mothers make the challenging journey while they are active and in good health.





"The rooms are spacious and airy as they have vaulted ceilings that allow maximum air circulation" said Onai Baudi, а **UNOPS** construction engineering technician who worked on this site. In addition, the project kept sustainability at the forefront throughout the construction process. "We used local materials such as timber for the trusses and the stone for the masonry units in the foundations" materials which provide the strength and durability necessary for the regional climate, which is windy and cyclone-prone. "We are glad this project is completed, and very happy with the final product" he said.

The completion of the Clinic is a meaningful event for the surrounding community, as it will serve expectant mothers in the way that they need most. The valuable information gathered in the design process led to an outcome based on the specific needs of the community, ensuring an intervention that is sustainable, culturally appropriate, and fit for purpose.



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UNOPS Zimbabwe, 10 York Road, Newlands, Harare, Zimbabwe info.zim@unops.org www.zirp_zimbabwe.org @zirp_zimbabwe