



# Zimbabwe Idai Recovery Project

financed by  THE WORLD BANK

managed by  UNOPS

## MONTHLY OVERVIEW FEBRUARY 2022





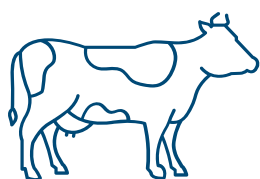
## Introduction

As the fourth anniversary of cyclone Idai comes around, the project continues to make strong progress in implementation of the medium term interventions despite delays caused by cyclone Freddy and incessant rains in some areas. The effectiveness of early warning systems implemented under the ZIRP through UNESCO community radios is testament to the progress the project has made in strengthening Zimbabwe's disaster preparedness, and is a reminder of the necessity of the long-term and sustainable solutions to climate shocks that the project prioritises.

Under the food security and livelihoods component, good progress has been made. Rehabilitation works for 11 dip tanks was completed this month, bringing total completion to 18. Following the adoption of low-cost technologies for BSF production, the project has seen increased uptake by poultry farmers on Black Soldier Fly production from 55 farmers in December to 183 by February .

The targeted Nyahode watershed farmers have been linked to 5 value chain actors. Watershed works are in progress at the targeted sites. Under the WASH component; 3 additional large piped water schemes have been rehabilitated bringing the total completion to 39; works on the remaining 15 schemes are to be completed by May 2023. Under the community infrastructure component, construction of the remaining 3 health facilities are near completion with minor snags remaining which are set to be completed by March. Construction works on 3 access roads is near completion (93% progress); with completion planned for March. Works on the 7 schools sites, is progressing despite global supply chain challenges delaying procurement of construction materials.

The project continues to ensure integrated GBV risk mitigation and response throughout the remaining ZIRP interventions.



## Dip tank rehabilitation

Rehabilitation of 18 dip tanks has been completed in Chimanimani and Mutare districts. Rehabilitation works for remaining 14 dip tanks for Lot 1 and Lot 3 is in progress. Progress was quite slow this month, due to disruptions caused by the incessant rains. Construction works at the 14 dip tanks are expected to be completed between April and May 2023.



## Black Soldier Fly (BSF) Production

Training on BSF continued in February, with 312 farmers trained on use of low-cost equipment in BSF production. The trainings were conducted with support from AGRITES extension staff. 82 new beneficiaries (78 Female, 4 Male) were registered for the first time, and 37 new farmers (34 female, 3 male) were visited and assisted in establishing BSF trapping and feed materials.



## Market Linkages

Registration for SeedCo contracts on sugar beans are underway in the 6 irrigation schemes. Grain Marketing Board (GMB) are also undertaking registration for sugar beans at Mutema, Bwerudza and Maunganidze. At Nyanyadzi, Chipendeke and Gudyanga, farmers have identified crops such as maize, tomatoes, onions, okra and butternuts for demonstration plots; and various input suppliers have expressed interest to support demo plots for these crops.





## Mutsvangwa Clinic *(pictured right)*

**96% Complete**

### Current Activities

Primary roof installation,  
internal fittings,  
courtyard doors,  
pentagon roof, testing  
plumbing and electrics



## Mutambara Mission Hospital

**96% Complete**

### Current Activities

Landscaping, planting,  
tiling and glazing, road  
paving



## St Peter's Mission Hospital

**98% Complete**

### Current Activities

Installation of gutters,  
burglar bars, a double  
laundry basin, and  
patient cubicle rails.



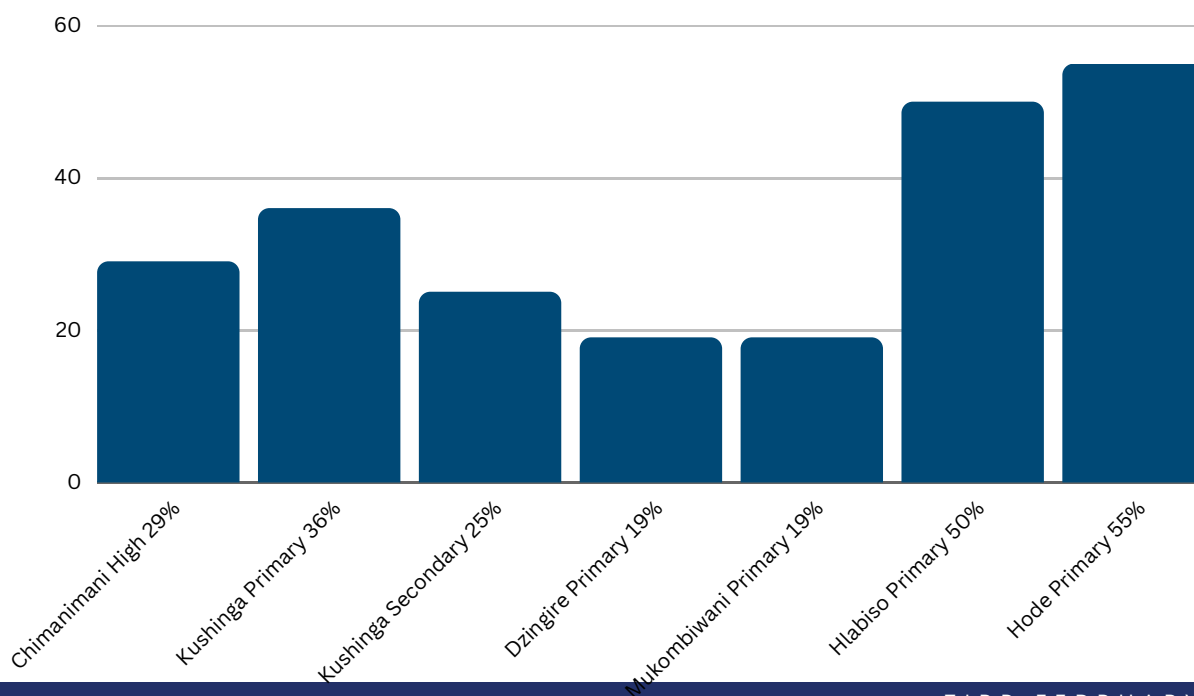


# Education



Good progress has been made at Hode and Hlabiso schools, where the construction is now at superstructure stage for both projects. At Hlabiso, superstructure brickwork for block 1 was completed and block 2 is at 90%. At Hode, the superstructure brickwork on the toilet block was completed, with steel fixing and shuttering for ring beam on the classroom block at 80%. Work continues on both schools. At Kushinga and Chimanimani High School, the project awaits delivery of materials in order to progress works. At Mukombiwani, Dzingire and Kushinga Secondary School, works are paused while new contractors are identified and inducted.

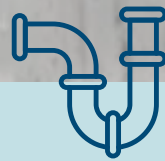
### Percentage of work completed in the construction of schools





**901**

people were provided with key health and hygiene messages this month through door-to-door campaigns and Community Health Club sessions in the Mutema area of Chipinge district.



**2**

Large piped water schemes were completed. Work is ongoing at the remaining 54 schemes in Chipinge district, including the 5 schemes for the Mutema area.



**5**

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

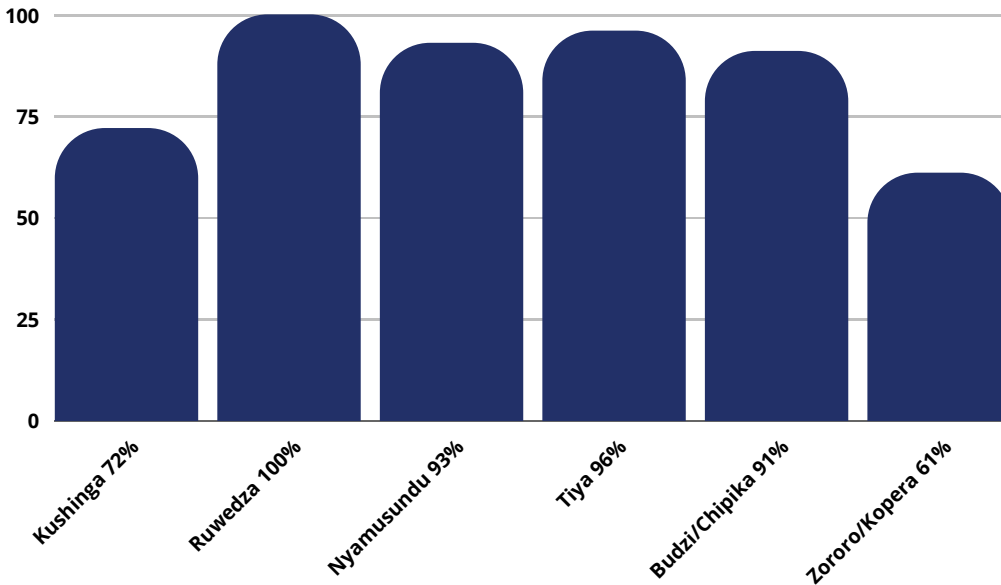


# Community Infrastructure & Risk Reduction



## Progress on the completion of roads

Despite some disruptions from the incessant rains and some in challenge accessing construction materials, progress across all roads is strong, with the following roads reaching the final stages of construction: Tiya (96% completion), Nyamusundu (93%), and Budzi/Chipika (91%). At Kushinga road, gravel processing is in progress; at Zororo/Kopera road, 8 out of 11 culverts have been rehabilitated.



A total of **40.2km** of damaged access roads has been rehabilitated

**27,400** persons benefited through rehabilitated community infrastructure and risk reduction interventions



## Jopa Market

At the new Jopa Market site, construction is underway. Pouring of strip footing foundation concrete has taken place (see image below right) and steel fixing of foundation reinforcement bars is planned for coming weeks, alongside curing of strip footings and setting out of external works. Site progress is at 19%.

*Images: above, a vendor at the current Jopa market. Bottom: progress on the new Jopa marketplace under construction.*





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# Highlights on February Results

More than **230,000** people received food assistance to date

**22,027** households supported through agricultural and livestock inputs

Over **71** dipping sessions conducted

**2,314,729** livestock vaccinated/treated

Rehabilitation works in **6** irrigation schemes completed

**3,255** households have constructed latrines

**40,173** households have restored access to water and sanitation services

**661,635** people provided with basic health package services and support

Capacity building completed for **2,843** village health workers in 9 districts

**88,516** students in 134 schools benefited from teaching and learning supplies

**92** classroom tents distributed

**400** Early Childhood Development (ECD) kits distributed

**64,418** school backpacks distributed

**500** units of school-in-a-box distributed

**300** recreational kits distributed

**9,894** GBV survivors reached through mobile OSC

**1,359** survivors were provided with transport for higher level of care

**4,000** women and girls received dignity kits

**224** survivors received post rape care

**285,134** people benefited through rehabilitated community infrastructure and risk reduction interventions

**40.2** kilometers of damaged access roads completed

**41.26** kilometers of damaged access roads under construction

**10** Displacement Tracking Matrix surveys and assessments conducted

**25** one on one sessions conducted with TAs to review DTM data and inform ZIRP programming



# 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



**36**

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



**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



**93%** of rehabilitation works have been completed at St. Peters Isolation ward



**99,839**

specimens have been transported to government labs for testing



**4,276**

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



**18**

motorcycles procured for delivery specimen transportation



**5**

ZIRP-supported mission hospital labs received supplies and consumables



**10**

art murals have been completed for community messaging targeting nearly **2.5** 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.



## Building resilience in the wake of a storm

### *Reflecting on the four-year anniversary of Cyclone Idai*

It is almost four years since Cyclone Idai ravaged Zimbabwe's eastern provinces on 16 March 2019. As the anniversary approaches, it is salient to remember just how severe this extreme weather event was: across eastern Zimbabwe roads, schools, homes and farmlands were destroyed and over 340 people lost their lives. In addition to physical damage, less visible was the structural and social damage that took place, with an estimated 270,000 people impacted through the destruction of food security, livelihoods and access to education and healthcare systems. Coinciding with the arrival of the devastating Cyclone Freddy in the southern Africa region this month, the Idai anniversary is a reminder of two critical points. Firstly, the increasing vulnerability of this region to extreme weather events; and secondly, the importance of disaster responses which leverage the interconnectedness of water, energy, food and ecosystems in order to regenerate livelihoods and build climate resilience.

The World Bank-funded response to Cyclone Idai, leveraging the expertise of eight different UN agencies, has addressed both sides of this equation. By rebuilding infrastructure as one part of a holistic approach to better systems and social

structures, the project has empowered people to provide for themselves in a sustainable way and better recover in the event of future shocks. As put by UNOPS Kenya Director Rainer Frauenfeld, who provides oversight for UNOPS work in Zimbabwe, the aim was "not simply to restore what was lost but to build back better, smarter and stronger so that communities are more resilient to future hazards."

Examples of the effectiveness of this approach abound. Under the ZIRP, the FAO & UNOPS CI food security and livelihoods component focused on rebuilding irrigation schemes, incorporating training on agricultural techniques; business and management skills; and setting up market linkages between producers, processors and buyers.





## *Reflecting on the four-year anniversary of Cyclone Idai*



At Gudyanga Irrigation Scheme, Chimanimani District, for example, in addition to new boreholes, solar-powered pumping systems, construction of gabion walls and planting of vetiver grass to prevent future erosion, farmers were aggregated into cooperatives and equipped with “Farming as a Business” skills through training and coaching. By learning to move into the production of high value crops such as chilli peppers, and provided with free seedlings, tools and linkages to Chilli Pepper Company for production and processing onsite, farmers have experienced a reduced impact of climate variability in crop production; improved household income; better nutrition; and strengthened agricultural value chains - a complete transformation from the situation of March 2019 that will continue to have a lasting impact beyond the project.

In many ways, water is at the heart of this holistic approach to building back better. Through looking at the whole water cycle in a community and making tailored interventions, the multi-agency multi-sector approach treats water as a social and an economic good with huge potential for improving livelihoods. At Dohhodzo in Ward 9, Buhera district, for example, to address the critical needs of vulnerable households, the project implemented solar energy-powered boreholes and restored access to clean, safe and sustainable water supply. With a pipe network of 9.2km, reducing the distance for water collection from 2km to 50 meters, hence reducing the burden for women, children, elderly and people with disability. In tandem, through introducing water-saving efficiencies in agriculture - lining and maintaining canals, so that water doesn't seep into the soil, or replacing current methods with drip and sprinkler irrigation - the local crop production systems are less vulnerable to drought or other changes in climate. The rehabilitated scheme has also resulted in adoption of irrigation for community gardens and switch from dependency on rain-fed farming. Water for livestock is now also readily accessible.



## Reflecting on the four-year anniversary of Cyclone Idai

Labour intensive works, which use local unskilled employees for infrastructure works, are another prime example of the strength and sustainability of this holistic approach. Take Hope Munetai (27), who was employed as a supervisor for the ZIRP Tiya road rehabilitation as part of a community labour initiative. Inspired by the exposure to engineering provided by the project - a sector which is typically difficult for women to access in Zimbabwe - Hope used her earnings to start a fruit trading business with the ultimate goal of enrolling at Masvingo Polytechnic for a certificate in Electrical Engineering. After successfully completing the course, she is now employed at Zimbabwe Electricity Distribution Company (ZETDC) as a line worker at faults. The learning experience and temporary income opportunity provided by UNOPS allowed Hope to gain lifelong skills and successfully pioneer a fulfilling livelihood.



Another complement to the multi-sectoral approach has been the UNESCO establishment of community radios, a crucial step in serving rural and disaster-prone areas in Chimanimani and Chipinge with essential information. As meteorological warnings about Cyclone Freddy arrived in early February 2023, training was put into practice. “We advised people about the steps they should take in the event that the cyclone hit,



and to stock up on non-perishable foods and clean water. Using mostly the Shona language, we advised people to keep listening to the radio for our daily updates - up to four times per day - rather than relying on social media which causes people to panic” reported Themba Gata, Chimanimani FM Station Manager. “Our people were ready and prepared well before the arrival of the cyclone” he said. “There was no panic.”

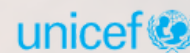
Not only do the radios serve in early warning systems, but they have become a lever for development, encouraging investment in electricity infrastructure and other essential services from state and private service providers. The ZIRP targeted communities are also taking ownership of the interventions, for example through volunteering to maintain the station building. In this way, the benefits of such coordinated interventions have an impact far beyond the scope of each project, amplifying and catalysing each other.

“Implementation of multi-agency multisectoral projects such as the ZIRP, demand a huge level of coordination” said Sheila Omom, the ZIRP Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist. “But the rewards of leveraging the expertise of each agency to build pathways towards climate resilience are worth it. The ZIRP has shown that this holistic approach has a much bigger impact on vulnerable communities, and will continue to provide lasting solutions for years to come.”





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