

2022 EDITION

# YEAR IN REVIEW

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**Zimbabwe  
Idai Recovery  
Project**

financed by  THE WORLD BANK  
managed by  UNOPS

"ZIRP closed 2022 with many success stories as the project significantly progressed the infrastructural rehabilitation interventions under the medium recovery component."

The focus in the year 2022 was medium-term recovery with technical agencies geared to restore community productive capacities. Significant progress was seen in the rehabilitation of community infrastructure including large piped water schemes, schools, health facilities, agricultural infrastructure and community roads.

Under the Food Security Livelihoods sub-component, the project provided ongoing training and mentorship support to the irrigation scheme farmers, Black Soldier Fly production farmers and Nyahode watershed farmers.

For WASH all planned hygiene facility infrastructure works and a majority of the water system infrastructure works are well underway. The communities are now well equipped with safe and reliable water supply for use beyond domestic purposes.

Comprehensive resilience building interventions have reduced community vulnerability to natural disasters. Community radio stations were successfully launched to strengthen early warning systems at community level.

Under the Community Infrastructure sub-component, rehabilitation works on six irrigations schemes and six roads have been completed. Construction works at six further roads, three health facilities, seven schools, Jopa Market and Nyahode watershed are in progress.

GBV surveillance and response services continue to be provided to GBV survivors through the UNFPA mobile one stop centre (OSC), and GBV risk mitigation has been mainstreamed across all project components with support from UNFPA.

Though challenges were faced from time to time, the TAs continued with the same determination that they started with to deliver quality services to beneficiaries. As the project faces its closure, all hands are on deck to ensure a successful completion and handing over of the projects.



*Construction at Hode Primary in Chimanimani*



# Highlights on December Results

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

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



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





## Zimbabwe Idai Recovery Project

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# 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.



# FOOD SECURITY & LIVELIHOODS

## HIGHLIGHTS

Completion of 6 irrigation schemes

Construction of 22 production tanks and 22 greenhouses for BSF production

Completion of goats distribution



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Food  
Programme



UNOPS



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# ZIRP transforms 6 irrigation schemes into viable and sustainable markets

UNOPS CI completed rehabilitation works at six irrigation schemes in 2022. Scope of works included excavation of storm drains, canal de-silting and cleaning, canal embankment repairs, canal embankment backfilling, canal construction, fencing, and installation of solar farms. Unlike many interventions in the schemes, ZIRP integrated infrastructure works with soft components of agronomy support for the farmers with support through FAO. Farmers have been trained on inter-season crop pre-planting, crop rotation, safe use of chemicals, contract farming and market linkages. A total of 910 farmers have been trained so far. All these activities are now bearing fruit. Prior to ZIRP intervention, farmers kept some of their harvest to use as seed, and there was no synchronisation of production in the schemes. Farm producers also had no targeted markets. As a result of the interventions, the productivity and profitability of the schemes has since been boosted significantly. The input and output market linkages have made the farmers resilient. “With chilli peppers, I harvest 100kg a week and earn \$104 every week,” said Senzeni Makoni, a farmer at Gudyanga Scheme.



Processing and value addition at the schemes has improved the incomes of farmers. Previously, farmers experienced huge losses for perishable products. As a result of all the training they have undergone, they have come up with innovative ideas to preserve their produce and minimize wastage. “We are processing dried tomatoes which we are selling and we have also been trained on pulp making. We are also making dried vegetables and packaging our beans for retail”, said the chairman of Maunganidze Irrigation scheme. “We have also procured a maputi making machine to add value to our crops”, he added. The farmers have introduced resilient varieties and are making efforts to improve crop rotation so that they get the most out of their work. Collaboration with government stakeholders has been imperative for the success and sustainability of these irrigation projects. “ZIRP has really uplifted farmers in Manicaland and the results are clear: farmers are now getting so much out of their hard work as compared to the period before ZIRP. We will continue supporting these projects even beyond ZIRP to ensure sustainability”, said Mr Nathan Nkomo, Chief Director, Department of Civil Protection Zimbabwe.

**Top**

*Agricultural produce from Bwerudza Irrigation Scheme*

**Bottom**

*Lucy Chikarata, farmer at Bwerudza who has benefitted from ZIRP interventions*





# Turning waste to gold - reimagining the value of flies

## Top

*Black Soldier Fly (BSF) at Pupal Stage*

## Bottom

*Learners from school have joined the BSF production program to support their school poultry projects*

Communities in ZIRP target areas are vulnerable to climatic shocks. The approach of the project was therefore to integrate climate smart interventions that build resilience to future shocks. Under Food Security and Livelihoods interventions implemented by FAO, climate smart agriculture was fully mainstreamed. One stellar example is the production of Black Soldier Fly (BSF) to produce high-protein feed for chicken, rabbits and pigs. Farmers in Buhera District are turning organic food waste into a higher value product while contributing to agro-ecology and low cost farming initiatives.

BSF is a common and widespread sanitary fly, which unlike houseflies produces high crude protein, fats and other essential amino acids.



The farmers are using household kitchen waste vegetables, sadza and manure to attract wild BSF to produce maggots. BSF feeds on waste organic feed substrates, thus placing it on the top list of environmental engineering organisms. The maggots are then dried, grounded and mixed with soya meal/sorghum/maize and salt.

This organic feed augments the chicken feed and organic grass fertilizer (an alternative to chemical fertilizers), currently in use for increased crop productivity. They are also exploring selling the BSF as an additional value-added product.

During the year 2022, FAO in partnership with Chinhoyi University of Technology trained 22 lead farmers

on setting up colonies, larva management, feed formulation and BSF feeding including infrastructure development.

The lead farmers are responsible for cascading training to other communal cluster farmers for better farming methods, including how to produce feed for their livestock. Extension officers from Ward 28 and 29 were also trained on BSF production for backstopping the farmers in their respective areas. Lead farmers have taken on their responsibility to train other farmers on BSF production with relish.





“BSF are easy to produce. I use locally available material to trap and reproduce the maggots. This has greatly reduced my feed costs. In addition, the quality of my (indigenous) chickens has greatly improved, increasing my household income,”

Chiedza Mashangana, beneficiary of the BSF initiative in Buhera

“I did not finish my Ordinary level education,” says Mr Kombera, a BSF farmer now nicknamed Professor for his teaching abilities, “but from Grade 7, I went straight to University to study BSF. When I came back, I knew I had to share the knowledge I had received.” Mr Kombera has drawn a fabric scroll which outlines the lifecycle and BSF production process, and is transferring knowledge to others with inspiring enthusiasm.





# Farmers learning from each other during BSF field learning days

Field learning days on BSF were conducted to promote cross learning amongst farmers. The 1st one was conducted on the 22nd of September 2022 at Kombera homestead, Chatikobo village ward 28 and ward attended by 229 farmers (49 male, 180 female).

A second field day was also conducted in ward 27 Chitsuku village of Buhera on the 28th of October 2022. This was attended by 381 participants, 221 of them females and 160 males and these were supported by government departments.

These field days provided a learning platform for farmers and stakeholders and therefore it increased awareness on BSF production or technology as a protein source for livestock feed.

They also provided interaction platforms for farmers and stakeholders to identify opportunities for BSF value chain support and optimization.

A number of lessons were learnt during these days including:

- The BSF is not alien to the communities as this was evidenced by farmers who managed to trap and get the eggs locally.
- The flies are easily attracted to the smelly substrate which has kitchen waste mostly mixed with onion and rotten eggs.

- Shady and quiet places particularly under trees and bushes are most ideal to find the flies and set traps.
- Weather conditions have a heavy bearing on BSF movement and production. During the cold winter months of May, June and July flies do not lay eggs and sometimes those laid do not hatch.
- Flies can stay docile/dormant for more than 2 months before pupating during cold seasons if warmth is not provided.
- Larvae fed from a mixture of pearl millet bran and kitchen waste were healthy compared to that fed from chicken waste alone.
- Buhera has vast sources of waste to feed BSF which includes wild fruits like nyii, brewers waste, pearl millet bran, mashamba and other animal wastes which makes production easier and affordable to farmers.
- Egg colonies collected from traps outside the greenhouse had more eggs compared to those from the greenhouse. Flies in the wild laid more eggs than those housed in the love cage, and this may be attributed to acclimatization

The project managers noted that peer reviews are key in the production of BSF amongst these farmers as they helped boost their confidence.







## ZIRP constructs Zimbabwe's largest gabion wall

### Top

*World Bank, government officials, TAs and UNOPS team at Gudyanga gabion wall during a supervision mission*

### Bottom

*The gabion wall at Gudyanga Irrigation Scheme. Vertiver grass will be planted along its shores*

A few metres from Gudyanga irrigation scheme is an odd looking small rectangular building. Although the building has two entrances, the roof is so low that anyone above one-metre in height can touch the roof, making it difficult to enter the building. "This was a toilet," explains the Irrigation scheme committee Chairperson Michael Pindenu, "but the silt that is being washed down by the river has literally buried nearly half of the building".

The same phenomenon is evident at the irrigation scheme shed - "sinking into the ground" - where the committee had to construct steps to enable safe entry.

To prevent the scheme from being silted over entirely, ZIRP intervened on Gudyanga and Nyanyadzi schemes by implementing conservation works.

The gully has steep and vertical banks and the existing vegetation in and around the gully are sparsely populated. In order to protect the soil, vetiver grass was planted along the banks and across incipient branch gullies.

The foundation on which gabion is placed was leveled and graded to the elevations. The gabion boxes were placed on two layers of gravel compacted in 150mm layers to 95% subgrade compacted to 93%.

The flood protection gabion wall for the Gudyanga Irrigation Scheme is 520m long x 2.5m high, making it the largest gabion wall in the country. Its features are unique making it resilient to climate shocks.

Capacity building exercises are being done for community members including non-beneficiaries on catchment management and protection measures that can be implemented to manage the Mupuyuyu River and other water resources at Gudyanga.





# EDUCATION

## HIGHLIGHTS

Distribution of additional hygiene kits

Commencement of construction of classroom and ablution blocks in 7 schools





# Restoring education delivery in ZIRP target districts



**Right**

*Learner from Hode Primary School hanging out at a nearby store*

"I do not have a pencil so I could not participate in classwork," 9 year old Shantel Mhonde explains.

It is just before midday in Chimanimani. Silence envelopes Hode Primary School as all the learners tend busily to their classes. Across the road is a small store where Shantel and three other learners are sitting in the verandah store. On enquiring why she is not in class, Shantel explains that she has no pencil and can therefore not do the class work requested of her. "My teacher has asked me to go and fetch a pencil," she says in a resigned tone. ZIRP supported 88,516 students who like Shantel had no learning supplies to use.

Cyclone Idai did not just disrupt the livelihoods of the community; it strongly impacted on their ability to fend for their children adequately. Learners were supported with school bags and stationery. 134 schools received school in a box kits, recreational and ECD kits.

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, ZIRP also provided the schools with hygiene kits so that learning would continue. In 2022, the last batch of hygiene kits which included tap buckets, detergents and sanitizers were delivered to schools.



# Resilient infrastructure enabling access to quality inclusive education

Under the emergency response component of the project, ZIRP distributed tents to schools for temporary use allowing swift resumption of lessons after the Cyclone. Two years later, these tents are now weather-beaten and starting to tear.

To this effect, the construction of classroom and ablution blocks in 7 schools has commenced and has progressed significantly. ZIRP is constructing double classroom blocks and ablution blocks with 26 water closet flush toilets. The ablution block includes 2 disability friendly units (male and female) and 6 teachers units.

Informed by the flood risk mapping and Visual Inspection for defining the Safety Upgrading Strategies (VISUS) assessments conducted by UNESCO under the ZIRP, several adjustments have been made to make school infrastructure climate resilient. The schools are built on a 150 mm thick stone masonry foundation reinforced at mid level with ground beams made of steel. The concrete beam foundation is then poured and cured above this special foundation so the building can withstand tremors, flooding and mudslides.

The superstructure is constructed using fire burnt clay bricks. The thickness of the walls has been increased to 345 mm ensuring that the walls will withstand future shocks. Much effort and time was invested into the design of the classrooms.

Beyond climate resilience, infrastructure development provides the greatest opportunity to 'build back better'. UNOPS therefore wanted the buildings to be fit for purpose and attuned to sustainability and the natural environment.

According to community members who participated in the design consultations, schools in these communities serve more than just educational purposes. They are a community gathering place for public meetings and church gatherings.

This 'communal' aspect was translated into a key feature of all the buildings - a circular space which connects the various rooms but also provides a meeting place. All buildings are orientated to create clear pathways of connection and orient buildings for the central forum.

Windows on both of the long ends of the classroom allow for passive cross ventilation and natural light making it easy for learners to read and write. Provision has been made for open play and structured play areas. Integration of vegetation is used to facilitate shading and wind directing.

The geometry and the central focus of the school landscaping is based on an emphasis on learning through play. In playful learning, children try out ideas, test theories, experiment with symbol systems, explore social relations, take risks, and reimagine the world.

The designs for the schools have been shared with the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education as a blueprint for climate resilient, fit-for-use school infrastructure. This is a lasting legacy that ZIRP will leave in these vulnerable communities.



**Top right**

*ZIRP supplied emergency tents for use as temporary classrooms*

**Bottom right, Left**

*Construction of classroom and ablution block in progress at Hode Primary School*



# HEALTH

## HIGHLIGHTS

Documentation produced on  
peer supervision and social  
mobilization model highlighting  
lessons learnt.

Works completed at Old Mutare  
Hospital

Construction works in progress  
at 3 health facilities

unicef 

 UNOPS

 World Health  
Organization





# Mutsvangwa waiting mothers shelter - a home away from home

Maternity waiting shelters are a critical component of the health system especially in rural areas. This is an intervention designed to reduce maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality through safe institutional births. The close proximity to the clinic removes the physical barriers that prevent pregnant women from accessing health facilities in time for their delivery of their babies.



**Top right**

*Maternity wing built on reinforced foundations*

**Bottom right**

*Pre, post natal and labour wards within close proximity of each other*

**Right**

*Wards are partitioned to allow privacy of patients*



For Rudo Makiwa, walking 30km to access maternal services while experiencing labour pain was never going to be an option. "It's actually safer to deliver at home with a local midwife since I do not have means of transport to access the health center", she said.

A makeshift kitchen, outside sink, external ablution facilities and a shared room that usually houses more than its capacity is the available accommodation that Mutsvangwa Clinic offers to waiting mothers. There is little privacy, but the women are comforted by the assurance that they can deliver their babies safely.

Through ZIRP intervention, a state-of-the-art maternity wing is being constructed at Mutsvangwa clinic.

The new wing has a waiting shelter, antenatal, labour, delivery, postnatal and outpatient wards. Water tanks are being installed so that the wing has running water and electricity.

"We are so excited about this wing," beamed the sister in charge. "The clinic serves a large community including mothers from neighbouring Mozambique. Retention of staff for our remote clinic will no longer be an issue."





**Top**

*Rudo Makiwa in the current maternity waiting room at the clinic*



**Centre**

*Existing cooking facilities for expectant mothers*

**Bottom**

*Expectant mothers share a light moment*





# WASH

## HIGHLIGHTS

Large Piped Water Scheme  
construction

No-cost extension of the WASH  
component to June 2023

Piped Water Schemes supporting  
schools feeding program

Private sector supporting girls with  
menstrual hygiene consumables

unicef 

HAND WASH

HAND WAS





## A welcome WASH relief for Manicaland schools

Like most institutions in Chipinge district, Sabi Valley primary school in ward 5 is still reeling from the effects of tropical Cyclone Idai due to the impact on the school's sanitation facilities.

With an enrolment of 775 pupils, 406 girls and 369 boys, Sabi Valley had a squat hole to pupil ratio of 1:40 for the girls and 1:36 for the boys; nearly double the recommended ratio of 1:20 for girls and 1:25 for boys.

*Pupils demonstrate handwashing at the ZIRP implemented group handwashing station at Foromo Primary School*



In addition, the latrines that were in use were located 600m away from the classroom blocks, outside the school's premises, posing danger to the learners. Incidences of children soiling themselves on their way to the toilet were very common, so was open defecation along the footpath to the latrines.

The school, located in the Sabi river valley, is amongst the 5 schools in the district that received 10 squat hole latrines implemented under ZIRP. The 10 squat holes include two disability friendly latrines (one each for boys and girls), a girl friendly latrine equipped with a bathroom set, cupboard, mirror and gate and lock for privacy.

The lack of disability friendly latrine hindered learners living with disabilities from attending lessons at the school.

The memory is still fresh of a grade 7 disabled pupil who used to crawl in the toilets with her bare hands, sometimes relying on other pupils to carry her, depriving her of privacy. Some teachers ended up contributing to buy gloves to protect her hands.



Sabi Valley school did not have a hand washing facility, placing learners at risk of contracting and transmitting fecal oral diseases.

ZIRP brought the much-needed relief to the school. The Building Back Better principles guided the project implementation through the use of cement bricks and technically stronger designs that ensured the structures built were of stronger quality that can withstand pressures such as floods and cyclones. Constant monitoring by local Environmental Health Technicians, the DWSSC and OXFAM (the implementing partner) ensured that the latrines were in line with the recommended Ministry of Health standards.

Sabi Valley Primary School received Girl-friendly, Menstrual Hygiene Management compatible latrines with mirrors and tap water and hand-washing facilities inside the toilets. The toilets have screen doors that are locked from the inside for the privacy and security of the female learners.

Two disability-friendly squat holes were also provided to cater for both boys and girls and fitted with a toilet seat, handrails and wheelchair ramps.





# COMMUNITY AND RISK INFRASTRUCTURE



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## HIGHLIGHTS

Completion of 6 irrigation  
schemes

Commencement of schools  
construction work

Completion of 6 access roads

Commencement of Jopa Market  
construction work

Commencement of Nyahode  
watershed component





# Jopa market - a dream come true for Mbuya Jabu and fellow vendors

Mbuya Jabu has been a vendor at Jopa Market for over 5 years. "This is how I support my family," she explains. "My oldest son passed away and left me to fend for his three children. The youngest one is just 1 year 3 months," she says, tears welling up in her eyes. "I have my fields so I grow my own pineapples."

The market serves as a meeting point for nearly 100 farmers mainly from Chipinge who come and sell their horticultural produce to customers mainly from Chimanimani and other parts of the country.

Women like Mbuya Jabu bear the brunt of weather elements from the harsh Chimanimani sun to intense rains in this open market. The construction of a covered Jopa Market is a development they have dreamed and hoped for. Currently the market has no sanitation facilities, yet many mothers bring their young children with them to the market. At night, they pack away their goods in woven baskets and cover them with plastic sheeting. They can only trust that they will find their goods safe in the morning. The construction of a revamped Jopa Market will address all these issues.



*Mbuya Jabu clearing pineapple stalks from her 'workstation'*

The site contractor has commenced works on the foundations for the construction of vending stalls and ancillary facilities. The market ablution facilities will help women with menstrual hygiene management. Plans also include a kitchen and dining area where the women can have a decent place to take a break from their work and prepare a hot meal. Plumbing and electrical works, pavement and drainage works, road construction, retaining and fence works are all under construction to ensure the market place's functionality and security.

The new market has made consideration for the safety of customers as well. Parking has been accommodated in the site plan of the upcoming market.

The revamped market is expected to spur economic activity and improve the livelihoods of vendors like Mbuya Jabu.



*Excavation works at the new site for the market*



# COMPREHENSIVE RESILIENCE BUILDING

## HIGHLIGHTS

Chimanimani community radio  
station launched

Chimanimani Biosphere  
Reserve approved

Capacity building workshop on  
early communication and early  
warning signs







## Chimanimani FM proves a critical tool for continuing education

Communication during a disaster is often times overlooked and yet it is critical for the coordination of response mechanisms. Further, in supporting communities to become more resilience to climatic shocks, the thrust must be to build robust early warning systems that allow for improved disaster preparedness. This was the objective in setting up community radios, the first in Zimbabwe, under the comprehensive resilience building component of ZIRP. Three community owned and run stations were set up and they are now broadcasting live in the local dialects. The radio stations received live weather updates via automated weather. The monitoring stations which are connected to the station via the internet of things (IOT). The community attests to how useful this information is.

Now the radio stations are finding even more use beyond early warnings and entertainment. To ensure education continuity in the face of disasters, UNESCO trained teachers from Chimanimani, Nyanga and Chipinge in developing and broadcasting radio lessons as a means to deliver remote education and minimize the disruption of schooling for learners in regions vulnerable to natural weather hazards, landslides, and flooding.

Joyline Rushwaya is one of many teachers who attended the Radio Lessons training held in Chimanimani. "When Cyclone Idai hit, a bridge that is used by students to crossover to go to school was damaged by the cyclone and students were not able to come to school," she shares. "This was a major issue for the community as many students were not able to go to their schools due to the damaged roads and bridges. Many of the areas here do not have internet connectivity and even the availability of smart devices, is poor. Alternative methods for delivering lessons were limited. Now we can use the radio station."

Radio lessons can complement the lessons that learners receive in classrooms and for education to continue when children cannot be in a classroom.

**Top**

Stakeholders celebrate the official opening of the radio station with the guest of honour, Minister of Information, Publicity and Broadcasting Services Monica Mutsvangwa

**Bottom**

One of the station's DJ's broadcasting live from Chimanimani FM





# GENDER BASED VIOLENCE SUPPORT

## HIGHLIGHTS

Continuity of service provision within the evolving multi-hazard context

Mainstreaming Integration of GBV risk mitigation and prevention into TA programmes

Administration of post rape kits





# ZIRP creating a gender-just society through Gender Based Violence (GBV) mainstreaming

With funding from the World Bank for ZIRP, UNFPA has also been providing technical assistance to all ZIRP Technical Agencies (TAs) to mainstream GBV risk mitigation and prevention within their respective areas of work.

GBV is fuelled by the inequalities that exist within communities. Cyclone Idai further exacerbated the risk of exposure to GBV as livelihoods were destroyed and many families were pushed into extreme poverty. The outbreak of the COVID-19 worsened the situation as survivors and people at risk could not access support services due to lockdown restrictions. ZIRP supported timely access to essential services for GBV survivors through the mobile One Stop Centre (OSC) model in remote and hard to reach areas, even after the mobile health outreach clinics were completed.



## Top

*Women taking a lead in construction work in ZIRP community infrastructure component*

## Bottom

*Women who are part of the governance structure at Bwerudza irrigation scheme*



The model is run by multi sectoral outreach teams, composed of specialized counsellors, paralegal officers, working in close coordination with nurses and police victim friendly units.

Following capacity building by UNFPA, all TAs have been able to set up community-based systems for monitoring of GBV risk mitigation in Nutrition (FAO), WASH (UNICEF) and construction (UNOPS CI). FAO, for instance, increased gender awareness resulting in increased participation and joint decision making in key agricultural production, value chain selection and inclusion and market linkages, governance issues. There is reported reduction of GBV instances by farmers and community leaders.

Within irrigation schemes, FAO has continued to mainstream the inclusion of women and youths in leadership and decision making structures. For activities under the livestock, community gardens and the irrigation scheme all training activities have included components on gender mainstreaming, GBV prevention, PSEA and child abuse.



ZIRP has been providing many opportunities to women, empowering them and ensuring a more efficient allocation of resources. All the interventions implemented have increased well-being for both women and men, and the creation of a more socially just and sustainable society.

WASH programming has involved inclusion of women in community structures such as Community Health Clubs, Sanitation Action Groups, Water Point Committees and Drinking Water safety and Security (DWSSP) teams. PSEA, GBV and child protection issues are mainstreamed throughout all WASH project activities with feedback and reporting guidelines spelt out. Girls have also been supported with secure Menstrual Hygiene friendly facilities in schools. Community and School health clubs have also been supported with capacity to produce reusable menstrual pads.

Engagement of women in water and sanitation programmes has transitioned women's position in the community from water users to decision making positions involving ensuring sustainability of water systems and water safety.

Gender sensitization meetings are held in the operational wards to raise awareness among community leaders on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and Gender Based Violence (GBV).

UNOPS CI has been making a deliberate effort to ensure that women can access income opportunities in even in these non-traditional roles of construction. Of the 158 workers that were employed at Ruwedza road construction site, 100 were women and 58 were men. UNOPS CI invested in community awareness activities in order to create gender transformation.

Gender and GBV/PSEA awareness sessions are part of community worker inductions. The sessions are facilitated by the Community Mobilizers from each district. The inductions offer information on functional referral pathways for health, psychosocial, safety and protection, legal and other support, in consistency with GBV guiding principles. Some of the project contractors have embraced the inclusion of women and young people in infrastructure activities. Women have reported that participation in infrastructure activities has empowered them and they are now able to be part of the decision making process within the household.

#### Bottom

Two women fetching water at a water point set up close to their homes



ZIRP has created an enabling environment for women once they are a part of the project. In every site, separate and safe toilets are provided so women or men can use sanitation facilities safely and are not exposed to any vulnerability. In addition to lockable toilets, emergency sanitary products are made available to women onsite. UNOPS has also put in place 'child friendly' spaces at each site which provide a safe sheltered place for women who are breastfeeding or who have small children in their care to bring their children who are under a community chosen care-giver. Through this arrangement women can work while still taking care of their children under a safe environment.



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