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OVERALL IMPACT OF THE LUSAKA URBAN REFUGEE PROJECT IN 2015

AAH ZAMBIA NATIONAL BOARD

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CHAIR’S MESSAGE

Action Africa Help Zambia has been working in Zambia now for more than 10 years starting in 2001 with refugees, asylum seekers and vulnerable rural communities in partnership with UNHCR Zambia. In 2012, the organisation diversified its programming into environmental conservation, maternal health and HIV prevention programs, working with other development partners.

During the year 2013, Zambia continued hosting displaced people from neighbouring countries such as Angola, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Somalia and our next-door neighbour, Zimbabwe. Resources directed to humanitarian work continue to dwindle given the multitude of conflicts that are being experienced, not just in the region but also globally. UNHCR, which funds a big portion of our work, had also to deal with the issue of juggling meagre resources to meet needs in Africa and other parts of the world. AAH Zambia is therefore intent on realising its resource mobilisation strategy to ensure adequate resources to implement development programmes that target communities in rural Zambia.

During the period under review, AAH Zambia made steps towards owning its own office space. This is part of our sustainability strategy to ensure the Country Programme is able to generate revenue to support its organisational development. The new offices are scheduled for completion in May 2014.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and indeed on my own behalf, I would like to thank our donors, our communities and the AAH Zambia staff for your support throughout the year which helped us deliver our mission. Lastly, is to thank the AAH Zambia Board of Directors for dedicated service to this organisation.

Mr. Mutila Mulenga

COUNTRY DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

The year 2013 was hectic, exhausting, but deeply satisfying time to me and I am certain for my co-workers. Serving an organization such as AAH Zambia Program that is so unique, vibrant and does so much good for underprivileged and marginalized communities and displaced people is indeed a privilege. Giving people hope and helping them start anew in the countries they come for refuge and seeing them become self-sufficient is indeed gratifying.

During the year 2013, AAH Zambia, with support from UNHCR continued to implement the Refugee Program in Lusaka where we supported displaced families living in peri-urban and urban areas of Lusaka with a variety of services including education through the DAFI program, HIV/AIDS and general health services.

AAH Zambia also continued to implement community services in Kawambwa where we have been operating for more than 10 years. The Kawambwa Central Environmental Project with support from the Civil Society Environmental Fund planted numerous trees and taught the communities to build energy saving stoves while educating them on the need to conserve the environment.

All that our organisation has accomplished during 2013 could not have been possible without the people and organizations that supported us. Our thanks therefore go to the communities we serve, clients and beneficiaries, the Government of Zambia, the Head Office in Nairobi, our various stake holders, and all individuals who support AAH Zambia in different ways.

Finally, my thanks go to the Board of Directors for their continued support and more so during the year 2013. Special thanks to all my co-workers and the Global Health Corps volunteers without whom the achievements we made could not have been realised.

Florence F. Phiri
ABOUT AAH ZAMBIA

AAH Zambia was started in 2001 on request of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) to take up the running of a refugee management programme in Kala and Mwange Camps in Northern Zambia. The programme, which ran for 10 years, benefitted over 45,000 refugees mainly from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Since 2012, AAH Zambia has also been managing an urban refugee programme based in Lusaka. AAH Zambia is expanding its programming, working with both refugees and host communities to implement environment, HIV/AIDS and maternal health activities.

Our Vision

AAH Zambia’s vision is to improve the quality of life for livelihood-challenged communities in Zambia.

Our Mission

AAH Zambia’s mission is to support livelihood-challenged communities to sustainably improve their quality of life.

ABOUT AAH-I

Action Africa Help International (AAH-I) is an African-led, not-for-profit humanitarian and development agency based in Nairobi, Kenya that supports livelihood-challenged communities in East and Southern Africa to sustainably improve their well-being and standard of living. With Country Programmes in South Sudan, Uganda, Zambia, Somalia, and Kenya, AAH-I has over 20 years’ experience working with communities in conflict and post-conflict situations, including refugees, internally displaced people and host communities. More recently AAH-I has expanded its activities to work with other marginalised communities including pastoralists and urban slum dwellers.

WHERE AAH ZAMBIA WORKS

Lusaka
- Urban Refugee project
- Country Office

Luapula
- Kawambwa Central Environmental Project (KCECP)
- The Zambia-led Prevention Initiative (ZPI)
KAWAMBWA CENTRAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION PROJECT (KCECP)

Kawambwa Central Environmental Project (KCECP) was a one-year project implemented in Kawambwa District in Luapula Province in partnership with the African Community Projects (ACP) with funding from the Civil Society for Environmental Funds (CSEF). It was started to mitigate against deforestation and land degradation following the repatriation of over 40,000 refugees from the Kala camp in 2010.

In 2013, the project achieved the following:

- 91,581 trees were planted in Jealous 1 & 11, Sondashi, Munganushi, Chungu, Laban and along Kala and Mbereshi rivers representing 92% success rate.
- 60% (150/250) of the beneficiaries showed consistent use of fuel, wood and techniques savings stoves.
- 97.2% (972/1,000) beneficiaries were reached by the project.
- 46% (448) women beneficiaries were reached by the project.
- ACP published a newsletter on the project implementation and its contribution to sustainable forest management, AAH Zambia also published an article in its annual report focusing on the same.
- 150 households in the project area adopted the use of energy saving stoves.
- 60% (30/50) of the Area Development Committee members were trained on forest issues i.e. nurseries planting out and sustainable forest management.
- Over 200% (260) households were reached by the door to door promotional campaigns on energy saving stoves.
- 1 billboard on sustainable forest management that was translated into the local language was erected.
- 1,400 Information, Education and Communications (IEC) materials comprising of T-shirts, forestry & agro forestry manuals and leaflets were developed and distributed.

ZAMBIA LED PREVENTION INITIATIVE (ZPI)

The project, whose aim was to contribute to the reduction in number of new HIV infections in Kawambwa district was funded by USAID in collaboration with ZPI and was implemented in 4 areas: Munkanta, Mushota, Mufwaya & Kawambwa. Its areas of focus were biomedical intervention, counselling and testing and door to door approach for easy access to counselling and testing (CT) services as an entry point to other HIV/AIDS interventions. Other non-biomedical activities to reduce HIV transmission were also employed. These were community sensitization on dangers of alcohol and substance abuse, ABC+ (Abstinence, be faithful, use a condom plus addressing other behaviours) and focus on Most at Risk Populations such as commercial sex workers, uniformed personnel and mobile workers. AAH Zambia received support from local leaders, clinics-in-charge and volunteers who played a key role in messaging for key audiences. By the end of the project period majority of the audiences had been reached with messages on CT, alcohol, ABC+ and targets met.

Achievements

- With the introduction of the door to door CT strategy, large numbers of people were able to access CT services.
- Through increased number of people counselled and tested there is increased demand for the supply of HIV testing kits in all the 4 health facilities.
- In Mushota, a task force to address the dangers of alcohol and substance abuse was formed.
- Chabanya Primary School formed a virgin club so as to enhance discussion on abstinence among the students.
- We achieved all our set targets in CT, alcohol and drug abuse, ABC+ and sensitization of security guards.
- The impact of Social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) is being felt among the recipients especially as seen in their decision making patterns.
- We managed to match expenditure and targets achieved per month.
AAH Zambia has, in the last three years, been implementing the Urban Refugee Project through provision of social, health and logical services to vulnerable urban refugees. The organisation aims at improving the livelihood of some of the most vulnerable population groups among them the chronically ill, elderly, single mothers, unaccompanied and separated children and the disabled (special cases), Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) survivors and People living with HIV/AIDS among others.

Over the years, AAH Zambia has provided social support to refugees in the four outreach centres namely, (Chawama, George, Kanyama and Mandevu) including protection services to 407 asylum seekers that were accommodated at Makeni Transit Centre. This was achieved by using Community Based Approaches that involved refugees and other stakeholders (UNHCR, COR and AAH Zambia).

In 2013, 33 unaccompanied minors and separated children (UAM/SC) were evaluated and Best Interest Determination reports (BIDS) compiled, 144 families received cash grants, 12 families received funeral cash grants, 572 pupils of school going age (7 to 18) were supported with primary and secondary education, 23 survivors of SGBV received legal support, 6 disabled children with special needs were enrolled in school among other services conducted by the Community Services Sector of the Program.

These intervention greatly contributed to the sustenance of the livelihoods of urban refugees owing to the rising cost of living in the city triggered by increases in the prices of goods and services after the lifting of subsidies on petroleum products and the country's staple food (maize) in the second quarter of 2013.

Advocacy for Refugee Rights especially for marginalised members of society was also a priority for the Project. Women were engaged in discussions and participatory activities to encourage them to take up leadership positions. This played a key role in breaking the barrier of cultural values that have somehow hindered reporting of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV). The year 2013, saw a rise in reported cases: 3 single-women-headed families comprising 15 persons in total were hosted at the Safe House and 9 cases from the community received cash grants to support them with income generating activities. Child protection was strengthened by the provision of child friendly materials in the 5 child rights community sensitization centres to reduce discrimination, abuse, neglect and exploitation.

AAH Zambia managed the three Warehouses and Mechanic Workshops in Lusaka’s Makeni Transit Centre, Maheba and Mayukwayukwa Refugee Settlements. Warehouse staff participated in the capacity building workshop that was conducted in South Africa (Pretoria) by UNHCR. The intervention enhanced service provision in storage, receiving and dispatching. Monthly physical inventories were conducted and reports submitted to AAH Zambia Management and UNHCR.

The Health post at the Makeni Transit Centre provided Primary Health Care to 2,382 patients from the urban communities. In addition 345 referred patients from the settlements received specialised treatment. AAH Zambia continued to coordinate and monitor the health of chronically ill refugees at Chilenje Transit Home. A drug storage facility was constructed at Makeni Transit Centre for the safe and proper storage of drugs. Voluntary Counselling and Testing (VCT) and distribution of IEC materials were also conducted at the Health Post. 20 families comprising 200 persons living with HIV/AIDS received food supplements. Infected persons were able to maintain recommended diets thereby prolonging their life spans.
AAH ZAMBIA NATIONAL BOARD

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Mr. Jack Kalipenta - Member
Florence Phiri – Ex-Officio and Secretary to the National Board
Dr. Caroline Kisa - Ex-officio Member

OUR DONORS

Civil Society for Environmental Funds (CSEF)
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
Zambia-led Prevention Initiative (ZPI)
2013 UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME BY DONOR (US $)

- UNHCR: 913,124
- CSEF: 99,105
- ZGF: 22,309
- TOTAL: 1,034,539

EXPENDITURE BY THEMATIC AREAS (US $)

- Refugee Management Programme: 957,000
- Administration and Support: 75,895
- TOTAL: 1,032,895