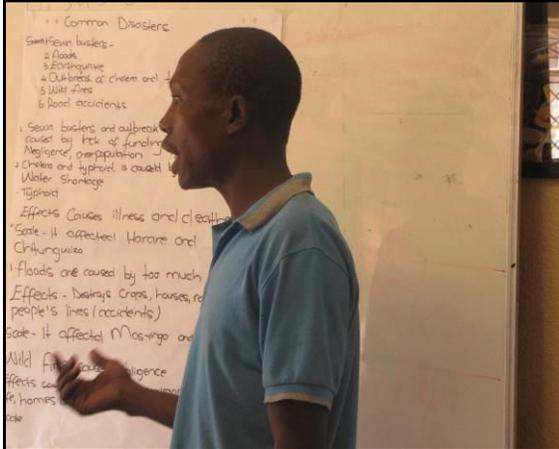




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## THE NGO JOINT INITIATIVE FOR URBAN ZIMBABWE



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QUARTERLY REPORT for Period:  
April – June 2014

Report Date: July 28, 2014

## **1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The overall goal of the program is to promote, improve and protect sustainable livelihoods for urban and peri-urban communities in Zimbabwe through effective response and information coordination of urban actors. The Joint Initiative for Urban Zimbabwe is implementing Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Disaster Risk Reduction, and Agriculture projects in the five urban areas of Bulawayo, Chitungwiza, Harare, Masvingo and Mutare with CRS, Africare, Oxfam, CARE and Mercy Corps implementing the same initiatives in the different towns respectively. Under WASH, the project is promoting health and hygiene through community and school health clubs, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), solid waste management, clean up campaigns and the promotion of Water Guard for Point of Use Water Treatment (PoUWT). Under the agriculture component, the project is promoting compost production (making use of solid waste) and seed multiplication, so as to improve urban agriculture productivity. The operational environment during the reporting period was calm with no incidences of political interference.

## **2.0 PROGRESS REPORT**

### **SECTOR 1: WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE**

**Objective:** To increase communities' resiliency to WASH-related shocks, such as disease outbreaks

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

##### **Solid waste management**

Thirty seven (7 males & 30 females) City Health Promoters in Chitungwiza received training on waste management. The training was delivered by officials from the Chitungwiza Municipality Environmental Health Department and Green Africa Network. Major topics covered included: terms used in solid waste management, characteristics of waste, environmental health and hygiene, the three R's in solid waste management (Reduce, Recycle & Reuse), waste management at the household/community level, solid waste disposal methods, clean up campaigns, waste separation, and a case study which stipulated the practicality of solid waste management. The City Health Promoters will then disseminate the information to community members during community health club sessions. Ward-based solid waste management committees will be formed to supervise waste separation activities.

In Masvingo City, solid waste management through plastic collection, sorting, and recycling for income generation was identified as an appropriate and sustainable way of enhancing income generation amongst vulnerable urban communities. A local private plastic recycling company, Fispack, was engaged during the quarter to support the recycling of solid waste in the City. A MoU between Fispack and Masvingo urban communities was drafted and will be signed during the next quarter.

##### **Clean up campaign**

For the quarter under review, Masvingo conducted a total of 18 clean up campaigns with 1048 community members. The Clean Up Taskforce, chaired by Innscor (Chicken INN), has been the major contributor to reducing littering and coordinating community driven clean-up activities in the Masvingo urban area. This involvement of private sector partners such as Innscor, as well as Delta and Montana Meats in the environmental health issues of Masvingo will contribute to the sustainability of clean up campaigns in the city. In Bulawayo a total of 26 clean up campaigns were completed across the four wards (2 in ward 28, 4 in ward 12 and 20 in ward 8). A total of 520 (224 female and 296 males) household members participated in the campaigns. In Mutare city, four community led clean ups were held in Sakubva, Danganvura, Mutare CBD and Chikanga area involving 138 people (45 males and 93 females). The clean up at Chikanga TM area was initiated and done by youth community members and they worked together with health club

members. Another clean-up campaign in Mutare CBD was initiated by students from Africa University who are part of the ENACTUS group responsible for promoting a green and clean environment. In the quarter under review, in Chitungwiza, five community initiated clean-up campaigns were held in five wards where 965 people (705 females and 260 males) participated. This gives a cumulative total of 2705 people (1798 females and 907 males) that participated in clean up campaigns across the five urban centers.

### **Sanitation Infrastructure and Equipment**

In Mutare, five cages were fabricated for waste separation and have since been dispatched to areas where there is abundant plastic and paper waste. These cages are used to sort the waste for recycling and disposal. Four push carts were fabricated for use for waste collection. In Bulawayo 12 push carts, brooms, rakes and protective wear were procured and distributed to the committees for use during their clean up campaigns. Eight trolleys (2 trolleys for each ward) were also handed over to the community health clubs across the 4 wards. The ward-based solid waste management committees will be responsible for the safe keeping of the donated equipment.

### **Hygiene promotion**

A total of 77 community health clubs across three project sites were established during the reporting quarter and are currently functional (30 in Mbare, 30 in Masvingo and 17 in Bulawayo). The participants were introduced to the urban participatory health and hygiene education (PHHE) toolkit, planning tools, analytical tools, investigative tools, attitudinal tools, informative tools, identification and blocking the route, monitoring and evaluation tools and PHHE indicators. Participatory methods of teaching associated with each tool were employed. These participatory approaches will enable them to disseminate the health and hygiene education to other club members. Sixty seven (67) school health coordinators were trained in the quarter under review across the four project areas (Mbare 12, Bulawayo 18, Chitungwiza 30 and Masvingo 7). A total of 25 school health clubs (11 in Mbare, 2 in Chitungwiza and 12 in Masvingo) were established and supported during the period under review.

### **Sewer de-clogging and gulley refurbishment**

In Chitungwiza, 15 youth were trained on sewer de-clogging by Council Sewer Section staff and formed three groups, with five members per group to assist each other in the de-clogging work. Currently, one group engaged in the community is rendering its services for a fee. The group managed to address blocked toilets at three households by de-clogging using the tools supplied by Africare. They charged a fee of \$8 per household, earning \$24 from the three sites.

In Bulawayo, 50 youth were identified for training in gulley refurbishment by the Bulawayo City council builders (16 from ward 7, 17 from ward 8, and 17 from ward 12). The 5 day training started on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June. The refurbishment of gulley traps was recommended as a proactive way of preventing sewerage blockages as sand trapped by these gulley traps was identified as the major cause of sewerage blockages in the city. In Mutare and Masvingo, the youth led sewerage activity was replaced by plastic recycling as the respective councils felt the youth might end up disturbing the sewerage system of the cities. In Mbare the activity is still awaiting authorisation from the City Council.

### **Disaster Risk Reduction Training**

In Masvingo, a total of 48 participants from various government ministries, private sector organizations and community leadership and representatives from the seven JI wards of implementation attended a DRR training workshop. Thirty youth (14 females and 16 males) underwent training on waste recycling. The training workshop covered waste management and project implementation in general; Community Based

Organization (CBO) operations, management, and registration; and plastic recycling. A total of 30 (16 males and 14 females) youth participated in the CBDRR training, which was conducted in Mutare.

### **Promotion of Point of Use Water Treatment**

In Mbare, a total of 2,999 out of 3,000 households were trained in PoUWT and managed to redeem their vouchers across the four wards. Payment of retailers was completed in the month of June 2014. Out of the 3,000 bottles, there was only one which was damaged and could not be redeemed.

## **SECTOR 2.1: IMPROVING AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION/FOOD SECURITY**

**Objective:** To improve urban populations' reliable access to nutritious food through improved incomes and production

### **Seed multiplication**

One hundred fifteen (115) farmers who were engaged in the production of sugar beans in Chitungwiza have since harvested their crop. Of these, 12 farmers did not realize anything as their crop was damaged due to heavy rains during early February. On average the farmers harvested 15kg with harvest amounts ranging between 5kg and 60kg. Prime Seeds (Pvt) Ltd taught farmers how to grade the harvested beans for seed and the process culminated in the grading of 450kg of beans to be bought by the company at \$1.50 kg. The other 320kg were condemned for seed because the crop did not fully mature due to the drought and therefore would have resulted in very poor germination if used as seed. The farmers appreciate the relationship that now exists between themselves and Prime Seeds as they can now link with the company on their own without Africare's involvement. They can now also produce crops that will be readily bought by Prime Seeds without the involvement of unscrupulous middlemen.

In Mutare, 24 farmer groups were trained in seed multiplication, earning a total average revenue of \$150 from the sale of seedlings with each household earning an average of \$25 per crop cycle. Some of the seed was later grown by the group members and the crop is now ripe for both consumption and for sale. In Mutare the main challenges were limited space for increasing production, especially in Hobhouse and Chikanga areas where there are small stands and water shortages. In Masvingo, a total of 400 citrus and 600 mango rootstocks were collected from Chiredzi Agricultural Research Station for distribution to fruit tree seedling multiplication households in Masvingo as part of their starter pack.

After the training on seedling production in float trays in Mbare, facilitated by AGRITEX, the group went on to plant vegetable seedlings (cabbage star 3311, onion star 5522 and hybrid tomatoes). The first batch of seedlings did not realize many sales, resulting in the farmers planting some of the seedlings in the demo plot. However, the second batch managed to earn USD 200 in sales of the seedlings.

In Bulawayo, a total of 40 farmers received cabbage seed, 40kg of pine bark and two seedling trays each for seedling production activity. Demonstrations on how to plant seeds in seedling trays was done across the four wards by Agritex officers. In addition, some beneficiaries started selling the seedlings and vegetables during the quarter. The amount realized from the sales of seedling will be reported during the next quarter.

## **Compost making**

Eighty one farmers (69 females and 12 males) were trained on composting this quarter in Chitungwiza. The objective of this training and other trainings was to empower farmers with knowledge and skills on composting and build their capacity to deal with bio-degradable waste in their communities. Topics covered included: types of manure, sources of manure, defining composting, materials for composting, steps in making compost, types of composts, uses of compost, business skills and marketing skills. In all the project sites, compost prepared in the previous quarters had decomposed and was ready for use in this reporting period. The compost yields were only adequate for household production and use. As such the beneficiaries are using the compost on their nutrition gardens. Other households are using compost for their sack potatoe production.

## **MONITORING & EVALUATION**

During the quarter, a consultant was engaged to conduct a midterm evaluation for the JI project and the Mid-term evaluation report will be shared during the next quarter.

## **PLANS DURING THE NEXT QUARTER**

- Conducting of the Willingness To Pay assessment
- Training of stakeholders in DRR
- Conducting of community and school health club competitions
- Conducting quarterly assessments and routine monitoring
- Signing of MoU between DI and Bulawayo City Council
- Conduct a learning tour for partners across the five cities
- Produce one best practice paper for the project