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Educational Quality Improvement Program  
Classrooms • Schools • Communities

**USAID/AFRICA BUREAU ACTIVITY**  
**Quarterly Program Report for the Period**  
**October – December 2004**



Submitted by:

**American Institutes for Research**

With:

**Education Development Center  
Juárez and Associates  
Sesame Workshop**

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## **I. Objectives**

The EQUIP1 Africa Bureau Associate Award was signed on September 30, 2003, and includes five activities for the USAID Africa Bureau:

### **Regional West African Sesame Street Model**

The goal of this study is to examine the feasibility of executing a Sesame Street project in West Africa. EQUIP1 will provide the information needed to make an informed decision about the value of investing in a Sesame Street project in the region. This feasibility study will assess whether and how Sesame Street, possibly in conjunction with other complementary media-based interventions, such as Education Development Center's Interactive Radio Instruction (IRI) programs in Guinea and Nigeria, could serve the early childhood/early primary school education needs of the West Africa region. The study will focus on the countries proposed by USAID (Benin, Ghana, Nigeria, and Senegal).

### **Community Radio Program**

The radio program —Ku Mudzi Wangu: *"In My Village"*— will provide community-level radio education support as a pendant companion to the central government support for provision of education in HIV/AIDS-affected countries. *"In My Village"* will be developed on a pilot basis in its first two years, in eastern Zambia (with the expectation of trans-border application with Malawi) to explore implementation in a trans-boundary context. Rationale for the target area include the desire to build on Zambia's successful and well supported Interactive Radio Instruction services, Education Broadcasting Services as a production NGO in Lusaka to model activities on, and the successful School Health and Nutrition small grants activity in Eastern Province that serves as a streamlined model for successful support to community-led interventions.

### **West Africa Mobile Task Team Model**

A new West Africa Mobile Task Team (MTT/West) modeled on the University of Natal Southern MTT for HIV and Education will be adapted specifically to meet the needs of West African countries. Once the new entity is established, funds will support provision of strategic and implementation planning for HIV response in education services to West African MOEs. Funds will also provide support for the West Africa MTT-model (MTT/West) to facilitate training of the technical consultants by the University of Natal MTT/South, to document and disseminate the MTT/West replication experience, and to seek additional funding partners for the West African institutional base of the MTT/West (not exclusively from) among agency members of the UNAIDS Interagency Task Team on HIV/AIDS and Education (IATT).

## **Lesotho**

In response to the difficulties of Lesotho's herd boys, EQUIP1 will undertake an assessment of the current status of education access, quality, and equity for the herd boys and the activities and projects of the Government of Lesotho, donors, multilateral organizations, and NGO's and select an intervention in collaboration with the Government and Lesotho Distance Training Center that targets the educational needs of these young men by providing them with life skills that will enable them to break the cycle of poverty.

## **Swaziland**

EQUIP1 will assist the OVC population of Swaziland in breaking the cycle of poverty, HIV/AIDS, and orphanhood. Activities include an initial assessment of current efforts to address the needs of the OVC, including UNICEF's efforts focused on school-feeding programs and community children's centers, to identify best practices and lessons learned. Following the assessment, EQUIP1 will pilot a community-based intervention targeted at increasing the abilities of communities to integrate OVC into their social nets with the ultimate goal of decreasing their vulnerability and breaking the cycle of poverty and disease.

## **II. Overall Progress**

### **Regional West African Sesame Street Model**

#### *Sesame Street Feasibility Study*

EQUIP1 submitted the completed Sesame Street Feasibility Study to USAID in September 2004. The pilot studies for the West African Sesame Street model are presently on hold pending completion of USAID's review.

### **Zambia Community Radio Project (ZCRP)**

After just six months of broadcast, the *In My Village* radio shows at both the participating radio stations are amongst the most popular on the air.

In total, over the quarter, 13 original Village programs were broadcast in Lundazi and 11 shows were broadcast at Breeze. Over 60 dedicated local radio listening clubs have been formed and each reports regularly to project personnel. Comments and suggestions obtained in this manner have been used by program producers to help keep shows fresh and responsive to the communities needs.

In order to ensure relevance and interest, project personnel and partnering radio stations work in close collaboration with provincial and district government institutions including

representatives from the Ministries of Education, Agriculture, Communications, Health and Social Development. Other local partners include over 30 local NGO's, and FBO's. These organizations provide the program with technical expertise and help identify successful activities and worthy villages. They also ensure that any featured activity wishing to be replicated by other interested communities will have access to necessary local technical expertise.

New radio stations are in the process of obtaining licenses and are expressing interest in partnering with ZCRP to expand coverage in Eastern Province.

As a result of an article in the Zambia Daily Mail, the Voice of America in Zambia has recorded a 15 minute video on the *In My Village* program that will be televised on its weekly health program *Living Healthy*. The Zambia Daily Mail is also exploring the possibility of featuring a print version of the *In My Village* program every other week.

Data is being collected and baselines are being established for the mid-term evaluation that will take place at the end of year two. The Juarez technical advisor is helping with the development of computer applications and a training program that will be conducted during the next quarter.

Project personnel, according to the approved work plan, have started exploring the possibility of cross-border transfer into Malawi. Initial contact with USAID/Malawi, the Ministry of Information, the National AIDS Council and the Malawi Broadcasting Company has elicited much enthusiasm and support for the expansion of the radio programs into Malawi.

### **West African Mobile Task Team (MTT/West)**

MTT/West has been very active this quarter. It continues to make and maintain contacts with international and regional partners on a regular basis. The creation of the team is advancing as planned, this quarter a full-time coordinator was hired. There are now two team members who have been trained at the MTT/South Durbin course. The team will be conducting its own winter school in June of this year. MTT/West continues to collect resumes and names for inclusion into the team.

Both ACI and MTT/West team members have attended several regional workshops, which has allowed them to establish contact with key personnel in their four targeted countries: Senegal, Mali, Guinea and Ghana. MTT/West is working closely with ERNWACA on the possibility of doing research for the network in HIV/AIDS. MTT/West is also exploring the possibility of leveraging additional funds from USAID missions and other bilateral donors.

Consultants have been hired to put in place financial management and monitoring systems at ACI, for the translation or adaptation of MTT/South documents and to do the

mapping of global and regional resources available for HIV/AIDS. A first draft of the regional study has been finished and will be translated into French.

### **Lesotho**

This activity was successfully concluded in September 2004 with an official ceremony for the handing over of equipment to the Lesotho Distance Teaching Center (LDTC), for distribution to the Learning Posts in five districts that serve the educational needs of herd boys, as well as teach them skills for income generating activities.

As agreed, the LDTC has provided a report at the end of the quarter to inform EQUIP1 on the status of the project. The agricultural equipment and the candle-making kits have been distributed, but the carpentry kits have not, because of transport problems, and lack of funds to remunerate trainers, as this item had not been budgeted for in the 2004 budget. The cassette players and tapes have also not yet been distributed because the LDTC is still in the process of recording the audio materials.

The introduction of skills training has already attracted an additional 349 learners to the Learning Posts.

### **Swaziland**

At the conclusion of this activity, NERCHA had agreed to provide quarterly reports for one year on the progress of the activity. The first report documents that Sebenta was approached by NERCHA and the Lutsango Lwabomake to conduct a study on the educational needs of the older out- of -school orphans and vulnerable children. Sebenta conducted a study in five of the eight designated areas. Difficulties were encountered in reaching the coordinators in the different areas because of lack of transport and telephones. The communities are going to be asked to identify the OVCs and bring them to the centers so that the number and level of classes needed can be established. The learners will first be exposed to education programs and then will receive help in agricultural activities from the community, and will take part in HIV/AIDS awareness raising through the use of drama. The programs will be launched in model centers, one per district, later this year.

## **III. Specific Activities this Quarter**

### **Regional West Africa Sesame Street Model**

#### *Sesame Street Feasibility Study*

The study was completed and submitted to USAID. The pilot program is on hold pending USAID's feedback.

## **Zambia Community Radio Project (ZCRP)**

This quarter, as it has done since its launching, the project has been working with communities that have developed proven and successful responses to some of their most pressing problems. These “easy to replicate” development success stories are featured each week on the popular local radio show *In My Village*. Two versions of *In My Village* are produced and broadcast every Sunday evening on community radio stations in Chipata and Lundazi. The shows are carefully crafted allowing villages to present their community and development initiative in a way that is both entertaining and motivational.

In order to ensure relevance and interest, project personnel and partnering radio stations work in close collaboration with provincial and district government institutions including representatives from the Ministries of Education, Agriculture, Communications, Health and Social Development. Other local partners include over 30 local NGO’s, and FBO’s. These organizations provide the program with technical expertise and help identify successful activities and worthy villages. They also ensure that any featured activity wishing to be replicated by other interested communities will have access to necessary local technical expertise.

So far, the response has been overwhelming. After just six months of broadcast, *In My Village* shows at both participating radio stations are amongst the most popular on air. Over 60 dedicated local radio listening clubs have been formed and each reports regularly to project personnel. Comments and suggestions obtained in this manner have been used by program producers to help keep shows fresh and responsive to the communities needs.

Thanks to *In My Village*, rural villages are now realizing that they can with local expertise solve their own problems. With a new sense of pride and armed with the knowledge that other villages have succeeded, rural Zambian towns and villages are embarking on new and innovative self-help projects that are being featured each week in their own language and on their own radio stations.

### Village Recordings

Two original *In My Village* recordings are produced and broadcast every week on both Breeze 99.6 FM in Chipata and on the Chikaya Community radio in Lundazi. During the quarter project personnel and our radio partners were able to maintain a production schedule necessary to ensure timely completion and delivery of shows to broadcast stations. In total, over the quarter, 13 original Village programs were broadcast in Lundazi and 11 shows were broadcast at Breeze. Technical difficulties on two occasions at Breeze caused the show to be cancelled without warning and numerous listeners lodged complaints to both Breeze and ZCRP for the absence of a show that is becoming more and more popular with our audiences. Both Breeze and the project have met to determine the cause of the broadcast failures and have instituted strategies which will help us to avoid these problems in the future.

Broadcasts are chosen according to strict guidelines that have been set up by the project. Each show features at least one community activity that has been judged successful by technical experts and each covers an activity judged to be of value in helping to mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS in the community. Each show benefits from technical expertise given by NGOs and Government partners. Among the subjects featured during this quarter were:

- Community Fish Farms for Food and Profit
- Bee Keeping for Honey Production and marketing
- Alternative strategies for cattle herding to permit children necessary time to go to school
- Adult Literacy Schools
- Water and Sanitation Improvements through construction and use of bore holes
- Importance of Nutritional Diets for HIV/AIDS Fight
- Home Based Care and Community Mobilization.

A complete list of programs, broadcast subjects, dates and partners is attached (See Annex I and II.)

In addition to broadcast shows, ZCRP was able to maintain a recording and broadcast schedule to ensure at least a one month supply of program and village recordings. This means that all shows scheduled for January broadcast had already been recorded and edited by the end of December. This production schedule allows the project to more carefully review and improve programming before airing.

### Radio Station Partnerships

The project has been able to maintain excellent working relationships with both of our radio partners, Breeze FM and Chikaya. In both cases, program producers have been assigned to the project and are responsible for co-producing *In My Village* shows.

While Radio Breeze has the advantage of a much stronger broadcast signal and covers a much larger area, Chikaya too has been improving their technical capacity and broadcast range. Thanks to technical help and equipment upgrades from EDC, Chikaya has increased their broadcast coverage area to about a 55 km radius.

Breeze 99.6 FM has audience in parts of Chadizwa, Katete, Sinda, Mfuwe and Petauke districts. Additionally, recent trips to the border region in Malawi also confirmed that it is amongst the popular radio stations in West central Malawi. This is becoming increasingly important as the project readies itself for expansion into a second country. During the quarter, 2 informal surveys confirmed that the Breeze signal reached up to 80 km into the Malawi Mchinji district.

The Breeze program producer continues to be our producer in charge of the Chipata shows and even though station duties sometimes makes it difficult for him to attend all

village recording sessions he remains committed to the programs and remains responsible for final editing and broadcast scheduling of each show. The full time presence of ZCRP's own technical assistant has helped to ensure that we are able to maintain production and broadcast schedules in Chipata.

In Lundazi, the Chikaya producer has so far managed to make him self available during the regularly scheduled recording visits by ZCRP staff. Well planned visits have allowed multiple recordings of *In My Village* shows during weeklong visits conducted by Chipata based ZCRP staff. Additionally, ZCRP has identified an experienced local production consultant, who has been helping with the production of a number of the Village shows. We are currently reviewing budgets and personnel duties and schedules to determine if it is worthwhile to add a locally based production assistant to provide full time support to Chikaya .

### Expanding Coverage in Eastern Province

New stations are now in the process of formalizing their broadcast license status. In Katete, the project continues to monitor the progress of Mphangwe FM. This station hopes to become fully operational in 2005 and has expressed the desire to work with the project.

Two new stations located in Petauke are also in the process of obtaining final broadcast licenses. PASME 94,4 FM is a true community radio station run by students while Explorer 88.3 FM is being run by a local businessman as a commercial station. Both stations have obtained provisional construction licenses and are awaiting final licenses before being permitted to broadcast locally produced shows. These stations too continue to be interested in forming a partnership with ZCRP.

### Community Relations and Professional Partnerships and World AIDS Day:

During the quarter, ZCRP solidified their position as an active partner within the local NGO district structure. ZCRP is now an active and recognized member of the Eastern Province NGO Forum (EP NGO) the District Development Coordination Committee (DDCC) and the District AIDS Task Force (DATF)

Additionally, ZCRP has been approached to join with the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA) and the Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM). Affiliation with these organizations would afford members access to local and regional training opportunities.

ZCRP continued to work with and expand our NGO partnership base. New partners that contributed to programs and technical advice included the Catholic Diocese of Chipata, Jesus Care Ministries and USAID Health Communication Partnership which has earmarked ZCRP as a possible Eastern Province focal NGO.

ZCRP was also asked to actively participate in preparing the districts activities for World Aids Day held on December 1, 2004, in Chipata. ZCRP took the lead in organizing publicity, sensitization and offering speech writing help for invited guests and dignitaries. Selected *In My Village* featured communities organized AIDS related sketches, songs and poems that helped to sensitize the community and further reinforce ZCRP's role as a major area contributor to the district's HIV/AIDS prevention and control program.

### Monitoring and Evaluation

During the quarter, broadcasts were monitored every Sunday in the village featured in the show. Additionally a second person monitored shows in a second village to allow for diversity of views. During the focus groups sessions that follow each monitored show staff has noted high interest in both sites.

One indication that the shows are being taken seriously has been the reaction in Lundazi to a number of the village histories that have been featured. There have been complaints about historical inaccuracies. This has generated so much debate within the chieftaincy that many headmen are now asked to consult their Paramount Chiefs prior to relating the village histories on the *In My Village* programs.

### Listener Groups

Thanks to a donation of 100 wind-up radios by RANET, the project was able to develop a more comprehensive listening group strategy which has permitted the project to form dedicated radio listening groups at the time of each Village recording. In each site, villagers designate members of the listening group and assign roles and responsibilities to group members.

By the end of December, over 60 groups had been established and trained in both Chipata and Lundazi districts. A typical Listener group is trained by the M&E agent who provides each group with printed questionnaires. On average each group is comprised of about 8 active members including 2 men, 3 women and 3 young adults.

These recently formed listener groups are playing a critical role as both watchdog and critic. While the vast majority of comments have been highly favorable, groups have not been shy at lodging complaints when they feel that their program has not met the expected high standard or if technical problems with broadcast are observed.

While we are still working out strategies for receiving the listening group forms, we are pleased to note that most of the formed groups have taken their tasks seriously. Since our efforts at forming listening groups began in late August, we have received 199 reports in Chipata district alone. In December Chipata district listening groups have averaged a return rate of about 50% per broadcast show. And we expect this percentage to rise as listener groups from longer distances continue to send in their reports on a more sporadic basis. Due to distance and delays in receiving Lundazi district listening group forms, we do not yet have complete information on listening group return rates.

Following are some comments on the *In My Village* programs:

- *The program has done a lot to help us to view life from development point of view-* Martin Mphanza of Feni Community Chief Mpezeni Chipata
- *We are indebted to the Our Village programs for reaching more than ten villagers with the agro-forestry message-* Henry Chihame of Zanini Community Chief Kapichila, Lundazi
- *The response of the people to your program is overwhelming, that is a good reason to keep up the standards-* Daniel Mtonga, Board member Chikaya Community Radio Station.
- *The radio shows is breaking the barriers of ignorance-* Peter Zimba, Kalichelo Village Chief Chikube Chipata
- *Our Village has helped us in the area of Water and Sanitation-* Sarah Sakala Kachkwati village Chief Sairi Chipata
- *I have been following your activities with admiration, although I am yet to visit your office-* Paul Katema Deputy Minister Eastern Province.

The listening groups are so popular that our radio partner Breeze has asked us to expand the program beyond the initial RANET donation of 100 radios. Breeze has received an additional 500 radios from an International NGO called Radios for Zambia. We are presently working with the station to develop an effective strategy for distribution, formation and training of these additional groups.

Meanwhile, the Juarez technical advisor has continued to guide the M&E technician and is in the process of developing computer applications and a training program which will permit us to more easily record, enter and make use of the tremendous amount of data that is currently being collected. The M&E training is expected conducted by Juarez during the next quarter.

#### Project Expansion: Malawi:

With the successful completion of the first year of project activities, the project is now ready to begin expansion activities into a second country. Due to a number of reasons including broadcast spillover, cultural similarities, ethnic identities, shared chieftaincies, common languages, similar HIV/AIDS problems and fluid borders; it was decided to review the feasibility of expanding the program across the border into Malawi. During the quarter, the project engaged a technical advisor, to prepare a report on the Radio Landscape in Malawi. Additionally, project personnel, paid two visits to Malawi to informally monitor radio programming across the border. While there, staff members picked up the recently produced Malawi All Media Survey 2004 which has also given the project good insight into the radio situation in Malawi.

The project staff is convinced that Malawi has great potential to reinforce and expand on project messages and reach, so an EQUIP1 Washington staff member and the program director met with USAID/Malawi to brief them on the project. The meeting was held end

November and was attended by the Education Team Leader, the education team's HIV/AIDS specialist and the USAID team leader for Health.

The meeting was positive with all three expressing interest and support for the project if EDC could convince leading Malawi stakeholders including the National Aids Commission (NAC), the Ministry of Information and partner radio stations of the viability of project. USAID/ Malawi provided the project director with the name and contacts of the HIV/AIDS Coordinator for Malawi, Dr. Biswick Mwale.

This initial contact with USAID Malawi was followed by a one week project introductory tour that was conducted by the project director and local radio consultant. During the week of December 6, the team met with a number of important potential stakeholders including representatives from the National Aids Commission, Malawi Broadcasting Corporation (MBC), Capital Radio, the Ministry of Information and potential NGO partners.

The initial feedback from Malawi stakeholders was positive and Dr. Mwale encouraged the team to submit a brief concept paper for review to NAC and the Ministry of Information (MOI). The concept paper was completed and submitted to NAC by end December. The response has been encouraging and plans are being made for a second visit to develop radio partnerships and working relationships with the MOI, NAC and other possible partners.

#### Favorable Press:

The project has received notice from other members of the press in Zambia. In October, the features editor from the Zambia Daily Mail visited the project and wrote a one page feature that prominently appeared in the Daily Mail on October 21. (See annex III)

This story was seen by the VOA Lusaka based health correspondent who paid ZCRP a visit in December and filmed *In My Village* activities in three village sites. The video is now being edited and it is expected that a 15 minute feature will appear as part of VOA's weekly televised health program, *Living Healthy* which is broadcast throughout the continent on SABC Africa via DSTV.

The Zambia Daily Mail has suggested the possibility of developing a print version of the *In My Village* shows. Over the next quarter, we will work with the Features Editor to see if this will be feasible.

#### CRAIDS and the Village to Village Exchange Project

With the successful launch and popularity of the *In My Village* programs, ZCRP is quickly becoming a force within the province. This has placed a burden on the small staff, especially the coordinator, who is not only responsible for managing the office but also represents ZCRP at official NGO and government meetings and has been called on to help organize major events like World AIDS Day. Recently, other organizations and potential funding partners like Community Response to AIDS (CRAIDS) and The Global

Development Market (GDM) has suggested that ZCRP conceive and submit proposals to more fully develop and expand the potential impact of the ZCRP project. We are encouraged by the interest and support being shown by others and feel confident that we will be able to improve impact of the project by helping to generate new funding opportunities for villages to replicate program ideas that have been presented in the *In My Village* shows. Last quarter, ZCRP submitted to CRAIDS a Chipata district level project proposal entitled the “Village to Village Exchange Program”. The proposal is due to be evaluated in January and we are hopeful that an award will help us to ensure that selected profiled village activities can be more easily replicated by interested villages.

#### Administration and Staffing:

ZCRP continues to work with a small but dedicated staff that consists of a local Chipata office which houses a regional coordinator, a technical advisor, a task assistant and an office assistant. Additionally, an M&E agent was identified by our partner Monitoring and Evaluation firm Juarez and he too has become an integral part of the team. The M&E agent assists in developing indicators, collecting baseline information and documenting the steps and processes by which the activity is implemented. Information collected by the M&E agent helps the production team to quickly respond to the needs and desires of our target audiences. It is thus critically important that the M&E agent coordinates his activities, with the production team. In addition to the Chipata based staff, EDC currently has a Lusaka based accountant and a project administrator. These two positions are presently being performed by project consultants though we hope to make these positions permanent during the next quarter. Given the distance and difficult travel conditions from Chipata to Lundazi, we are also planning on hiring a local technical radio production assistant to work in close collaboration with Chikaya producer George Luanja.

#### Next Steps

- Produce and Broadcast weekly *In My village* programs in Lundazi and Chipata
- Continue to form new radio listening groups
- Continue weekly monitoring of *In My Village* Shows
- Follow up on Village to Village Exchange Program with CRAIDS
- Continue Village Profiles and work with Juarez (who are responsible for the mid-term evaluation) to ensure data entry
- Participate in M&E workshop by Juarez in March
- Renew Radio Contract with Breeze FM
- Work with NAC and MOI Malawi to finalize Malawi expansion program description
- Begin project start up activities in Malawi (registration, site identification, partner radio stations, initial staffing). Timing for these activities depends on step above.
- Establish training needs and program for both local Zambian staff and new Malawi employees.
- Explore other funding opportunities for project expansion

- Explore possible print version of *In My Village* to be published weekly in Zambia Daily Mail.

### **West Africa Mobile Task Team (MTT/West)**

*Promote and strengthen collaboration among stakeholders and create an increasingly favorable environment for MTT/West*

#### Contacts with international and regional partners

During this quarter, ACI maintained contact with key partners already identified and made initial contacts with other new or potential partners. These include:

#### International partners:

Jamie Browder (new head of HIV/AIDS, WARP/Ghana) on possible areas of WARP funding of MTT/West activities.

Don Bundy (World Bank) and Marcel Ouattara (UNICEF WCARO) met with ACI and MTT/West members during the World Bank Sub Regional Meeting in Senegal, to discuss possible collaboration with MTT/West, particularly in the National Workshop to be organized in Guinea this year.

Lucy Teasdale, IIEP Clearinghouse, Paris. Discussions in Senegal, also during the World Bank Sub Regional Meeting on possible collaboration between MTT/IIEP, ADEA and ROCARE to train HIV/AIDS and Education researchers in West Africa and to identify candidates for MTT/West consultants.

Peter-Badcock Walters and Jonathan Godden (MTT/South): ongoing communication on collaboration and strategies, particularly on efforts to coordinate a joint mission to Guinea early 2005.

#### Partners in Mali:

Doug Lehman, Chief of new EDC "Programme d'Appui à la Déconcentration/Décentralisation de l'Education au Mali" (PADDEM) on possible collaboration with MTT/West, particularly in the area of decentralized HIV/AIDS awareness raising and training and management issues on the district or "cercle" levels

Kathryn Touré, coordinator of ERNWACA/ROCARE: on possible MTT/West-ERNWACA/ROCARE collaboration, particularly in the production of an advocacy document for HIV/AIDS and Education research.

Jean Louis Ledecq (UNAIDS Coordinator - Mali): ongoing information on evolution of MTT/West

Debbie Fredo, and Maria Keita: Institut de l'Education Populaire (IEP), Mali. Informal discussions in Mali and participation in the MTT/West meeting in Bamako to benefit

from their expertise in the areas of curriculum development, teacher training, community participation, and education politics in Mali. During the meeting, members of the MTT/West team present were briefed on the HIV/AIDS and Education curriculum situation in Mali.

Souleymane Kanté: Director of World Education/Mali on collaborating with Government of Mali on Basic Education Reform program, and on possible collaboration with MTT/West.

Jo Lesser, (USAID, Education, Bamako, Mali) and Ibrahima Cissoko: USAID/HIV/AIDS and Education specialist: discussions with ACI Director and Senior Program Development consultant to discuss USAID collaboration with MTT/West and possible country funding.

Partners in Senegal:

Dr. Barbara Sow and El Hadji Diouf from FHI/Senegal, Jennifer Adams and Ramatoulaye Dioume, USAID Health Section, Senegal, and **Pape Sow**, USAID Education Section, Senegal on collaboration with USAID, funding of MTT/West activities in Senegal through Family Health International and preparatory meetings for initial contacts with MoE.

Partners from Guinea:

Dr. Balla Camara: Discussions with HIV/AIDS Focal point for the Ministry of Education and other members of the Guinean delegation during the World Bank sub-regional meeting to explore future collaboration with MTT/West and MTT/South in Guinea.

Information presented on MTT West:

- In October, 2004, a presentation on MTT/West was made to the Permanent Secretary of the Senegalese MoE and his Division heads. See below for details.
- In November, 2004 ACI Director presented the MTT approach to over 100 participants in the "Colloque sur le SIDA à l'Ecole: évaluation de la réponse éducative au Sénégal" organized by GEEP (Groupe pour l'Etude et l'Enseignement de la Population"
- In November, 2004, ACI Director, presented the MTT Approach to participants in the World Bank "Atelier Sous-Regional pour Accélérer la réponse du Secteur Education, des pays d'Afrique de l'Ouest, à l'épidémie du VIH/SIDA. This presentation was made after an introduction by Pape Sow, USAID/Senegal Education Officer, in the context of a donor's session to illustrate USAID's assistance to HIV and Education in Senegal.

Information gathered on related activities being planned by other organizations and attending key national and regional meetings related to HIV and Education.

- **World Education Workshop:** In October, ACI organized an HIV and Development training program for the senior World Education Staff and their Malian MoE counterparts. ACI has an ongoing consultative relationship with World Education on the development of a crosscutting HIV/AIDS component within the Government of Mali's Basic Education reform project. This has involved assistance to World Education with the design and implementation of HIV/AIDS-related activities in the areas of curriculum development, teacher training and community participation. While this is not an MTT/West-financed activity, it provides ACI with occasions for contacts with all those responsible for the various education departments within the Malian MoE. These activities have raised ACI/MTT/West's credibility and generated interest in the issue of mitigating the impact of HIV/AIDS on the education system through systemic reform.
- **World Bank Regional Meeting Organization Committee:** ACI-MTT/West was invited to participate in the organizing committee of the Regional HIV/AIDS and Education workshop in Dakar in November/December. In November, ACI was invited to participate in the "**Réunion d'installation du Comité d'organisation de l'Atelier World Bank**". This allowed ACI to reinforce contacts with various stakeholders in the field of HIV and Education in the region, and advocate for both the participation of two members of the MTT/West team in the Regional meeting and the inclusion of a presentation on the MTT Approach on the workshop agenda.
- "**Colloque sur Le SIDA à l'école : évaluation de la réponse éducative au Sénégal**" organized by the Groupe pour l'Etude et l'Enseignement de la Population (GEEP) at Dakar's Ecole Normale Supérieure from November 27 to 28, 2004, attended by ACI Director and an MTT/West team member.
- "**Atelier sous-régional pour accélérer la réponse du secteur éducation des pays d'Afrique de l'ouest, à l'épidémie du VIH/SIDA (World Bank)** in Saly, Portudal, Senegal in November/December, 2005, attended by ACI, and by MTT/West members Mamadou Konaté, from Mali and Alpha Boubacar Diallo, based in Senegal.
- **ECOWAS Ministry of Education HIV/AIDS Focal Points** meeting in Senegal in December, attended by ACI, two team members. and by an MTT/West consultant, who is working on a Resource Mapping document for the sub-region.

*Strengthen and expand the initial MTT/West team*

Select additional potential team members and consultants

ACI continues to make contacts and collect resumes of potential MTT members, consultants and junior interns. These included:

- Discussions with Debbie Fredo of IEP/Mali, on her interest/availability to work as an MTT/West consultant.
- ACI also interviewed Tara Bukow, a former IIEP employee for a possible post as an MTT/West intern on communications and materials adaptation and development.
- Initial telephone discussions on the possibility of IIEP/UNESCO Clearinghouse providing the services of Lucy Teasdale on a consultative basis to assist MTT/West with documentation and communications. This relationship and forms of assistance will be further explored with UNESCO.
- Requests for recommendations have gone out to Erik Allemano, IIEP/UNESCO, Marcel Ouattara, UNICEF/WCARO, and to Alhouseyni Dia, former head of Higher Education for the Senegalese MoE.

Periodic Meetings of MTT/West

**Bamako meeting, October 8-9, 2004** - ACI organized an HIV and Development training for World Education in Mali in October. Since Dr. Fatim Louise Dia, and Gary Engelberg of ACI and Mamadou Konaté of MTT/West were all in Bamako for the meeting it was decided to add on a two-day MTT/West quarterly meeting. Two MTT/West members were flown in from Dakar and from Burkina Faso, respectively. We believe it is a good policy to rotate the sites of our quarterly or biannual MTT/West meetings whenever possible and economical in order to allow the team to better familiarize itself with the realities of each country. In this case, holding the MTT/West meeting in Bamako gave our team a chance to meet with several local resource people. We were able to meet with Amadou Cissoko from USAID/Mali and with Debbie Fredo from IEP in Kati to learn about the changes in the Ministry of Education that would effect our HIV/AIDS activities there, and about curriculum reform, life skills and teacher training. We also met again with Kathryn Touré of ROCARE to discuss collaboration.

The next major MTT/Meeting is scheduled for the last week of January in Saly, Senegal.

In the future MTT/West plans to piggy back its periodic meetings on to other major MTT or regional activities, thus economizing on project costs.

*Launch MTT/West in-country activities in 4 countries*

This activity involves the promotion of MTT/West with USAID country and regional missions and Ministries of Education. MTT/West is expected to work through USAID

missions to establish or expand contacts with MoE, negotiate country agreements, and initiate activities in Mali, Senegal and Guinea. During this process, ACI and MTT/West will gradually collect, analyze and disseminate data with MOE partners, acquire additional mission funding for MTT/West assistance to each MoE in the area of strategic planning. Collaboration in Guinea will begin with a joint mission with MTT/South who already have an agreement with the USAID mission. A gradual transfer of responsibilities to MTT/West will take place. MTT/West will then follow up on strategic planning and implementation based, in part, on needs identified during the summer 2004 Guinea delegation study tour to southern Africa, accompanied by two members of MTT/West. Activities in Ghana are expected to start up towards the end of the year, also in collaboration with MTT/South.

### Work through USAID Missions to establish contact with MoEs in three countries

#### Mali

As mentioned earlier ACI and MTT/West participated in the World Education, Mali, workshop and established relationships with key people that MTT/West will be dealing with in the future.

#### Senegal

ACI has received exemplary support in Senegal from the USAID Health and Education offices and staff and from the local Family Health International (FHI) through which funds will be eventually channeled to ACI for MTT/West activities with the Senegal MoE. Between August and October 2004, a number of key planning meetings took place with the participation of USAID Health and Education personnel and the representative of FHI.

These planning meetings resulted in an introductory meeting to the Senegal MoE that took place on October 14, 2004. A delegation including ACI Staff and MTT/West, representatives of USAID/Senegal (Jennifer Adams/Health, Pape Sow/Education, and FHI representative: Dr. Barbara Sow attended the meeting. ACI Director and staff made a power point presentation on MTT/West to the Permanent Secretary, M. Haidara, the Senegal HIV/AIDS focal point Prof. Malick Sembene and the heads of several education Ministry Divisions. Dr. Ibra Ndoeye, head of Senegal's National AIDS/ Council (CNLS) also attended the meeting. The participants expressed interest in the process, requested we carefully collaborate with the other donors and assistance organizations, and gave us their permission for MTT/West to begin meetings with various members of the Ministry, working through Prof. Sembene. ACI plans to begin these activities in January 2005.

FHI informed us that USAID funding for Senegal activities would probably be reduced from the \$170 000 initially discussed in the last quarter, due to budget cuts and falls in exchange rates. However, USAID is still committed to providing funds for this activity through the FHI mechanism. A meeting is planned for early January 2005 between representatives of ACI, FHI and USAID Senegal to provide an update on the project and to discuss the MTT budget requirements for working with the Senegal MOE.

## Guinea

A joint MTT/South - MTT/West mission to Guinea scheduled for November was postponed until January or February. MTT/West is entirely dependent on MTT/South's negotiations with the Guinea mission for this trip and for the launching of the transfer of responsibilities to MTT/West.

Relations already forged during the study tour to Southern Africa by the Guinean delegation and the participation of the Guinean focal point, Dr. Camara in the MTT/South Winter School were renewed and strengthened during the World Bank Regional Workshop. MTT/West members Alpha renewed and expanded their contacts with the Guinean delegation in Saly, Senegal thus paving the way for MTT/West participation in a mission to Guinea in early 2005.

Discussions with Don Bundy of the World Bank during the Saly Workshop also opened the possibility for MTT/West participation in the National Workshop being prepared for Guinea in the first semester of 2005.

## Ghana

As mentioned earlier, activities are expected to start towards the end of 2005, in collaboration with MTT/South.

## Prepare an annotated directory of contacts in Senegal, Mali and Guinea

ACI is setting up databases to ensure efficient retrieval of essential information on countries, resource persons, and documents. This is an ongoing activity that is enriched each month with names and information of contacts made in each country. Reflections on the optimal configuration of MTT/West data systems by our information technology specialist are underway. We plan to have a full system in place by the beginning of February 2005.

## *Provide for on going assessment and planning of MTT/West activities*

## Maintain communication among MTT West members with MTT, with AIR and with USAID

All parties are in regular e-mail and telephone contact and meet as often as possible. MTT/West members are regularly copied on correspondence and systematically consulted on next steps.

ACI Co-Directors remain in regular contact on MTT/West issues with the Senior Program Development Advisor, who is based in Boston. MTT Coordinator Valerie Moulay Omar has been in regular contact with EQUIP1 Washington staff, and also helped complete an EQUIP1 end of year standard report for ACI-MTT/West activities. In addition to ACI's contractual requirements for reporting in the form of timely quarterly reports, ACI has responded quickly to periodic requests for updates from the Project Manager to allow her to better represent ACI and MTT/West at strategic meetings.

ACI Co-director, maintains regular contact with MTT/South representatives in the form of regular e-mail correspondence with Peter Badcock-Walters, MTT/South coordinator.

### *Development of support materials for MOE*

#### Resource mapping

ACI is working with a consultant, on developing a resource-mapping document. The consultant was invited to participate in the World Bank meeting of ECOWAS HIV and Education focal points. During a December review with ACI, the consultant was asked to expand sections on Senegal, Mali and Guinea, MTT/West's priority countries for 2005, and to include some research on the sources of funding at the decentralized level in Senegal. In March 2005, the consultant will submit the final English version of the resource mapping, which will then be translated into French and published. As we expand to other countries, we plan to adapt and update the resource map to include those countries.

#### Translation or Adaptation of MTT/South Documents

In initial planning in January 2004, MTT/South was to supply MTT/West with the French versions of their materials. Due to budget cuts, MTT/South has been unable to fund translations. This has meant unexpected costs to MTT West and some delay in the start up of MTT/West activities. Nevertheless, these items have been included in the MTT/West budget and ACI has been working regularly with a consultant on the translation of selected documents from MTT/South. Documents chosen are those that are likely to be needed in the first phases of our contacts with MoE in Senegal, Mali and Guinea. These documents will be adapted to the specific needs of West Africa once direct work with the Ministries has begun.

#### Promotion of HIV/AIDS and Education Research in Africa

During our MTT/West meeting in Bamako in October 2004, ACI identified several possible areas of collaboration on HIV/AIDS and Education research in West Africa with ROCARE coordinator Kathryn Touré. Possibilities included: assistance to ROCARE with a policy advocacy document on the need for HIV/AIDS and education research in West and Central Africa, a special HIV/AIDS training session for researchers, inclusion of researchers in MTT training, and a transnational study looking at the impact of HIV/AIDS on teachers, involving unions in the process. Potential partnerships are to be explored between ACI/MTT, ROCARE, IIEP, ADEA and the Social Research Council. Further discussions with Lucy Teasdale of IIEP on collaboration in training HIV and Education researchers took place during the World Bank Workshop in Senegal in December. ACI plans to assist ROCARE in developing a policy document and inclusion of a limited number of researchers in MTT training activities to be organized in 2005. HIV and Education researchers who are gradually being identified by the MTT members in West Africa are being included in ACI's database.

*Generate political will in the area of HIV and Education in the region*

Winter Course

The West African version of the MTT/South course will be called the Cours d'Hivernage and is currently included in the work plan for the month of July 2005. Certain needs for the event were already identified during the MTT/West meeting in Bamako in October. The actual planning for the event will begin during the January 2005 meeting of the MTT/West team in Senegal. Translation of MTT/South tools to be used during the Cours d'Hivernage is in progress.

Mobilizing Supplementary Resources

ACI has already received tentative agreement from USAID Senegal to channel \$70 000 through FHI for MTT/West activities with the MoE in Senegal through the end of the fiscal year in September 2005. During conversations with Jo Lesser, Education Officer at USAID in Mali, she expressed her interest in exploring funding mechanisms for MTT/West activities there. Conversations with Jamie Browder of WARP indicated that there might be some possibilities for partial funding of regional training activities or those involving non-presence countries. Discussions continue with MTT/South on other funding sources.

Regional Awareness Raising activity

ACI will explore possible funding sources for this activity in the course of fiscal year 2005 and will plan the event in collaboration with MTT/South.

*Provide support to MTT/West activities*

Hiring a Program Coordinator

Valerie Moulay-Omar was identified as a candidate for the program coordinator position in October. She came with excellent references and experience in high level administrative posts in both Population Council and SWAA (Society for Women Against AIDS). Valerie agreed to a six-week part time trial period in November and December with the possibility of moving into a full time position, by mutual accord. She has since accepted a full-time position beginning January 2005.

During this quarter, a considerable amount of ACI administrative time was spent on action planning and budgeting because of fluctuation in estimate funding received from EQUIP1, Washington, as well as changes in rates of exchange.

Support for core team activities

ACI has continued to provide effective administrative and logistic support for MTT West activities. This has included hotel reservations, travel arrangements, advances of cash, payments, airport transfers, visas, processing of travel vouchers and invoices, communication with ACI and payment of consulting fees for all major activities described above. ACI has also provided support in the form of procurement of equipment and furnishings needed for the ACI/MTT/West offices.

Development of management tools, monitoring tools, accounting procedures

ACI has continues to test, improve and apply new forms and procedures put in place with the help of a financial management consultant, in order to strengthen its administrative and financial systems to manage new MTT/West activities and respond to additional needs for support. Reforms have included improved timesheets and travel vouchers, better gathering and tracking of receipts and expenses, standardized budgeting tools and a system of terms of reference and contracts for each distinct activity. New accounting personnel recruited earlier this year have gained in familiarity with the project and have become progressively more efficient in tracking program funds.

Create MTT/West identity and promotional materials

ACI has prepared and used several standard power point presentations in English and in French for USAID missions and MoE. The development of MTT/West logo, stationary, business cards and promotional materials is scheduled to begin in January 2005. A local graphic artist has been identified and ACI staff has described what they are looking for. The logo will be unique to MTT/West but will reflect MTT/West's connection to MTT/South, as well.

**Lesotho**

This activity, targeting the educational need of herd boys, was successfully concluded in September 2004, and the Lesotho Distance Teaching Center (LDTC) agreed to provide a report to AIR by end December, 2004, giving detailed information on the status of the project.

The Basic Education Unit (BEU) of the Lesotho Distance Teaching Centre (LDTC) offers literacy and numeracy skills to out-of-school youths and adults through the Learning Post Program. The program operates in five districts of Lesotho: Berea, Leribe, Thaba-tseka, Qacha's Nek, and Mafeteng, with a total of 180 learning posts (LPs) and 4500 learners.

In September, 2004, LDTC received a donation of the following skills training equipment from USAID/AIR:

- 545 - Wind up cassette players
- 3650 - Cassette tapes
- 5 - Electrical cassette players
- 40 - Carpentry kits
- 20 - Candle making kits
- 540 - Spades
- 540 - Digging forks
- 540 - Rakes
- 540 - Watering cans.

Objective

Objective of skills training is to strengthen the learning post program by attracting and retaining more learners, as well as to respond to the government's call for poverty reduction. The strategy is to equip learners with skills and knowledge by using available resources to produce food for human consumption and for income generation.

Activities

- Allocate equipment to the learning post
- Distribute equipment to the learning posts.
- Record audio lessons on the cassette tapes.
- Monitor the activities by LDTC office and field staff.

*Table 1- Allocation of Equipment per District and per Learning Post.*

<b>Agric Tools (spades, rakes, watering cans, digging forks)</b>	<b>Wind up cassette players &amp; Tapes</b>	<b>Candle making kits</b>	<b>Carpentry kits</b>	<b>Electrical cassette players</b>
Each LP will receive 3 of each tool	Planned to supply 3 cassette players and tapes for Motebong oa Thuto and Leseli la Thuto Programmes in each LP	4 per district <b>(distribution depends on the need of the learners in the regions)</b>	8 per district <b>(distribution depends on the need of the learners in the regions)</b>	1 per district

*Table 2- Lists and numbers of equipment distributed to-date*

<b>District</b>	<b>Berea</b>	<b>Leribe</b>	<b>Qacha</b>	<b>Thaba-tseka</b>	<b>Mafeteng</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>No. of Learning Posts (LPs) Per District</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>180</b>
<b>Spade</b>	135	84	114	162	45	540
<b>Rake</b>	135	84	114	162	45	540
<b>Digging Forks</b>	135	84	114	162	45	540
<b>Watering Cans</b>	135	84	114	162	45	540
<b>Candle Making Kits</b>	4 kits	4 kits	4 kits	4 kits	4 kits	20 kits

### Achievements

Distribution of 2160 items of agricultural equipment and 20 candle making kits to the respective learning posts

Cultivation of land and sowing of crops in all 180 learning posts, with the assistance of Agricultural extension officers has started. It is, however, unrealistic to expect a good yield this year, since the country is experiencing the worst drought in years.

Writing and recording of Sesotho lessons is done, and they are now being duplicated for the learning posts.

The introduction of skills training is already attracting more learners into the program. The total number of learners has increased by 349. In December, 2004, there was a total of 4500 learners as compared to 4151 in September. Skills training seems to be addressing learners' needs.

Monitoring of skills training was done in the district of Berea. Photographs of these activities will be made available later.

### Activities to be accomplished

- Distribution of 40 carpentry kits to the respective learning posts, due to shortage of transport and lack of funds to remunerate trainers as the activity was not budgeted for in the financial year 2004/05
- Distribution of 545 wind-up cassette players, 5 electric dubbing machines and 3650 cassettes because the recording of the courses is not yet complete.
- Monitoring has not yet been conducted in the other 4 districts due to a shortage of transport.

### Next steps

LDTC plans to offer basic training on carpentry in the following operational districts:

- Leribe
- Mafeteng
- Qacha's nek

LDTC also plans to record audio lessons on income generating skills, life skills, health issues, numeracy and basic English.

## Swaziland

### Training assessment needs for orphans and Vulnerable Children. A report on the Kogogo Centers

#### Introduction

Sebenta was approached by the National Emergency Response Council for HIV/AIDS (NERCHA) and the Lutsango Lwabomake to conduct an assessment study on the educational needs of the out of school Orphaned and Vulnerable Children, in the following areas:

**Hhohho Region:** Nkamanzi and Mvuma;

**Lubombo Region:** ka Langa; Mpolonjeni;

**Manzini Region:** Mahlangatsha (Mmambatfweni)

#### Methodology

##### *Composition of the Team*

A Sebenta Team with members from the Administration Section and from the Curriculum Department embarked on the exercise of visiting the afore mentioned areas together with the relevant Sebenta Regional Officer, and the relevant Lutsango Lwabomake Coordinator who would mobilise the community and gather the learners in the various KaGogo centres for the team to assess their needs.

##### *Working Tool*

Sebenta designed and used a form where the following information on each child was gathered; i.e. Name of child; the Name of the Caregiver; their relationship; Age of child; Gender; His/her education level; the recommended Sebenta program the child may enter; the name of the possible facilitator; the status of the Child (double or single orphaned) as well as the status of the home; (a child headed home or not).

#### Findings

##### *Analysis*

Table 1 is an analysis of the number of the OVCs found in each area and the recommended Literacy program for them.

*Table 1*

No. of		Recommended Program		Status of Home				Name of Facilitator/s
Orph.	Vulner	Basic Literacy	NUPE	G H	M H	FH	RH	
38	65	104	2	24	40	20		Zodwa Zikalala & Khanyisile Vilakati
	2	1	1		2			
					3			
8	6	13	1	5		4	4	Khetsiwe Msane & Zinhle Magagula
3	2	5		2	3			

KEY: GH-Granny Headed ; MH Mother Headed FH Father Headed; RH Relative Headed

### Observations

- In some areas most of the children were not orphaned but vulnerable, with both parents alive; for example, in Nkamanzi only 38 out of the 103 children were orphaned having one or both parents dead, the rest had both parents who were either too poor or uncaring or away. Most of the children lived with their grannies or other relatives.
- There was some confusion among the community members as to exactly which children to bring to the centers for a needs assessment, as most of the out-of-school children were already in school following the Ministry of Education's call that *all children should go to school* ( although their school fees had not yet been paid).
- In addition the community brought a number of children whose ages ranged from 5 to 9 year olds, when in fact Sebenta offers literacy to older OVCs, the 10 year olds and above.
- The programs for agriculture (food security) and HIV/AIDS awareness will be started after the children have started the education program. This will ensure that the education program receives the primary focus.

### Challenges

Communication was a problem so it was difficult to identify areas to be visited. As a result the team managed to visit only five areas out of the eight areas that were identified;

- Start-up was delayed because Sebenta had to wait for the Lutsango Coordinators to mobilise and coordinate the community and gather the potential learners at the Centres for the Training Needs Assessment. The Coordinators are without vehicles so they had to do a lot of walking to try to coordinate with the Tindvuna Tetinkhundla and other community authorities. Thus there were delays in fixing dates to visit the KaGogo Centers.
- Not all the Coordinators had contact numbers for Sebenta to reach them to plan the trips and do follow ups. The team was unable to visit the Shiselweni Region because it was unable to contact the Coordinator as there is no phone.
- Community participation was somewhat low. This could be because the assessment was carried out towards the end of the school year. Sebenta classes resume in February and children will be more eager to attend classes at the start of the year.
- Other possible reasons could be:
  - i) There was no out-of school child who needed Sebenta services in certain areas.
  - ii) Some members of the community did not get the information
  - iii) The guardians had already taken their children to school following the Ministry of Education's call that all out-of-school children should go to school.
  - iv) The kaGogo Centres were too far for them.
  - v) Some of the targeted learners were already attending classes in the UNICEF National Care Points (NCF).

### Recommendations

- The Lutsango Coordinators should all be given cell phones for ease of communication, as well as vehicles.
- The Lutsango Coordinators should be involved in identifying the areas of need as they are very familiar with these areas.
- Sebenta should clearly indicate the ages of the children to be brought to the Sebenta classes so that the needs assessment can determine the number and level of classes necessary.
- The planning needs to take into account the instruction provided by the UNICEF NCFs and harmonize coverage between them and the Sebenta classes.
- There also has to be a proper definition of a Vulnerable Child; and a policy direction on who is eligible to be given assistance.

### Next steps

- The community should identify the older OVCs.
- The community should take these OVCs to the Sebenta classes
- The community should enroll the younger OVCs in the formal schools
- Sebenta/NERCHA should organize a Training Workshops for the Facilitators
- NERCHA should provide Learning Materials
- Sebenta/NERCHA should provide Furniture
- Sebenta/Nercha should provide Monitoring & Evaluation

## **IV. Best Practices and Lessons Learned**

All of the activities have made progress in the first year. Advance planning, joint collaboration and flexibility are a must for a successful activity. Two of the activities have been successfully concluded, but it is still too early to report on best practices. As implementation progresses, lessons learned and best practices will begin to emerge and will be documented.

The Zambia Community Radio Project has some best practices and insights to report at the end of it's first year of implementation:

### *Shows Need to be Village Driven*

Villages have long been acquainted with “development” issues and projects. However, the success of *In My Village* shows can be directly attributed to the communities’ perception that this is indeed their show, presented by themselves.

*Shows Need to Respect and Represent Local Cultural Practices*

Lundazi citizens for example, are expert in the matter of riddles. They use these riddles in a playful manner for pedagogical purposes. We now have begun to include, where possible, the use of these riddles in our programming as a way of teaching adults.

*Communities Appreciate and Respond to Local Music*

The sounds of music convey powerful messages that help the orators and others interviewed to reinforce development messages.

*The Use of Drama is Among the Most Popular Elements of the Shows*

By reinforcing development messages through the Zambian tradition of song, dialogue, drama and riddles, our audiences both learn and are entertained by the program content.

*The Importance of Local Language*

The use of the local languages in all the programs has helped to ensure comprehension and appreciation of the radio shows. Additionally, the broadcast languages of Chewa Chikaya and Tumbuka are cross border languages. Additionally, reports have been received that large parts of the Mzuzu, Jenda and Kasungu communities on the Malawian side are ardent listeners. This will in future allow for cross border pollination of ideas on development.

## **V. Analysis of Progress to Date**

EQUIP1 partners have completed the first quarter of the second year of activities. Year Two work plans have been approved. The two activities that ended in September have provided status reports on progress made.

The Sesame Street feasibility study has been completed and submitted to USAID. The pilot project is on hold pending USAID's feedback on the report.

The Zambia Community Radio Project has made excellent progress. Programs are being broadcast on a regular basis twice a week. The shows are among the most popular on the air. The Zambia Daily Mail has written a feature story on the programs, and is looking into the possibility of publishing a regular series on the program every two weeks. The Voice of America has recorded a 15 minute video which will be televised on it's health program. The project staff is exploring the possibility of expanding into Malawi. Initial contacts with USAID/Malawi, the Ministry of Information, the National HIV/AIDS Commission and the Malawi Broadcasting Company indicate that this cross-border transfer will have strong government and radio support.

The West Africa Mobile Task Team has been very active this quarter. It has hired a full-time coordinator, recruited two members, and has participated in several regional conferences and workshops where it has made presentations and established areas of future collaboration with regional networks, USAID missions, NGOs and bilateral donors. MTT/West plans expansion into four countries this year and is in the process of

setting up its own Winter Training School for June 2005. It continues its very strong collaboration with MTT/South.

Lesotho has made a good start in the distribution of the equipment that the LDTC received in September. The number of learners has increased by 349, since it was announced that skills training would be part of the program for herd boys at the Learning Posts.

In Swaziland, NERCHA has directed Sebenta to conduct a needs assessment in eight geographical areas, so as to determine the number and level of classes needed at the centers, that will provide instruction to older orphans and vulnerable children. The launch of these pilot programs in eight communities is planned for later this year.

**ANNEX I****Zambia Community Radio Project (ZCRP)****Lundazi District “In My Village Shows”**

Village	Chiefdom	Dist	Km	Prof. Date	Rec. Date	Broad Date	Rep Date	Activity featured	Comments
Kampandila	Kapichila	Lundazi	20	18-May-04	18-May	11-Jul-04	13-Jul-04	Water and Sanitation	Debut program for the district
Zanini	Kapichila	Lundazi	18	17-May-04	17-May-04	18-Jul-04	20-Jul-04	Tree Planting for soil fertility and de-forestation	Interest started being generated
Kazonga	Kapichila	Lundazi	16	19-May-04	19-May-04	25-Jul-04	27-Jul-04	Voluntary Counselling and Testing at village level	Done with Thandizani HIV AIDS group
Chiyapula	Zumwanda	Lundazi	26	3-Jun-04	3-Jun-04	1-Aug-04	3-Aug-04	Fish Farming	Ministry of Agriculture collaboration
Nthembwe	Mwase	Lundazi	31	4-Jun-04	4-Jun-04	8-Aug-04	10-Aug-04	Interactive Instructional Radio at village level	Ministry of Education collaboration
Vilimbala	Mwase	Lundazi	33	5-Jun-04	5-Jun-04	15-Aug-04	17-Aug-04	The importance of bednets in a village	Society for Family Health initiative
Kalonje	Mphamba	Lundazi	15	17-Aug-04	17-Aug-04	22-Aug-04	24-Aug-04	Village Preschool	Care for Children in Need venture
Kapizi	Mwase	Lundazi	35	20-Aug-04	20-Aug-04	29-Aug-04	31-Aug-04	Irrigation using treadle manual pumps	International Development Enterprise collaboration
Munyalakata	Phikamalaza	Lundazi	16	16-Aug-04	16-Aug-04	5-Sep-04	7-Sep-04	Home Based Care and resource mobilisation	Chikondi Home Based Care group
Masulani	Zumwanda	Lundazi	35	19-Aug-04	19-Aug-04	12-Sep-04	14-Sep-04	Pig Production as a protein supplement	Small Holder Enterprise and Marketing Program
Mpunda	Zumwanda	Lundazi	22	21-Aug-04	21-Aug-04	19-Sep-04	21-Sep-04	Rabbit Production at village level	A local village initiative
Chinyumba	Mphamba	Lundazi	5	19-Aug-04	19-Aug-04	9/26/2004	28-Sep-04	Peanut Butter Production	Mtuzi Development Foundation collaboration
Chilindila	Zumwanda	Lundazi	35	18-Aug-04	18-Aug-04	3-Oct-04	5-Oct-04	Cooking Oil Production from yenga presses	Africare aided village
Mapili	Mwase	Lundazi	45	6-Oct-04	6-Oct-04	10/10/2004	12-Oct-04	Vegetable production and export	Village at the border with Malawi
Mzumbeni	Zumwanda	Lundazi	18	5-Oct-04	5-Oct-04	17-Oct-04	19-Oct-04	Beekeeping and honey production	Forestry department linked village
Kachiwala	Mphamba	Lundazi	13	7-Oct-04	7-Oct	24-Oct-04	26-Oct-04	Community sch. & a village tuckshop supporting the s	Reformed Open Community School program

Malembo	Kapichila	Lundazi	14	7-Oct-04	7-Oct-04	31-Oct-04	2-Nov-04	Poultry production in aid of pupils	Community schools district initiative
Zabinduka	Kapichila	Lundazi	18	4-Oct-04	4-Oct-04	7-Nov-04	9-Nov-04	Food storage shed construction	Chitumbiko HIV AIDS group
Safari	Mwase	Lundazi	30	6-Oct-04	6-Oct-04	14-Nov-04	16-Nov-04	Production of common Beans for a living	Legume processing at village level
Bulete	Zumwanda	Lundazi	25	8-Oct-04	8-Oct-04	21-Nov-04	23-Nov-04	Village carpentry	Wildlife Conservation Society venture
28/11/2004 .Repeated Kazonga program									
Chinombo moyo	Mwase	Lundazi	34	21-Oct-04	21-Oct-04	5-Dec-04	7-Dec-04	Model village on water and sanitation	JBG-Rural Water Supply program
Kang'oma	Zumwanda	Lundazi	34	8-Oct-04	8-Oct-04	12-Dec-05	14-Dec-04	Animal draft power yokes for cattle	Animal Draft component of Ministry of Agriculture
Chagumuka	Kapichila	Lundazi	27	8-Dec-04	8-Dec-04	19-Dec-04	21-Dec-04	Reed mat and basket production	Purely village aided venture
Godemeti	Kapichila	Lundazi	25	10-Dec-04	10-Dec-04	26-Dec-04	28-Dec-04	Production of farming tools by village Blacksmiths	Village aided venture
Dunda	Mphamba	Lundazi	8	20-Oct-04	20-Oct-04	2-Jan-05	4-Jan-05	Village Water, Sanitation and Health Education progra	JBG-Rural Water Supply program
Emangondweni	Phikamalaza	Lundazi	21	25-Nov-04	25-Nov-04	16-Jan	18-Jan-05	Nutritional foods production in the AIDS fight	Ministry of Agriculture collaboration
Chijemu	Mphamba	Lundazi	10	25-Nov-04	25-Nov-04	23-Jan-05	25-Jan-05	Village health post construction	With support from Ministry of Health
Zgobela	Kapichila	Lundazi	14	26-Nov-04	26-Nov-04	9-Jan-05	11-Jan-05	Cassava production and processing	Women and youth agricultural ventures
Chipetuka	Kapichila	Lundazi	20	10-Nov-04	10-Nov-04	30-Jan-05	1-Feb-05	Comprehensive livestock rearing at village level	Ministry of Agriculture collaboration

**ANNEX II****Zambia Community Radio Project (ZCRP)****Chipata District in My Village Shows**

Village	Chiefdom	Dist	KM	Prof Date	Rec Date	Broad date	Activity featured	Comments
Kasosa	Chikuwe	Chipata	30	1-Oct-04	15-May-04	11-Jul-04	Tree planting to improve soil fertility	Debut program was well received
Mkwekwe	Mpezeni	Chipata	32	10-Jun-04	10-Jun-04	18-Jul-04	Animal draft power for farming by women	The responses from locals started pouring in
Kang'ombe	Madzimawe	Chipata	45	14-May-04	14-May-04	25-Jul-04	Pre-School	Ministry of education officials happy with program
Ntombimbi	Mpezeni	Chipata	22	11-Jun-04	11-Jun-04	1-Aug-04	Training of Traditional Birth Attendants	Paramount Chief Mpezeni's village enlightened
Zizwe	Mpezeni	Chipata	20	12-Jun-04	12-Jun-04	8-Aug-04	Water and sanitation(Improved pit laterines)	Peace Corps Venture
Mfuleni	Madzimawe	Chipata	24	8-Jun-04	8-Jun-04	15-Aug-04	Carpentry at village level	Eastern Province Women Development Association EPWDA venture
Chilobwe	Nzamane	Chipata	33	14-Aug-04	14-Aug-04	22-Aug-04	HIV/AIDS sensitization	Mfumbeni Development Association venture
Kampala	Madzimawe	Chipata	26	11-Aug-04	11-Aug-04	29-Aug-04	Irrigation using simple machines,treadle pu	Worldvision collaborative recording
Mchumo	Nzamane	Chipata	34	25-Aug-04	25-Aug-04	5-Sep-04	Tree planting and Bee keeping	Mwanka Development Association joint venture
Chinjara	Mshoro	Chipata	16	1-Oct-04	31-Aug-04	12-Sep-04	Wine Production	Africare supported group
Gampani	Mshoro	Chipata	27	3-Sep-04	1-Sep-04	19-Sep-04	Food Processing (Legumes)	CD misplaced at Breeze .Show started at 18:23hrs
Mtowe	Mpezeni	Chipata	16	16-Sep-04	16-Sep-04	ow not aired)	General crop production	Radio show not aired on 26-09-04 due to electricity interruption
Kalichero	Chikuwe	Chipata	34	20-Sep-04	20-Sep-04	3-Oct-04	Fish farming	Ministry of Agriculture instrumental in identifying village
Chidambo	Mkanda	Chipata	36	22-Sep-04	22-Sep-04	10/10/2004	Hammermill as an IGA	Ministry of Agriculture through camp officers identified village
Makowa	Chikuwe	Chipata	57	21-Sep-04	21-Sep-04	17-Oct-04	BeeKeeping	Mwanka Development Association joint venture
Zoole	Maguya	Chipata	25	2-	29-Sep-	24-Oct-04	Herding of cattle by	Best Choice

				Oct-04	04		parents to allow childre	Campaign venture
Padambo	Chanje	Chipata	55	22-Oct-04	20-Oct-04	31-Oct-04	Water and sanitation( Borehole)	JBG Rural Water Supply Project helped identify village
Khoswe	Chanje	Chipata	40	24-Sep-04	24-Sep-04	b	Jam Production	International Center For Research in Agro-forestry instrumental
14-Nov-04				CD was not taken to Breeze, no program was aired on the 14th .				
Mzamo	Mshoro	Chipata	23	2-Oct-04	23-Sep-04	21-Nov-04	Food Processing and utilisation	Government Nutritionists helped with the village recordings
Chanunkha	Maguya	Chadiz	50	26-Oct-04	26-Oct-04	28-Nov-04	Food storage shed	Economic Expansion in Outlying Areas support program
Fisheni	Madzimawe	Chipata	18	14-Oct-04	14-Oct-04	5-Dec-04	Innovative school play parks increase atten	Best Choice Campaign venture
12-Dec-04				CD failed to open at Breeze,It had a scratch-Not show aired on 12th.				
Mchacha	Nzamane	Chipata	38	19-Nov-04	19-Nov	19-Dec-04	Vegetable production at village level	International Development Enterprises instrumental
Phangweni	Mpezeni	Chipata	26	22-Nov-04	22-Nov-04	26-Dec-04	Juicy Production from wild fruits	International Center For Research in Agro-forestry instrumental
Mcheleka	Kawaza	Katete	99	25-Oct-04	25-Oct-04	2-Jan-05	Adult literacy at village level	Jesus Care Ministries was a partner
Chimphelela	Maguya	Chadiz	58	26-Oct-04	26-Oct-04	9-Jan-05	Pre-School initiative by an isolated village	Another outreach to Chadiza district
Kagoro	Kawaza	Katete	104	24-Oct-04	24-Oct-04	16-Jan-05	Pig production in village	An outreach to another district with DWA
Msalila	Zingalume	Chadiz	77	8-Dec-04	8-Dec-04	23-Jan-05	Vegetable boom in the village	Ministry of Agriculture instrumental in identifying village
Chibvungwe	Chikuwe	Chipata	29	4-Dec-04	4-Dec-04	30-Jan-05	HIV AIDS Care givers at work	Chipata Home Based Care with support from the Catholics
Vwala	Chikuwe	Chipata	25	2-Dec-04	2-Dec-04	6-Feb-05	Fish farming and community resource mobili	British High Commission granted a village with resources
Dovu	Zingalume	Chadiz	82	16-Dec-04	16-Dec-04	13-Feb-05	Sewing machines as a village IGA	District Women Associtian Initiatiave-DWA
Zingalume	Zingalume	Chadiz	80	16-Dec-04	16-Dec-04	20-Feb-05	The ABC of a village fish farming venture	Worked with Lutheran World Federation
Tazwela	Chikuwe	Chipata	40	11-Dec-04	11-Dec-04	27-Feb-05	Appreciating the role of a teacher at village I	Worked with Best Choice Campaign-American Institute for Reasearch

### ANNEX III

*Zambia Daily Mail, October 21, 2004*

#### **Community Radio: A Powerful Tool to fight HIV/AIDS, poverty**

***RURAL communities in Eastern Province are using the power of radio to share information for positive change. Here, the promise of community radio presents unprecedented opportunities for the government and aid groups to fight disease and poverty and pass on information that helps cohesive community building, writes our Features Editor, AMOS CHANDA who visited 19 villages where community radio is now an addictive phenomenon.***

**COMMUNITY radio is holding out great promise in Eastern Province where people are using it to fight disease and poverty by sharing best practices from one village to another and in the process helping building sustainable village communities.**

Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), broadcasters, the government and local communities have mobilised themselves to utilise the inherent power of radio which they are applying to inform collective community actions that are influencing behavioral change to curb HIV/AIDS, fight poverty, child labour, mitigate the problem of vulnerable children and enhance environmental health.

Using a popular radio programme called "*Kumuzi Kwathu*," (Our Village) and "*Chikaya chitu*" in Chewa and Tumbuka respectively, the Zambia Community Radio Project (ZCRP)-- a USAID-funded project under the Education Development Centre (EDC) Africa-- is reaching out to thousands of villagers, passing on life-saving information on HIV/AIDS and inspiring people to fight poverty through motivational success stories they profile on selected villages.

"It is a good programme. Villages are learning from others...poverty is reducing and people are learning more about HIV/AIDS," said Joseph Ntala, Zoole village headman.

**Our Village** is a 45-minute radio programme broadcast every Sunday on Breeze FM radio in Chipata and on Radio Chikaya in Lundazi. On this programme village communities speak to themselves and replicate good initiatives that the ZCRP is profiling and broadcasting so other villages could learn the best practices from the successive villages.

Recognising the need for multi-sectoral approach to HIV/AIDS, project personnel and partnering radio stations are working with provincial and district officials in the ministries of Education, Agriculture, Communication, Health, and Community Development among others.

In Chipata, the programme is broadcast in the local Chewa while in Lundazi is it is aired in Tumbuka. And thousands of villagers congregate at chosen centres where a donated wind-up solar radio is positioned.

#### **TALES OF SUCCESS**

"The ZCRP is telling tales of success in villages. If the programme came earlier, our fish pond would not have dried up because we could have benefited from the knowledge we now hear on the radio," said Benedette Maimesa of Mukwekwe village.

The programme listenership is buoyed by the 100 wind-up solar wireless radio sets that the RANET project under the Meteorological Department, donated.

Selected themes are picked and profiled across. Such issues include HIV/AIDS, reproduction health, vegetable growing and other agro activities, and child labour among others.

"The selection of programme topics is based on an extensive, ongoing, village-level assessment of the community development needs and priorities," explains Godfrey Chitalu, the ZCRP coordinator.

Mr Chitalu explained that community members themselves determine the topics which fall within project's five broad development themes:

HIV/AIDS prevention; child welfare and education; income generation; agriculture and food security; and environmental health.

*Our Village* facilitates the sharing of vast, largely untapped technical knowledge at the village level. The process is simple. Every program is recorded in a local language at a village. Each programme treats a single development theme and relies largely on the villagers' experience with the issues.

Villagers describe their problems and share solutions, and if more technical depth and innovation is necessary to achieve a program's objectives, additional experts are included.

Such interactive, grassroots dialogue also helps target governmental and NGO resources where they are needed most.

### **STIMULUS**

*Our Village* is an invaluable stimulus and information sharing resource in the development of local communities.

During year one, EDC has implemented the project in Eastern Province, selected because of its proximity to Malawi and Mozambique, a trans-border area with increased risk of HIV infection.

In the second year and beyond, the project focus will be on extending to other trans-border regions, in Zambia as well as to neighboring countries.

"Still in its early stages, the Zambia Community Radio Project has been warmly received in every community it has visited," says Mr Eiger in a project brief. "Villages are immensely proud of their development projects and are eager to share their successes and lessons learned with their neighboring communities."

Other skills being shared directly among villagers include: village based pre-school recorded in Kangombe village; carpentry from Mfuleni village; animal draft power in Mkwewe, and agro-forestry profiled from Kasosa village.

In Nthombimbi village, the profile is on TBAs; in Zizwe village it is on improved latrines; Kampala village is showcasing treadle pumps while Chilobwe was recorded on HIV AIDS sensitisation.

Others are: Mchumo village on agro forestry and bee keeping; Chinjara on Wine making and Gampani village on food legume utilisation.

In order to instill a feeling of pride and add entertainment value, the programme encourages communities to feature local artists and each village is given an opportunity to describe their village, their role within a larger community and their history.

### **BEHAVIORAL CHANGE**

John Mphanza, chairman of a group called Feni Development Committee in Nthobimbi village in Chipata says: "**Our Village** has influenced behavioral change in response to

HIV/AIDS. Many (people) who saw the disease as witchcraft now believe the disease is real.”

Even elderly people, Mr Mphanza said, volunteered to go for Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT) and are taking steps to prevent HIV/AIDS infection.

The power of community radio is also manifesting in the adoption of safe motherhood and reproductive health care.

“Traditional Birth Attendants are taking more precautions because they have heard on the radio that safe practices will prevent infections at delivery,” said Jessie Tembo, a member of a village group trained as TBAs.

“People are keen on learning best practices from other villages that radio is connecting us to. There is no more rushing to hospitals in the middle of the night. We know how to safely deliver a baby,” says Mrs Tembo.

“The radio programme is teaching us a lot in such areas as TBA, reproductive health, peer education, training of trainers and home-based care for the terminally ill.”

Olipa Zulu explains what the past was like. “Before we learnt of the best practices that radio is giving us from other areas, we could leave the sick to suffer on their own, but home-based care has taught us the importance of the dignity life and we taking full care of them even if when we know they are about to die.”

“Those of us who were trained and are listening to the radio have client-patients that we look after and we have seen an improvement in the care systems of our community,” she said.

### **LIFTING THE SPIRITS**

Breeze 99.6 FM radio is intensely popular in rural communities because people are getting their voices heard from amongst themselves, thereby as the station motto says, “lifting the spirits of the people.”

It is not only through news and documentaries that Breeze FM is getting the voices of the people heard.

“People’s voices are heard through such transactions as advertising sale of goats, harvest, honey and calling people for piece-work in the fields,” explains Mike Daka, the managing director of Breeze FM.

“It is amazing how we are getting the voices of the people heard...the response is putting a lot of pressure and responsibility on us to satisfy the people,” said Mr Daka.

“What this tells me is that whatever we are, a commercial station or whatever, we have to adopt a public service mission and operate within the confines of community broadcasting.”

He said Breeze FM has from inception always wanted to focus on the village as a central theme of its programming, but the station has faced mobility problems to get into the villages.

The ZCRP has just come at the right time for it is helping the mission of the station, he says.

“The project has helped us in this regard...the Zambia Community Radio Project through our joint programme called **Our Village** is getting us to get the voices of the people heard loud and clear,” he said.

Radio Breeze is increasingly becoming a major voice and point of public policy debate in Eastern Province.

## **BREEZING ACROSS BORDERS**

The station is reaching more than half a million people in Chipata, Chadiza, Katete, Sinda, Petauke, Mfuwe in Mambwe, parts of Lundazi and areas up to 80 kilometres inside Malawi as far as Namitete district which is less than 30 kilometres from the Malawi capital, Lilongwe.

On either side of the border, all these areas are Chewa-speaking.

Radio Chikaya covers Lundazi and parts of Chama within a range of 60 kilometres but also reaches parts of Mzimba, Mzuzu and Kasungu districts in Malawi, all of them Tumbuka speaking regions as is the case with the areas it reaches on the Zambian side. Project director, Robert Eiger, explains that the ZCRP is being developed first in eastern Zambia to capitalise on the experience and success of the Educational Broadcast Service **Taonga Market** basic education series aired on the Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation.

Mr Eiger says the project was targeting a rural border region badly affected by AIDS. "In Chipata, the ZCRP has provided an avenue to reach out to the people and made us realise our dream of placing the village at the centre of our programming," added Mr Daka.

The village is seen in the eyes of villagers themselves, and voices of villagers are heard from within their own villages.

"We hope that they can be more aware of their own situation and participate more in the affairs of their localities," he said.

## **ERA OF AWAKENING**

In Lundazi, Radio Chikaya is also telling the stories of success in **Our Village** and the enthusiasm is just as captivating. People speak of a great era of awakening that community radio has brought about.

George Lwanja, a radio producer at Chikaya knows how this came about.

"The needs assessment we undertook told us that villagers wanted to talk to themselves. The assessment was done in Nyalubanga, Kasosa, Chiwe and Jimu villages of Lundazi last December," Mr Lwanja said.

"**Our Village** is just what people wanted...they wanted to get their voices heard and we have gone beyond that because we are getting far-off villages heard by others and vice-versa."

In several villages in eastern Zambia, community radio is increasingly becoming a central instrument in the fight against disease and poverty and holds great hope for community building in the areas where it is reaching as many as 600 000 people.

The promise of community radio is phenomenon as voices of hope from communities to communities are being shared, voices of positive change are getting to places that were practically incommunicado before the advent of the community radio initiative.

**Our Village** is a bottom-up approach in confronting issues at community level. It is a project that profiles villages' best practices ostensibly to get them replicated in other villages.

Evaristo Banda of Zizwe village explains that the radio project is helping villagers to enhance their knowledge in water and sanitation management taking advantage of the installed by the Micro-Projects Units which later fell under the Zambia Social Sector Investment Fund.

“In 10 villages, there are 115 ventilated and improved pit latrines and the same number of hand-washing points. There are 115 dish-washing facilities as well,” Mr Banda said.

### **PORTRAITS OF CHANGE**

These are some of the vivid portraits of change that radio is making public.

**"Our Village** is doing well. It is linking us to other villages...other information we don't know about. We are amazed at the lack of information and technology that in some cases is just in nearby villages. Now radio is linking us up," said Mr Banda.

“Information is very critical, better than cash hand-outs. It helps to communicate change” Mr Banda said.

Eunice Zulu of Zoole village says the community radio project is breaking the barriers of ignorance. “We take notes as we listen and we replicate the best ideas that come through,” she said.

John Mwale of Kampala village sees the “power of radio unearthing the hidden and passing on the knowledge to younger generations” arising from entrenched view that when something is heard on radio it has more credibility than the equally truthful message passed on by word of mouth.

Eless Phiri-Simwaka, the Chipata district agriculture information officer urges that partners in the community radio project must keep the current high radio momentum and ensure its sustainability.

There is need, Mrs Simwaka said, to create more listening groups and ensure they survived when the project was over. “It is crucial for rural development programmes that this survives,” she said.

The responses of the more 40 villager interviewed gives a resounding approval of the community radio project which they say must continue and its broadcast time increased from 45 to 90 minutes.

The ZCRP is a pilot educational project designed to mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS through effective use of community radio. Recognizing the important role that community radio plays, not only in informing a local, but also in motivating effective and innovative responses to identified problems.

The project is being developed over four years with funds from the United States President's Africa Education Initiative as a cross cutting activity focused on support for community participation in education, and on HIV/AIDS mitigation and prevention.

Ends...