



ANNUAL REPORT

2013



FOREWORD

The Civic Forum on Human Development (CFHD) (former Civic Forum on Housing), is proud to present its annual report for 2013. We continue to grow from strength to strength in our mission to positively contribute to the human development process through people's participation, human rights, empowerment, service delivery and responsible policies.

We have been a leading player over the past year in strengthening citizen participation in local governance and peace building in four rural districts of Zimbabwe namely Chipinge, Mutoko, Nyaminyami and Tsholotsho districts. Working with local drivers of change such as District Action Teams (DATs), we have been able to achieve a lot of impacts in training local government staff, councilors and local leaders in defining and spearheading their local change process with greater citizen participation and support from other service providers.

The project has been able to link democratic citizen participation with good practices in local economic development and participatory service delivery programming underpinned through processes of community based planning and community, public and private sector partnerships in response to emerging opportunities for dialogue and collaboration involving citizen groups, local government officials and the private sector.

Through support from our funding partners (EU and USAID), we have been able to demonstrate significant impact in a number of key areas:

- Local leadership transformation and development
- Local citizen participation approaches including marginalized groups such as women, youth, vulnerable groups, disabled and older people in society.
- Promotion of pro-poor local economic development processes at local authority and community level.
- People to People peace building processes and collaborative economic development processes.
- Participatory and inclusive local government strategic planning and participatory budgeting
- Participatory Expenditure Tracking and development of Social Accountability Platforms
- Local governance networking for impact (LoGoNeti) for spreading good practices in other Local Authorities in Zimbabwe.

We are in the process of documenting emerging good practices and lessons learnt as we prepare ourselves for an exciting future for the Forum. We are hoping to go beyond local governance and peace building to include related human development issues mainly linked to livelihoods, environment/natural resources, gender and sustainability (LEGS) issues that are linked to the sustainable development goals (SDGs).

We will continue to place more emphasis on people driven processes, networking and collaboration, strategic partnerships, information and knowledge sharing, strategic resource mobilization to support systemic change rather than isolated processes and light touch facilitatory and catalytic approach in the development process. This creates space for communities and their stakeholders to take a leading role in the design and implementation of programs.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Enhanced Citizen Participation in governance and peace building for sustainable human development.

Increased institutional capacity by members and associates to deliver sustainable human development services and goals

Equitable access to social and economic opportunities for sustainable human development.

VISION MISSION & VALUES



OUR CORE VALUES

- * Fairness
- * Accountability
- * Innovation-oriented
- * Responsiveness
- * Network Driven
- * Environmentally Sensitive
- * Socially Responsible
- * Sustainability Focused

MISSION

To transform all systems and processes that contribute positively to human development based on respect for people's participation, human rights, empowerment, service delivery and responsible policies..

STRATEGIC VISION

Inclusive societies where the rights of citizens are recognized and local institutions are empowered to drive their own development.



*PARTICIPANTS AT A DAT
PLANNING MEETING IN CHIPINGE*

BACKGROUND

Civic Forum for Human Development was established in 1995 as the Civic Forum on Housing. It envisaged fostering dialogue, positive communication and advocating for inclusive policies and equitable development practices in the areas of housing, local government services, local economic development and institutional capacity building at community, local government and national levels. After carefully and thoroughly conducting strategic reflections on the ever mutating socio-economic and political context in Zimbabwe, the various demands of its plethora of clients coupled with future strategic imperatives for making an everlasting difference to the lives of boys, girls, women and men, an observation was made to change the name of the organization to Civic Forum on Human Development (CFHD), which sounds more commensurate to addressing human development issues and current focus of the organisation.

The changing of the name does not in any way affect the organisation's current programme focus and field operations, in contrast it adds the value to our programming and organizational picture. In fact, the name change has triggered new thinking and generation of new ideas for the future scaling up purposes as we move towards building a sustainable human development agenda.

BACKGROUND

FRUITS OF THE TRANSITION PROCESS

The rebranding process and name changing was strategically designed to broaden the organisation's scope to human development. It inculcated the three pillars of the new strategic vision which are; enhanced citizen participation in local governance and peace building processes, enhanced capacity of CSOs to advocate for social, political and economic rights and entitlements as well as access to economic opportunities and essential human development services for disadvantaged groups. This new strategic visioning embraces human centered development models. The main objective of rebranding and name changing was premised on reorienting perceptions of the organization's clients, partners and peers alike from the narrow focus on housing only to embrace other facets of human development. Stemming from the rebranding exercise the organisation has strategically positioned itself in the development agenda that it now commands respect from the new perception from partners and donors alike. In a nutshell the rebranding and transition process has positively impacted the organisation's standpoint in as far as creating synergies and partnerships for development. The new Forum is strategically positioned to address the SDGs.

“
*the rebranding and
transition process has
positively impacted the
organisation's standpoint*
”

PART 1:

STRATEGIC HIGHLIGHTS

The nexus of this section is on the update on how far Civic Forum on Human Development (CFHD) has endeavored to fulfill its mandate as well as its strategic objectives in the financial year 2013. The report will concentrate on two projects under the ambits of the Forum, namely the USAID funded Peace for Sustainable Development in Rural Areas of Zimbabwe (PSDRAZ) and the EC bankrolled Strengthening Local Governance and Citizen Participation in Rural District Councils of Zimbabwe (LGCCP).

The period under review coincided with the conducting of the harmonized election in the country that ushered in the new dispensation of political governance, after a four year stint with the GNU. During the period towards elections most activities had to be postponed due to voter registration that took away most of local authorities' staff, campaign rallies both for the new constitution and the actual elections as well as the swearing ceremonies and inductions. A new dispensation was ushered in with new players especially in the local authorities and the Forum had to make do with the newly elected councilors.

Despite the aforementioned challenges, the Forum was able to surge on with its intended objectives and strategic foci. The Forum achieved a number of strategic results even in the USAID funded project which was in its inception phase. The results are a good basis for developing innovative interventions that would be able to sustain the targeted communities.

BACKGROUND

PART 2:

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

BRIEF OVERVIEW

CFHD implemented two major projects in the year 2013 in partnership with the Association of Rural District Councils and Centre for Community Development Solutions. The LGCPP is in its fourth year and the PSDRAZ is in its inception year. Both projects have shown a lot of progress towards achieving their objectives in the four local authorities they are being implemented. Using Participatory Learning for Action Approach to Local Governance and Citizen Participation as well as the Do No Harm and the People to People approaches to building sustainable development in rural Zimbabwe, the two projects have made strides in stimulating citizen participation in development as well as creating inroads for innovative development.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

During the period under review, the CFHD has implemented the following projects in Zimbabwe:

Project	Funder	Area of Operation	Partner (s)	Duration
LGCPP	EC	Chipinge, Mutoko, Nyaminyami, Tsholotsho	ARDC, CCDS	2010-2015
LGCPP	USAID	Tsholotsho, Nyaminyami, Mutoko, Chipinge	ARDC, CCDS	2013-2016



Tsholotsho Ward 4 Leadership participating in one of the training workshops

LOCAL GOVERNANCE AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PROJECT – LGCCP

Civic Forum on Human Development in partnership with the Association of Rural District Councils of Zimbabwe (ARDCZ) and Centre for Community Development Solutions (CCDS) are implementing the LGCCP in four rural district councils of Zimbabwe viz; Chipinge, Mutoko, Nyaminyami and Tsholotsho from 2010 to 2015. The Centre for Community Development Solutions (CCDS) is an associate solely responsible for technical support and guidance to sound project management, learning, monitoring and evaluation. The project is being funded by the European Union (EU).

The overall objective of the action is to promote democratic, effective, transparent and accountable local governance in Rural Districts Councils (RDC) of Zimbabwe. Specifically, its objective is to strengthen the capacity of elected councilors, council officials, traditional and local leaders to internalize democratic values and principles so as to increase their responsiveness to community and stakeholder concerns and inputs in their facilitation of local governance.

Expected results of this action are:

1. Local leaders have increased knowledge of citizen rights in local governance
2. Democratic institutions for effective local governance and Local Economic Development (LED) are strengthened
3. Capacity of RDCs to respond to the needs and priorities of the communities and local civic organizations strengthened
4. Policies, mechanisms and procedures for transparent and participatory management of local authority affairs established and disseminated through appropriate local government structures.

The project implements a Participatory Learning for Action Approach to Local Governance and Citizen Participation (PLA-LGCCP) developed by CCDS as a basis for local governance transformation. The approach has six interlinked components which are;

- a. Working on both sides of demand and supply side of the local governance equation
- b. Concentrate on consensus building and deliberative dialogue
- c. Inclusive planning and decision making
- d. Responsive local training and demonstration
- e. Strategic information sharing and influencing
- f. Peer to peer learning and support

During the year, CFHD managed to achieve the following:

- District Action Team (DAT) trainings using study circles in Nyaminyami, Mutoko, Chipinge and Tsholotsho developed by CCDS.
- The successful demonstration on the use of the Local Governance Barometer and facilitation of LED planning in Nyaminyami, Tsholotsho and Mutoko. Tsholotsho DAT was also trained on strategic revenue mobilization and transparent financial management. A total number of 156 DAT (127 males, 29 females) members underwent the training sessions. The DATs have successfully developed frameworks for use in monitoring the performance of their respective RDCs.
- Training of CFHD facilitators on the principles of Peace Building, Conflict Mitigation and Reconciliation by an external consultant which enabled them to cascade the training to the DAT who further cascaded down the skills and knowledge on peace building to all the sub- district structures, local and political leaders.
- The successful roll out training of local leaders on the roles and functions of the sub-district development structures conducted by DAT members of Mutoko, Nyaminyami and Tsholotsho from October 2013 to January 2014. A total number of 2273 (1491 males, 782 females) were trained in 63 wards. The envisaged result of the training was minimization of incidences of role conflicts between the traditional leaders and elected councilors. It will rejuvenate the functioning of Village and Ward Development Committees (VIDCOs and WADCOs) as well as the Village and Ward Assemblies (VAs and WAs).

During the year, CFHD managed to achieve the following:

- Training of ward facilitators on the roles and functions of the sub-district development structures conducted by DAT members of Mutoko and Tsholotsho in October 2013. 1986 people (421 males and 279 females) were trained in 51 wards with the view that the training will increase civic awareness on lower level rural areas development structures.
- Tsholotsho, Nyaminyami and Mutoko DAT members were trained in documentation and dissemination of good practices in Local Economic Development (LED) which resulted in community profiling of projects to be implemented using proceeds from LED activities.
- ARDC launched a resource website (<http://www.ardcz.org>) used to disseminate and share project knowledge products with a wider audience to influence uptake of the project by other rural district councils. Twelve knowledge products have been sent to the ARDC for uploading on their website so as to ensure all the sixty-two RDCs in the countries have access.
- Increased networking and collaboration with other development partners in responding to community service delivery needs and priorities such as Plan International, Training and Research Support Centre-TARSC, Humanitarian Information Facilitation Centre-HIFC and Zimbabwe Age Network (ZAN)
- Mainstreaming ageing issues in the work of the forum. This is important in the work of the forum since older persons have been noted as active participants in LGCPP activities such as on the rejuvenated local development structures (VIDCOs and WADCOs) of the targeted RDCs.
- A national reflection workshop was successfully conducted in Harare at Cresta Oasis Hotel where submissions were made by CFHD and the participating four districts on project implementation experiences, lessons and challenges paving the way for constructive forward planning.
- The tables illustrated below summarize the clients reached out during the course of the reporting year by gender and by role in the project implementation.

Clients Reached in 2013

AREA	NO. OF FEMALES	NO. OF FEMALES	TOTAL BENEFICIARIES
Mutoko)	1564	613	2177
Chipinge	48	7	55
Tsholotsho	636	343	979
Nyaminyami	340	115	455
Total	2588	1078	3666

Categories of project clients

TARGET GROUP	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
DAT	206	49	255
Local Government staff	11	3	14
Local community leaders	1491	782	2273
Ward facilitators	880	244	1124
Total	2588	1078	3666



LOCAL LEADERS AT TRAINING
WORKSHOP IN CHIPINGE

PEACE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN RURAL AREAS OF ZIMBABWE- PSDRAZ

This USAID funded project complements efforts and impacts gained and sustained in the EU funded LGCPP. It is being implemented in the four districts of Chipinge, Mutoko, Nyaminyami and Tsholotsho. The project is implemented in partnership with the Association of Rural District Councils of Zimbabwe (ARDCZ) and the Centre for Community Development Solutions (CCDS). The project is funded for thirty six months from March 2013- April 2016.

The action's anticipated results are:

1. Local leaders have increased knowledge on peace building, conflict mitigation and reconciliation
2. Local level institutions for effective peace building, conflict management and Local Economic Development (LED) are strengthened
3. District and sub-district political leadership structures' capacity to respond to peace building and conflict management needs of the communities and local civic organizations strengthened
4. Effective documentation of the project processes to ensure knowledge sharing on peace building and conflict management issues and replication of best practices.

The project makes use of two key project implementation strategies, the Do No Harm and People to People Approaches to peace building and sustainable rural development. CFHD is implementing this peace building project complementary to its earlier effort on the governance intervention in the same geographical area. The already capacitated clients and leaders in the governance project are further capacitated in peace building project as the Forum's Do No Harm approach. Using the Community Based Planning approach as its People to People participatory approach to sustainable development, CFHD endeavor to facilitate and drive a community planning and development process in identifying demand led and community driven initiatives through shared visioning.

PEACE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN RURAL AREAS OF ZIMBABWE- PSDRAZ

It is paramount at this juncture to categorically state that this is the peace building project's year of inception but the milestones achieved to date are insurmountable for a project in its inception phase. The project was launched on 11 February 2013 and to date the project has achieved the following:

- The successful launching of the project in all the four districts and its acceptance by various stakeholders such as traditional leaders, councilors, government departments, churches, the police, business community and council officials.
- Joint planning meetings between the project team and District Action Teams (DATs) of project activities to be implemented.
- The carrying out of the project baseline survey and production of the report by an external evaluator.
- Training of DAT members in Chipinge, Mutoko, Nyaminyami and Tsholotsho on peace building, conflict mitigation and reconciliation.
- The successful training of 2273 local leaders (total number for the three districts) in Tsholotsho (907-586 males, 321 females); Mutoko (981-626 males, 355 females) and Nyaminyami (385- 279 males, 106 females) on peace building, conflict mitigation and reconciliation by DAT members at ward level.
- Training of 1335 (421 males, 279 females) Peace Ambassadors on peace building, conflict mitigation and reconciliation in Mutoko by DAT members at ward level. The Peace Ambassadors are responsible for advancing peace building initiatives at local level which include community awareness education and facilitating community level dialogue meetings.
- Training of 63 political leaders (Councilors) in Mutoko, Nyaminyami and Tsholotsho in Peace Building, Conflict Mitigation and Reconciliation.

The project achieved notable milestones during its inception year though activities were affected by many political activities that took place in the year under review. During its inception period they were campaigns and voting for the new constitution on the 16th of March 2013. This was followed by the campaigns and voting in the harmonized general elections which were held on 31 July 2013, as well as swearing in of elected officials from the President to the councilors. Broadly, local stakeholders and communities have expressed satisfaction with the avenues for dialogue and participation being created by the project. Appreciation has also been expressed in the community led local economic development initiatives in the peace building process. The learning by doing approach has been very effective as well as the community based facilitation in a country where facilitation by outsiders is very sensitive.



PARTICIPANTS AT A DAT PLANNING MEETING IN NYAMINYAMI

PART 3:

FUTURE DIRECTION AND PRIORITIES

CFHD intends to build blocks on gains already achieved through strategically focusing on the following key project initiatives:

- Civil Society Capacity Building and Transformation Project (CCBTP)
- Local Economic Growth and Development Program (LEGDP)
- Energy for Human Development Program (EHDP)
- Climate Change, Human Adaptation & Development Initiative (CCHADI)
- The enhancement of citizen participation in local governance, peace building and service delivery for sustainable human development.
- The development of capacity for network members to deliver sustainable human development services and policy advocacy initiatives.
- Strengthening local socio-economic development and transformation processes for sustainable human development.

Goal	Key Activities 2014-18
•The enhancement of citizen participation in local governance, peace building and service delivery for sustainable human development	• Strengthening participatory planning and governance training in partnership with ARDC and UCAZ. • Educate and strengthen communities on their rights to demand and monitor service delivery. • Capacity building initiatives on transformational leadership for community and local government leaders. • Strengthening Local Advocacy Platforms for CSOs to demand transparency and accountability in service delivery. • Development and dissemination of proven models on governance, peace building and service delivery.
•The development of capacity for network members to deliver sustainable human development services and policy advocacy initiatives.	•Stakeholder, knowledge and donor mapping exercises •Staff capacity building •Associate capacity building •Development of an organizational advocacy strategy. •Identify research themes and identify gaps, document and share results. •Initiation of self-sustaining projects - generate fee for service assignments.
•Strengthening local socio-economic development and transformation processes for sustainable human development.	•Business management and entrepreneurship focused workshops with communities •Awareness campaigns on the use of new technologies for social and economic gain •Promote the use of alternative energy sources •Streamline WASH and income generating programmes in all programming initiatives •Streamline our activities with national policy e.g. ZimASSET •Focus on partnership based initiatives (PBIs) in formulation and implementation of social and economic development-oriented projects.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The executive committee meets once every quarter of the calendar year to discuss the operations of the organisation and give necessary guidance and direction for the running of the Forum. It deliberates on issues like inter alia, field operations update, fundraising initiatives, partnerships, human resources planning and all other paraphernalia associated with corporate governance. For the reporting period the executive committee met four times. The dates of the meeting as well as the agendas are as follows;

1. 28 March 2013

Meeting Agenda
Minutes of the last meeting
Matters arising
CFH Operational Updates (project activities update)
CFH Financial position (2013 organizational budget)
A.O.B
Way Forward

2. 2 July 2013

Meeting Agenda
Minutes of the last meeting
Matters arising
CFH Operational Updates (project activities update)
CFH Financial update
CFH rebranding approval
CFH Board Manual approval
A.O.B
Way Forward

3. 02 October 2013

Meeting Agenda:
Minutes of the last meeting
Matters arising
CFHD Operational Updates (project activities update)
CFHD Financial update
CFHD rebranding process update
Way Forward

4. 19 December 2013

Agenda:
Minutes of the last meeting
Matters arising
CFHD Operational Updates (Project activities update)
CFHD Financial update
CFHD fundraising initiatives update

HUMAN RESOURCES AND STAFF COMPLIMENT

The forum has eight full time staff members and two students on attachment that included the Chief Technical Director, Project Coordinator, two Peace Building and Local Governance Facilitators, one Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Officer, one Finance Officer, Administrator, one Field Driver/Messenger and two students on attachment. The director and the coordinator form part of the Management team while the facilitators and the M & E Officer together with the driver constitute the Field Technical Team.



15 Atkinson Drive, Hillside, Harare, Zimbabwe. Mobile: +263 772 354 473