



CIVIC FORUM ON HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Email: civicforumonhd@gmail.com

Website: www.civicforum.co.zw

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CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT



CFHD Chairperson, Mr S. Kuveya

We have come once again to the end of another wonderful year. 2020 was a special year as the organization celebrated 25 years of existence, 25 years of strengthening human-centred development in Zimbabwe. The journey has not been easy but we managed to strategize, refocus, and soldier on despite all the challenges we faced. We have moved from being focused on one pillar of housing to the broader pillar of human development and this has seen the organization gaining relevance in the development sector over the years. Our areas of influence have also expanded into over 25 districts covering both urban and rural peripheries. I do not doubt that our team will take us a lot further in the next 5, 10, and 15 years until we cover the country and the region.

2020 cannot be mentioned without also bringing up the COVID-19 pandemic which made our work more challenging. This pandemic has caused a global panic throughout the human Population worldwide and that has changed our habits, how organizations operate and the economy in general. But as usual, the CFHD managed to see an opportunity in the pandemic. The organization managed to come up with researches, modules, and funding to support COVID-19 related causes. Awareness of the pandemic was raised through printing and distribution of posters, facemasks as well as on our social media platforms and this also helped expand territories for the CFHD. Having lived through this pandemic, we have all learnt lessons, examples of appropriate reactions, effort, and commitment. Most of all, we are grateful to the Lord almighty for his divine protection as none of our staff members was infected and we are all alive today to celebrate. However, we know that no one was spared loss by this pandemic and our hearts go out to all those who lost their loved ones to this virus.

In closing, I want to thank, on behalf of the Board of Directors and my own, the management team, and all the people who make up the CFHD team, for the enormous effort and commitment shown throughout the year. In addition to the dedication shown in day-to-day activities, the team has shown great capacity to react and adapt to the health crisis. I'm convinced that this work will strengthen us as an organization, as a group, and as individuals, and will prepare us to face whatever future challenges that might arise.

Thank you

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT



Mr. Masendeke, CFHD Chief Technical Director

Another year has come and gone. Unfortunately, a lot of the projects we were working on also came to an end. But thanks to our vibrant and innovative team, all the projects ended successfully despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 virus. With community at the heart of everything we do at the CFHD, our commitment to the communities we work in has continued to create dialogue platforms that normally would not be there, encouraging and ensuring community participation in developmental planning as well as changing the mindset of communities. By changing the mindset of the community, we aim to turn them from demanding service to taking up ownership of issues and giving what they can towards receiving that service.

During the COVID-19 crisis, we deepened the community's trust by continuous presence through our strong network of CBOs which ensured all milestones and targets for the year were met. We were also able to adjust quickly and managed to get funding for COVID-19 related activities which helped cushion some of our activities.

We continue to carry out our activities within the

framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations, integrating these principles into the strategy, culture, and daily activities. Emphasis has been on the pillar of women and girls who we feel had previously been left out in most developmental processes. We have seen a vast increase in the numbers of this demography in terms of their participation and we hope to see them more actively involved in future programming.

We were also excited to be celebrating the Silver Jubilee of the organization, marking 25 years since the organization was formed and we are happy to also announce that the organization has been successfully registered as a Private Voluntary Organization and not just a Trust anymore. Special thanks to our Programs Coordinator, Mr Chaikosa for pushing this process through to the end.

Though we cannot be confident of what the future holds, we can be clear and resolved in our mission which is about seeing a transformation in 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. Unfortunately, the pandemic has served to further reveal pre-existing inequalities in housing, education, healthcare, food security, water, and sanitation as well as employment. However, we remain rooted in our commitment to recover and aid in the renewal of our communities. All we see are opportunities for the future.

Enjoy going through this edition as we share with you our journey throughout 2020.

CONTEXT AND OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

The operational context in 2020 was largely dominated by COVID-19 induced work impediments that generally had a far-reaching effect on how CFHD conducts its business. A national lockdown was announced in March 2020 which was only eased in the last quarter of 2020. This changed our model giving priority and focus to the utilization of virtual platforms and to conduct most of our business. On the economic front, perennial woes that affect Zimbabwe continued to be evident with the currency and cash crisis being at the core. This had a ripple effect on the work of the Forum conducts it became difficult to comprehensively plan in the face of a volatile economic environment.

Lack of awareness on Human Rights issues by citizens was also a major issue in the year with citizens having

limited knowledge and capacity on how to report human rights abuses in the areas of our operations .2020 also saw the new national devolution policy being approved by the cabinet which will guide the implementation of devolution in Zimbabwe particularly in the context of Social Accountability building on our already existing work with Rural District Councils in Zimbabwe. Looking into the future, the new normal might mean development institutions across the world need to adapt to the current situation concerning COVID-19. Our success within this operational context can be credited to the huge cluster of Community-based organizations and partners that we work with across the 10 provinces of Zimbabwe and thorough our human-centred development approach.

ABOUT CFHD

Established in 1995, CFHD is a human development focused network-based organization headquartered in Harare Zimbabwe, and working across the 10 provinces and 25 districts of Zimbabwe through our strong network of 480 community-based organizations. Our work focuses on local government capacity building, citizen participation in governance processes, renewable energy, disaster, and risk management as well as resilience-building for sustainable human development in line with the sustainable development goals. Since our establishment, we have worked with local authorities across Zimbabwe in the creation of local dialogue platforms, enhanced communication between civil society and local authorities, local economic development, and strengthening of local government institutions to deliver quality services to residents.

Over the years, CFHD has played a leading role in developing information, communication, and training materials to improve the knowledge and skills of the poorest and most marginalized groups in society in low-income housing delivery processes and methods. The CFHD has partnered with both local and international NGOs with a specific focus on adding value to community mobilization and civic awareness processes, training for transformation for local leaders, local institutional capacity building, and local economic empowerment training and support.

CFHD also provides expertise in building local grassroots partnerships for effective service delivery and institutional mapping, analysis, engagement, and influencing capacity development.

OUR VISION

Inclusive, just, and resilient societies where the basic rights and needs of citizens are recognized and local institutions and communities are empowered to drive their development.

OUR 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.

CORE VALUES

We believe in

- Fairness
- Innovation and Quality-Oriented
- Responsiveness and Timely Action
- Mutual Accountability
- Network Driven
- Environmental And Climate Smart
- Socially Responsible
- Sustainability Focused

STRATEGIC HIGHLIGHTS

The strategic highlights of the organization are summarized in the diagram below. These will be explained in greater detail under the projects.

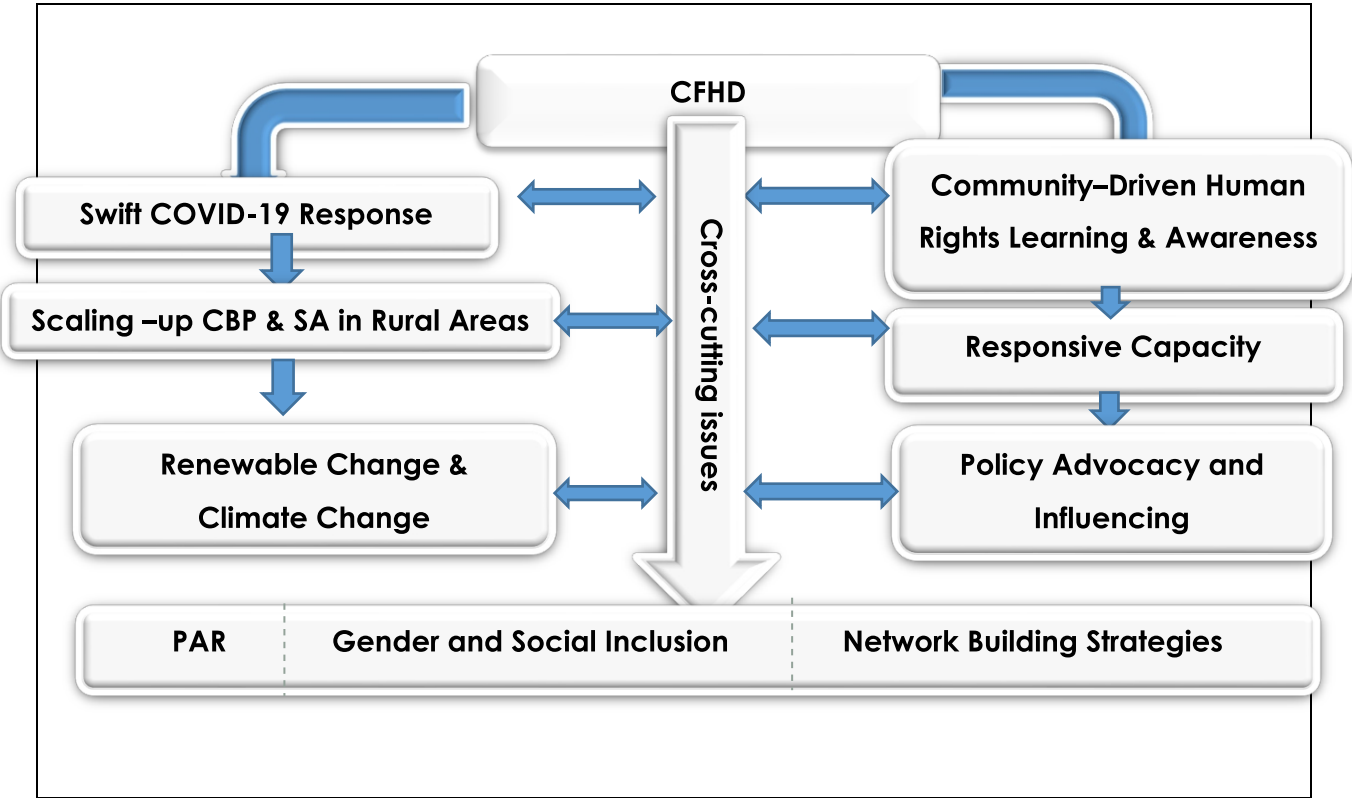


Figure 1 CFHD Strategic Highlights

WORKING MODEL

The CFHD uses the Human-Centred Development model to ensure the successful implementation of its interventions. This model provides a framework that has been used in informing the CFHD when designing, planning, and implementing

projects in line with the organizational thematic areas. The key operational principles that informed CFHD's working model are summarized in the table below as follows:

Table 1: CFHD Key Operational Principles

Model	Description
Community Focus and Ownership	CFHD involves the Community in the planning, design, and implementation of its programs for local ownership and sustainability.
Partnerships:	CFHD forges strong strategic partnerships with other civil society organizations, international institutions, and/or the government to enable effective planning and implementation of its programs.
Innovative Approaches to Providing Service delivery	CFHD uses flexible, interactive, unique, and responsive mechanisms to address the needs and priorities of the targeted beneficiaries.
Inclusiveness	CFHD's approach to programming is inclusive of all the socio-economic groups at all levels including the poor and marginalized men, women, girls, and boys mostly through their institutions and platforms of choice.

SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY PROJECT

Major Highlights



Mashonaland Central Provincial Learning and Inception workshop in Mbire District

The Civic Forum on Human Development (CFHD) in partnership with the Association of Rural District Councils (ARDCZ), Lower Guruve Development Association (LGDA), Centre for Community Development Solutions (CCDS), and Nyahunhure Community Trust (NCT) are implementing a four-year (2020-2024) project titled Strengthening Civil Society Capacity for Scaling-Up Social Accountability in Rural Local Authorities of Zimbabwe. The project is being funded by the European Union and the targeted

districts are Mashonaland East Province – Chikomba, Goromonzi and Murewa districts, Mashonaland West Province – Makonde and Chegutu Rural Districts, and Mashonaland Central Province – Mbire, Muzarabani, and Guruve Districts. The project aims to enhance meaningful participation of civil society and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) in strengthening and monitoring inclusive, accountable, and resilient governance and service delivery in rural local authorities of Zimbabwe.

MILESTONES AND LESSONS LEARNT

During the year 2020, the project demonstrated the effectiveness of inclusive service delivery and participatory local governance processes anchored by Community Based Planning (CBP) and Social Accountability Approaches in strengthening inclusive planning and effective public financial management processes. From the evidence-based dialogue and monitoring processes with the participating Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), CBOs, and Rural District Councils (RDCs), the approach has created multiple opportunities for empowering a diverse range of CSOs and CBOs to effectively network, collaborate and engage with key actors within the entire local governance system. This has helped to address strategic and gender-sensitive needs and priorities of

women, youths, and other vulnerable groups in communities as the underlying principle in the planning and budgeting process of local authorities.

The project baseline that was conducted by an external consultant indicated that Social Accountability approaches need to be mainstreamed in all the eight targeted districts through mentoring and training of CBOs and CSOs on the strategic use of evidence gathered for lobbying and advocacy. The CFHD is highly grateful for the support rendered by CBOs, RDCs, project partners, community leaders, and other stakeholders who all contributed towards the successful implementation of the project during the first year.



Shingirai Nyahwa contributing during the baseline survey meeting in Guruve District

The project has viewed COVID-19 as a threat to human life but also as a springboard for activating interventions in Results 4 on strengthening

community-led resilience-building partnerships working with local governance structures in the targeted districts. The project planned to link

- The most impacted include low-income earners, persons with disabilities, people living with HIV, women, and youth,
- Applying Social Accountability to Human Rights will ensure that active engagement with citizens to determine their needs and ensure involvement in coming up with relevant solutions could be an integral part of Covid 19 response.
- There is a need to increase efforts towards mainstreaming civic participation for youths and women.

The mainstreaming strategy is based on a number of key principles which include:

- Local leadership strengthening, participation, and decision making;
- Mutual understanding and appreciation of

Social Accountability

- Participatory community preparedness and response planning
- Leveraging local capacities and innovations
- Social Accountability to Communities.
- Equitable engagement of women, youths, and vulnerable groups in the community.
- Resilience community action planning, monitoring, review, and adaptation.

Lessons being learnt from this process will be used to design a multi year program on Community Response to Covid-19.

ACHIEVEMENTS MADE BY THE PROJECT



Mr Masendeke making a presentation on the overview of the Social Accountability Project in Murewa District (right) and Ms Chinomona highlighting the project thematic areas in Goromonzi District (left)

The Social Accountability Project made key achievements in strengthening social accountability and inclusive service delivery that are illustrated below:

- Conducted the baseline survey across all 8 targeted districts which were facilitated by an external consultant.
- Development of a step-by-step Self-Learning Guide on community preparedness planning and

resilience building that guided the implementation of project activities.

- Facilitated CBP processes in the 4 of the 8 targeted districts of the project (Mbire, Murewa, Chikomba, and Goromonzi Districts).
- A total of 123 CBOs participated in the activity and these were classified according to the area of focus and district of operation.

community resilience-building and community-based planning work but due to the magnitude of COVID-19 on institutions and communities, it is now prudent to start with risk communication, assessments for effective mainstreaming into integrated community-based planning processes. The goal of linking

community-based preparedness and response planning with the broader CBP process created more pro-active, engaged, and resilient communities capable of withstanding any threats and/or severe disturbances such as the COVID-19 impact.



Pre-Planning Meeting for the Makonde Rural District Council COVID-19 Response and Resilience Building Initiative

The adaptation strategy to COVID-19 is based on the need to ride on COVID-19 risk awareness and communication activities to strengthen community preparedness planning and resilience building involving all the relevant multiple stakeholders from the district to the community level. The strategy is anchored on the need to empower communities to play a more proactive role through better preparedness

planning and response initiatives and interventions. In the response and aftermath of the pandemic, care must be taken to ensure interventions at the district level are inclusive, universal and equitable, while ensuring that emerging human rights and access to justice concerns for those most impacted by the socio-economic shocks are fully addressed. Through this participatory approach, the following lessons have been learnt.



One of the DAT Members from Mbire District in the Chidodo ward pointing out the importance of women and youth's participation



Mr Savere (left side) and Ms Constance (right side) Sharing work being done by project partners on the ground

FUTURE PRIORITIES

In the following year of 2021, the CFHD and its project partners will work together to ensure that the project result is achieved and the targeted communities are transformed. The following are some of the main activities that will be facilitated;

- Facilitate CBP Trainings in the remaining 4 districts; Mashonaland West – Makonde and Chegutu Rural Districts and Mashonaland Central – Muzarabani and Guruve Districts
- Development of a short documentary on the CBP Process that will be share for learning

purposes across different fora.

- Consolidation of District Community Based Plans.
- Pilot training in risk communication and resilient building in 3 pilot districts of the project (1 district from each of the project 3 districts).
- Conduct training on a step-by-step Self-Learning Guide on community preparedness planning and resilience building in RDCs of Zimbabwe.

HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORING AND PROTECTION PROJECT

The Civic Forum on Human Development (CFHD) is part of an International Organization for Migration (IOM) led consortium that is implementing a project titled **“Scaling-Up Coordinated Protection, Promotion and Enforcement of Human Rights for Citizens and other Vulnerable Groups Including Internally Displaced Persons in Zimbabwe”** that is being funded by The Swedish International Development Agency. During the period under review, the CFHD implemented project activities in 18 Districts of Zimbabwe through strengthening evidence-based human rights programming and dialogue with CSOs and CBOs and achieved the following:

- Working with CSOs/CBOs has created decentralized centres of learning for effective promotion and protection of human rights. The established learning centres are Emthonjeni Women's Forum in Matabeleland North, Nyahunhure Community Trust (NCT) in Mashonaland East, Lower Guruve Development Association (LGDA) in Mashonaland Central, Real Agenda for Youths Transformation (RAFYT) in Masvingo, and Women in Communities WICO) in Midlands Province. These Learning centres provide responsive human rights support services to local Community-Based Organisations and communities.
- Targeted CSOs/CBOs have successfully proved to be an effective mechanism for

strengthening information flow to marginalized communities and clearinghouses for information on different human rights issues based on community priorities, knowledge, and information gaps in the target region. This has proved effective during the lockdown period where CBOs such as LGDA and NCT have been playing an active role in disseminating knowledge and information to hard-to-reach communities.

- CFHD is now officially authorized to operate in 5 new districts of Makonde and Chegutu (Mashonaland West); Goromonzi and Chikomba (Mashonaland East) and Muzarabani District (Mashonaland Central) which is an opportunity for the CFHD to widen the peer-to-peer human rights approach to hard-to-reach communities.
- The project has enabled local CSOs/CBOs to develop locally relevant skills and methods such as community-based planning and social accountability for on-going engagement with duty bearers and government on human rights protection and promotion through sharing knowledge, information, and emerging best practices at district, provincial and national levels with the support of CFHD.

- Peer-peer-learning workshops resulted in the adoption of the multi-sectoral approach by CBOs and relevant stakeholders working on gender-based violence and child marriages in Guruve and Mbire districts of Mashonaland Central province. It was highlighted that each CBO has unique capacities that can be tapped by other organizations to enhance programming in human rights.
- The project has enabled local CSOs/CBOs to transform themselves into decentralized knowledge and information centres for human rights protection and promotion at the local level and to develop referral mechanisms for support in the event of specialized services being required.



Human Rights Training in Masvingo

- Local learning circles have successfully created space for localized dialogue platforms on local human rights issues and/or for discussions of human rights learning materials in smaller groups for mutual learning, understanding, and application to the local context. The Groups have been requesting localized and customized local training sessions with local volunteers and facilitators. Examples were the water and sanitation learning circles in Epworth which created space for local advocacy groups to be trained on their rights to clean water and sanitation, effective engagement with local

environmental health officials and the local authority to improve provision and treatment options for existing water supplies.

- CBOs and CSOs that have been working with the project are now active participants in local governance development structures where they have been supporting peer-to-peer learning and networking. In recognition of the commemorations of the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence, CFHD successfully conducted GBV Learning Platforms in project learning sites from the 25th of November to – 16th of December 2020. The 8 learning sites that hosted the GBV learning sites were Mutoko, Mutare, Shurungwi, Bulilima, Guruve, Epworth, and Hatcliffe. The objective of the GBV learning platforms was to:
 - i) to create a shared understanding of the emerging GBV issues and response mechanisms that are needed for addressing key human rights challenges;
 - ii) to facilitate access to simplified information and technical service for addressing emerging GBV issues for hard-to-reach rural communities;
 - iii) to motivate and support local CBOs and communities to develop local GBV Action Plans that inform priorities for implementation. A video documentary of GBV learning platforms was developed in commemoration of the 16 days of

Activism against GBV. The video documentary captures some of the best practices that are being implemented by the CFHD and its network of Community-Based Organizations working in remote settings of Zimbabwe. The video can be accessed below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=59irQNLAQV0>

- The CFHD developed a newspaper article on the 16 days of activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV) that was published in the Sunday Mail on the 13th of December 2020 which attracted interest by stakeholders working on women and GBV. The publication was issued in commemoration of the 16 days against (GBV) which is relevant to the work that the CFHD has been doing in contributing towards the elimination of GBV and the violation of citizen women and child rights. The main issues that were summarized in the newspaper article includes CFHD work in eliminating GBV; results from CFHD on GBV under the human rights project and future priorities. The publication has resulted in increased visibility on the CFHD work on GBV and through the human rights monitoring and protection project.
- The project successfully engaged the services of two local popular comedians for the production of skits for education through entertainment on COVID-19. The skits were

disseminated through social media platforms that are Facebook, YouTube, and network groups on WhatsApp. Feedback from the CFHD network members who have been accessing the demonstrates that the two video skits have contributed to increasing awareness on the COVID-19.

- The links to the 2 video skits that were developed can be accessed on the links that are highlighted below:
- [https://www.facebook.com/MasasiASabhuVharazipiNambuyaMaiJohnNaChairman/?__cft__\[O\]=AZXT6pOWYY95PNPuQ_fUJVoaqhIA65SywX6PN-xS6SYQvOUpNU_bZkmlIV1UhhIQglejuQOoZjfN8b66qaFKC0gm2_LbUPB1Rcg-UZdcbzBp8fzQhEFqAbGavlfy_MhC4Lb3S55QmJWJRbo5zY4Gu_hihmeCSkjWM2GPNO6Rkj72euOJ7r1O8RxFqJJSX7](https://www.facebook.com/MasasiASabhuVharazipiNambuyaMaiJohnNaChairman/?__cft__[O]=AZXT6pOWYY95PNPuQ_fUJVoaqhIA65SywX6PN-xS6SYQvOUpNU_bZkmlIV1UhhIQglejuQOoZjfN8b66qaFKC0gm2_LbUPB1Rcg-UZdcbzBp8fzQhEFqAbGavlfy_MhC4Lb3S55QmJWJRbo5zY4Gu_hihmeCSkjWM2GPNO6Rkj72euOJ7r1O8RxFqJJSX7mWP2apV5njlrNoQBsGbEgoa4pKCCNgnaapk9mOhZyzgp-ehw&_tn_=kC%2CP-R)

[mWP2apV5njlrNoQBsGbEgoa4pKCCNgnaapk9mOhZyzgp-ehw&_tn_=kC%2CP-R](https://www.facebook.com/MasasiASabhuVharazipiNambuyaMaiJohnNaChairman/?__cft__[O]=AZXT6pOWYY95PNPuQ_fUJVoaqhIA65SywX6PN-xS6SYQvOUpNU_bZkmlIV1UhhIQglejuQOoZjfN8b66qaFKC0gm2_LbUPB1Rcg-UZdcbzBp8fzQhEFqAbGavlfy_MhC4Lb3S55QmJWJRbo5zY4Gu_hihmeCSkjWM2GPNO6Rkj72euOJ7r1O8RxFqJJSX7mWP2apV5njlrNoQBsGbEgoa4pKCCNgnaapk9mOhZyzgp-ehw&_tn_=kC%2CP-R) and

- www.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=2794251740901090&id=1505549263104684



Women of Mutare district were amongst the key participants of the GBV learning conducted by the project in commemoration of the 16 days of activism against GBV

LESSONS LEARNT

- The CFHD has learnt that the current development planning has tended to prioritize sectoral and inter-sectoral projects and programs at national and district levels at the expense of community-driven planning and demand-driven interventions. Where there is limited or no community consultation and participation in development initiatives throughout the project development cycle, communities often become passive recipients of development and cannot express their voice and choice for development priorities needed in their areas of jurisdiction.
- Local CSOs/CBOs are facing stagnation and even collapse as a result of inadequate resources, skills, and knowledge, poor leadership and coordination as well as lack of effective programs for galvanizing their voices,

ideas, and energy within the networks

- Participatory mapping and assessment of human rights situation and priorities is critical in creating incentives for people and local institutional participation in human rights promotion and protection initiatives.
- Human-Centred Development Approach is one of the key tools that enable people to actively and voluntarily participate in formulating, planning to implement, and evaluating development plans. The vulnerable socio-economic group representatives are directly involved in producing the Community Action Plan which defines and prioritizes their community-driven resilience agenda, human rights, and vision of their choice for the current and future generations.
- Access to information and knowledge on human rights can be strengthened through a multi-pronged approach involving peer learning and networking, creating learning and dialogue platforms on key human rights themes, community-based learning circles, creating information linkages with human rights organizations (HROs), and supporting decentralized centres of excellence on

human-centred development and human rights.

- There are significant capacity and socio-cultural barriers to local documentation and monitoring of human rights violations at the community level and further support is needed in this area including the development of multiple referral processes and systems.
- There is a huge disconnection between human rights promotion and protection and conflict transformation process at the community and district levels and there is a need for targeted capacity building of local authorities and CSOs on human-centred conflict transformation processes. The creation of a learning hub on CBP can create multiple evidence-based platforms for scaling up and mainstreaming CBP into policy in Zimbabwe.
- There is increased space for human rights work for CSOs and CBOs in Zimbabwe through seeking collaboration and partnership with relevant stakeholders at the local and national levels.



Participants listening attentively during the human-centred workshop in the Murewa district.

KEY PROJECT REFLECTIONS

The project made significant progress in educating communities and beneficiaries about human rights dialogue, action planning, implementation, monitoring, and documentation of diverse human issues affecting local groups and vulnerable rural households. Most of the project efforts in the 3rd year of the project were categorized into different overlapping and complementary themes for targeted planning, implementation, and monitoring of results. Through these activities, CBOs managed to impart practical knowledge and information that will deepen understanding of human rights by the targeted

individuals and groups building upon their experiences and synthesizing new information. The goal of each of these activities was for the participants to be able to appreciate the value of human rights, to recognize the human rights situation in their settings, and to envision their future with the perspective of human rights from a human-centred development perspective. The extended phase of the project in the 2021 year would be focused on a responsive capacity building program to human rights challenges, gaps, needs, and priorities that were identified during the past 3 years of the project.

RENEWABLE ENERGY AWARENESS PROJECT

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS

The Civic Forum Human Development (CFHD) in partnership with Hivos had been implementing a project titled Strengthening Renewable Energy Awareness in Rural Areas of Manicaland Province in Zimbabwe (REAP) that ended in July 2020. The objectives of the project were to raise awareness on renewable energy options available for use at the household and community level and to strengthen dialogue and learning platforms for increased uptake of renewable energy options in rural areas. The project was implemented in four districts of Nyanga, Mutasa, Mutare, and Makoni and managed to reach out to 34 councillors across all the districts, 27 CBOs and CSOs, 7 traditional leaders, 16 officials from the targeted RDCs, 21 officials from resident Government departments and 2 officials from the Ministry of Energy and Power Development (MoEPD). The project implementation strategy was aligned to the global and national priorities that are in support of Renewable Energy Awareness. Globally, this included Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) such as Goal 7 on 'Affordable and Clean Energy' and Goal 13 on 'Climate Action' as well as nationally linking to the

National Renewable Energy Policy (NREP).

MILESTONES AND LESSONS LEARNT

The successful implementation of the project planned activities were the milestones that were recorded under the project.

a. The Formative Assessment

The formative assessment provided a baseline for the project to identify focal areas of the awareness programming. Some major outputs of the formative assessment were documented and shared with various stakeholders through district learning and community learning and dialogue platforms. Some of the identified gaps from the formative assessment report were:

Need for clean energy versus cost - The formative assessment showed that all people are willing to have access to modern technologies such as solar. The main limiting factor is the high initial cost which is beyond the reach of many. There is demand for solar in rural communities which are not being met leaving the people in rural communities energy-poor and having to rely on traditional methods which are not clean and modern.

Use of firewood and deforestation - Cooking and heating fuel was identified as one of the critical problems, reflecting an over-reliance on forest-based fuel forms. The excessive use of firewood has become a major threat to the environment and it contributes to climate change and thus a recommendation is being made to promote sustainable use of biomass (wood fuel) for both domestic and commercial purposes as a Renewable Energy source by adapting efficient methods of utilizing the resource.

Energy and gender dynamics - The formative assessment established that energy to meet cooking and heating has the potential to place a significant burden on rural women and girls thereby negatively impacting their health and safety, and limiting education and livelihood opportunities.

b) Participatory profiling and capacity building of CBOs

Participatory profiling and capacity-building workshops for CBOs were conducted in all the targeted 4 districts. The activity was conducted from May to June 2020. The purpose of the activity was to identify anchor CBOs across the participating districts, to profile other active CBOs in the districts and their capacity-building needs in promoting and strengthening renewable energy awareness. The key findings from this process were:

Anchor CBOs/CSOs: 3 organizations were identified and were willing to work with CFHD and these were: Nyanga Community

Development Trust (NCDT), Peace Building and Capacity Development Foundation (PACDEF) based in Mutare, and International Institute for Development Facilitation (IIDF) based in Mutare. From the activity, 27 CBOs were profiled. The key capacity gaps identified were lack of Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials on renewable energy options that can be used as aids in disseminating information.

CBO Focus Areas: It was noted that most CBOs focus their work on health issues, environment management activities, and community empowerment activities such as farming groups. They lacked capacity on how to integrate renewable energy within their areas of work despite having a desire to do so.

Community-based energy solutions: CBOs also need financial support to train communities on locally available solutions for the adaptation of Renewable Energy technologies such as Chingwa Stove. One active Renewable Energy CBOs was identified in Nyanga called Nyafuru Energy Association which supports the use of hydro energy. Hydro energy benefits a local school only and the communities surrounding the school do not have access to alternative renewable energy resources.

c. Community dialogue training and capacity development

The purpose of the community dialogue training and capacity development workshop was to impart knowledge and improve the

level of awareness on available renewable energy options at the household and community level and how communities can access these options. The training workshops were focused on: improving knowledge and understanding of the existing legal framework on renewable energies in Zimbabwe e.g.,

National Renewable Energy Policy (NREP); existing institutions and actors operating in the renewable energy sector; available and affordable renewable energy options in Zimbabwe; benefits of renewable energy in the face of climate change and environmental degradation.



Community dialogue and learning platform in Mutasa District, Muchena Ward 6

The activity was successfully implemented in a manner that incorporated the findings from the CFHD formative assessment report in which the identified gaps and opportunities were used in the development of aids used during dialogue in communities in the month of June 2020. A number of key topical areas identified in the

formative assessment report including knowledge around renewable energy, gender dynamics, and energy, use of firewood and deforestation, and the need for cleaner energy versus cost were under scrutiny. A total of 9 (Makoni 4 platforms, Mutasa 2 platforms, Mutare 2 Platforms, Nyanga 1) community dialogue platforms were conducted

with a total participation of 258 people (Makoni 64, Mutasa, 55, Mutare 57, Nyanga 82). 53.4% of participants in the community dialogue platforms were women which are one of the most affected groups in renewable energy use.

c. Development of linkages with key stakeholders

The project facilitated the development of linkages between the demand side, and the

supply sector. The activity was conducted through support from the Ministry of Energy and Power Development. CFHD facilitated the development of linkages with private companies in the energy sector by inviting the private companies to attend the REAP reflection workshop and exhibit different products that are available in the market.



A solar borehole system on exhibition at a reflection workshop, Wise Owl Motel, Mutare

The purpose of the activity was to raise awareness of the consumers on some of the available renewable technologies that are available on the market and the existing financing models. CBOs also participated in the community dialogue platforms namely International Institute for Development Facilitation (IIDF) and Peace Building and Capacity Development

Foundation (PACDEF), Nyanga Community Development Trust, Chida Community Organization, Mutasa Youth Forum, and Mutasa Kubatana. The established linkages are important for the development of Renewable Energy services in rural communities. The activity enabled the RDCs to develop Renewable Energy plans that were informed

by-products on the Zimbabwean market.

c. Packaging and dissemination of renewable energy knowledge products

To provide information to the demand side to raise awareness on renewable energy, CFHD developed simplified Renewable Energy IEC material that is comprehended by rural local communities. IEC materials developed on solar technology were the most preferred as communities were eager to try out the technology but failed to do so due to high capital costs associated with its uptake. Most rural dwellers have no money to purchase the technology and need financing models to enable them to purchase the equipment. A paper was developed to link communities with a micro-finance institution which is being used to disseminate more information on finance options for increased uptake of renewable energy options.

d. Sustainable energy options multi-stakeholder workshops at the district level

Following the successful facilitation of community dialogue and learning platforms through CBOs, multi-stakeholder district workshops were convened with community-based organizations, local leadership, key stakeholders, and government departments at the district level. The objectives of the district workshops allowed key stakeholders involved in the energy sector to share emerging lessons, experiences through visits to Renewable Energy Models that have been established in the targeted districts; to come

up with a plan for the learning process to be more effective, efficient and sustainable beyond the lifespan of the project; to develop District Renewable Energy Action Plans (DREAPs) for each of the targeted districts.

CFHD supported the MoEPD to participate in the dialogue and learning platforms where they highlighted provisions in the Renewable Energy policy document that are relevant to the local communities such as the need for the following: 1,100 MW by the year 2025 or sixteen comma five per cent (16.5%) of the total generation from RE sources, whichever is higher; 2,100 MW by the year 2030 or twenty-six comma five per cent (26.5%) of total generation from RE sources, whichever is higher and the contribution of RE sources excluding large scale hydropower to the installed electricity supply mix expected to reach about 27% in 2030. It also enabled a platform for the local communities to get clarifications on some of their concerns about the provision of energy and for the local authorities to identify possible areas of contribution towards the policy targets.

Four (4) learning and dialogue platforms were held across all the participating districts. The table below shows the number of participants at the district platforms. 35% of participants were women whilst youths constituted 27.7% of participants across all the districts. The participants were made up of

councillors, headmen, CBOs representatives, resident government departments, RDCs personnel, and the District Development Coordinators' officials.

The platforms came out with the following insights:

- Need to create further platforms for more learning and sharing amongst key stakeholders and policymakers.
- Need to add terms of reference on the operations for Environment Monitors (EM) to also include energy matters so that they can become Environment and Energy Monitors (EEM) so that as they run their campaigns in environment management. They may also offer solutions on promoting the uptake of renewable energy technologies as a way of reducing land degradation.

g. Final project reflection workshop

The final project reflection workshop was successfully held on the 21st of July 2020 in Mutare at Wise Owl Hotel. The key objectives

were:

- (i) allowing key stakeholders involved in the energy sector to share emerging lessons and experiences through sharing to Renewable Energy Models that have been established in the targeted districts;
- (ii) create a platform for Rural District Councils (RDCs) to share their developed District Renewable Energy Action Plans (DREAPs);
- (iii) create an opportunity for the Ministry of Energy and Power (MoEPD) to share experiences and learn from REAP to inform national strategies;
- (iv) enable the private sector to exhibit renewable energy options available in the market and (v) enable CFHD to map out strategies for scaling up renewable awareness initiatives at district and provincial levels.



A solar borehole system on exhibition at a reflection workshop, Wise Owl Motel, Mutare

FUTURE PRIORITIES

The REAP project has resulted in the establishment of the Zimbabwe Energy Learning Network (ZELNet) that will be responsible for driving continued dialogue, networking, and engagement by all the key stakeholders responsible for the provision of energy. CFHD will also be monitoring and evaluating how RDCs will be implementing their District Renewable

Energy Action Plans (DREAPs) developed by participating districts. With some plans running up to 2024 and thus the CBOs will continue engaging the RDCs to ensure there is the actual implementation of the activities. The CFHD will continue engaging with the RDCs in resource leveraging to ensure that there is both technical and financial support to some of the activities that were prioritized in the DREAPs.

SPOTLIGHT PROJECT

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS

Lower Guruve Development Association in partnership with Farmers Association of Community Self-Help Investment Groups (FACHIG) and Civic Forum on Human Development (CFHD) are implementing a 13 months' action titled Strengthening Movement Building to End Violence Against Women and Girls in the Mashonaland Central Province. The action is being implemented in the 16 wards identified as hot spots in the 4 districts of Mbire, Guruve, Rushinga, and Muzarabani. The specific objective of the action is to contribute to the elimination of all forms of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) through supporting gender social movement approaches that empower women and girls to end, avoid and escape from violence and violent situations. The project has made significant progress in contributing towards the eliminating of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and other related practices that deprive women of their rights and entitlements. The period under review was dominated by the COVID-19 which has continued to have a significant and profound implication on the smooth implementation of project activities. The consortium is grateful that the operational space for the full resumption of project activities has now opened but is equally worried about limited compliance to COVID-19 particularly at the household and at an individual level

MILESTONES AND LESSONS LEARNT

Below are the highlights of some of the

experiences and lessons learned when implementing the project during the period as follows:

- Strengthening Movement Building to End Violence against Women and Girls requires a multiplicity of actors to come together and share experiences in the district as GBV cases of GBV continued to rise.
- In 2020 the consortium learned the importance of establishing strong networks and strategic partnerships among civil society actors at various levels to effectively address GBV issues.
- Strengthening the referral system, for GBV survivors. It was again observed that there's a need to strengthen support services for survivors and women's rights more broadly in various institutions.
- We have also learnt that women cannot end GBV alone. We must engage men and boys as allies in GBV prevention, as engaging men and boys in open dialogue talking about violence and masculinity, and encourage them to develop new ways of relating with women and girls.
- LGDA, FACHIG, and the CFHD have learnt the importance of working as a consortium. The members of the consortium have been able to tap on each other's skills and expertise particularly in the areas of project innovations, project management, donor reporting, and responsive action to emerging challenges.



Part of the established Men Enough initiative/Gender Champions in Muzarabani District

FUTURE PRIORITIES

- Procurement of bicycles for the other gender champions as well as IAGs who travel long distances for project activities to assist them to reach all the communities they are working in timeously.
- Sensitizing meetings with CBOs need to be conducted more comprehensively as some of the CBOs thought they would be budget holders of part of the grant.
- Understanding the local dynamics and culture of each of the targeted 4 districts and 16 wards is key to the successful implementation of the project. At first hand, all the districts and wards seem very

much similar but in reality, they have differences particularly in the areas of perception towards women, level of education, level of cooperation, traditional beliefs and attitude towards development programs.

- The ability of capacity building and behavioural change programs to bring real change is being compromised by programs that issue out material things to local communities. Due to poverty and economic challenges communities are mainly interested in programs that give material and tangible things. Expectations of material things like food and money have also been visible at the district level where local district officials expect to receive material things from the project.

COVID-19 RESPONSE

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS

Zimbabwe joined the rest of the world in Strengthening efforts to prevent and mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. CFHD has been working closely with the government of Zimbabwe the civil society and the private sector to strengthen preparedness planning by putting in place a raft of measures to deal with the pandemic. Such measures have included the crafting of the Zimbabwe Preparedness and Response Plan by the government and saw the promulgation of statutory instruments. However, even though all these rafts of measures are indeed plausible and indicative of the government's desire to deal with the pandemic. The pandemic has brought many longstanding structural issues to the fore which can erode or undermine the national capacity to deal with the pandemic.

In preparations for a coordinated response to the pandemic, the CFHD instituted consultations within its human rights network comprising 12 CBOs and CSOs on the dimensions of the problem, challenges being experienced by vulnerable communities. This has led to the design of an initiative that is aimed at increasing protection, preparedness, and response to impacts of COVID-19 at the community level. The intervention will be aimed at complementing and supporting existing government response plans and national coordination mechanisms, with due consideration paid to the respect of human rights and humanitarian principles. The implications of the evolution of COVID-19 into a pandemic are a clarion

call for a step-change in attitudes, mindsets, and behaviours in responding to the national health emergency. The necessary local, national and global actions to save lives, societies, and economies must be rapidly scaled up.

MILESTONES AND LESSONS LEARNT

Through a partnership with Action Aid and ARDCZ, CFHD managed to distribute 49000 posters on COVID-19 to 25 districts across the country. CFHD successfully engaged the Ministry of Health and Child Care (MoHCC) through the Department of Epidemiology and Disease Control. The CFHD facilitated the printing of several guidelines as recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO). The facilitation allowed for the printing of 800 copies of the Volunteer Health Worker Handbook that were used to train community health workers across the country. The training in Harare, Kadoma, and Mutare, and CFHD supported the MoHCC with allowances for the trainees and fuel for travel. Frontline workers were also supplied with latex gloves, face shields, and surgical masks.

The distribution of acquired COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) was as tabulated below:

PPE MATERIAL	20L BUCKETS	500ml ALCOHOL BASED SANITISERS	FABRIC MASKS	WASHING SOAP	FACE SHIELDS
MUTARE RDC	20	24	50	100	15
CHIKOMBA RDC	20	24	50	100	15
HWEDZA RDC	20	24	50	100	15
MUREWA RDC	20	24	50	100	15
SANYATI RDC	20	24	-	100	-
MBIRE RDC	20	24	50	100	15
MAKONDE RDC	20	24	50	100	-
GOROMONZI RDC	20	24	50	100	15
NYAMINYAMI RDC	20	24	50	100	10
MUTOKO RDC	20	24	50	100	15
CHEGUTU RDC	20	24	50	100	15
HARARE METROPOLITAN	20	24	-	100	-
TONGOGARA RDC	20	24	50	100	-
RUNDE RDC	20	24	50	100	-
MUZARABANI RDC	20	24	-	100	-
GURUVE RDC	20	24	-	100	-



Handover of PPE Material to Mr Kufa of Chikomba Rural District Council

Additional PPE material was received from IO

M and distributed as follows:

Beneficiary	20L buckets	50L buckets	Saniti zing stands	Masks (boxes of 50)	Latex gloves	Alcohol - based sanitisers
Mutare District	20	15	-	15	1000	70
Chikomba District	-	-	-	15	1000	70
MoHCC	85	85	85			

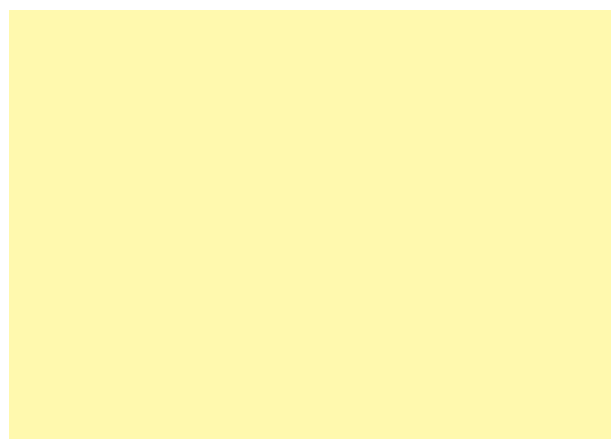
OTHER AWARENESS INITIATIVES

There were two (2) video skits that were developed with the aid of popular local comedians, Sabhuku Vharazipi and P O Box Reloaded Crew. These were shared on various social media platforms reaching

over half a million views in the month of September 2020 and they continue to trend. These video skits were on sending information to the citizens on COVID-19 awareness, the importance of wearing masks correctly as well as maintaining social distance.



The CFHD and its partners also assisted women sewing groups with material to make face masks and this enabled the Tashinga Sewing Group of Ward 12 in Mbire district to buy 10 female goats after they had sold their face masks.





A woman from Mbire district who was mobilized to respond to COVID-19 busy sewing face masks

In addition, a series of podcast sessions were also conducted under different topics and shared on various social media platforms. These topics were as follows:

- the progress of the Government of Zimbabwe and WHO in combating the COVID-19
- the role and challenges local government authorities in Zimbabwe are facing in the fight against COVID-19
- best practices that communities in Zimbabwe can adopt to counter infections from COVID-19
- why intensifying efforts to address the needs of migrant returnees is critical to stem the COVID-19 pandemic
- COVID-19 and its human rights dimensions in Zimbabwe
- COVID-19 crisis and the informal economy: Immediate responses and policy challenges what needs to be done
- COVID-19: How to support smallholder farmers in the rural areas
- domestic violence in the time of COVID-19 how communities can cope and stop it
- the role of indigenous knowledge and traditional leaders in COVID-19 awareness and prevention
- the importance of having Disaster response plans at community level lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic

They can be accessed on
https://www.buzzsprout.com/1506706/episode_s



Lydia Chinomona, Thollet Mware, and Faith Chidzvondo during a podcast recording

FUTURE PRIORITIES

Moving forward there is a need for mainstreaming coping mechanism in all the work we do. The CFHD has already started the capacity development of communities and its network on resilient mechanisms

so that the effects of the pandemic will not be as hard. Future priorities will involve strengthening adaptation strategies in fighting and responding to the COVID-19 in all the work that CFHD is currently involved in.

COMMEMORATIONS

The CFHD managed to post on our social media platforms constantly on most international commemorations. This was to raise awareness on such special days as well as have a theme to go with each commemoration. Some of these major highlights are detailed below:

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence

The CFHD actively participated in the 16 days of activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV) to cement its goal of ensuring that women and girls are protected in society. In commemorating the 16 days of

activism against GBV, CFHD was involved in a number of activities

i. Posting messages on the social media

The CFHD managed to post messages on our social media platforms constantly throughout the 16 days from the 25th of November, International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, to the 10th of December, Human Rights Day. The overall theme was “Orange the World: Fund, Respond, Prevent, Collect!” and the CFHD went further to run with the theme by **“Mobilizing Communities Against GBV”**.



i. Newspaper Feature Article

- An article was also produced and this came out in the country's most-read newspaper, The Sunday Mail edition of the 6th of December 2020. It can be accessed on www.sundaymail.co.zw.

ii. Mbire 16 days commemorations

The organization was also invited to participate in the commemorations in Mbire Rural District Council on the 16th of December 2020 and make donations towards the event. This was done and the event was a huge success.



Members of the community being told to shun GBV during the Commemorations of 16 days against GBV in Mbire District

iv. Learning Platforms

The organization also conducted GBV Learning Platforms in eight provinces of Zimbabwe and these were facilitated at the CFHD Centre for Women and Girls Support

Networks in Zimbabwe which promotes evidence-based learning and response as well as support services to affected communities members and citizens.



Blessing Moyo at the Mutoko learning platform leading session on referral pathways

Gender Action Plans from the Learning Platforms

The following are the action plans from these learning platforms:

Districts	Gender Action Plan
Mutoko District (Mashonaland East province)	□ There is a need for constitutional material packs written in local languages. □ There is a need for training and capacity building of relevant institutions working on GBV issues. It was highlighted that these trainings must also accommodate traditional leaders, religious leaders, and CBOs. □ Community sensitization and awareness needs to be strengthened □ Setting up of police stations that are effective in their operations in all communities to give victims access to their services. □ There is a need for local law experts or local stations to report the GBV cases. □ There is a need for community training and capacity building on GBV issues to enhance community confidence and strengthen awareness.
Mutare (Manicaland province)	□ Income -generating projects are also needed to reduce poverty and empower women. □ More awareness campaigns with separate age groups and gender so that they can share the real issues affecting them. □ Engaging policymakers through the submission of a position paper on GBV. □ More learning platforms, awareness campaigns, and IEC materials to stimulate the communities to respond to GBV.
Shurungwi (Midland province)	□ To come up with a human rights watch WhatsApp group to monitor human rights abuses within communities and refer them to relevant institutions. □ There is a need for school training workshops on School -Based GBV □ There is a need to come up with a local radio station to raise awareness of GBV
Guruve (Mashonaland Central province)	□ Community Car e Workers (CCW) need training on GBV and work ethics as there is now less confidentiality to GBV issues □ There is a need to come up with GBV referral pathways that ensure that all the reported cases are attended to and reported to relevant institutions.

NETWORKING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

COVID-19 AWARENESS RAISING

The CFHD managed to print and distribute 49,500 posters across all our sites. This was made possible through the CFHD's network where the Association of Rural District Councils designed the posters which

were in Shona and Ndebele, KAS funded the printing of the posters, and Action Aid Zimbabwe provided funding for the distribution of the posters across 25 districts.



Mr Chaikosa (Left) handing over posters to local authorities and (Right) Posters at the Entrance of the Offices of Harare Metropolitan Province in the Harare CBD



The consignment that was distributed to Bulilima RDC in November 2020 by Mrs Gladys Mumhure

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS POLICY

CFHD in collaboration with IOM, SIDA, and UNDP was at the forefront in coordinating the convening of a national validation workshop for the development and implementation of an inclusive Human Settlement Policy in Zimbabwe. CFHD engaged with the Ministry of Local Government, Rural and Urban Development, and other Civil Society Networks on future priorities following the successful hosting of the workshop on

15 August 2019 at Steven Margolis Plaza, Harare.

Following this workshop, the citizen voices and views were correctly captured and incorporated into the draft policy which finally went before the cabinet and the CFHD is proud to announce that this has been approved and the final Human Settlements Policy document which will be launched soon.



Scenes from the Human Settlement Policy at Steven Margolis, Harare

The Human Settlement Policy that the CFHD has been supporting the Ministry of Housing and Social Amenities in its formulation was approved by the Cabinet in October 2020. Following the approval, CFHD conducted a dialogue workshop on creating awareness and sensitization for community-based stakeholder's participation in the policy on 15 December 2020 at the Rainbow Towers in Harare.

The CFHD and its partners held a platform for strengthening policy awareness, learning, and sharing of experiences with other stakeholders including policymakers, local authorities, researchers, civil society organizations, and citizens themselves as well as coming up with mechanisms on publicizing the policy document and ensuring it reaches more people.



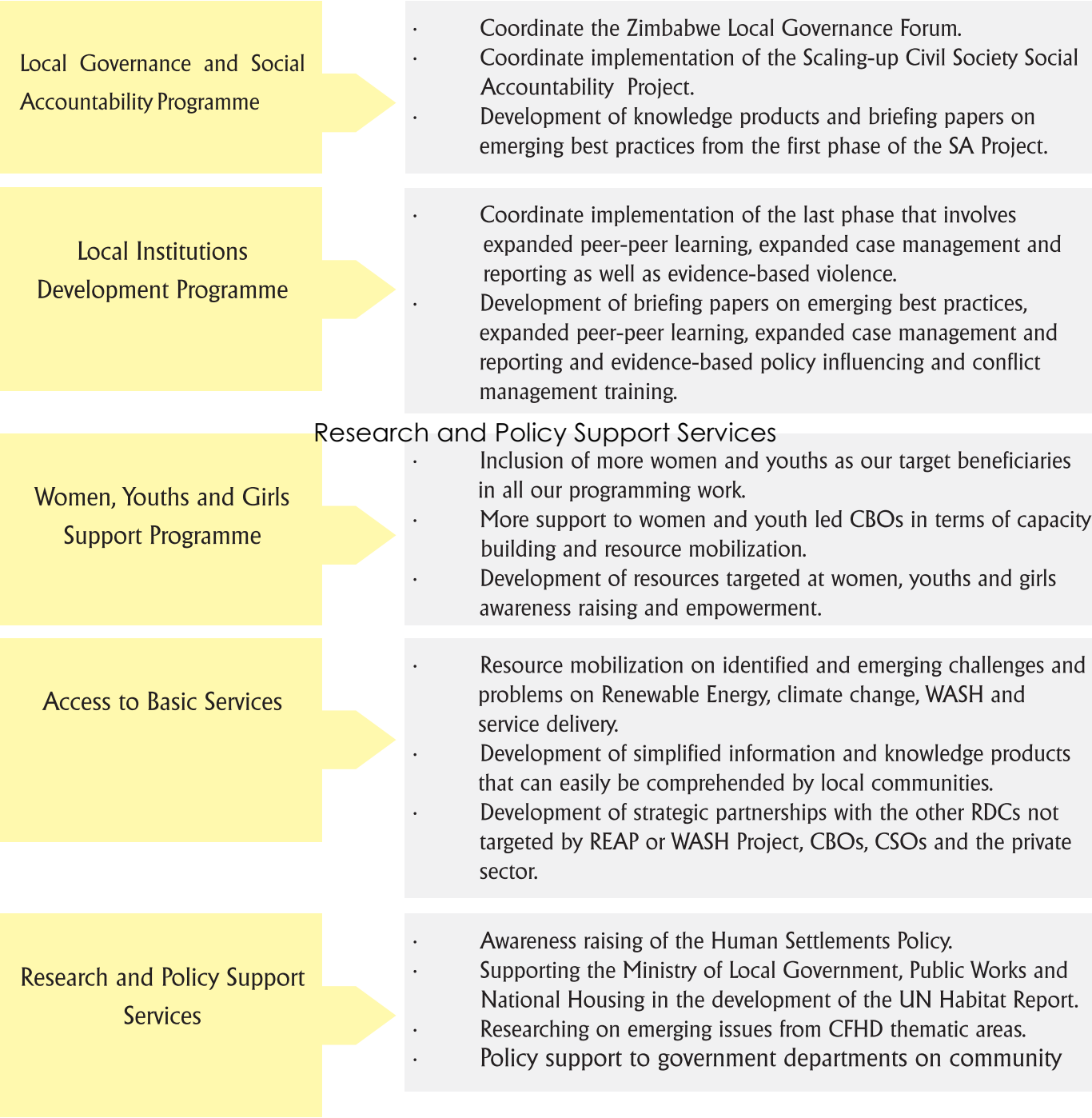
In addition to this, the then Ministry of Local Government Public Works and National Housing, now Ministry of Local Government, also requested funding to print the summarized version of the policy

document, and through its strategic partners, CFHD was able to provide funding to print 1000 copies of the Zimbabwe National Human Settlements Policy Brief.

LOOKING AHEAD

The CFHD continues to champion issues on human-centred development and will continue to broaden its partnership base to reach more people. Despite the socio-economic challenges in the current context, the

forum remains confident of achieving more as it continues to strategize and become resilient in all programming through strategic partnerships. Some of the future priorities for the forum are presented below:



CFHD @ 25 CELEBRATIONS

The CFHD also celebrated 25 years of existence in 2020 as it was established in 1995. A logo was designed which was used on all our publications during 2020 and the theme for the Silver Jubilee was

"25 years of strengthening human-centred development in Zimbabwe." The two logos can be seen below:



Usual Logo



Silver Jubilee Logo

The CFHD has over the past quarter of a century, expanded its influence by working across the 10 provinces and 55 districts of Zimbabwe through our strong network of over 480 community-based organizations. To commemorate this, a dinner was held

at Holiday Inn, Harare with staff members and a few partners. Long-serving staff and board members were also awarded. The following are some of the pictures from the dinner:



From left to right, Mr. Masendeke, Mr. Kuveya, Dr. Matshilele (ARDCZ) and Mr. Chaikosa



Mrs. Janga (LGDA) making her presentation



Mr. Masendeke giving Mr. Mware commendation for his hard work and team spirit



Mr. Tondori receiving his long service award



Mr. Chaikosa giving a speech during the proceedings



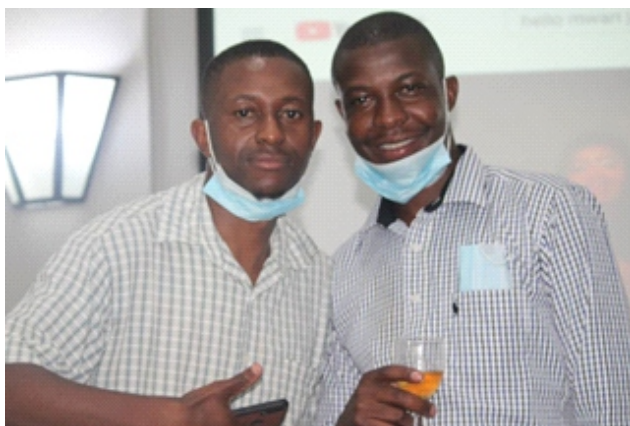
Dr. Matshilele spoke of the resilience of the CFHD



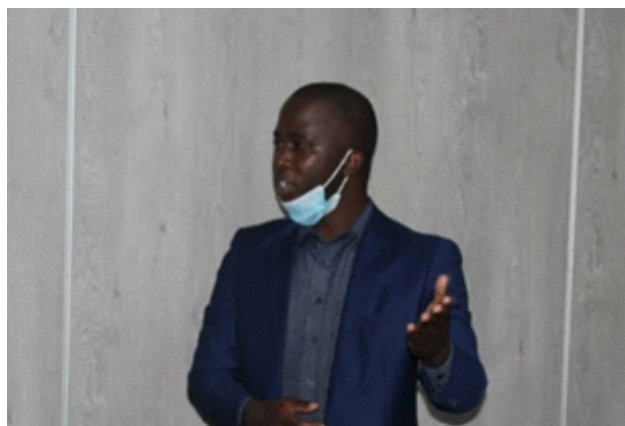
Mr. and Mrs. Mharapara enjoy the proceedings



Mr. and Mrs. Sibanda share a joke during the celebrations



Mr. Chidzenga and Mr. Ndlovu pose for pictures at the celebrations



Mr. Nyahwa made the presentation for the Centre for Community Development Solutions



Mr. Savere made the presentation for the ARDCZ



Mr. Pawandiwa also made a presentation on behalf of Nyahunure Community Trust



Participants listen to the proceedings during the awards



Some of the participants at the event



It was all smiles from the ladies who were enjoying the relaxed atmosphere

