



**Development Aid from People  
to People Zimbabwe**

Progress Report 2025

[www.dapp-zimbabwe.org](http://www.dapp-zimbabwe.org)





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## Vision

**To see a loving, caring and responsible society where all people live a healthy and dignified life.**

## Mission

**To implement quality community-led projects in order to empower people with knowledge, skills and tools to improve their lives within five sectors: Community Development, Agriculture, Education, Health and Emergencies.**

## About DAPP Zimbabwe

Development Aid from People to People Zimbabwe is a locally registered Private Voluntary Organization (PVO 22/80) that has been dedicated to social development in Zimbabwe since its registration in June 1980.

DAPP Zimbabwe is a member of the Humana People to People Federation, a global movement comprising 29 members united by a single purpose; to address the most pressing social, economic, environmental and humanitarian challenges

For over 45 years, DAPP's focus has been complementing the Zimbabwean Government's efforts through implementing short and long-term projects across the sectors of (1) Education, (2) Health, (3) Agriculture, (4) Community Development

and (5) Emergencies.

Our programs are aligned with national strategies and local policy frameworks. These include Zimbabwe's National Development Strategy 1 work, as we work to help the nation achieve the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) outlined in the UN 2030 Agenda.

At the center of our approach is the philosophy that people come first. This philosophy leads us directly into the communities we serve, where we not only work but also live, allowing us to identify problems and collaboratively find solutions. We believe that only the people can liberate themselves with the help of locally available resources, indigenous knowledge and hardwork.

With a total of 167 staff members and 511 volunteers in 2025, we implemented 14 project across 12 Districts namely; Bindura, Chimanimani, Chivi, Epworth, Guruve, Gutu, Hwedza, Makoni, Mudzi, Murehwa, Mutasa and Shamva in five provinces; Harare, Manicaland, Mashonaland Central, Mashonaland East and Masvingo Province.

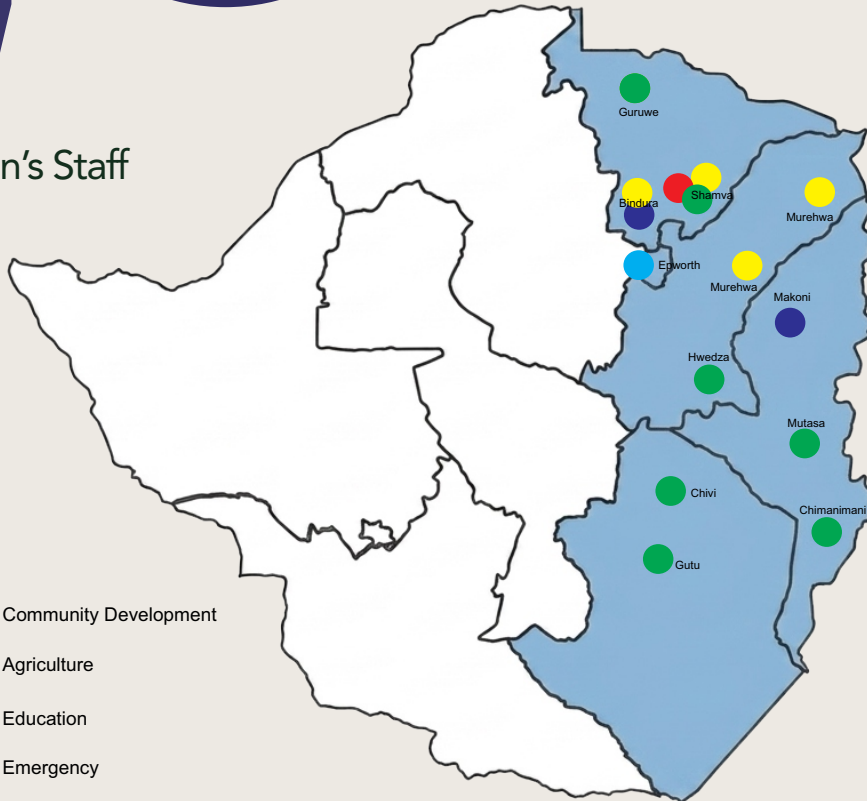


**555,548**  
People Reached



**167**  
Organization's Staff

**14**  
Project Units



- Community Development
- Agriculture
- Education
- Emergency
- Health



**511**  
Volunteers

**12**  
Districts

# Chairman's Welcome



**My heartfelt gratitude to you all for a memorable year and achievement made possible by your efforts and support in 2025.**

DAPP Zimbabwe continues to complement the government's efforts in changing the lives of the people through listening to their needs and engaging in life-changing actions to create local sustainable solutions.

We have witnessed impactful, life-changing development amongst women, children, persons with disabilities, youth and men. We stand steadfast to address the effects of global warming and climate change through innovative Farmers' Clubs and the Communal to Commercial Farmers models, boosting agricultural production, household incomes and food security.

Our people to people philosophy continues to guide us to put the people at the center of their life-changing processes. We build on community participation and networks to overcome barriers in the communities where we work.

Our Health, Community Development and Emergency response activities continue to build

capacities of the people at family, individual and village levels in order to create a conducive environment for the children, youth and women.

In 2025, across all our programs, we reached 555,548 people through 14 development projects implemented in five provinces: Mashonaland Central, Mashonaland East, Manicaland, Masvingo and Harare Metropolitan.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our partners in development, the DAPP Executive Committee, our esteemed hard-working staff and volunteers for your support during 2025. I encourage everyone to continue with the same spirit in 2026.

Enjoy your reading

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C. Mutizira". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Charles Mutizira  
DAPP in Zimbabwe  
Chairman



Farmer's Clubs members participating in crop maintenance



DAPP Staff participating in a capacity building workshop



# Agriculture and Food Security

Supporting and empowering small-scale farmers is crucial for the overall Well-being and resilience of rural communities.

# Introduction

**Climate change is severely impacting agriculture in Zimbabwe with rising temperatures, prolonged dry spells and erratic rainfall increasingly threatening rain-fed production.**

In response, we use the Farmers' Clubs Model which focuses on enhancing the resilience of smallholder farmers to adopt sustainable and climate-smart farming practices.

**Our approach is simple, we collaborate with stakeholders in the sector to provide knowledge and strengthen the skills of smallholder farmers for improved production. This is done through demonstrations on plots that serve as classrooms where farmers learn and replicate in their productions.**

Our work contributes directly to Zimbabwe's National Agriculture Policy Framework (2018–2030) which uplifts agriculture as the main anchor to provide food security.

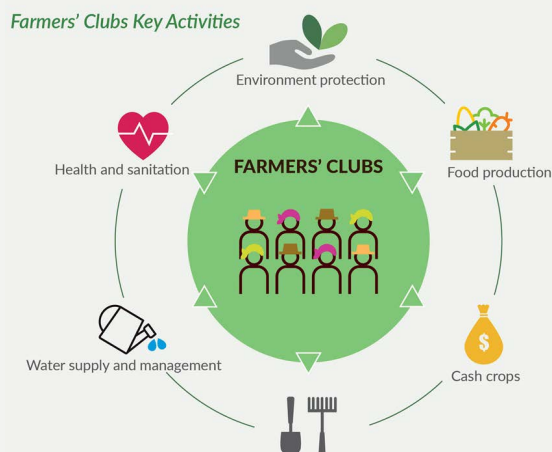
We also create an enabling environment where farmers are organized into groups to access extension services, climate-smart agriculture training, market linkages and environmental

protection knowledge.

Beyond farming techniques, we promote alternative livelihoods which include small livestock production, horticulture, Internal Savings and Lending, and value addition.

In 2025, we directly supported 5,211 smallholder farmers in enhancing their resilience to climate shocks, thereby improving and sustaining their agricultural production, productivity and competitiveness.

We implemented five Farmers' Clubs across five districts, namely Chivi, Chimanimani, Gutu, Hwedza and Mutasa, in Mashonaland Central, Manicaland and Masvingo provinces alongside the Communal to Commercial project in Guruve District.



# Farmers' Clubs Chivi



**“As the District’s Agronomist, I have had the privilege of working with DAPP to support farmers with practical technical expertise in small livestock production. Together, we trained farmers to integrate traditional chicken production with drought-resistant crops, to strengthen food security and increased household incomes. As a result, farmers now use small grains as feed and herbal remedies to treat poultry diseases. ” said Mr. Paul Nyoni.**

**Farmers’ Clubs Chivi project is a practical demonstration of how sustainable community-driven agriculture can deliver on Zimbabwe’s NDS1 and set a benchmark for Sustainable Rural Development 8.0. Operating in Wards 5, 12 and 15 of Chivi District, the project directly empowers 1,500 smallholder farmers with climate-smart agriculture practices, strengthening resilience against climate change while improving productivity and food security.**

In 2025, we collaborated with the Agricultural and Rural Development Advisory Services (ARDAS)

to assist farmers with knowledge and strategies to adapt to pest outbreaks and nutrient leaching following above-normal rainfall of 750 mm in the district as well as the outbreak of fall armyworm.

We maintained 30 demonstration plots that served as classrooms for climate-smart strategies, allowing farmers to learn and replicate successful techniques, resulting in improved yields.

Complementary environmental protection initiatives were also implemented, including the planting of vetiver grass for land restoration and the planting of trees to promote forest restoration.



Indigenous Chicken Production by an individual farmer in Chivi



Sorghum production by farmer's in Chivi

# Farmers' Clubs Chimanimani



**“In 2024, DAPP facilitated the Annual Review of the District Disaster Risk Reduction Plan for 2024 and 2025. To further support this initiative, we worked with DAPP Zimbabwe across wards and villages to develop Village and Ward Climate Change Adaptation Action Plans. This advocacy initiative introduced by DAPP laid a strong foundation for climate change adaptation actions in my district,”** said the Acting District Development Coordinator for Chimanimani Mr Elisha Mushayavanhu

**The rocky, mountainous terrain of Chimanimani District makes it vulnerable particularly to tropical cyclones, landslides and flash flooding. The escalating impacts of climate change have further heightened these risks leaving families in need of sustained support.**

It is against this background that the Farmers' Clubs Chimanimani project intervened to strengthen the absorptive, adaptive and transformative capacities of communities and local authorities to better withstand and respond to climate-related shocks.

At the initial stages of the project in 2024,

Farmers' Clubs Chimanimani supported the development of the District Climate Change Strategy through consultations and training of District Civil Protection Committee (DCPC) and Local Leaders.

In 2025, we supported 1,000 smallholder farmers in four groups to adopt climate-smart practices including crop diversification and small grains. As a result, 778 farmers achieved year-round food security. We also established four Climate Adaptation Centers, planted 9,015 trees and restored degraded land with vertiver grass.



Farmers taking care of their vegetable nursery production at the climate center



DAPP supporting the District Civil Protection Committee on the development of the District Climate Change Strategy climate center

# Farmers' Clubs Gutu



**“As Gutu Forestry Commission we work closely with DAPP in promoting Environmental conservation. The collaboration particularly supports communities in ward 8,9,35 and 37 through environmental awareness and training programs. Communities are capacitated in sustainable practices such as tree nursery establishment, tree planting and proper forest management. The partnership also promotes agroforestry practices that help improve soil fertility and protect natural resources. The activities have strengthened conservation efforts in Gutu communities.”**  
Says Gutu District Forestry Extension Officer Nyengetera Chirume.

**The Farmers' Clubs Gutu project operates in Wards 8, 9, 35 and 37 of Gutu District, empowering 800 smallholder farmers to enhance food security and climate resilience. This initiative aligns with the National Development Strategy 1 (NDS1), which emphasizes building resilience against climate change and promoting sustainable environmental management.** All participating farmers have adopted conservation farming techniques, such as potholing, mulching and the application of organic manure. With the guidance of structured climate action plans, farmers

implement climate-smart strategies, including water harvesting, small grain production and gully reclamation actions.

Farmers also ventured into small livestock production, raising broiler chickens, rabbits and engaging in fish farming. This diversification helped reduce vulnerability to climate change and increased household income.

Horticulture also thrived, with farmers cultivating ten types of vegetables across 20 group gardens and 631 individual gardens, significantly improving household nutrition.



Group gardening at Cheziya Club garden in Gutu



Farmers' Club training in a field of small grain- rapoko

# Farmers' Clubs Hwedza



**“We collaborated with DAPP to facilitate trainings on beekeeping and its benefits, resulting in 50 farmers in Ward 9 practicing beekeeping. By December 2025, the farmers had 102 Kenyan Top Bee hives, with 92 of them populated with bees. Our goal is to support farmers in reaching the government’s benchmark of \$3,000 per family through honey sales,” said Nobert Ganyiwa, Ward Empowerment Officer at the Ministry of Women Affairs, Community Small and Medium Enterprises Development, Hwedza District.**

**The Farmers’ Clubs Hwedza Project is transforming agricultural practices across Hwedza District through strengthening the resilience of 1,000 smallholder farmers in Wards 1, 5, 6 and 9 to withstand, adapt to and recover from climate shocks.** Launched in March 2025, the project facilitated the formation of 20 clubs, each with 50 members, both men and women. Each club is led by trained Step-Up farmers who promote peer to peer learning through practical demonstrations.

The project established two fully equipped Climate Adaptation Centers at local schools, benefiting more than 300 students and community members. Together with ARDAS, we set up 20 community gardens and equipped it with seeds, fencing and irrigation systems.

In collaboration with local stakeholders, we conducted activities such as trainings, field visits and the promotion of drought-resistant crops as an alternative food source during droughts. These efforts improved field and garden production.



Tree planting led by DAPP field officer



Kenyan bee hives production

# Farmers' Clubs Mutasa

**Smallholder farmers in Mutasa District rely heavily on rain-fed agriculture but climate variability is increasing their challenges. To address this, the Farmers' Clubs Mutasa project promotes climate-smart agriculture to 750 farmers in Wards 11, 19 and 21, helping them build resilience and adapt to climate variability.**

In 2025, we partnered with ARDAS to promote the adoption of conservation farming among local farmers. As a result, 743 farmers established conservation plots each averaging 0.5 hectares. We also advanced small grain production on 15 demonstration plots which serve as practical learning classrooms for farmers.

Additionally, we collaborated with Veterinary

Services to provide training on small livestock management, including rabbit rearing, fish farming, goat and sasol chicken production. We also worked with the Ministry of Women Affairs to promote Internal Savings and Lending as an alternative to traditional field production.

We strengthened economic resilience through value addition. Beekeeping emerged as a high-impact enterprise, with farmers collectively selling 300 liters of honey.

We supported farmers involved in mushroom production who harvested 308 kg and sold their produce in Mutare and Harare. The proceeds were shared equally among the farmers, with some funds set aside for inputs.



# From Communal to Commercial Farmer Siyalima (C To C)

**The Siyalima project located in Guruve District, Mashonaland Central Province works with 161 A1 farmers to transition from subsistence farming to business-oriented commercial farming.** Through Climate-Smart Agriculture training, farmers are trained to boost their incomes through growing high-value cash crops. They also diversify into value addition, as well as the production of small grains and early-maturing seed varieties.

In 2025, the district recorded 1,024 mm of rainfall exceeding the normal range for Natural Region 2B, however,

farmers demonstrated resilience by adopting green mulching practices.

The project strengthened financial resilience by promoting diverse income-generating activities, including poultry production, goat fattening, beekeeping, horticulture and fish farming. This was complemented by the expansion of nutrition gardens, which grew from 46 in 2024 to 126 in 2025. In addition, collective bulk purchasing of dipping, dosing, and vaccination chemicals improved both cost efficiency and livestock health, reinforcing the overall impact of the interventions.

“We collaborated with DAPP to provide continued support to farmers to improve production and profits. The support included helping farmers leverage online marketing platforms and expand their market access beyond Guruve. Since our farmers are in rural areas, we also encouraged them to listen to the radio for market trends and set competitive prices. These actions yielded significant results among farmers,” says Guruve District ARDAS Supervisor Admire Dukwende.



## Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security

### Key Results

**27,255**  
people reached



**97**  
Demonstration  
plots established

**2,177**  
People reached  
through Savings and  
& Lendings clubs



**5,211**  
Farmers enrolled



**2,981**  
Households with  
improved food  
security

# Impact Stories



**“Joining Farmer’s Clubs transformed my agricultural activities. Through support, I adopted conservation farming techniques such as potholing, mulching and organic manure application. I used these methods on all my crops. On a one hectare of groundnuts, I harvested 400 kgs, sold 300 kgs for USD 450 and kept 100 kgs for household consumption. The income enabled me to purchase next season farming inputs and secure needs for my grandchildren”**

Vimbai Macheka (61) from Macheka Village in Chivi District, Masvingo Province



**“Before joining the Farmers’ Clubs, I was financially illiterate and lacked a savings culture. I later joined a 15-member Internal Savings and Lending (ISAL) group, contributing \$5 monthly. Within the group, we issued loans at 10% interest and shared the savings every six months. Through regular meetings and guidance, I improved my financial literacy. From my savings, I am now able to support my family in accessing healthcare and purchasing household assets”.**

Sarudzai Munofa (40) from Derera village in Chimanimani District, Manicaland Province



**“As a family man with two hectares of land, producing for both consumption and income, recurrent droughts became a threat to my field crops and household food security. After joining a 10-member inclusive Farmers’ Club, we developed a business plan and invested in a 216-egg incubator to hatch eggs for ourselves and for community members at a fee. Today, we generate income from selling chicks and reinvest the proceeds to grow the business. Each member also received 30 chicks, which has increased my flock and income, supplementing my crop production”.**

Tawanda Mataruka, (45) from Hwedza District, Mashonaland Central Province



# Health

Empowering communities to be active participants in their own health care.

# Introduction

**Our health philosophy is rooted in the belief that positive health outcomes begin with the people and how they live their lives.**

Through our health programmes, we empower communities to come together to take total control of HIV, TB and other pressing health matters.

**Our philosophy aligns with Zimbabwe' NDS1 particularly on universal access to quality health services, disease prevention and strengthened community-based health systems as foundations for achieving Vision 2030.**

We use a holistic approach to address a wide range of issues including HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and mental health guided by the Zimbabwe National Health Strategy.

Our flagship initiatives, HOPE and the Total Control of Tuberculosis (TCTB) program, embodies our People to People Approach that "Only the people can liberate themselves," This approach complements national efforts to decentralize health

services and promote community ownership in disease prevention and management.

We do not work in isolation but we work with professional health practitioners to deliver services directly to communities, reaching individuals in hard-to-reach areas. Our services extends to TB screening, promotion of Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision and condom distribution; all key interventions highlighted in Zimbabwe's national HIV and TB strategic frameworks.

Our 2025 health initiatives included two key projects: HOPE, located in Bindura District, Mashonaland Central and the Total Control of Tuberculosis project in Makoni District, Manicaland province.



# HOPE Bindura

**Since 1998, HOPE Bindura has served Mashonaland Central with community-based HIV and TB prevention, treatment, care and support. Based in Bindura Town, its reach extends to Nyava and Manhenga.** HOPE prioritizes community needs, addressing HIV, tuberculosis, sexual and reproductive health, gender-based violence and drug and substance abuse, providing services to both affected and infected populations.

In 2025, HOPE worked closely with all clinics in the district and provided support to people living with HIV as well as their families. HOPE reached 32,075 people with life-saving HIV information and mobilized individuals for testing and counseling, raising awareness and promoting early diagnosis.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Child Care, HOPE intensified Index Partner Testing, which helped identify previously

undiagnosed HIV-positive cases. Individuals who tested positive were linked to health services at both rural and urban clinics.

Aligned with the Zimbabwe National Health Strategy, the project strengthened treatment adherence by training 108 TRIOs and treatment buddies to support patients on antiretroviral therapy (ART) and tuberculosis treatment. Together with 36 community volunteers and Village Health Workers, the project delivered nutrition education, provided counseling and served as a frontline defense against stigma.

Outreach activities also targeted adolescent girls and young women, equipping them with livelihood skills such as gardening, making reusable sanitary wear and basic computer skills.



Information dissemination to youth in Bindura



HIV Testing at HOPE



Alcohol, Drug and Substance Abuse Campaign

# Total Control of TB (TC TB Makoni)

**Launched in January 2017, the TC TB Makoni project supports the Ministry of Health and Child Care in addressing Tuberculosis (TB) within Makoni District communities.** The project focuses on reaching key populations, including prisons, mining communities, commercial sex workers, truck drivers and children who are in contact with people living with TB and HIV, providing them with essential health information and services.

Over the years, the project has evolved from broad mass awareness campaigns to more targeted, people-centered interventions aligning with the Zimbabwe's National TB Strategic Plan and the National Health Strategy, ensuring that services effectively reach those most at risk.

Through the Total Control of Tuberculosis model, the project mobilizes individuals to

take charge of their health and contribute to preventing the spread of TB and TB-related deaths. TC TB Makoni Field Officers conduct targeted door-to-door visits, offering free TB screenings, collecting sputum samples and facilitating the transportation of these samples to laboratories for testing.

In 2025, the project reached 70,491 people with health information through community meetings such as church gatherings and field days.

To promote treatment adherence, TB and HIV patients were organized into Tripartite Buddies Support Groups (TRIOs) and were also supported with garden seed to establish backyard nutritional gardens for improved nutrition and strengthen their overall well-being.



## Health

### Key Results



**102,566**  
people reached



**1,555**  
People tested  
for HIV



**166**  
TRIOS  
supported



**2,636**  
Active youths and  
children in the  
projects



**484**  
People tested  
for TB

# Impact Stories



**"I am a landscaper and due to the nature of my job, I battle dust from brush cutters daily which led to TB symptoms like including night sweats and coughing. My first TB test was negative, but symptoms worsened. A DAPP Field Officer guided me to free screening where I tested positive, began treatment and protected my family through contact tracing. DAPP also supported me garden seed to make a backyard garden for nutrition and also with forming a TRIO group to support m in taking my medication daily. I completed six months of medication and was declared TB free".**

Farisayi Willie Reno (55) Makoni District, Manicaland Province



**I developed a persistent cough for six months, assuming it was the flu. Through free door-to-door TB screening conducted by a DAPP Field Officer, my sputum collected for testing at Rusape General Hospital, where my results came back positive. I immediately began a six-month course of treatment. DAPP supported me by forming a TRIO and providing counselling. When I experienced side effects, I received additional counselling and was referred back for further care. With strong support from my TRIO and the Field Officer, I am now TB-free".**

Valeria Chikaka (24) Makoni District, Manicaland Province



**"Growing up in a hostile home with a strained relationship with my father and stepmother, I struggled in school due to social and economic hardships and was close to dropping out. Everything changed when I joined HOPE Bindura's Young Girls Empowerment Program, where I gained knowledge in sexual and reproductive health as well as life skills. With their encouragement and financial support, for eight months, i enrolled at Ponesai Vanhu Technical College to study Beauty Therapy. I acquired life-changing skills and am now a graduate running my own hairdressing business from home and earning an income."**

Tinovimba Gambe (18) from Bindura Rural, Mashonaland Central Province.



# Education

Promoting education as a human right.

# Introduction

## Education remains central to Zimbabwe's national development agenda and to achieving an upper-middle-income economy by 2030.

In line with the Zimbabwe's NDS1, which identifies human capital development as a driver of inclusive economic transformation, we strengthen technical and vocational skills that support industrialization, employment creation and productivity.

**Our vocational skills training college follows the principles of Education 5.0, designed to shift higher education from theoretical learning to practical, problem-solving and outcome-focused education.**

We train youth in market-driven skills that enhance their chances of gaining employment or starting their own businesses shortly after graduation.

We welcome students who have passing grades below the standards set by polytechnics and universities, ensuring that everyone has an equal opportunity to vocational education.

Our modules are designed in alignment with the Zimbabwe National Youth Policy, empowering young people to realize their full potential and make meaningful contributions to national development.

We support marginalized youth and those in challenging circumstances, while empowering girls, women, and persons with disabilities through vocational training, including both formal education and short skills development courses

Through the Humana People to People pedagogy integrated with Zimbabwe's curriculum, learners actively participate in school management and community initiatives, building leadership, problem-solving and green skills aligned with heritage-based education and sustainable development priorities.

In 2025, the two schools, Ponesai Vanhu Technical College and Frontline Institute enrolled a total of 811 students in various intakes in 2025.



# Frontline Institute

**Frontline Institute of Zimbabwe plays a crucial role in building the human capacity needed to address dehumanizing challenges such as poverty, illiteracy, disease and social exclusion.** The Institute trains key personnel from Humana People to People projects worldwide who show strong commitment, discipline, and a passion for community-led development.

Established in 1993 as a permanent project of DAPP Zimbabwe, Frontline Institute is designed to educate students from Africa and beyond. The Institute offers two intensive six-month courses: Our Humana People to People World and Our Open Future Together.

In 2025, Frontline Institute advanced its mission by holding two graduation ceremonies, resulting in 239 graduates. These graduates acquired knowledge and skills in leadership,

community engagement and resource mobilization.

Our Humana People to People World programme engaged 144 students in a 12-period curriculum that blended global development theory with hands-on practice on small livestock production and horticulture. Through the Our Open Future Together programme, 59 students assumed high-level leadership roles, managed institutional departments and conducted Long-Distance Track Cycling

Through organized core groups, students participated in activities at the Climate Centre, including research, group work, practical sessions and knowledge-sharing with community members.

Local community outreach remained central, with students planting 15,000 trees and organizing health camps for 150 local children.



Frontline Institute Students conducting outreach program on climate change to local primary school children



Students participating in garden farming at Frontline Institute of Zimbabwe



Frontline Institute students participating in track cycling

# Ponesai Vanhu Technical College

**Established in 1981, Ponesai Vanhu Technical College (PVTC) continues to transform the lives of young people by expanding access to inclusive vocational skills-based education.** The college designs its programmes to respond to community and industry needs and delivers outreach-based training that reaches even the most marginalized populations.

PVTC equips young people with practical, market-oriented vocational skills and an entrepreneurial mindset.

In 2025, the college enrolled 103 students (78 male and 25 female) in two year course including Building, Motor Mechanics and Hotel and Catering. In addition, short courses attracted 103 students (47 male and 56 female) across six programmes including Beauty Therapy, Motor Vehicle Maintenance, Garment making,

Confectionary and Bakery studies and Brick and Block laying.

The college bases its actions on the principles of Education 5.0, which emphasize teaching, research, community service, innovation and industrialization.

Through a community-based outreach model focused on agri-entrepreneurship, PVTC trained 120 individuals (78 female and 42 male) in horticulture, apiculture, aquaculture and agroforestry. These programmes deliver climate-responsive skills directly to rural youth.

In November 2025, PVTC celebrated the graduation of 324 students (140 male and 184 female). The ceremony was presided over by Honourable Kudakwashe Mupamhanga, the Deputy Minister of Youth Empowerment, Development and Vocational Training.



## Education

### Key Results



**361**  
Total number  
of students in  
short courses



**811**  
Total enrolment  
of students

**495**  
Total number  
of graduates



**9,995**  
Total people  
reached

**184**  
Total number of  
students in long  
courses

# Impact Stories



**"After passing four Ordinary Level subjects, I was unable to continue my academic education and chose to pursue vocational training. I enrolled in a Motor Vehicle Maintenance course at Ponesai Vanhu Technical College, where I trained in vehicle repair, diagnostics and maintenance, complemented by hands-on experience at Home Industry in Bindura. I graduated in November 2025 and am currently doing house-call car maintenance and repairs. My dream is to start my own small garage and inspire other young women to pursue careers in male-dominated trades."**

Belinda Mandaza (21) from Mhizha village in Bindura Rural, Mashonaland Central province



**"After graduating with a degree in Peace and Governance from Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE), I faced unemployment, which affected my financials. In 2025, I joined an agri-entrepreneurship program at Ponesai Vanhu Technical College together with my wife. We studied horticulture and entrepreneurship through four months of practical training using demonstration plots, mentorship and participatory learning. With the new skills I gained, I invested USD 30 in watermelon farming, harvested 218 watermelons and sold 200 at USD 2 each, earning USD 400. This improved my income and restored my confidence."**

Ben Kuwandira, (26) from Ward 5 in Simba Village, Shamva District.



**" Born into a family of four in the rural area of Mdziwa, life was not easy, especially as a young person living with a physical disability. I attended primary school at Jairos Jiri Association and after completing Grade Seven, I was unable to continue my education because of financial challenges. I was later placed at Ponesai Vanhu Children's Home. In 2022, I enrolled at Ponesai Vanhu Technical College to study Hotel and Catering. After graduating, I received a start-up kit from Higherlife Foundation, which became a turning point in my life. Together with a friend, I started a small baking business in Shamva. Today, the business is helping us earn an income and support ourselves. My journey has taught me that disability does not mean inability."**

Precious Chidavaenzi (23) from Chidavaenzi Village in Madziwa Township, Shamva District.



# Community Development

Building capacity of families and communities to create a conducive environment for the children.

# Introduction

**Our approach to community development is grounded in the belief that real and lasting change occurs when people work together, using their local knowledge, resources and skills to improve their lives.**

This approach supports Zimbabwe's human capital development, which is key to achieving Vision 2030.

**Through our community development projects known as Child Aid, we bring people together to solve challenges and create solutions that work for them.**

Communities also build social safety nets to support vulnerable children.

We work closely with local leaders and residents to form Village Action Groups, Youth and Sports Clubs. Where structures exist, we strengthen the already existing structures and in this way, we create sustainable structures, enable safe spaces for dialogue, shared learning and joint decision-making.

Our activities address areas such as education, economic empowerment, environmental protection, gender-based violence prevention and

climate resilience building all contributing to Zimbabwe's vision of becoming an upper-middle-income status by 2030.

We understand that health is not only about physical wellbeing, but also mental and social wellbeing. For this reason, health support is integrated into all our Community Development programs. We are guided by the Child Aid model which focuses on ten key thematic areas, including economic opportunities, environmental protection and child protection.

In 2025, we implemented three Child Aid projects namely; Child Aid Bindura Shamva, Ponesai Vanhu Children's Home and the Child Aid Disability Project.



# Child Aid Bindura Shamva

According to UNICEF, the best way to protect children is to empower their families. Child Aid Bindura Shamva Project puts this principle into daily practice. Stationed in Mashonaland Central, the project works with 1,000 families and 48 Village Action Groups, building family and community capacities to improve the welfare and social safety nets for children.

The project works with families to strengthen their food security and household incomes through a range of livelihood activities. These include raising broiler chickens and rabbits, cultivating mushrooms, and adding value to agricultural produce through drying and processing. At the same time, households maintain organic gardens to ensure a reliable year-round food supply.

Through alternative livelihood initiatives, women have formed groups that produce floor polish, generating a steady monthly income for participating households. In addition, 32 Internal Savings and Lending (ISAL) groups composed predominantly of women strengthened household financial stability and advanced the vision of women's economic empowerment.

In addition, the project works with 12 preschools and 400 youths. Together with the Ministry of Youth, the project empowers young people with life skills, vocational training and sexual and reproductive health education.

To support environmental sustainability and forest restoration, the project conducted tree planting campaigns and promoted the use of double firewood-saving cook stoves.



Mushroom production.



Training on veld fire prevention.



Primary school children receiving educational materials.

# Child Aid Disability Project

Child Aid Disability Project is a transformative 30-month initiative aimed at addressing the persistent barriers faced by Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in Zimbabwe. The project operates in Bindura and Shamva (Mashonaland Central Province) as well as Mudzi and Murehwa (Mashonaland East Province). It focuses on combating harmful practices, systemic exclusion and the urgent need for locally driven disability policies that uphold dignity and rights.

Launched in June 2025 and running through December 2028, the project seeks to promote lasting, rights-based disability inclusion across rural districts, ensuring that no one is left behind. It aims to support 2,400 Persons with Disabilities in fully realizing their human rights and freedoms as enshrined in the African Union’s African Disability Protocol.

In the initial stages of the project, we established strong institutional roots by securing operational clearances in all districts. We conducted a regional baseline study that highlighted significant gaps in Zimbabwe’s disability landscape, including inaccessible public infrastructure, low policy awareness and minimal participation of People with Disabilities in decision-making.

The project takes a sustainable, community-driven approach, advancing inclusive health services, food security, educational access and economic empowerment within safe and supportive environments. By tackling social stigma and structural inequality, we are creating pathways for equal opportunities and participation.



Inclusive Group discussion on a policy review meeting in Murehwa



Linking PWDs to OPDs and CSOs in Shamva



Policy review Meeting in Bindura, where stakeholders cited gaps on existing policies

# Ponesai Vanhu Children's Home

In Zimbabwe, the high number of orphans and vulnerable children reflects the long-term impact of HIV/AIDS, compounded by poverty, abuse, neglect, economic instability and climate-related shocks. These challenges continue to place significant pressure on families and communities.

In response to these realities, Ponesai Vanhu Children's Home (PVCH) was established in 1994 to provide a home for children from difficult backgrounds referred through the Department of Social Welfare and the police.

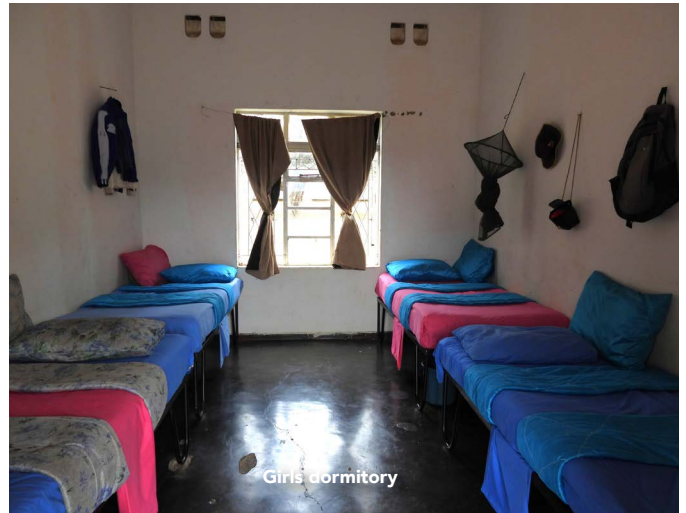
Operating with a capacity of 60, Ponesai Vanhu provides a home for both girls and boys between the ages of two and eighteen. The home operate using five elements: (1) Boarding life, (2) Education, (3) Vocational skills

development, (4) Outreach and (5) Re-integration.

In 2025, the home had 43 children (23 boys and 20 girls), all fully enrolled in education from Early Childhood Development (ECD) to Tertiary level. 3 children in ECD, 30 in primary school, 5 in high school and 5 in tertiary.

To boost the home's food security and life skills, the children participated in rearing broilers, chicken layers, road runner chickens pigs, goats and growing vegetables. The garden and animal productions supplied the kitchen with fresh organic vegetables, eggs and meat.

Ponesai Vanhu Children's Home promoted healthy living and social development through sports, cultural activities, educational trips and national celebrations, fostering skills confidence and teamwork.



## Community Development

### Key Results

**42**

Children enrolled at the home



**76**

Number of Village Action Groups



**57,200**

Number of people peached

**1,340**

Families enrolled in the projects



**2,500**

Trees Planted



# Impact Stories



"I am the Secretary of the Tamuka Village Action Group under the Child Aid Bindura Shamva Project, and our group has 18 members. In 2025, DAPP introduced us to mushroom production as a low-cost initiative to improve income and food security. Using USD 100 from our Internal Savings and Lending scheme, we started production using locally available resources. We harvested 150kg of mushrooms and sold 250g packs at USD 1 each, earning a total of USD 600. We reinvested USD 120 into the business and shared the remaining profits equally among members.

We now have continuous batches of mushrooms and produce them throughout the year. From the profits I received, I was able to supplement food supplies at home and pay medical bills. As a result, I have decided to start my own mushroom production project to increase my income."

Betty Makumbe Musana (47) from Sikero Village under Chief Musana in Shamva District, Mashonaland Central Province.



"As a double orphan, life has not been easy. After the death of our parents, I was left at a young age to take care of my two siblings. I had to do piece jobs within my community to send my siblings to school and provide for their welfare.

After meeting DAPP, I received counseling and was referred to an orphan support organization that offered scholarships for vocational skills training. Through this opportunity, I enrolled in a Carpentry course. After obtaining my certificate, I started my own carpentry business to support my siblings and myself. Now that I am 18 years old, my chances of securing employment in factories or industries are much higher.

I am grateful to DAPP for the counseling and for opening new opportunities for me and my siblings."

Marlon Jefat (18) is from Shamva District, Mashonaland Central Province.



# Humanitarian Action

# Introduction

## Zimbabwe continues to face severe humanitarian challenges driven by climate-induced shocks, Cyclone-linked extremes and El-Nino-exacerbated droughts causing cascading impacts on food systems, water resources and livelihoods.

According to UNICEF's Zimbabwe Humanitarian Situation Report No. 6 (August 2024), 7.6 million people about 50 % of Zimbabwe's population were facing food insecurity in late 2024, reflecting the deepening impact of drought and El Nino-related crop failures.

**This assessment also found that 4 % of enumerated water sources had dried up and 11 % of water points were broken or non-functional, intensifying water scarcity and risking disease outbreaks such as typhoid and cholera due to lack of safe water access.**

These figures show that the El Niño-exacerbated drought crippled agricultural productivity and undermined water infrastructure, compounding Zimbabwe's ongoing humanitarian stress. The drought's effects on water availability disproportionately

impacted women and girls, who often travel long distances to fetch water and have heightened vulnerability to waterborne diseases with inadequate safe WASH services.

It is from this background that DAPP Zimbabwe initiated the Humanitarian Action to Mitigate the Effects of El Niño Induced Drought (HAMED) project in Epworth District, prioritizing food security and climate-resilient WASH services. This aligned with Zimbabwe's NDS1 goals to enhance food security and sustainable WASH services.



Epworth resident fetching water from the newly equipped and solarized borehole



Internal savings and lending club in Epworth

# HAMED Project

**When the El Niño-induced drought hit Zimbabwe in 2024, triggering widespread crop failure, water shortages and acute food insecurity, the nation declared a state of disaster.**

In response, DAPP Zimbabwe launched an emergency response humanitarian action project to mitigate the Effects of El Niño induced drought in Epworth District, Harare Metropolitan Province. Running from March to September 2025, the project addressed food insecurity while strengthening climate-resilient water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services.

The project supported a total of 1,586 people with multi-purpose mobile cash transfers of USD \$13.00 per person, with a maximum of five people per household eligible each month for four months. This support enabled families to prioritize

their most pressing needs, from food purchases to household expenses.

At the same time, the project equipped and solarised eight boreholes across seven wards, improving reliable access to clean water for more than 12,000 people. The upgraded water-points were officially commissioned by the Minister of State for Harare Metropolitan Provincial Affairs and Devolution Honourable Senator Charles Tawengwa.

To reduce the risk of waterborne diseases, the project conducted hygiene campaigns, coupled with the distribution of 988 buckets with lids.

Beyond emergency relief, HAMED invested in resilience. Eighteen Internal Savings and Lending (ISAL) groups were formed and strengthened to build financial security.



## Humanitarian Action

### Key Results

**8**  
Boreholes Solarised  
and equipped



**59,060**  
People reached



**18**  
Operating Internal  
Savings and Lendings  
Clubs

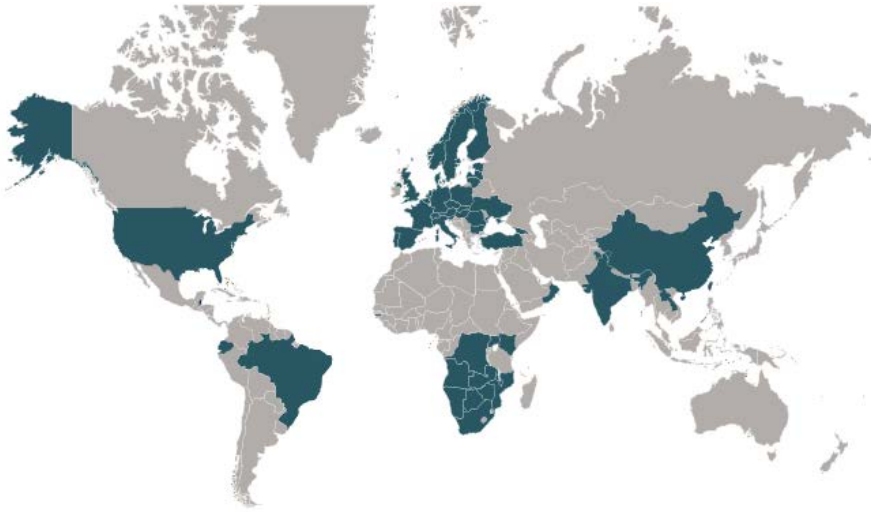


**340**  
Households who  
received cash transfers



**988**  
Water Buckets  
distributed

# Federation



**DAPP Zimbabwe is a member of the Federation for Associations connected to the International Humana People to People Movement. It comprises 30 independent national member associations.**

Our common agenda is to protect the planet, build communities and support people by connecting them with others, unleashing their potential for positive change and action.

The Federation supports the members in delivering critical on-the-ground programmes across Africa, Asia, Europe, North America and South America. This support includes programme

development, project management and operations, financial management support and help to promote our common agenda and gain influence through important relationships and partnerships.

The activities of the Humana People to People movement are aligned with the UN 2030 Agenda. Together with the people in the communities and our numerous partners, we continue to stand by countries as they strive to meet the Sustainable Development Goals, creating lasting positive change in the process.

# Good Governance



## **DAPP Zimbabwe is governed by an Executive Committee, which is elected by an Annual General meeting.**

**DAPP Zimbabwe is governed by an Executive Committee, elected through an Annual General meeting.** The Executive Committee is comprised of five Executive Committee members who have the responsibility to guide DAPP through its vision, organizational strategy, annual budgets, audited statements, policies and major programme interventions.

We have an average annual turnover of US\$2,500,000 over the past eight years and we have capacity to handle more than US\$5,000,000 based on our good finance track record and sound policies.

We carry out annual independent audits in line with internationally accepted accounting

principles and internal guidelines. DAPP is open to input from external assessors who conduct external evaluations for our various projects at various levels of implementation.

DAPP believes in synergies, to complement its implementation in various thematic areas. Similarly, it ensures legal existence in all districts where it works through signed agreements with local governments.

We are certified through an external audit by ACPO SA of Switzerland, for governance policies and procedures and the implementation thereof, using the NGO Governance Benchmark by NGO Governance Standards SA of Geneva, Switzerland.



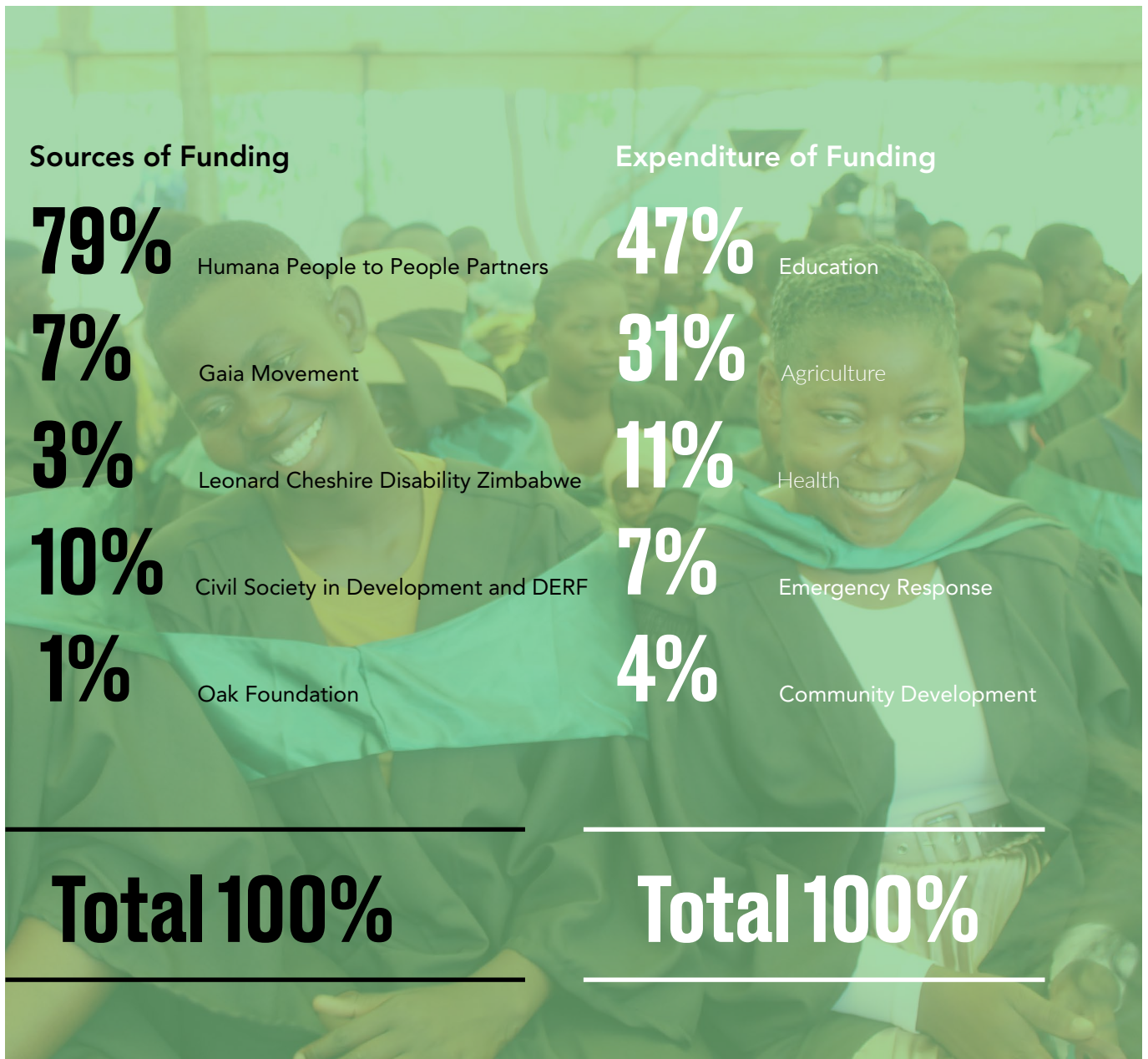
# Partnership in Development

**DAPP Zimbabwe works with a diverse range of partners with whom we share the same social and human development objectives.** Partnerships are mutual: a partner may provide the funding needed for a project, while DAPP Zimbabwe provides solutions, because it is rooted in a given community, has tried and trusted project concepts ready, and Partnership in Development possesses the needed capacity.

Partners include international, national and local governments, foundations, the private sector, multilateral agencies and international

organizations. Partnerships are key to our ability to create and maintain meaningful social and human development projects.

DAPP Zimbabwe maintains active collaboration with its partners, through on-time delivery of both programme and financial reports, through field visits or ongoing communication to exchange emerging challenges and lessons learned. We also offer good exposure to our partners through our website, social media and publications.



# DAPP Partners

AGRICULTURE	INTERNAL	EXTERNAL	OTHERS
	<p>U-landshjelp fra Folk til Folk, Norge            Miljö- och Bistandsföreningen Humana Sverige            Ulandshjælp fra Folk til Folk - Humana People to People, Denmark            Humana People to People Baltic, Lithuania            U-landshjælp från Folk till Folk i Finland sr, Finland            Humana Second Hand Fundraising Projects, Lithuania            HUMANA d.o.o., Slovenia            Fundación Pueblo para Pueblo, Spain            Planet Aid, Inc. USA</p>	<p>GAIA USA            CISU - Civil Society in Development</p>	<p>Ministry of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement            Ministry of Environment, Tourism and Hospitality Industry            Government of Zimbabwe Command Agriculture            Chivi Rural District Council            Gutu Rural District Council            Mutasa Rural District Council            Hwedza Rural District Council</p>
HEALTH	INTERNAL	EXTERNAL	OTHERS
	<p>Ulandshjælp fra Folk til Folk - Humana People to People, Denmark            Humana People to People Baltic, Lithuania            Miljö- och Bistandsföreningen Humana Sverige            U-landshjelp fra Folk til Folk, Norge</p>	<p>Oak Foundation</p>	<p>Ministry of Health and Child Care            Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare            National AIDS Council            Bindura Municipality            Bindura Rural District Council            Makoni District Council            Rusape Town Council            Bindura University of Science Education</p>
EDUCATION	INTERNAL	EXTERNAL PARTNERS	OTHERS
	<p>Humana People to People Baltic, Lithuania            U-landshjælp från Folk till Folk i Finland sr, Finland            HUMANA d.o.o., Slovenia            Miljö- och Bistandsföreningen Humana Sverige            U-landshjelp fra Folk til Folk, Norge            Humana People to People Deutschland e.V., Deutschland            Humana Second Hand Fundraising Projects, Lithuania            Ulandshjælp fra Folk til Folk - Humana People to People, Denmark            Humana People to People Italia, O.N.L.U.S            Fundación Pueblo para Pueblo, Spain            Planet Aid, Inc., USA</p>	<p>Higher Life Foundation            National Foods            Bakers Inn            National Tested seeds            Moonlight Funeral group            Swiss Academy for Development</p>	<p>Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education            Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare            Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology Development            Ministry of Youth, Sports, Arts and Recreation            Ministry of Home Affairs and Culture            Ministry of Local Government Public Works and National Housing            Bindura University of Science Education</p>
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	INTERNAL	EXTERNAL	OTHERS
	<p>Humana Second Hand Fundraising Projects, Lithuania            U-landshjelp fra Folk til Folk, Norge</p>	<p>City Moda            Minicof</p>	<p>Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare            Ministry of Health and Child Care            Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education            Ministry of Women Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprise Development            Ministry of Youth, Sports, Arts and Recreation</p>
EMERGENCIES	INTERNAL	EXTERNAL	OTHERS
	<p>Fundación Pueblo para Pueblo, Spain            Associação HUMANA Portugal</p>	<p>EcoCash</p>	<p>Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare            Ministry of Health and Child Care            Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education            Ministry of Women Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprise Development            Ministry of Local Government Public Works and National Housing            Epworth Local Board</p>





## DAPP Zimbabwe

 : [www.dapp-zimbabwe.org](http://www.dapp-zimbabwe.org)

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