

Year End Newsletter-Volume #2 | Issue #03 | 2024



Dear Readers

Welcome to this edition of our Year end Newsletter, It is our hope that the year 2024 has been productive and that you set out to achieve much of what you had planned.

In this issue we are glad to share with you synoptic highlights of our activities in the year 2024.

Wishing you a merry Christmas and a great New year ahead. We appreciate and value your support, trust and belief in us, together, we have achieved this far

## Climate Smart Economic Empowerment Project (CSEE) PROJECT



In partnership with the Joint Country Programme Zambia (NCA/DCA), we have implemented the Climate Smart Economic Empowerment project which is coming to a close at the end of 2024, this climate smart intervention project aims at increasing the productivity of small scale producers through access to value chains as well as raising awareness on climate Change.

The project is being implemented in Nampongo, kapani and Sinde Communities of both Zimba and Kazungula Districts.

Through this project we have established 12 incubation hubs, these hubs are a training ground for our targeted small scale farmers, because what they learn at the incubation hub it is expected that they will go and practice at their individual gardens.

The other major achievement in this project is the establishment of two green houses for seedling production in Nampongo community of Kazungula District and Kapani Community of Zimba districts. It is expected that the 469 farmers that have been trained in climate smart ways of farming will highly benefit from the green houses as it will enable the farmers expand their gardening activities as these two facilities will provide hybrid seedlings to the farmers

Linkages have been enhanced as the farmers have been linked to off takers for their produce such as the chain stores.

The early adopter farmers have been supported with solar irrigation pumps to sustain their farming activities through the drought experienced this year.



## NANSEN PROJECT



The project came to an end on June 31st 2024, the project aimed at increasing productivity, increasing food security, value addition and improving the Nutritional dense in the selected Communities of Zimba and Kazungula district.

Through this project we established two demonstration sites in Nampongo and Kapani communities of Kazungula and Zimba Districts. Value addition equipment's such as oil execrators, peanut butter making machines, food dryers, egg incubators and feed mixers for poultry and animal feed production are established at the demonstration sites.

The plan is that when the farmers harvest their produce from the farming season they then will be able to add value to the produce (maize, soya beans, sunflower) using the equipment's at the two facilities but this has not happened yet because of the drought experienced in the country that led to crop failure.

The demonstration sites have water points as we drilled a borehole at Nampongo demonstration site and upgraded an already existing water point at Kapani Demonstration site. These water points are solar powered, supported by 10 litres water tank for crop irrigation. At Nampongo demo site the farmers planted winter maize which is currently being sold as fresh maize to members of the community.

Through the NANSEN project together with our partners the NCA/DCA Joint Country Programme Zambia, we responded to the drought situation that has led to a hunger situation by distributing food relief packages to communities in Kazungula District (makowa, Nampongo, makumba, sinde and Simango) reaching out to 869 households in the district. and in Zimba District we distributed food relief packages to chitumbi and kapani communities

## Emergency Drought Response



In responding to the call and declaration of the drought as a disaster by the president, we drilled 4 water points for vegetable production, which are solar powered, each with a kiosk for human consumption, and trap for animal consumption, in Kazungula and Zimba Districts.

## Rural Sports for All



In partnership with the Norwegian Olympics and Paralympic Committee and confederation of Sport (NIF), we started the implementation of a new sports project for the next five years in Kalomo west in Chikanta and Siachitema chiefdoms.

The project aims at increasing participation among women and persons with disabilities in sports activities. Additionally, the project aims at ensuring sport activities are safe, equitable and inclusive.

Under this project five teams have been affiliated to the Football Association of Zambia.

One hundred and fifty persons with disabilities are taking part in different sports activities in Chikanta and Siachitema Chiefdoms.

The sports program has led to increased participation of women in sports activities, and women taking a lead in leadership positions.

The sports program has been used to raise awareness on HIV/AIDS and child marriages and because of this, there is a drop in record of new HIV infections in chief siachitema from One hundred and eighty to forty five (45) in 2024.

There is a significant drop in cases of parents marrying of their children as only 03 cases have been reported in 2024 as compared to 2023 which had about 200 cases at the close the year.

## Ready to Earn



In Collaboration with Comic Relief and NOWSPAR, we implemented the Ready to earn project, whose objective was to economically empower young women with skills. This year so far we have conducted digital marketing training and entrepreneurship training, in this we have equipped the girls with knowledge on how to use the digital platform to market their businesses.

The girls who graduated in agriculture as well as tailoring are doing fine, running their own business and earning an income.

## Youth Sport Exchange Program



Through the Youth Sport exchange Program (YSEP) under NIF, whose objective is to enhance cultural exchange and sensitivity we received three participants from Norway, Martine Torstrup who is placed in Luyaba, Thea Skottlien who is placed in Nampongo community and Fride Hvidsten is placed in Chief Siachitema.

This year we also witnessed a hand over of a 1x2 class room block by Mia a former YSEP participant at Nampongo Primary School. The District Education Board Secretary was on hand to receive the class room block on behalf of government.



## Enhanced Education Youth Empowerment (EYE)



Under the Enhanced Youth Education program and in partnership with three Norwegian Schools (Nesbru, Slemmestad, Eidvoll) through Norwegian Church Aid, we constructed a staff house and handed it over to government and also distributed 80 desks to three of the six targeted schools.

## Community Schools Project



With support from AKIND of Sweden and other donors, we have over the years constructed about 84 Community schools translating into 148 Classroom blocks and about 45 teachers' houses on self-help basis in Zimba, kalomo and Kazungula Districts. This was done by engaging the communities to provide readily available up-front materials such as building sand, bricks and stones.

This year we constructed three teachers' houses and one classroom extension. Through this intervention, about 27,000 learners in all the 84 schools are now accessing primary education in rural communities in the target districts.

## Sponsorship and Skills program



With support from AKIND and other individual donors, we have continued to support 611 vulnerable girls with school fees and prerequisites in primary and Secondary schools.

In order to improve the sponsored girls' performance, we introduced supplementary classes at the Resource Centre for girls in examination classes (Grade 9 and Grade 12). It is expected that through these extra lessons the girls will be better prepared to write and pass the examinations with good grades.

At tertiary level we supported 45 girls and community members into skills training and in addition we supported 22 girls into various tertiary institutions and courses.

## 2024 AKIND TRAVELLERS



We hosted 12 travelers from AKIND who handed over to Government a 1x1 class room block at Chisiwe Primary School in Kazungula District. The handover ceremony was attended by a Representative from the District Education Board Secretary (DEBS), traditional leaders and the media.

Thereafter the travelers spent a night in Mukamba community of Zimba District where they handed over a staff house at Mukamba Primary School. The staff house comes in handy considering the challenge of teacher accommodation faced in rural schools in Zambia.

### Thank you

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