



## **RECOMMENDATION REPORT**

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# 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This executive summary provides a condensed overview of the key recommendations outlined in the full report. The recommendations aim to improve the data and program-specific aspects of the Zoe Empowers program, enhancing participant self-sufficiency and aligning with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs).

## Data-Specific Recommendations:

- Questionnaire Timing: Collect data from orphans before program enrollment and follow up with participants years after program completion to assess long-term self-sufficiency.
- In-depth and Correlated Questions: Enhance the questionnaire by including detailed questions about participants' rights and clarifying the Self-Sufficiency Index (SSI) development to improve analysis and understanding.

## Program-Specific Recommendations:

- Understanding Countries: Education Regarding Political Rights: Educate participants on their political rights within their country's legal system, empowering them to enforce their rights and contributing to UNSDGs #4 'Quality Education' and #10 'Reduced Inequalities'.
- Understanding Countries: Educating Participants in Understanding Political Structures: Provide education on government structures to enable informed decision-making during elections and advocate for representational rights, aligning with UNSDGs #4, #10, and #16 'Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions'.
- Economy: Increased Visibility to Larger Organizations and Charity Initiatives: Collaborate with prominent research institutions and philanthropic organisations to enhance data collection, gain visibility, and increase program support and resources.
- Increased Understanding of Environmental Trends: Focus on understanding regional environmental trends better to prepare participants for environmental disasters like droughts and develop mitigation strategies. This supports UNSDGs #2 'Zero Hunger', #3 'Good Health and Well-Being', and #6 'Clean Water and Sanitation'.

- Housing: Development of a Disaster Recovery/Environment Action Plan: Create plans to address limited water access during dry seasons and contribute to community well-being. This recommendation aligns with UNSDGs #3, #6, and #11 'Sustainable Cities and Communities'.

The Zoe Empowers program can be further enhanced by implementing these recommendations, leading to greater participant self-sufficiency. Moreover, SAS Institute can improve its data collection methods and gather valuable insights, which can benefit the program in the long run. These recommendations also underscore the program's local and global impact, aligning with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and contributing to sustainable development efforts. In summary, these recommendations can strengthen the Zoe Empowers program, ensuring its long-term effectiveness in Rwanda and Kenya while positively impacting the lives of its participants and supporting global development initiatives.

## **2. INTRODUCTION**

The following recommendations report aims to provide a summarised understanding of key recommendations following the Findings and Analysis report to improve both the data and program-specific aspects of the Zoe Empowers program. This is the last of the three reports which provide the best advice moving forward to both Zoe and SAS Institute to better the program and its collection procedures for future and existing cohorts. The seven key recommendations were formulated with the best interests of the participants in mind to enhance individual and program capabilities in turn enhancing self sufficiency as stressed by the program. Implementing these recommendations has the potential to increase self sufficiency and improve program processes/implementations boosting its ability to impact lives in the long term. The recommendations also demonstrate how Zoe Empowers as a program contribute to global efforts by aiding a number of United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDG).

### **3. DATA SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **a. Recommendation 1: Questionnaire Timing, Data Before and After the program**

1. Apply questionnaires to orphans before they apply for the program
2. Apply questionnaires to participants year/s after they have graduated from the program.

Attempting to understand the effectiveness of Zoe Empower's program would be far more effective if we are able to understand the position of the orphans prior to commencing the program as well as following up with participants after the program to see how well they are being self-sufficient. A gap in the analysis is the claim of self-sufficiency only comes from data a few months after the orphans leave the program, to truly see if they are self-sufficient we need to see how they are doing years after the program.

#### **b. Recommendation 2: In-depth and correlated questions**

1. Increase details of questions about rights
2. Provide clarity of development of SS

Kenya's most significant factor of improvement was the orphan's knowing their rights and how to enforce them. Through external research we learnt that Kenya provides several basic human rights in their constitution, such as the right to food. The data does not show in detail what rights the participants are learning. There are many rights that people need to understand and work with, we extrapolated that Zoe Empower's is teaching the rights to food, but we truly cannot tell. Improving the details of the questions around their rights will benefit our understanding and also the understanding of the participant's progress.

Additionally, we were unable to extrapolate how the SSI was built. It was a summation of the eight categories but it was impossible to tell how the questions related to the eight categories. A detailed process of how the questions relate to the SSI would improve the transparency of information and allow us to better produce analysis around exactly what areas need

improvement.

## **4. PROGRAM SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **c. Recommendation 3: Understanding Countries - Education Regarding Political Rights**

Educating participants to better understand their political rights will empower them to specifically know their rights to different areas within their country's legal system. For example the ability to afford food gives them the empowerment to directly enforce that right to access food and help. Additionally, educating participants on their political rights helps enforces the global efforts of Zoe Empowers working towards upholding the UNSD goals number #4 'Quality Education' and number #10 'Reduced Inequalities' (Nations, 2016). Working towards these UNSDGs will see Zoe Empowers ensure sustainability within the program, foster peace and prosperity for its participants, all while contributing to a global effort to achieve the SDGs.

### **d. Recommendation 4: Understanding Countries - Educating participants in understanding political structures**

We recommend educating participants in understanding their country's government and its structure. This will equip participants with the appropriate knowledge to make educated decisions when deciding who to vote for in the future and exactly which government structures would benefit them. Participants will have a better understanding of who, where, and what their vote is actually going towards, working to gain better representational rights for participants. This recommendation helps Zoe Empowers align with the UNSDG of #4 'Quality Education', #10 'Reduced Inequalities', and #16 'Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions'. Again, fostering peace and prosperity for participants while contributing to the global effort of achieving the SDGs (Nations, 2016).

### **e. Recommendation 5: Economy - Increased Visibility to larger organisations and charity initiatives**

Zoe Empowers sits in a great position in order to collect data on individuals living in impoverished areas. Data Synergy believe the data collected by Zoe as well as any further collations created by us could be enhanced by the organisation reaching out and becoming involved with larger research institutions such as the ones referenced (Bill Gate and Melinda Foundation) in the findings and recommendations report such financial sector deepening in



Kenya and the Rwanda biomedical centre. Partnering with these organisations will also give them increased visibility to larger western benefactors. This will substantially increase the program's ability to provide care and maybe even give some of their participants international training and opportunities. We believe that with their accreditations Zoe would have no trouble expanding their operations and in turn gain an increased ability to change lives in impoverished areas.

**f. Recommendation 6: Increased understanding of environmental trends**

An increased focus on understanding the environmental trends of each region will allow program coordinators to better prepare participants for any environment disasters or situations. The analysis report revealed the effects of the 'long dry season' experienced yearly by Kenya between June and September, impacting participants's ability to access water as well as their food security. These long dry seasons and droughts destroy hectares of crops, diminish livestock and dry out water reserves directly impacting farmers' ability to provide food and income. Better reporting on the dry season will allow for appropriate development of mitigation strategies to address the risk of limited access to water and poor food security in the dry season. This recommendation would additionally help Zoe work towards upholding the UNSDGs of #3 'Zero Hunger', #3 'Good Health and Well-Being', and #6 'Clean Water and Sanitation'(Nations, 2016).

**g. Recommendation 7: Housing - Development of a disaster recovery/environmental action plan**

Following recommendation six we recommend the development of a disaster recovery plan and environmental action plans to further combat the risks of limited water access during the dry seasons experienced in either countries. Successful retention of water supplies and systems will only help participants within their communities experiencing the brunt of the dry season and drought. Furthermore, attributing to upholding the UNSG of #3 'Good Health and Well-Being', and #6 'Clean Water and Sanitation'(Nations, 2016).

## **5. CONCLUSION**

In summary, Data Synergy affirm the recommendations within this report as they have the potential to enhance the Zoe Empowers program in Rwanda and Kenya to better represent and enhance the needs of its participants by increasing their overall self sufficiency. The recommendations also enhance SAS Institute's ability to engage with the program via the data recommendations improving collecting methods and enhancing participant and program insights. Ultimately the recommendations also point to the local and global impacts of Zoe Empowers on both the selected countries and the global initiatives of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals program (Nations, 2016).

## **6. RESOURCES**

Nations, U. (2016) *The 17 goals | sustainable development, United Nations*. Available at: <https://sdgs.un.org/goals> (Accessed: 20 April 2023).