

# ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT JANUARY-DECEMBER 2010



"POVERTY REDUCTION IN THE ZAMBEZI VALLEY THROUGH ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING OF NATURAL RESOURCES"

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# **Table of Contents**

| 1. P  | PEOPLE OF THE GREAT RIVER                                         | Error! Bookmark not defined. |
|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ABBRE | EVIATIONS                                                         | 5                            |
| ACKN  | OWLEDGEMENTS                                                      | 6                            |
| 1.0   | INTRODUCTION                                                      | 7                            |
| 2.0   | GENERAL OPERATIONAL CONTEXT                                       | 7                            |
| 3.0   | BACKGROUND OF BASILWIZI                                           | 8                            |
| 3.1   | Basilwizi Vision                                                  | 8                            |
| 3.2   | Mission Statement                                                 | 8                            |
| 3.3   | Strategic Objectives                                              | 8                            |
| 3.4   | Coverage:                                                         | 8                            |
| 4.0   | KEY PROGRAMME AREAS                                               | 9                            |
| 4.1   | Advocacy Programme                                                | 10                           |
| 4.2   | Education and Culture Support Programme                           | 10                           |
| 4.3   | Health, HIV and AIDS Programme                                    | 10                           |
| 4.4   | Livelihoods Programme                                             | 10                           |
| 6.0   | ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT                                        | 11                           |
| 6.1   | Staffing and Personnel                                            | 11                           |
| 6.2   | Sub Offices                                                       | 12                           |
| 6.39  | Staff Development                                                 | 12                           |
| 6.4   | Regular Courses                                                   | 12                           |
| 6.5   | Short Courses                                                     | 13                           |
| 7.0   | Resource Mobilisation                                             | 14                           |
| 8.1   | Income and Expenditure Report for the year ended 31 December 2010 | 16                           |
| 8.2   | Grants Received in 2010:                                          | 16                           |

| 8.3 Expenditure Analysis                                  | 17 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----|
| 9.0 PROJECT ACTIVITIES                                    | 17 |
| 9.1Community Empowerment and Participation Projects       | 17 |
| 9.1.1 Key outputs of the projects are:                    | 18 |
| 9.1.2 Progress on outputs and results of the programme    | 18 |
| 9.1.3 Key activities                                      | 18 |
| 9.1.4 Annual Review Meeting                               | 18 |
| 9.1.5 Achievements                                        | 19 |
| 9.2 ZAMBEZI VALLEY ADVOCACY PROJECT (ZVAP)                | 19 |
| 9.2.3 Achievements                                        | 20 |
| 9.3 WOMEN ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT PROJECT                    | 22 |
| 9.3.1 Progress on activities of the project               | 23 |
| 9.3.2 Achievements/Successes                              | 23 |
| 9.4 HIV AND AIDS PROJECTS                                 | 23 |
| 9.4.1 Progress on outputs and activities                  | 24 |
| 9.4.2 Achievements/Successes                              | 25 |
| 9.5 Livelihoods Programme                                 | 27 |
| 9.5.1 Progress towards outputs and results of the project | 27 |
| 9.5.2 Achievements/Successes                              | 29 |
| 9.6 LANGUAGE AND CULTURE PROJECT                          | 31 |
| 9.6.1 Progress on activities and outputs of the project   | 31 |
| 9.6.2 Achievements/successes                              | 32 |
| 9.7 ARTISTIC, RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION                  | 34 |
| 9.7.1 Progress on outputs and activities of the project   | 34 |

|    | 9.7.2        | Achievements/Successes                               | 34 |
|----|--------------|------------------------------------------------------|----|
|    | 9.8 INF      | ORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY (ICT) PROJECT | 35 |
|    | 9.8.1        | Progress on outputs and activities of the project    | 35 |
|    | 9.8.2        | Achievements/Successes                               | 35 |
| 10 | ) NETW       | ORKING AND COORDINATION                              | 39 |
| 11 | L CHALL      | ENGES                                                | 40 |
| 12 | 2 KEY LE     | SSONS LEARNT                                         | 41 |
| 13 | 3 CONC       | LUSION                                               | 42 |
| 14 | NNEXES       |                                                      | 42 |
|    | Annex I: Lis | t of schools with ITCs                               | 42 |

#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

ADA Austria Development Agency

AIDS Acquired Immune-Deficiency Syndrome
AZFA Austria Zimbabwe Friendship Association

CADEC Catholic Development Commission

CAMPFIRE Communal Areas Management Programme for Indigenous Resources

CBO Community based organisation CBS Community Based structures

CCMT Centre for Conflict Management Transformation

CDU Curriculum Development Unit

CWW Concern Worldwide DA District Administrator

DDC Disaster and Development centre, At Northumbria University, UK

DRR Disaster Risk Reduction

DFID Department for International Development (UK)

EC European Commission

EHT Environmental Health Technician

EU European Union

GPA Global Political Agreement
HIV Human Immunodeficiency Virus

KLCMP Kariba Lakeshore Combination Master Plan

KMTC Kulima Mbobumi Training Centre

NAP National Action Plan.

NGO Non Governmental Organisation

NUST National University of Science and Technology

OVC Orphans and Vulnerable Children

PHHE Participatory Health and Hygiene Education PRPII Protracted Relief Programme (phase 2)

PVO Private Voluntary Organisation

RDC Rural District Council
SAT Southern African Trust
SCZ Save the Children Zimbabwe
SDC School Development Committee

UK United Kingdom

UNICEF United Nation Children's Education Fund

UNIFEM United Nations Fund for Women VIDCO Village Development Committee WARDCO Ward Development Committee

WEP Women Empowerment

ZILPA Zimbabwe Indigenous Languages Promotion Association

ZVAP Zambezi Valley Advocacy Project

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Basilwizi wishes to express its most profound and sincere gratitude to individuals and representatives of various Government line Ministries and Non Governmental Organizations within and outside our operating areas for their unwavering and invaluable contributions to all our workshops, seminars, meetings and other related activities throughout the year.

Acknowledgements also go to the Board of Trustees for their guidance throughout the implementation period. Their dedication and commitment made it possible for the organisation to deliver even in difficult times of political and economic challenges.

We are also greatly indebted to our partners and donors (in no particular order): ActionAid International Zimbabwe, UNICEF, UNWomen, Save the Children Zimbabwe, Concern Worldwide, HIVOS, Tides Foundation, European Union, Firelight Foundation, Disaster Development Centre (DDC), Northumbria University, DFID (UK), ADA, AZFA; Rotary International and the Rotary Clubs (Linz and Belmont, Bulawayo), International Rivers, Africa Rivers Network, Silveira House, Jesuits Orphans Trust and Global Greengrants Fund. The financial support made it possible to implement our activities during the reporting period.

We would like to thank the staff, in particular our Frontline field workers (Focal Persons), the local traditional leaders and the community at large for their commitment to Basilwizi programmes.

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report presents to our stakeholders an overview of all programme activities implemented by Basilwizi in the four Zambezi Valley districts of Binga, Hwange, Gokwe North and Nyaminyami in the calendar year 2010. It also presents achievements and challenges encountered during the period January to December 2010. The report highlights lessons learnt and challenges encountered during the period under review. An examination of the general operating context begins the report and is followed by a detailed description of the various project activities under the four thematic areas of Basilwizi. These programme areas include (1) Advocacy, (2) Livelihoods, (3) Education and Culture and (4) Health, HIV and AIDS.

#### 2.0 GENERAL OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

The formation of a coalition government or Government of National Unity (GNU) based on the Global Political Agreement (GPA) of the key political players has generally brought about political stability in Zimbabwe. However, the country is still far from total economic recovery after more than ten years of severe political and socio-economical crisis. Tensions are mounting again and cracks within the fragile inclusive government are visible since a number of provisions of the GPA are still not honoured or implemented. The major political parties are already preparing for general elections in 2011 despite serious doubts that the country is prepared to hold free and fair polls soon. The current political impasse is hindering the restoration of trust and confidence inside and outside the country and jeopardising any far reaching reforms. Ambitions are flying high again in the health and education sectors with both ministries geared toward restoring the lost status of the crucial sectors. However, a lot of constraints are still overwhelming the Ministers of Education, Sports, Arts and Culture and that of Health and child welfare. Meagre budget allocations, low salaries and poor infrastructure are not attracting back scores of qualified personnel who left the country in recent years. It has been estimated that the education system will take another six years to recover.

The ongoing constitutional debate has opened up some common ground but with a fresh round of political contest around the corner tensions and fears of renewed political violence are rising as highlighted by the recent disruption of COPAC meetings in Harare. Therefore space for freedom of expression and media development is still limited and the usage of ICT and radio waves is still restrained.

Against this background it is encouraging to note that Basilwizi is still on track despite dwindling financial resources partly attributed to the global economic downturn. At the community level, the operating environment during the period under review was quite stable and conducive for project implementation. Basilwizi also worked in collaboration with other actors in the Zambezi Valley in supporting the implementation of various but complementary community activities. In order to strengthen coalition and networking for specific learning, the programme staff participated in different collaborative partnerships and other stakeholders' meetings organised at the district, national, regional and international levels. However, it is unfortunate to mention that during the period under review, a significant number of activities were disrupted for various reasons beyond the control of Basilwizi. On the main, project activities were postponed due to late disbursements from funding agencies.

The year 2010 was also a difficult one for Basilwizi as two field motorbikes were not functional for the greater part of the period due to damages as a result of accidents. A project vehicle for the livelihoods

Supported by: EU, ADA, AAIZ, DFID, Firelight Foundation, AZFA, UNICEF, UNWomen, HIVOS and, Jesuits
AIDS Trust
Page 7

programme was damaged beyond repair in a road accident in August 2010 thereby seriously affecting mobility in the community. As in the previous reporting period, programme activities had to be postponed and re-planned so as to close the implementation gaps that were prevailing to ensure that the intended outcomes and ultimately impact are achieved as expected. The above mentioned challenges that affected the project operations would be evident in the respective programme reports.

#### 3.0 BACKGROUND OF BASILWIZI

Basilwizi operates in the Zambezi Valley's four districts of Hwange, Binga, Gokwe North and, Nyaminyami. The majority of the valley inhabitants are Tonga and Korekore/Shangwe speaking communities who were displaced from the banks of the Zambezi River in the 1957 to make way for the construction of Lake Kariba. These communities are among the poorest people in the country due to poor soils, low rainfall patterns and marginalisation. Basilwizi therefore works to assist the valley communities to realise meaningful and sustainable development through a number of community driven interventions as outlined below.

#### 3.1 Basilwizi Vision

"Sustainable people driven socio-economic development in the Zambezi Valley."

#### 3.2 Mission Statement

Basilwizi is committed to building the capacity of the Tonga and Korekore communities – men, women, young and old, able and disabled – for them to realise improved and sustainable well-being and free themselves from poverty.

## 3.3 Strategic Objectives

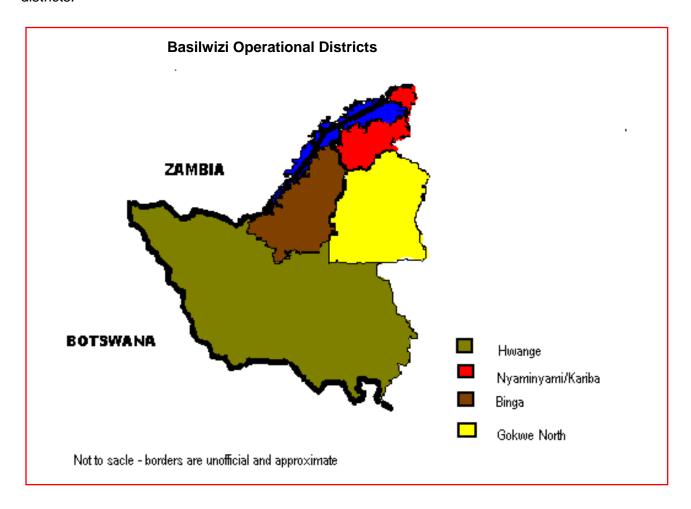
Basilwizi seeks to achieve the following main objectives:

- To empower the affected people to advocate for developmental changes and their inclusion in decision making processes on issues that affect their development particularly the use of resources around / from Lake Kariba;
- To assist the beneficiaries to improve their socio-economic well being, through the establishment of people centred development projects that meet the basic material needs;
- To facilitate the putting in place of legislation, policies, procedures and practices that enhance the capacity of men and women to access, utilise and control their natural resources;
- To promote the cultural and educational development of the beneficiaries;
- To combat and reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS pandemic through community based intervention strategies;
- To promote gender, child protection and disability mainstreaming in all programme activities of the organisation and
- To enhance organisational capacity and ensure effective implementation of Basilwizi goals.

#### 3.4 Coverage:

Basilwizi programmes target the Zambezi Valley rural communities living in the 28 Tonga and Korekore chiefdoms in the four districts of Hwange and Binga in Matabeleland North Province, Gokwe North in Midlands Province and Nyaminyami in Mashonaland West Province. We also work across the Zambezi River in chief Sinazongwe area of Zambia. These constitute areas where the majority of the Tonga and Korekore people were forcibly resettled during the Kariba Dam construction, and

continue to live today. Currently Basilwizi is targeting only 18 selected wards in the four operating districts.



#### 4.0 KEY PROGRAMME AREAS

Basilwizi works on Advocacy, Education and Culture, Health, HIV and AIDS and Sustainable Livelihoods as its broad strategies towards the intended outcome of poverty reduction among the Tonga and Korekore communities in the Zambezi valley. Together with the main themes, the organisation also addresses key cross-cutting issues of gender and women economic empowerment, disaster risk reduction (DRR), child protection, participation and disability. The themes chosen are fundamental in addressing the underlying root causes of poverty in the Zambezi valley and in promoting effectiveness of the organization in dealing with community priority issues. Under these major programmes, Basilwizi is implementing the following projects: Zambezi Valley Advocacy Project (ZVAP), PRP II Gokwe North and Binga Projects, Community Empowerment Project, Community Participation Project, OVC and HIV & AIDS and NAP for OVC Project for Hwange and Binga respectively, Language and Culture Project and Tonga Online Project (ICT for community development, which includes Artistic, Research and Documentation).

# 4.1 Advocacy Programme

It is through this thematic area that Basilwizi seeks to develop the capacity of the Zambezi Valley Communities so that they are able to advocate for policy changes that are prodevelopment for the Zambezi Valley. The programme works closely with state development institutions as Basilwizi believes that strong and capable development institutions are *sin qua non* to poverty risk reduction – these institutions are the major determinants of livelihood processes and outcomes – they control and monitor the development processes and quality of particularly the efficiency and effectiveness relationship with vertical and horizontal institutional arrangements. Decentralised development planning structures from village to upper levels will be of particular interest to enhance broad based participation in development processes including gender, disability, HIV and AIDS, environment and DRR. The programme seeks to empower women by addressing factors that prevent them from achieving their full potential. Through a UNWomen Gender Support Programme initiative, the program gives women a chance to be economically successful and empowers them with a renewed sense of financial and personal independence.

# 4.2 Education and Culture Support Programme

This programme seeks to make education accessible to disadvantaged individuals and to promote the culture and languages of marginalised communities such as the Tonga people in Zimbabwe. Indigenous languages including Tonga are fast vanishing throughout the world as their last speakers die, or as dominant languages push them out of common usage. UNESCO (2008) estimates that about 2,500 indigenous languages face extinction by 2020. As such Basilwizi in collaboration with Silveira House has been working with organisations such as the Zimbabwe Indigenous languages Promotion Association (ZILPA) to push for the implementation of the national policy on marginalised indigenous languages. The policy provides, among other things, for the teaching of indigenous languages in Zimbabwe schools. The Education and Culture support programme also provides educational opportunities for the orphans and vulnerable children, to improve their quality of life and promote positive self development and growth in the Zambezi Valley.

#### 4.3 Health, HIV and AIDS Programme

Basilwizi has been responding to the Millennium development Goal Number 6 which seeks to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases. This intervention is being achieved through the Firelight Foundation funded HIV and AIDS project in Hwange and the implementation of the NAP for OVC project in partnership with Save the Children Zimbabwe and other local partners. Under the NAP for OVC project, funded by UNICEF, Basilwizi is empowering the local leaders in ten wards of Binga district to improve children protection systems for OVC by tackling cultural practices which influence the spread of HIV and AIDS epidemic and that may be generally retrogressive to the people's development. The project also works to fight several forms of child abuse premised in the cultural practices of the people of the Zambezi Valley.

#### 4.4 Livelihoods Programme

The organisation's main focus is to have sustainable people driven socio-economic development in the operating areas of Basilwizi. However, there are major constraints to livelihoods in the Zambezi Valley such as low crop production, lack of food availability and access, limited income earning possibilities, high transport costs and marketing constraints compounded by policies and legislation lacking sensitivity to the priority issues. Therefore, the

Zambezi Valley communities must be given the necessary skills to fight poverty and other related risks on their own for sustenance's sake. In order to achieve the foregoing, the programme seeks to enhance the communities' capabilities not only to respond to the immediate needs of communities but help them to develop sustainable livelihoods strategies and secure a better future.

The people of the great river are vulnerable to poverty and other related risks. Basilwizi uses community grown approaches that build on the community's resilience to disasters and vulnerability mastered over years of exposure to such risk. Basilwizi believes that sustainable livelihoods approaches are more effective in helping to reduce poverty. Basilwizi therefore seeks to provide support for development that builds on the strengths of the people in the f ollowing areas:

- **Food security**: developing and encouraging utilization of sustainable food production practices, encouraging innovative income generating projects, providing training for sustainable management and exploitation of common pool resources.
- **Water and sanitation**: Providing portable safe and clean water and sanitation facilities and training for sustainable management of community water resources

# **5.0** Cross Cutting Issues

Basilwizi ensures that gender and disaster risk reduction aspects are integrated in all projects activities. Basilwizi has developed a gender policy which serves as a guide in integration of gender issues. The gender audit of the local committees and government structures like; CAMPFIRE, VIDCOs and SDCs through the Community Participation Project has revealed serious gender gaps among our communities. Subsequent to gender audit carried out in the previous years, gender monitoring tools are in place to track progress on implementation. Basilwizi also recognises the growing need for disaster risk reduction (DRR) as an emerging tool in sustainable development and is taking a deliberate and pro-active role to mainstream it in all its programme activities. The Zambezi Valley is prone to disasters that are triggered by natural hazards particularly droughts, floods and diseases. As such, through our privileged long-term partnership with the Disaster Development Centre (DDC), Northumbria University of the UK, Basilwizi mainstreams DRR to improve the communities' resilience and responses to disasters with other stakeholders charged with overall DRR responsibility in Zimbabwe.

#### **6.0 ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Basilwizi realises that organisational development is central to the effective and efficient delivery of programme activities. To achieve this Basilwizi takes deliberate staff development needs analysis and staff development, continuous assessment and improvement of conditions of service.

#### 6.1 Staffing and Personnel

Basilwizi increased its staff complement by four staff members making a total of twenty nine (29) staff members of which twenty one (21) are males while eight (8) are females. Three (3) staff members (1 female and 2 male) joined Basilwizi after the taking over of the Tonga-on-line (TOL) project in April 2010. In May 2010, a driver for Gokwe North, Mr. Costa Mulondo, and a Field Officer for Nyaminyami, Mr. Time Mutombo, was recruited. Mr. Costa Mulondo was terminated from his job for negligent driving that caused a near fatal accident involving a project vehicle in August 2010. In October 2010 another driver for Gokwe North, Mr. Laimon Mutale, was employed to replace Costa Mulondo. Two female students completed their industrial attachment in August 2010. Basilwizi also employed Mr. Trevor Gumbo and

Lawrence Mudimba on short-term contracts to cover the gaps created by the departure of Memory Tavengana who was a student intern in the finance Department and the Head of Finance and Administration, Thathani Sibanda, who was on maternity leave up to December 2010.

#### 6.2 Sub Offices

Basilwizi has two sub-offices in Binga for the Binga and Hwange programme areas and one at Siakobvo growth point to cover Nyaminyami and Gokwe North districts. However, the Gokwe North Livelihoods team is operating from Chiutsi Business Centre where Basilwizi also set-up a transitory satellite office and accommodation for the Gokwe North staff. This was in an effort to decentralise the organisation and its services so that development interventions take place nearer to the communities.

# 6.3Staff Development

It is an integral aspect of Basilwizi human development policy that its staff members undergo relevant courses to enhance their performance and competences for effective service delivery. As part of developing human resource capacity in 2010, our staff attended a number of skills training seminars to equip them with knowledge and skills that are relevant to projects implemented by Basilwizi. The majority of the staff members are undergoing both short and regular courses.

#### 6.4 Regular Courses

With regards to long term staff training, 10 staff members are doing various courses at different levels and universities. Some of them have since graduated. This is in line with the provisions of the training policy, with a major thrust to equip staff members with skills, insights and knowledge and also enable them to have a firm grounding in their present roles. The 10 staff members were enrolled and underwent long term course for self development as follows:

| Name                  | Institute                         | Course                                                                  | Remarks   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Shadreck Ndlovu       | NUST                              | BSC in Public Health                                                    | Completed |
| Frank Mudimba         | NUST                              | MBA                                                                     | Completed |
| Gayson Siampongo      | Lupane State University (LSU)     | Diploma in Development studies                                          | Completed |
| Thathani Sibanda      | Midlands State University         | BCom. in Accounting                                                     | Completed |
| Maxwell D Munenge     | Lareisten, Netherlands            | MA in Gender, Rural<br>Livelihoods and Social<br>Inclusion              | Completed |
| Christine Hankwebe    | Centre for<br>Development Studies | Professional Diploma in HIV and AIDS Management and Development Studies | Completed |
| Danisa Mudimba        | Zimbabwe Open<br>University       | BSC in Counselling                                                      | Current   |
| Josias Z. Mungombe    | LSU                               | Postgraduate Diploma in Development Studies                             | Current   |
| Peter Munsaka         | LSU                               | Diploma in Development Studies                                          | Current   |
| Lawrance<br>Simchembu | LSU                               | Diploma in Development Studies                                          | Current   |

#### **6.5 Short Courses**

Apart from the long term training, Basilwizi staff attended short term training courses, which included: Training for Transformation, Proposal writing, Project Monitoring and Evaluation, Governance and empowerment, Results Based Management. All courses were conducted under the partnership with ActionAid international Zimbabwe. It suffices to express our heartfelt appreciation to ActionAid international Zimbabwe that through its annual training programme, Basilwizi managed to send its staff to attend various relevant skills training seminars. In addition, 9 staff members (5 female and 4 male) attended gender awareness and mainstreaming skills training workshop facilitated by the roaming Gender Advisor for ActionAid International and Zubo Trust Project Coordinator.

The staff trainings on governance and lobbying and advocacy have benefited the staff members by broadening their knowledge base and attitudinal reflection that is useful in

helping communities to engage rural local governance structures. For instance, the governance empowerment course enabled the staff members to understand the level where rights are enjoyed or frustrated, where basic rights are attained or denied and, equally important, where participation of communities in the running of local affairs can be meaningful and productive or frustrated. In terms of lobbying and advocacy, the Field Officers now understand how the local governance structures can be engaged to address the challenges faced by the communities in the protracted relief programme. In addition, staff members who were trained in gender have been equipped with knowledge and skills which are useful in helping the organisation to develop a gender policy and to ensure that staff are able to conduct gender awareness and mainstreaming issues when planning development interventions at the local levels in the communities.

#### 7.0 Resource Mobilisation

Basilwizi's income is mainly received as restricted funds. These are funds donations given for specific purposes and must be spent according to agreed terms and conditions. The main sources of funding have included Bilateral and Multilateral institutions such as DFID and European Commission and UNICEF, INGOs such as ActionAid International Zimbabwe and Trusts and Foundations such as Firelight Foundation, Tides Foundation and Jesuits AIDS Project Trust. Basilwizi recognises the exceptional support from ActionAid International Zimbabwe, European Commission to Zimbabwe (EU), DFID (UK), Jesuits AIDS Project, Firelight Foundation and Tides Foundation for their long standing partnership. 2010 also saw Basilwizi getting support from HIVOS and the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) through a partnership with Austria-Zimbabwe Friendship Association (AZFA). Basilwizi continues to solicit support from current and potential partners for the benefit of the marginalised communities in the Zambezi Valley and has also established a strong collaborative financing arrangement with Save the Children Zimbabwe and Concern Worldwide in the implementation of the DFID funded PRPII for Binga and Gokwe North districts respectively. During the reporting period, the programmes division was involved in ongoing fund-raising activities in order to improve the organisation's financial autonomy and position. Below is a summary of the year 2010's resource mobilisation and fundraising efforts:

| Application Submitted to:                                                   | Service Delivery<br>Area/Focus/Thematic                                                            | Amount                                                         | Status   |          |          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
|                                                                             |                                                                                                    |                                                                | Accepted | Pending  | Rejected |
| Firelight Foundation/Tides Foundation                                       | HIV and AIDS Project for<br>Hwange                                                                 | US\$12,000                                                     | <b>√</b> |          |          |
| Australian Aid<br>(AusAid) – Human<br>Rights Small Grants<br>Scheme (HRSGS) | Advocacy                                                                                           | A\$140,000                                                     |          |          | <b>✓</b> |
| Zimbabwe<br>Coordinating<br>Mechanism – Global<br>Fund Round 10             | HIV and AIDS – Community Systems Strengthening for Health Service Delivery and Local Governance    | No budget required at expression of interest application stage |          |          | <b>√</b> |
| European<br>Commission                                                      | Child Protection –<br>Investing in People -<br>Children – Fighting Child<br>Labour"                | €450,000                                                       |          |          | V        |
| UNIFEM                                                                      | Women Economic Empowerment Project in collaboration with Zubo Trust                                | US\$150,000                                                    | <b>✓</b> |          |          |
| UNPII                                                                       | Education promotion for Indigenous Peoples.                                                        | US\$20,000                                                     |          | <b>√</b> |          |
| French Embassy                                                              | Local Governance Accountability Project                                                            | US\$40,000                                                     |          |          | ✓        |
| International Rivers/<br>Global Green Grants<br>Fund                        | Travel Grant for conference costs for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Rivers for Life International Conference | +US2,000                                                       | <b>✓</b> |          |          |
| DFID                                                                        | Fishers HIV and AIDS Project (FishAIDS)                                                            | £280,000                                                       |          | ✓        |          |

Responses to some of the grant applications (concept notes or proposals) are still pending and four (4) have not been successful. Basilwizi is very grateful to a grant approved by Tides Foundation on the recommendation by the Firelight Foundation and all other current funding partners for taking time

to consider proposals submitted to them. The following are the grants approved and received during 2010:

During the period under review ending 31 December 2010 the Trust received income which is 28% more as compared to 2009. Total expenditure also increased by 14% as compared to the previous year. This is as a result of merging with Tonga Online project bringing in an inflow of resources from HIVOS and ADA through a working partnership with AZFA. The organisation uses United States dollars as its functional currency.

# 8.0 Financial report

#### 8.1 Income and Expenditure Report for the year ended 31 December 2010

|                                      | 2010<br>Unaudited<br>USD | 2009<br>Audited<br>USD | 2008<br>Audited<br>USD |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Income                               | 525,823                  | 412,286                | 242,585                |
| Grants Received (i)                  | 521,923                  | 412,282                | 241,300                |
| Interest Received                    | 200                      | 5                      | 1,285                  |
| Gain from disposal of vehicles       | 3700                     |                        |                        |
|                                      |                          |                        |                        |
| Operational Expenditure (ii)         | 472,018.97               | 415,663                | 197,482                |
| Administration Costs /Recurrent Expe | 64,334                   | 113,671                | 46,766                 |
| Programme/Workshop Costs             | 241,178                  | 133,087                | 41,976                 |
| Salaries and Expenses                | 166,507                  | 156,090                | 107,520                |
| Other project Costs                  |                          | 12,815                 | 1,220                  |
|                                      |                          |                        |                        |
| Surplus/Loss from operations         | 53,804                   | (3,377)                | 45,103                 |
| Exchange gains                       | 0.0                      | 6,856                  | 4,179                  |
| Surplus/Loss from Operations         | 53,804                   | 3,479                  | 49,282                 |

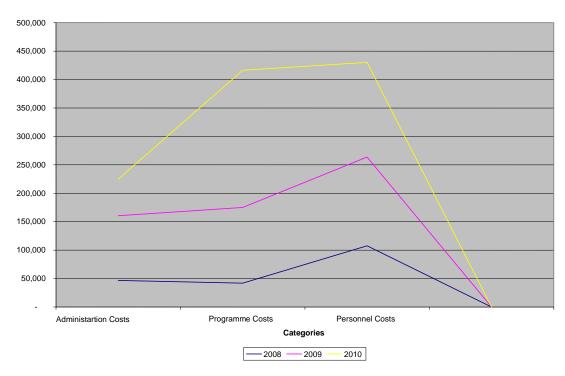
#### 8.2 Grants Received in 2010:

| EU                   | 20% |
|----------------------|-----|
| ZVAP                 | 20% |
| NAP                  | 4%  |
| MS                   | 6%  |
| PRP2 Binga           | 2%  |
| AZFA/ADA             | 7%  |
| HIVOS                | 12% |
| PRP2 Gokwe           | 26% |
| Jesuits Fund         | 1%  |
| Firelight Foundation | 2%  |
|                      |     |

ZVAP and NAP projects ended in December 2010 and the EU supported initiative will be ending in March 2011. These developments have negative implications on our cash flow as it means our income will be less by 44% going into 2011. Basilwizi will institute tight budgetary controls and stream line staffing to absorb this deficit.

# 8.3 Expenditure Analysis





The graph above denotes the following:

- An increase in personnel cost comparing 2009 and 2010 was due to the increase of staff due to new programmes coming in 2010 (Tonga. Online Project)
- Administrative costs reduced given the general stability of costs due to the use of United States dollars as compared to the previous year.

#### 9.0 PROJECT ACTIVITIES

#### 9.1Community Empowerment and Participation Projects

The community empowerment project is funded by Action Aid International Zimbabwe and the project period has been revised to end 2011 instead of the initial 2012 following the merger between MS Zimbabwe and Action Aid International Zimbabwe. The Community Participation Project is funded by the European Union (Zimbabwe) and covers two years spanning 2009 through to end of March 2011. The two projects aim to enhance the capacity of local communities to take control of their own development, including the capacity to articulate their needs, to

organise themselves and engage duty-bearers such as local authorities for better service delivery. The projects are implemented alongside each other under a co-financing arrangement.

#### 9.1.1 Key outputs of the projects are:

Basilwizi has acquired sufficient capacity to lobby and advocate for the adoption of planning and budgeting processes that cater for the basic needs of the citizens, youth and women in the 4 districts i.e. Hwange, Nyaminyami, Gokwe North and end of 2011.

Basilwizi has facilitated setting up of stakeholders platforms/forums for marginalised citizens, particularly youth and women to influence local authorities and to monitor local level plans and budgets in the 4 districts noted above.

Increasing number of local government structures (Councillors and WADCOs and Committees) in selected districts have been sensitised about their roles and citizen's roles by Basilwizi in the 4 districts noted above.

# 9.1.2 Progress on outputs and results of the programme

During the period under review Basilwizi trained a total of 734 (273 women and 461 men including youths) in various community project activities as indicated below from 9 wards in 3 districts of Binga, Gokwe North and Hwange. The number of community members who benefited from various training workshops in 2010 is less than the number reached out in 2009 by 36 people and this is a result of postponement of activities due to late disbursements from funding agencies. Basilwizi works mostly with decentralised leadership structures such as VIDCOs, WARDCOs and Village Heads. In these structures, most of the positions are held by men; hence more men than women participated in the workshops.

9.1.3 Key activities

| Activity                                              | Gender |     |    |    | Total |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----|----|----|-------|
|                                                       | W      | M   | FY | MY | 1     |
| 5 x Leadership and Communication Skills               | 24     | 88  | 14 | 11 | 137   |
| 3 x Gender Awareness Raising                          | 24     | 38  | 15 | 6  | 83    |
| 4 x Conflict Management and Problem Solving           | 58     | 58  | 7  | 5  | 128   |
| 4 x Community Based Planning and Budgeting            | 27     | 84  | 4  | 8  | 123   |
| 3 x Grassroots Mobilisation on HIV and AIDS Awareness | 26     | 55  | 2  | 3  | 86    |
| Raising                                               |        |     |    |    |       |
| 2 x Quarterly Reflection and Learning                 | 14     | 25  | 3  | 2  | 44    |
| 1 x District Lobby Group Follow up meeting            | 13     | 14  | -  | 1  | 28    |
| 1 x Inter District Follow up Meeting                  | 9      | 9   | 1  | -  | 19    |
| 1 x District Coordination Meeting                     | 6      | 15  | -  | -  | 21    |
| 1 x Annual Review Meeting                             | 17     | 24  | 2  | 1  | 44    |
| Total                                                 | 225    | 424 | 48 | 37 | 734   |

#### 9.1.4 Annual Review Meeting

Every year, Basilwizi holds annual review workshops where key stakeholders are invited to share the achievements, challenges the organisation faced during the year and together find a way forward for the programs to avoid similar pitfalls in the coming year. However, Basilwizi only held a project

specific annual review meeting due to internal logistical and other challenges. The annual review workshop was held on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of November 2010 at Tusimpe Pastoral Training Centre in Binga. The main objectives of the review workshop was to dissect activities for 2010 and plan for 2011.

#### 9.1.5 Achievements

The most important of the positive outputs of the project during the period under review are enhanced participation of the communities and local community development structures in development and governance interventions. During the Quarterly Learning and Reflection Workshop, participants were able to provide a broad view of rural local governance highlighting their current strengths and weaknesses, and the ways in which those weaknesses may be addressed. The following are the notable achievements under the two projects during 2010:

- As a result of capacity building, the communities have been empowered to respond to shortfalls in local governance and are now able to address community-level pressing challenges. For instance, the community in Sinampande/Ngangala ward together with the elected councillor, took an initiative to make follow ups with relevant duty-bearers on the construction materials that were donated to the community but misused by some local leaders. This was a sign of lack of accountability in the management of public resources by the local leadership. This realisation by the community is a significant achievement to our capacity building activities when we begin to see the expected changes or effects of our interventions taking place in the lives of the marginalised communities.
- Traditional chiefs in Zambia and Zimbabwe have formed a Trust, which will be registered in both Zimbabwe and Zambia, called 'Zambangulwe'. The Trust will work to demand a review of the appropriate authority to ensure increased participation and ownership of development processes by communities in the two countries. It is also going to work as a task force/lobby group to negotiate with governments of both Zambia and Zimbabwe to seek developmental reparations from the World Bank such as initiation of irrigation schemes as compensation for the forced resettlement.
- Sensitised local government structures were able to respond positively to expressed needs of communities. For instance, after the Community Based Planning, Management and Budgeting workshops were facilitated by the CEO from Binga Rural District Council, the council (BRDC) for its first time made consultations for the plans and budget for 2011 in 25 wards. People in the communities were consulted and involved to contribute their views towards the formulation of the 2011 budget.
- In order to help the marginalised communities in the Zambezi Valley to extend their areas of knowledge on their developmental rights and most importantly to appreciate the grave violations of their right to information, the community empowerment project produced, translated and distributed over two hundred copies of IEC materials in Tonga language on local governance and empowerment activities.

# 9.2 ZAMBEZI VALLEY ADVOCACY PROJECT (ZVAP)

The Zambezi Valley Advocacy project is funded by DFID (CSCF) but the 3-year project came to an end in June 2010. However, the project continued at no cost extension until December 2010. ZVAP's goal is to reduce poverty and vulnerability risks in the Zambezi Valley, Zimbabwe, through increased access to natural resources using a rights-based approach to development. The project targets communities in Binga, Hwange, Gokwe North and Nyaminyami communities who were displaced by Kariba Dam construction in 1957. Working with existing local structures such as CAMPFIRE, fishing

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AIDS Trust
Page 19

co-operatives and traditional leadership structures, the project intends building the capacity of communities to demand their rights and influence policy changes to have increased access and sustainable utilisation of water, fisheries and wildlife resources. Three outcomes were envisaged: establishment of efficient and effective lobby and advocacy structures; improved knowledge and skills for the target CSOs and groups in developmental rights, lobbying and advocacy; and policy implementation that protects and ensures the expansion of sustainable livelihoods portfolios in the Zambezi Valley. The cross-cutting issues: gender, HIV and AIDS, child protection, environment and disaster risk reduction are integrated into project activities.

# 9.2.1 Progress on outputs and results of the project

The project has reached out to a total of 303 people of which 75 (25%) were women and 228 (75%) were men. The difference between the participation of women and men in the activities conducted is caused by the target groups for this project. ZVAP works with already existing structures of Fisheries, CAMPFIRE and community government and traditional leaders. In all these structures women are fewer than men. In the no-cost extension period for the ZVAP, the project consolidated its activities to only two main activities, that is, a stakeholders' workshop and the National Policy Dialogue Conference which marked the end of the project. After these two major activities, the project conducted an end of term evaluation during the month of November 2010. The table below shows the activities carried out:

| Activity                                                               |    | This period |       |  |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------------|-------|--|--|
|                                                                        | F  | M           | Total |  |  |
| 18 x District Lobby group meetings                                     | 16 | 68          | 84    |  |  |
| 3 x Inter district lobby group meetings                                | 9  | 21          | 30    |  |  |
| 1 x Look and learn visits for lobby groups (local) Preparation         | 2  | 20          | 22    |  |  |
| 1 x Community exchange visit-Botswana                                  | 2  | 19          | 21    |  |  |
| 1 x Policy dialogue meeting on KLCMP                                   | 27 | 8           | 35    |  |  |
| 4 x Partnership meetings                                               | 2  | 5           | 7     |  |  |
| Chiefs' feedback and planning meeting for all stakeholders' conference | 1  | 7           | 8     |  |  |
| 1 x All stakeholder's workshop                                         | 4  | 27          | 31    |  |  |
| 1 x All stakeholders' conference and Policy dialogue meeting           | 12 | 53          | 65    |  |  |
| 1 x End of term evaluation                                             |    |             |       |  |  |
| Totals                                                                 | 75 | 228         | 303   |  |  |

#### 9.2.3 Achievements

**Gender rights**: In all the ABS structures women are fewer than men. ZVAP encouraged the participation of women in ABS structures. As a result, women have begun to take up leading roles in demanding and asserting collective rights in wildlife and fisheries resources. In Binga District, nine fishing cooperatives now have a woman member in each committee while Kalulwe is an "all-woman" fishing co-operative. In addition, women now hold key positions within the Fishing Cooperatives such as chairpersons (in Manjolo Sungwala and Twazubuka cooperatives), vice chairperson (in Katuya cooperative) and secretary (in Kariva cooperative).

**Creation of space for civil society:** Through ZVAP's facilitation, community-based structures have 'invented' additional spaces for participating in access and benefit-sharing of resources. For example, through the Fishing Co-operative Union(FCU), fishers have become more organised by presenting

and representing themselves in for a dealing with the management of fish resources. They have become prominent invites to RDC meetings, particularly when issues affecting the fishing industry are on the agenda.

Poverty-focused ABS arrangements and Rights to participation in decision making processes: Opportunities have been created for local community committees or lobby groups to engage in and influence the changes to policies or implementation of policies at local government level by promoting new processes for policy engagement acquired through advocacy skills and knowledge provided by this project. For example, CAMPFIRE dividends are now being paid directly into community bank accounts. This is in stark contrast to the dividends payment system that lacked transparency and accountability before the inception of ZVAP where dividends were paid to communities via RDCs. Similarly, fishers have become proactive in demanding and asserting their rights over fish resources. For instance, the fishers are now actively involved in discussions that affect or concern them – such as negotiating for reduced permit and licence charges by RDCs and NPWMA.

#### **Development policy and practice:**

The RDCs and government's DPP have taken responsibility to implement the KLCMP policy document. The LKCMP provides a framework for increased access and conservation of water, fishing and wildlife resources by local communities to expand their livelihoods portfolios.

#### **Environmental conservation and sustainability:**

There is increased engagement between local communities and policy makers on the sustainable conservation of wildlife and fish resources. This was a result of ZVAP awareness on the negative impact of poaching on wildlife and fisheries. An increase in poaching means a decrease in hunting quota allocation for the CAMPFIRE participating communities. This is not only threatening the sustainability of CAMPFIRE which relies on wildlife, but the existence of communities themselves. Similarly, poaching of fish by Zambian fishers, who obtain logistical support from local communities on the Zimbabwean side of Lake Kariba, is threatening the sustainability of fishing and communities now understand the implications on their lives.

#### Statement from the Zambezi Valley Stakeholders:

A statement directed to the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources and the Minister of Local Government, Rural and Urban Development was drafted as an output of the Stakeholders Conference



Picture: DFID Country Representative at the Stakeholders Conference in Harare. Listening to his speech are the Ministers of Environment & Natural Resources & Public Works and other stakeholders.

held in December in Harare on Poverty Reduction in the Zambezi Valley through Access and Benefit-Sharing of Natural Resources.

#### 9.3 WOMEN ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT PROJECT

The Women Economic Empowerment Project is funded by UNWomen. Basilwizi is the principal recipient while Zubo Trust is a sub-recipient or implementing partner to the project. The main aim of the project is to enhance women's economic empowerment through increased access and use of locally available natural resources in Siachilaba ward, Binga district. The project aims at enabling women to attain organised fish production that would in turn boost their income proceeds as individuals and as a collective group. The first cooperation agreement with UNWomen ended in July 2010 and the project continued to operate at no cost extension up to October 2010. UNWomen has awarded Basilwizi/Zubo another grant which commenced on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2010. Zubo/Basilwizi

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AIDS Trust
Page 22

have been supporting women group-run fish-trading activities with a small revolving fund scheme for Siachilaba fish traders. However, this scaled up project now intends to provide opportunities for Siachilaba women to increase the steady flow of income by expanding the revolving loan concept to include acquisition of equipment to enable women to more viably exploit fish. The new upscaled project is more on the value chain enhancement principle and will see women fish traders accessing markets in big cities like Bulawayo and Harare.

# 9.3.1 Progress on activities of the project

| Activity                                                               | Men | Women | Total |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------|-------|
| 3 x Gender Awareness Raising Workshops for Local Leadership            | 63  | 51    | 114   |
| 3 x Establishment of Women's Forum Meetings                            | 21  | 117   | 138   |
| 1 x Meeting on the setting up of a sub-committee in the fish market    | 2   | 50    | 52    |
| 1 x Community Based Facilitators Induction Training Workshop           | 0   | 4     | 4     |
| 1 x Meeting on the Revision of the Siachilaba Fish Market Constitution | 0   | 37    | 37    |
| 2 x Business Management Skills Training Workshops                      | 8   | 85    | 93    |
| 3 x Women's Forum Induction, Rights Awareness Raising Workshops        | 5   | 75    | 80    |
| 3 x HIV/AIDS Awareness Raising, Leadership and Communication Skills    | 6   | 75    | 81    |
| 6 x Meetings on the Collection and handing over of the revolving fund  | 11  | 77    | 88    |
| 1 x End of Project Meeting with Siachilaba Local Leadership            | 23  | 12    | 35    |
| 1 x Communication and Confidence Building Workshop                     | 2   | 23    | 25    |
| 3 x Follow-up visits meetings with the forums                          | 2   | 73    | 75    |
| TOTAL                                                                  | 143 | 679   | 1,155 |

#### 9.3.2 Achievements/Successes

- Women from Siachilaba who were selected as beneficiaries in the revolving fund have managed to pay back the funds advanced to them. These returned funds are used for further financial support to other women to also embark on viable income earning projects.
- Beneficiaries of the self-managed rotating savings have also reported that they are earning reasonable incomes in their various projects that would enable them to boost the economic situation of households. This is evident from the fact that advances are being paid back to the project without any defaulters.
- Beneficiaries of the revolving funds have been trained in business management skills as a way of equiping them with skills and knowledge in managing their small businesses. This will go a long way in reducing vulnerability to losses in the self-managed rotating savings and loan scheme.

#### 9.4 HIV AND AIDS PROJECTS

Under the HIV and AIDS programme, Basilwizi is implementing two projects. The National Action Plan for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (NAP for OVC). This project is being implemented in Binga in partnership with Save the Children Zimbabwe. The title of the project is: *Enhanced Health/Protection and Care for Orphaned and Vulnerable Children in the Zambezi Valley.* The major thrust of this project is to lobby and advocate for change of cultural practices that influence the spread of HIV and AIDS. On the other hand the project is seeking to promote those cultural practices that help fight HIV and AIDS as well as promoting the care and support for the affected children. The project strives to promote positive behavioural change strategies in the context of culture and is targeting traditional and church leaders, children and other community leaders. In Hwange District, Musuna Village,

Basilwizi is implementing an HIV and AIDS for OVC programme targeting children and their families with funding from the Firelight Foundation. The project not only strives to promote positive behaviour change strategies in the context of culture but also provides support to targeted beneficiaries in the form of livelihood projects so that they realise improved incomes and more secure tenure resulting in improved livelihoods. Basilwizi also supports up to ten OVCs in secondary school, at Neshaya Secondary school, with fees, uniforms and other school necessities, courtesy of Firelight Foundation.

# 9.4.1 Progress on outputs and activities

A total 459 community members, 80% of these being children (199 female and 260 males) were directly reached by the project during the period under review. This is despite the project experiencing serious cash flow problems due to late disbursements from our partners. Coordination and networking activities were carried out but attended mainly by the Programmes Manager. The table below shows the activities implemented under this project from January to December 2010.

| Activity                                                                   | This period |     |       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----|-------|
|                                                                            | F           | M   | Total |
| Field Visit with partners by Zimbabwe Aids Network and Progressio Zimbabwe | 3           | 2   | 5     |
| Coordination Meeting                                                       | 5           | 2   | 7     |
| Adult CPC training workshops                                               | 7           | 20  | 27    |
| Child CPC training workshops                                               | 41          | 37  | 78    |
| Traditional and Church leaders meeting on Child rights issues              | 18          | 32  | 50    |
| Community life skills, HIV and AIDS prevention training for young people.  | 18          | 19  | 37    |
| Community meetings on marriage and inheritance laws                        | 28          | 29  | 57    |
| Culture & Disability community meeting                                     | 46          | 61  | 107   |
| School health master training on Child protection                          | 13          | 26  | 39    |
| CHBC givers education/awareness on Child protection issues                 | 18          | 23  | 41    |
| Community meetings on cultural issues, child rights, HIV and AIDS          | 10          | 13  | 23    |
| Child Abuse cases                                                          | 12          | 1   | 13    |
| NAP for OVC/POS design workshop                                            | 1           | 1   | 2     |
| Zimbabwe AIDS Network (ZAN) Chapter meeting in Mlibizi, Binga              | 1           | 1   | 2     |
| ZAN Strategic Plan validation meeting.                                     | 1           | 1   | 2     |
| Totals                                                                     | 222         | 268 | 490   |

#### 9.4.2 Achievements/Successes



# Best Practices: Culture and Disability community meetings yields fruits

Lumvwanano Mugande nearly lost out in terms of education had it not been for the NAP for OVC project. She was born with a deformed face. For fear of shame and disparaging remarks from the community, her parents decided to hide her from the sight of other children in Nsenga village. The CPC members visited Lumvwanano's parents frequently and provided counselling sessions, which resulted in the parents sending their child to school to learn like others. She is now in grade six. "This girl is

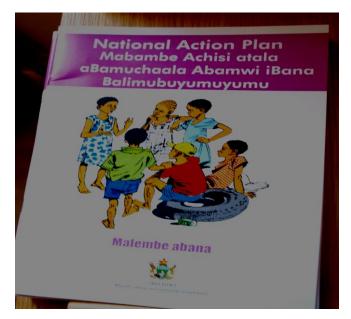
very intelligent and she doesn't forget what she would have learnt. She is also very cheerful" says Mvwano's teacher at Nsenga Hill Primary School.

# The work of Child Protection Committee at Sinampande/Nagangala Ward



What a break through in Culture and disability issues — an abused life that could have made a difference in the World

This is a story of a disabled woman now 33 years she became disabled due to lack of medical attention. The lady was born in 1977 and she had the privilege of attended primary school up to grade 2 and then she mysteriously got ill and could not walk. Due to a long illness and lack of proper parental care as a child, she ended up becoming blind at the age of 10. Instead of taking her to the hospital the parents kept the child locked away from the public until at a time when a report by the Sinampand/Nagangala CPC was made to the Project Officer for Health, HIV and AIDS. The sad news came to Basilwizi offices on the 7<sup>th</sup> of April 2010, some 23 three years after the woman became blind due to lack of medical attention and proper parental care. Through the NAP for OVC programming. we have empowered the Child Protection Committees (CPC) to report cases of child abuse and disability without fear or favour. The community of Nagangala/Sinampande were afraid to report the case as the father was violent and regarded as a Witch. However, Basilwizi successfully managed to gain entry into the home and explained why it is important to bring out cases of disability. The health centre - Siabuwa Rural hospital is just 5km away. It is indeed a heart-breaking and touching disability case and above all sad to learn how some parents treat their children and allow them to live such a shameful life for many years without seeking appropriate medical attention.



Left: The National Action Plan for Orphans and Vulnerable Children handbook, which was translated from English into ChiTonga, was distributed to key frontline service providers such as Child Home-Based Care givers, Child Protection Committees (CPCs), Church leaders and Traditional leaders. The handbook, which was published through the efforts of our partner organisation, Save the Children Zimbabwe, explains the roles of NAP and its structures.

# 9.5 Livelihoods Programme

Basilwizi Livelihoods project is currently implementing the Protracted Relief Programme Phase II (PRP II) in Binga and Gokwe North in partnership with Save the Children Zimbabwe and Concern Worldwide (CWW) respectively. The purpose of PRP is to 'Prevent destitution and protect and promote the livelihoods of the poorest and most vulnerable'.

#### 9.5.1 Progress towards outputs and results of the project

There have been important positive changes in the lives of the people in general as a result of the PRP II interventions in Gokwe North and Binga. So far, most significant changes recorded show changes on diet, in agronomic practice, in income and in social status for vulnerable and poor people. In general, household food security and nutrition have been enhanced through sustainable and improved productivity as a result of the programme. During the period from January to December 2010, summarised progress against the milestones is shown in tabular form below.

| Project outputs                                                                                                                                                              | Activity                                                                                                                        | Th       | This period |       |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------|-------|--|
|                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                 | F        | М           | Total |  |
| 340 farmers trained and                                                                                                                                                      | Seed fairs                                                                                                                      |          |             | 2,369 |  |
| engaged in conservation                                                                                                                                                      | Open voucher system (GSID)                                                                                                      |          |             | 710   |  |
| farming methods to increase food security by close of project.                                                                                                               | Conservation Farmers – trainings on basic principles                                                                            | 263      | 197         | 460   |  |
| Build capacities of 450 community members in                                                                                                                                 | Trained Village Agricultural Production Facilitators                                                                            |          |             | 4     |  |
| community based planning to implement relevant developmental plans to their needs                                                                                            | Training on gender mainstreaming, advocacy and protection (these were conducted during in all livelihoods project activities    |          |             | 2,049 |  |
| Animal health improved by constructing three spray bays for livestock dipping in the                                                                                         | Rehabilitated 2 dip tanks<br>Constructed a holding pen for in<br>Simuchembu                                                     |          |             | 2,400 |  |
| two chiefdoms of                                                                                                                                                             | Training of small livestock beneficiaries                                                                                       |          |             | 114   |  |
| Simuchembu and Nenyunga                                                                                                                                                      | Distribution of small livestock                                                                                                 |          |             | 114   |  |
| by 2011.                                                                                                                                                                     | Distribution of vet drugs                                                                                                       |          |             |       |  |
| Secured educational rights of OVC in Gokwe North (Simuchembu & Nenyunga)                                                                                                     | 3 Secondary Schools were supported with block grants to ensure increased access to education for OVC especially the girl child. |          |             |       |  |
| Households are accessing safe and clean water and pump minders trained and                                                                                                   | Rehabilitated 14 boreholes (12 in Simuchembu and 2 in Nenyunga Wards) Repaired 1 borehole                                       |          |             |       |  |
| are able to carry out basic borehole maintenance                                                                                                                             | Training of builders for the construction of water troughs                                                                      | 0        | 17          | 17    |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                              | Pump minders kits and protective clothing                                                                                       | 0        | 2           | 2     |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                              | Water Point Committee members training                                                                                          | 26       | 48          | 74    |  |
| Nutritional needs and incomes for the elderly and the children, especial those affected by HIV and AIDS, enhanced through the provision of better managed community gardens. |                                                                                                                                 | 80<br>31 | 20 29       | 100   |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                              | Training of garden management                                                                                                   | 112      | 49          | 161   |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                              | Training on solar drier utilisation                                                                                             | 112      | 49          | 161   |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                              | Garden Days                                                                                                                     | 160      | 90          | 250   |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                              | Nutrition Education                                                                                                             | 80       | 17          | 97    |  |

#### 9.5.2 Achievements/Successes

 The seed fairs have improved cash circulation within the communities and promoted local seed varieties.



- As a result of block grants, there is a reduction in the number of pupils who drop out from school due to lack of school fees and other educational needs.
- As a result of the revolving loan scheme for vet drugs and dipping facilities, incidences of parasites and diseases cases and death rate have been reduced.
- As a result of the established CBPM structures, there is a marked change in community participation and total involvement when carrying out activities such as dip tank and borehole rehabilitation, block grants and vet drug distribution and that is a

commendable work done which guarantees project sustainability.



- Improved access to clean and safe water for both household and animals.
- The community is also making more effective use of available water resources, for example, communities have established individual gardens as a result of increased water availability.
- A further benefit and impact of the programme is that it has increased awareness of the importance of correct borehole construction

techniques, thereby helping ensure that newly drilled borehole require less rehabilitation in the future.

# 9.5.3 Gardens were established to improve household income for the community members.









• There has been a noted increase in the number of Nutrition Gardens and Conservation Farming adopters.

#### 9.6 LANGUAGE AND CULTURE PROJECT

Basilwizi's Education and Culture project seeks to revive the culture of the baTonga communities which is under siege from other dominant ethnic groups in Zimbabwe and to ensure the teaching of ChiTonga in schools in the Zambezi Valley districts. To ensure improved access to education for children of these marginalised communities, the project offers financial and material assistance to orphans and other disadvantaged children. Basilwizi works on this project in partnership with Silveira House, a Catholic Church institution based in Harare. The project activities are also partly funded by the Jesuits AIDS Trust as well as the Firelight Foundation for activities covering Musuna village in Hwange district. Through the education programme, Basilwizi attempts to break the cycle of poverty and dependence often caused by a lack of formal education and skills. Basilwizi is supporting OVCs in ten secondary schools through education support services in all the four operational districts with funding from DFID, Tides Foundation/Firelight Foundation and Jesuits AIDS Project Trust. At the moment, 31 school children are being supported under Basilwizi education support of which 8 are girls while 23 of them are boys

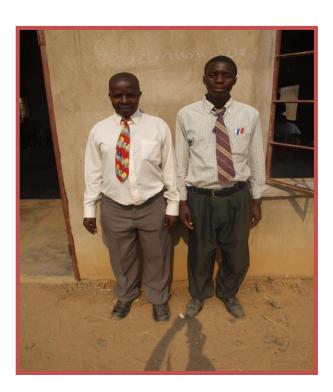
#### 9.6.1 Progress on activities and outputs of the project

| Activities                                                            | Place                                                      | Gender |     | Total |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----|-------|
|                                                                       |                                                            | F      | M   |       |
| A follow up visit on the teaching of ChiTonga                         | Gokwe South District                                       | 2      | 4   | 6     |
| and distributed more Bwacha Lino text books in                        | distributed more Bwacha Lino text books in Offices         |        |     |       |
| Gokwe South District                                                  | Gokwe South District                                       |        |     |       |
| Visited students under Jesuits Orphans Trust.                         | Visited students under Jesuits Orphans Trust. Lubimbi High |        | 3   | 5     |
| Meeting with DEO in Gokwe North on the                                | Gokwe North District                                       | 1      | 3   | 4     |
| proposed Inter-Schools Competition                                    | roposed Inter-Schools Competition Offices                  |        |     |       |
| A follow up visit on the teaching of ChiTonga at                      | Nenyunga Primary                                           | 1      | 6   | 7     |
| Nenyunga Primary                                                      |                                                            |        |     |       |
| Meeting on Inter-Schools Competition with Head Simuchembu Primary     |                                                            | 1      | 4   | 5     |
| of Simuchembu Primary                                                 | of Simuchembu Primary                                      |        |     |       |
| Meeting with Chief Simuchembu on proposed                             | Simuchembu on proposed Simuchembu                          |        | 5   | 6     |
| visits of areas with Tonga speaking people in                         | ts of areas with Tonga speaking people in Homestead        |        |     |       |
| Chiefs Chireya and Nemangwe.                                          |                                                            |        |     |       |
| Visited Zhomba High on PRPII funded projects   Zhomba High            |                                                            | 1      | 2   | 3     |
| (Poultry and Tuckshop running)                                        |                                                            |        |     |       |
| Visiting students under Firelight Education Neshaya Secondary         |                                                            | 14     | 8   | 22    |
| Support Fund                                                          | School                                                     |        |     |       |
| Inter-Schools Competition                                             | Simuchembu 1 Primary                                       | 744    | 664 | 1,408 |
|                                                                       | School                                                     |        |     |       |
| NANGO NGO expo                                                        | Harare                                                     |        | 2   | 2     |
| Visiting and assisting students under the Jesuits Kariangwe & Siamupa |                                                            | 4      | 7   | 11    |
| Orphans Trust                                                         | Secondary Schools                                          |        |     |       |
| Total Number of Children Being Sponsored                              | Hwange, Binga,                                             | 18     | 24  | 42    |
|                                                                       | Nyaminyami                                                 |        |     |       |

#### 9.6.2 Achievements/successes



One of the beneficiaries of the Jesuits Orphans Trust, Chioneso Mudenda, Form 4, of Tyunga Secondary School pictured here with her guardian (grandmother), Ms Margaret Mudenda (61).at homestead. This picture was taken during a monitoring visit by the Project Officer on July, 28, 2010. The grandmother had these words to say, "Chioneso could have been married by now had it not been the fees rescue she got from through your education project. I am happy now she is no longer being chased away by school authorities for non payment of fees. Her school attendance record has also improved. I am struggling to secure writing materials and sanitary wear for her. I am praying for her to pass her O' Levels".



• In the picture on the left is Mr. Steven Ncube, a teacher at Simuchembu Primary School and former beneficiary of the educational support from the Jesuits Orphans Trust. He is pictured with the Head of his school, Mr Yuyu Simuchembu. According to the head, Stephen will become a role model in a community where there are very few locals with such impressive academic achievements. With the introduction of the teaching of ChiTonga language, the head is hopeful that Stephen will be an asset in the infant department for the teaching of ChiTonga lessons.

- The Zimbabwe Schools Examinations Council has issued an examination circular number 32 of 2010 introducing Tonga Language Examination at Grade Seven level in 2011. In addition, the specimen papers for Tonga Language have already been approved and released to all centres offering the subject to make necessary arrangements and preparations for 2011 examination entries.
- The Project has distributed Primary School Textbooks for ChiTonga in Gokwe South in five districts where ChiTonga is predominantly spoken.
- Other marginalised language groups have also developed their own materials inspired by the Tonga language success story.
- An Inter-Schools Competition organised by Basilwizi and the MoEASC was successfully held at Simuchembu 1 Primary School on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October 2010. The major highlight was on the plight of the girl child.



# 9.7 ARTISTIC, RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION

The Arts, Research and Documentation (ARD) is a new department under the Education and Culture Support Programme in Basilwizi, which was established as a result of the absorption by Basilwizi of the Tonga Online Project from Kunzwana Trust. The ARD department focuses on the development of Arts and Culture in the Zambezi Valley, with an initial focus on documentation and dissemination of material on Culture and Cultural Heritage of the People of the Great River both on the Zimbabwe and Zambia sides. In carrying out its work, the ARD department also runs a small sound and video recording and editing studio that is based at Binga High School. Music for groups and individuals coming from as far off as Hwange has been recorded at the studio over the years. Video Editing has remained a challenge due to the capacity of the studio computer. Public address facilities have always been provided for public national events in the district in line with the Tonga Online Project's drive to improve communication through various technologies.

#### 9.7.1 Progress on outputs and activities of the project

| Activity                                                                                          | Place                       | М  | F  | Total |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----|----|-------|
| Cultural exchange visit to Zambia (Lwiindi)                                                       | Sinazongwe, Zambia          | 33 | 11 | 44    |
| NGO expo in Harare                                                                                | Harare Gardens, Harare      | 2  | 0  | 2     |
| Tonga Online Review Workshop                                                                      | Tusimpe                     | 16 | 5  | 21    |
| adjudication and music development workshop                                                       | Siachilaba Primary School   | 11 | 5  | 15    |
| Youth in Culture and Local Content Development Workshop                                           | Church of Christ, Manjolo   | 10 | 6  | 12    |
| Support to Tinde High School Music Department.                                                    | Tinde High                  | 2  | 0  | 2     |
| Skills training workshop (Formation of Clubs in Schools and Introduction to Digital Photography). | Binga High School           | 12 | 18 | 30    |
| Capacity Building training of youth in Studio skills                                              | Studio                      | 2  | 0  | 2     |
| Creative Writing                                                                                  | Manjolo Primary School      | 13 | 11 | 24    |
| Journalism Skills                                                                                 | Manjolo Secondary<br>School | 15 | 7  | 22    |

#### 9.7.2 Achievements/Successes

- Zimbabwean Chiefs and Simonga Cultural dance Group participated in the Maliko Lwiindi Tonga ceremony, which is held annually in Zambia. This has enabled the chiefs and the Simonga cultural dance group to build and maintain links with their Zambia counterparts. A separate platform was created for the Zimbabwean Chiefs to learn from the Zambians and compare proceedings at the Lwiindi and their own ceremonies.
- Two youth groups were formed in Simatelele and Bulawayo Kraal for the Youth in Culture and local content creation. It is expected that these groups will lead in the development of new local content in ICT use.

# 9.8 INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY (ICT) PROJECT

The Tonga.Online ICT department is now a project under the Education and Culture Support Programme in Basilwizi. It was established as a result of the absorption by Basilwizi of the Tonga.Online Project from Kunzwana Trust. For Basilwizi the systematic usage of ICT is a fairly new field with high potential of enhanced capacities throughout the programs and fields of operations. The ICT department promotes the use of Open Source Software (OSS) and has chosen the Ubuntu software, based on Linux operating systems and developed by Marck Shuttleworth as an easier, more affordable way, for particularly emerging economies to become computer literate. In addition, the ICT department provides technical support to sixteen (16) Information and Technology Centres in primary and secondary schools in the Zimbabwean side of the Zambezi Valley and one (1) basic School in Zambia, Chief Sinazongwe's area.

This is what one community member had to say about this project, 'We see the Tonga.Online project as vital to the transformation of the Zambezi Valley and the local communities should take advantage of the potential of new information and communication technologies and develop their skills, through the established ITCs, to exploit the services effectively'.

#### 9.8.1 Progress on outputs and activities of the project

Key activities that were carried out in Sinazongwe, Zambia were Board Establishment for the ITC and Radio Station, Maintenance Workshop, E-Learning Workshop and Business Planning workshop for Women of Sinazongwe. This period also realised the completion of the Solar Installation in Siabuwa, courtesy of Rotary club of Linz (Austria) and Belmont (Zimbabwe)

A joint exercise between BRDC and MoESAC was carried out to establish the extent to which schools have gone in implementing steps that were agreed in the ICT Conference Evaluation to improve access in their ICTs. The period ended with a meeting of computer management committees of Binga High School, Tinde Secondary School and Pashu Secondary School. The building of bridges within the community and across the waters has always been a prominent endeavour for Basilwizi Trust, therefore the forging of linkages with the Sinazongwe community in Zambia and the support for the establishment of an ITC and radio station (Tonga on Air) is resultant.

#### 9.8.2 Achievements/Successes

- Public Access Point (PAP) and Local Area Network (LAN) at Binga Library has been established, courtesy of ADA and AZFA support.
- Preparations for the Wireless Area Network (WLAN) was done through collecting a lot of GPS
  Data from the places that are part of the 8 of the pilot Nodes in Binga.
- The PAP will continue to provide trainings to the people of the Great River in 2011.
- Establishment of the PAP at the Binga Community Library is the biggest achievement for Basilwizi Tonga Online Project.
- Internet in the PAP has been shared from the 3G Econet Modem. It is amazing how sharing this device met the expectations of the majority of users.
- Plans are underway for the establishment of an improved internet connection at the PAP and for improved collaboration and networking between schools, Local Government and other stakeholders in the Tonga area.





A facility is available at Library where users can connect wirelessly to the Binga Library Network and connect to the internet or have access to available eBooks as shown in the two pictures above.



Through the generous support of Rotary International and the Rotary Clubs of Linz and Belmont the Siabuwa Solar Project has been established. The Siabuwa Solar project provides power to the Siabuwa Secondary School and ITC. Above, the Solar Array under construction and to the left, the systems room upon completion.

The children and community of Siabuwa Rural (pictured below) can now enjoy the convenience of utilising the ITC and Study rooms even during the evenings, courtesy of the Rotary clubs of Linz and Belmont as well as AZFA.









Zimbabwe and abroad.

Our long term partner HIVOS is also continuing to support ICT and Cultural activities of the Tonga.Online project. Through the support of HIVOS and ADA, some ten (10) secondary schools will start to teach computers studies from January 2011. In addition, school based ITCs will open for longer hours due to the training of ITC Assistants by the project. As a result, 2011 will see some more efforts to promote the visibility and standing of Tonga culture within

It is hoped that these developments will continue to bear lasting results and relevant impact for the Tonga community in 2011 and beyond.

# 10 NETWORKING AND COORDINATION

| Activity                                                                                               | Purpose/Objective(s)                                                                                                                                                                                  | Place                              |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| District Child Protection Committee (DCPC).                                                            | Discuss coordination of activities within the district.                                                                                                                                               | Binga                              |  |
| Agricultural show  The theme of the meeting was Food Security through Practising Conservation Farming. |                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Kariangwe Primary<br>School, Binga |  |
| Better Schools Programme District Awards                                                               | Award Ceremony for the Ministry of Education, Sports, Arts and Culture                                                                                                                                | Lubimbi High<br>School, Binga      |  |
| NAP for OVC review and design workshop.                                                                | The purpose of the meeting was to review the NAP for OVC 2004 – 2010 and design a future programme of support for vulnerable children and families for the NAP 2011-2013.                             | Harare                             |  |
| Review and quarterly planning meeting (Concern Worldwide and Basilwizi).                               | The purpose was to review the Gokwe North Livelihoods project budget, work plan and log frame indicators for the period 2009-2010 and plan for the next phase and 2010/2011 first quarter activities. | Tusimpe Pastoral<br>Centre, Binga  |  |
|                                                                                                        | Another review meeting was held in October 2010 to review progress for the period July to September and plan for the quarter.                                                                         | Bulawayo                           |  |
| Save the Children PRP II stakeholders meeting                                                          | to introduce new projects in the upper Zambezi (integrated livelihoods). The objective of the new projects is to reduce poverty, hunger and extreme destitution in the Zambezi Valley.                | Masumu River<br>Lodge, Binga       |  |
| Zimbabwe AIDS Network<br>Chapter Meetings                                                              | Second quarterly meeting to review progress of the activities of chapter members.                                                                                                                     | Mlibizi Hotel,<br>Binga.           |  |
| Zimbabwe AIDS Network Exchange Visits                                                                  | Look and Learn or Exchange visit of HIV and AIDS interventions in Masvingo                                                                                                                            | Masvingo                           |  |
| Progressio Zimbabwe Documenting of Good Practices                                                      | Field Visit to document best practices of OVC programming in the Zambezi Valley                                                                                                                       | Binga                              |  |
| Building Local Democracy Thematic meeting.                                                             | Action Aid International Zimbabwe and its 13 partners met to share experiences on project achievements and challenges encountered by partners in their areas of operation.                            | Masvingo                           |  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Rivers for Life<br>Conference                                                          | 3 <sup>rd</sup> International Meeting for Dam affected people and their allies.                                                                                                                       | Temacapulin,<br>Mexico             |  |
| Africa Rivers Network Planning Meeting                                                                 | To review the activities of ARN and plan for the future.                                                                                                                                              | Mozambique                         |  |
| National Learning and<br>Sharing Event for NAP<br>for OVC                                              | Provide a platform for sharing potentially good OVC programming experiences across the country                                                                                                        | Harare                             |  |
| Community Consultative                                                                                 | To enable the various stakeholders including                                                                                                                                                          | Binga District                     |  |

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AIDS Trust
Page 39

| budget process for 2011 conducted by the Binga Rural District Council (BRDC) in Binga District from the period 5 to 8 October 2010. | ordinary citizens in Binga District to participate in the formulation of the 2011 council budget. The stakeholders used the consultative process to make inputs on key policy interventions for the 2011 local authority budget.                |              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Contextual analysis organised by CCW.                                                                                               | To develop programme options for the Gokwes, based on the aspirations and the capabilities of the extremely poor, which are relevant and will have a sustained positive impact on their lives in the dynamic context that prevails in Zimbabwe. | Gokwe/Harare |
| Independent compliance mechanism awareness workshop                                                                                 | The workshop was organised by the African Development Bank, World bank and European investment bank in South Africa.                                                                                                                            | South Africa |

#### 11 CHALLENGES

- Late disbursements of funds from funding partners and principal recipients led to the low absorption rate of funds under a number of budget line items and fewer than planned activities being achieved during the 4 months period under review.
- Due to the economic downturn and late disbursements, it has become difficult to make visible and quick impacts without redesigning project interventions or extending project expiration period in order to realise anticipated long-term and sustainable results.
- The reported high rate of poaching in the Zambezi Valley is shadowing the realisation of full benefits by the communities from wild life resources
- Lack of proper communication infrastructure at sub-offices continues to affect our reporting deadlines and tracking progress on activities.
- The near fatal accident involving one of our programme vehicles affected mobility of programme staff in the last two quarters of our year.
- The existing 14 ITCs are suffering from aging hardware, erratic or limited power supply and poor or nonexistent connectivity.
- Tyunga Secondary has received computers but has still neither solar nor generator as it is very far from the grid and this has not benefited the children at the school.
- Despite extensive lobbying efforts on different levels and backing by all local authorities, Tonga. Online has not yet been granted permission or a permit for usage of the relevant ISM frequencies for the set up of a wireless network WLAN encompassing the identified nodes by the relevant authority, POTRAZ, to run a pilot project of wireless networking in Binga.

#### 12 KEY LESSONS LEARNT

- Gender equity and ICT: The promotion of girls and women requires more attention and creative measures in order to achieve a more gender balanced access to ICT. In this regard it is crucial to identify and address the specific communication needs to serve all parts of the community.
- Child abuse cases: An empowered community is better placed to handle issues of child abuse and child trafficking as witnessed in the last quarter of 2010, where five (5) school teachers have been suspended due to sexual child abuse of school children at one Pirmary School and one Secondary School.
- Sustainability of the Advocacy Project: The establishment of the secretariat committee and the coordination role of the DDP for the KLCMP show that the project's goals and strategies will continue going on even though the ZVAP has come to an end.
- HIV and AIDS Issues: More still needs to be done on HIV and AIDS, which includes advocacy through pre & post HIV counselling and testing to increase awareness and encourage safe sex and fight discrimination and stigma.
- Partnership approach to development: There is significant evidence to show that the partnership arrangements between Basilwizi Trust and its partners has promoted strategic sharing of expertise through improvement of the project management and financial systems, meetings, training workshops and sharing of resources. Similarly, partnerships between various lobby groups, RDCs, relevant government ministries and agencies and like-minded organisations such as Silveira House and ZELA are important in the promotion of the effectiveness of the project. However, there is still lack of cohesion and social trust between state and non-state actors to this effect, there is need to facilitate dialogue amongst state and non-state actors if poverty reduction milestones are to be achieved.
- Rights awareness: Rights awareness has increased among rights-holders especially the lobby groups and/or community committees. The lobby groups, for instance, are now able to demand and assert collective rights in wildlife, fisheries and water resources and to develop strategies to overcome poverty through better forms of engagement with duty-bearers.
- Rights-Based Approaches to Development: Projects that use RBAs have the potential of achieving the desired results in failed states without 'compromising' the 'radical flavour' of the approach. In a challenging environment like the one prevailing in Zimbabwe, implementing an advocacy project is possible as long as it works within the existing structures and policy framework and adopts a non-confrontational approach. In addition, programme staff have a higher chance of success when they act as facilitators rather than managers of the advocacy process.
- Culture and the new generation: Some youth have the misconception that culture is only that which used to happen before the movement of people from along the Zambezi river banks around 1956 and hence its vital to emphasise what constitute a people's culture and how this shapes current and future generations.
- The conservation systems for Zimbabwe and Zambia are different. In Zambia, the conservation system is largely unregulated meaning that Zimbabweans were conserving natural resources, especially fish, for the Zambians to harvest while Zimbabweans continue to suffer loss of livelihoods.

#### 13 CONCLUSION

While Basilwizi has had its internal implementation and administrative challenges, external challenges such as COPAC activities and late disbursements of project funds, especially from funding agencies contributed significantly to low absorption rates or to fewer than planned activities on a number of budget lines and failure to achieve the intended intervention targets during 2010. For instance, the NAP for OVC grant for the period July to December 2010 had not been received by the time of writing this report in December. In the case of the ZVAP, Basilwizi has had to apply for a no cost extension as a result of due to late disbursement. By and large, the organisation was deeply stressed financially as a result of late disbursements and a number of activities have had to be postponed or implemented very late into December 2010. However, it is encouraging to note that despite the aforementioned challenges, notable outputs and impacts were recorded as reflected in the programme areas and activities above.

#### **ANNEXES**

#### Annex I: List of schools with ITCs

- ✓ Binga High School Binga ITC
- ✓ Binga Primary School Binga Primary ITC
- ✓ Manjolo Secondary School Manjolo ITC
- ✓ Manjolo Primary School Manjolo Primary ITC
- ✓ Siachilaba Primary School Siachilaba ITC
- ✓ Sianzyundu Secondary School Sianzyundu ITC
- ✓ Tinde High School Tinde ITC
- ✓ Pashu High School Pashu ITC
- ✓ Kariangwe High School Kariangwe ITC
- ✓ Mucheni Primary School Mucheni ITC
- ✓ Siabuwa Secondary School Siabuwa ITC
- ✓ Tyunga Secondary School Tyunga ITC
- ✓ Lubimbi Secondary School Lubimbi ITC
- ✓ Lusulu Secondary School Lusulu ITC
- ✓ Sinazongwe Basic School Sinazongwe ITC
- ✓ Sinansengwe Secondary School Mucheni ITC