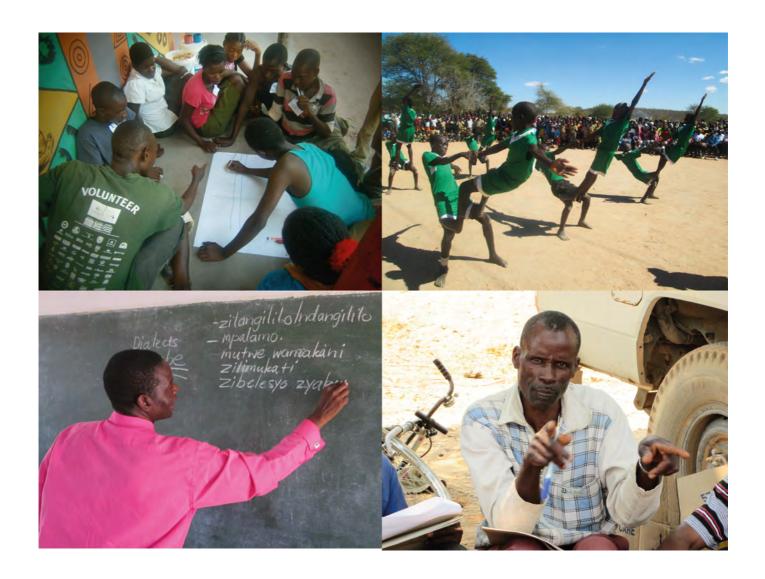


# **2014 ANNUAL REPORT**



E-mail: info@basilwizi.co.zw ◆ website: <a href="http://www.basilwizi.org.zw">http://www.basilwizi.org.zw</a>

#### i. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Basilwizi would like to acknowledge and warmly thank our donors and the many individuals and representatives who have contributed their time, resources and insights to all our programme activities during the year 2014.

Specific acknowledgements go to the Board of Trustees and advisors for their guidance throughout the year. Their dedication and commitment made it possible for the organisation to deliver even at a time when the organisation was facing serious funding and operational challenges.

We are also greatly indebted to our partners and donors: Action Aid International Zimbabwe, AZFA, European Union, UNWomen (FGE), Save the Children Zimbabwe (for continuing support to our fleet of vehicles), HIVOS, The British Embassy, Firelight Foundation, PeaceNexus, the Jesuits province in Zimbabwe at Silveira House, Kindernothilfe; UNICEF and NAC. The financial support made it possible to implement activities during the reporting period.

Our networking and lead partners also deserve a special mention in this report as Basilwizi learnt a lot from them during the reporting period. Recognition is made of NANGO, Church and Civil Society Forum, World Vision, Zubo and SNV and NAWISA.

Our Local authorities, led by their supportive council Chairs, Chief Executive officers and district administrators in Hwange, Binga, Gokwe North and South as well as Sinazongwe districts in Zambia, need a special recognition for their part in our work through 2014. Without their love and support for the development of their residents, our work would not had been successful.

We would like to thank Basilwizi staff, particularly our frontline field workers and volunteers (focal persons), the local leaders and the community at large for their commitment to Basilwizi programmes and related activities.

Signed

Frank Mudimba

(Director)

#### ii. ACRONYMS

AAIZ Action Aid International-Zimbabwe
AIDS Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AZFA Austria-Zimbabwe Friendship Association

CAMPFIRE Communal Areas Management Programme for Indigenous Resources

CLA Cluster Level Association CPC Child Protection and Care

CRC Convention on the Rights of a Child CRP Community Resource Persons DAAC District Aids Action Committee DEO District Education Officer

DLPD Department of Livestock Production and Development

DWSSC District Water Sanitation Sub Committee

EC European Commission

EHT Environmental Health Technician

ELBAG Economic Literacy on Budgeting, Accountability and Governance

HBC Home Based Care

HIV Human Immunodeficiency Virus HRDC Hwange Rural District Council

ICT Information Communication and Technology

IEC Information, Education and Communication material

INCREASH Information Creation Access and Sharing

LRP Local Rights Project

MDG Millennium Development Goals
MoHCC Ministry of Health and Child Care
MOU Memorandum of Understanding

MPSE Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education

NANGO National Association for Non-governmental Organisations

NGO Non-governmental Organisation
OVC Orphaned and Vulnerable Children
PLWD People Living with Disabilities
PLWHA People Living with HIV/AIDS
PRA Participatory Rural Appraisal

RDC Rural District Council

RDDC Rural District Development Committee
RDDC Rural District Development Committee
SDC School Development Committee

SHG Self-Help Group

SME Small and Medium Enterprises

SNV Netherlands Development Organisation

SRH Sexual Reproductive Health TAT Teachers Awaiting Training

TOLACO Tonga Language and Culture Committee

ToT Trainer of Trainers

UCE United College of Education
VCT Voluntary Counselling and Testing

VHWs Village Health Workers

WAD World Aids Day

YPWC Young People We Care

ZIMASSET Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Socio-Economic Transformation

ZOU Zimbabwe Open University
ZPS Zimbabwe Prisons Services
ZRP Zimbabwe Republic Police

ZVCPCP Zambezi Valley Child Protection and Care Project

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report outlines progress made by Basilwizi on programme implementation for the period January to December 2014. The report presents the environmental overview within which Basilwizi operates in, implementation against set activities and targets, achievements, lessons learnt, networking activities and fundraising and/or resource mobilisation efforts during the year. The report will also outline the challenges faced and the efforts being made to address these.

#### 2.0 GENERAL OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

Generally the operational environment was conducive for activity implementation. No threats or victimisation were experienced during the reporting period. Basilwizi signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Gokwe South adding to four the district where Basilwizi have MOUs. In all districts there were calls for NGOs to abide by the local authority strategic plans and to make reference to the ZimAsset when planning. This was so because the government is calling for all development institutions including government departments to ensure that their development activities address the laid down cluster strategies in the ZimAsset, as such all local authorities wanted NGOs to comply with the government's demand. On a similar note, all NGOs operating in Hwange were engaged and reminded of the requirements by Local authorities, all NGO were asked to acquire valid MOUs with Hwange Rural District Council and to attend key stakeholders' meetings called for by Hwange rural district or any chairperson of developmental committees such as the AIDS service organisation among others.

The situation in Nyaminyami remained the same. The DA still could not allow us to commence work there due to spurious and unproven politicisation of the community. However, we continue to receive overwhelming support from the local member of parliament there, Hon. Isaac Mckenzi (MP, Zanu PF) who has since accepted a formal invitation to sit as Basilwizi advisor alongside the Speaker of the House of Assembly, Hon, Advocate J. F. Mudenda, Chiefs Siansali and Sinansengwe. The Nyaminyami community did not tire to engage with relevant authorities to address the situation. For instance the Member of Parliament for this constituency who happened to be the former CEO highlighted that the local leadership were holding engagement meetings with provincial structures to rectify the problem and get back Basilwizi to operate in the district.

The food situation was fair in the entire five districts during the 2013 to 2014 period because no hunger shocks were reported. In communities were the harvests were not good, people bought grains from their other community members within the same area.

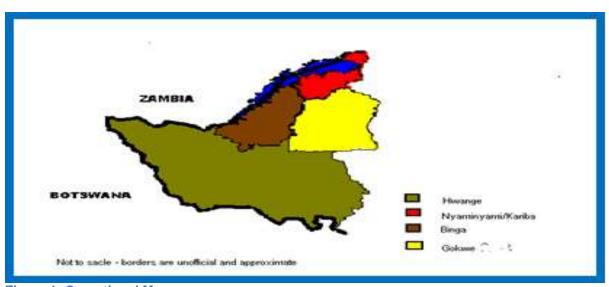
### 3.0 BACKGROUND OF BASILWIZI AND PROGRAMME AREAS

Basilwizi Vision: Basilwizi envisions "a sustainable people driven socio-economic development in the Zambezi Valley

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

## 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 wellbeing, 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.



**Figure 1: Operational Map** 

This map shows the operational district for Basilwizi. Gokwe is divided into two, Gokwe North and South. However the fifth district, Nyaminyami or Kariba rural as

referred to by other people is at the present moment suspended because of misunderstandings with the DA.



Figure 2: Graphical Presentation of Beneficiaries reached

## 3.1 Summary Projects implementation against set targets

All the projects reached above half of the set targets. The ZVLRP achieved more than the set target. This was so because of the child sponsorship project which was not included in the annual plans, this project was introduced in the middle of the year 2014.

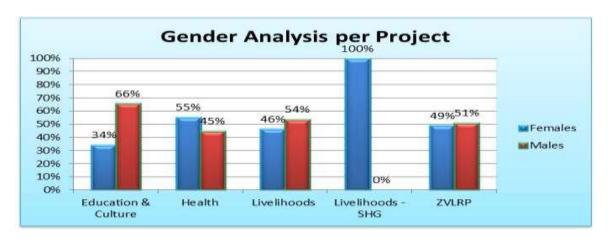


Figure 4: Gender Analysis

The number of people reached in 2014 was more than that of 2013. In 2013, the programme reached out to 6917 compared to 14806 in 2014. Thus, the number of beneficiaries increased by 7889 (36,3%). The participation of women was higher than of their male counter parts in year 2014. This was so because of the SHG project with a 100% targets on women and, the bias of the fisheries project toward women in each of the five fish ponds members. It was deliberately made that 15

members in each pond are women and 10 are men. Even if this was so, the percentage participation of women dropped by 1,7% from 2013 where women participation was at 54.7%. The participation of women in capture fisheries are dominated by men hence this was one main reason behind the dropping of percentages of women participation.

### 4.0 PROGRAMME AREAS AND ACTIVITIES

## 4.1 Local Rights Project

This project is being implemented in four districts of Gokwe North(Simuchembu ward 31 and Nenyunga A, and South (Musala and Mukoka wards), Binga(Kaani, Kabuba, Sinamagonde and Lubimbi) and Hwange (Musuna).

## The project objectives are;

• To enhance community capacity to organise themselves, claim their rights from policy makers

## 4.1.1 Summary of activities and progress on outputs

Outcome/Output	Activity	Progress
Capacity building of people living in poverty to speak up and speak out on their human rights	interpreting sections of the national constitution, Leadership, communication,	capacitated with skills and knowledge to strengthen
Enhancing the capacity of locals to engage office bearers for improved service delivery		benefited from the different
Focusing on building strong networks/alliances with other similar organisations in order to effectively influence policies of duty bearers' policy makers/ decision makers.	NANGO Annual General Meeting, NGO	-188 rights holders participated in networking activities230 IEC materials in form of t-shirts, banners, bandanas, brochures and calendars were distributed among staff and rights holders.

## 4.1.2 Child Sponsorship Project

The project is operational in 4 wards of Tyunga, Luunga, Kalungwizi and Nabusenga. This is a new programme under Action Aid Zimbabwe. The concept of the project is to identify and link the Zimbabwe children between 9 to 12 years with interested people in Denmark and other related countries to fund these children. The money generated from this strategy is then brought into the country to support the Action Aid country programme.



**Photo: Tyunga LRP Child Sponsorship in pictures** 

#### 4.1.3 Achievements and Successes

There has been an increased demand for community watch-dog roles in the Zambezi Valley due to the accountability training. Six ELBAG Committees were established and 2 reinstituted. A steering committee was set to spearhead the formation of the Binga Residents Association. The association would help Binga society to become more organized in addressing their community developmental issues. In addition there are calls for service decentralization by communities who believed that service providers are not doing justice in resource allocation. For instance an ELBAG in Gwangwaliba have demanded for the establishment of a secondary school from responsible authorities. Registration papers have already been completed by the interim SDC and submitted to Binga RDC). On a similar note, the communities in Gokwe North where Tonga language is dominate engaged SDCs and the Headmasters on the teaching of ChiTonga (in Sabala, Madamu, Vumba, Chikango and Simujulu). A deliberate move was made to recruit the Tonga speaking teachers. In line with this accomplishment, the Tonga syllabus got approved by the United College of Education academic board as well as by the Department of Teacher's Education at the University of Zimbabwe. This has paved way for the teaching of ChiTonga at UCE since from September 2014. Time tables that incorporate ChiTonga were developed for the year 2015. Basilwizi has successfully engaged the following teachers training colleges UCE, Morgenster, Bondolfi, Mkoba, Hillside and Joshua Mqabuko Teachers Colleges to link aspiring trainee teachers to these respective colleges.

#### 4.2 Health and HIV and AIDS project

This project has three components. The Young People we Care which is funded by UNICEF. This component is being implemented in Sinakoma, Sinansengwe and

Nabusenga in Binga. The other component is the Firelight Foundation funded project which is solely being implemented in Hwange district. The other component is the Zambezi Valley Child Protection funded by KNH. This project is being implemented in Sinakoma, Sinansengwe, Lubu, Mucheso. Simatelele, Sinampande, Nabusenga. Kalunwizi, Luunga and Tyunga in Binga district and Musuna in Hwange district. Another component of this project is the Global fund being implemented in Binga district in Tyunga, Nabusenga , Sinansengwe and Sinakoma wards, and Simuchebu and Nenyunga wards in Gokwe North district. The activity implementation has since ended but the caregivers are still monitoring progress on the ground, producing reports and receiving their monthly allowances.

## 4.2.1 Summary of activities and progress on outputs

Outcome/Output	Activity	Progress
Child rights, RSH, HIV and AIDS information accessed by children	-Life Skills Training on culture, RSH and HIV/AIDS for youths	3 of these trainings were done during the reporting period.
	Paralegal training and establishment of committee	The Child led CPC in Musuna acquired skills on legal issues affecting the children and reporting procedures.
	World AIDS day commemoration	2 commemorations were held 1 at Nsenga for Binga district and another one at Musuna for Hwange districts increased HIV and AIDS awareness especially to young people.
	Day of the African Child commemoration	2 commemorations were held in Nabusenga and Sinansengwe wards. The activity highlighted child abuse issues .It is hoped that the communities will join hands in fighting these abuses.
	Birth registration campaigns	People were enlightened on the importance of birth and death registration. The trainings revealed that some children and adults had no birth certificates.
	Dialogue meeting with adults, youth, government departments on child abuse	The meetings created a space for the primary stakeholders to interact with the project staff and share experiences which would inform future programming.
Community based Child protection committees trained and functional	- Child CPC trainings on Convention on the Rights of a Child	1 training was done in Musuna and child led CPCs were issued with a copy of the convention on the rights of a child for their future references.
Inheritance rights claimed by orphans and vulnerable	-Marriages and inheritance laws	-the Musuna community was enlightened on the inheritance and

children (OVCs).	-Ward level Zero tolerance campaigns against negative cultural practices on marriages and inheritance	marriage laws.
IEC materials on child rights produced in local language by affected OVCs and distributed to others	translated CRC document into local	71 people benefited from the IEC material at the continental World AIDS day commemoration held in Victoria Falls.
Successful income generating project for young people in Musuna village of Hwange	management for youths and local leaders.  Entrepreneurship training to grinding committee members	leaders on how to handle some of the conflicts which arise in their respective communities.  10 members of the grinding mill committee were trained on entrepreneurship. The knowledge imparted would assist the project committee to professionally and successfully run their project.
	School fees and supplies payment for OVCs	Fees were paid for all five children being supported at Neshaya secondary school

The project reached out to **9065** people

HBC – Gokwe North and Binga breakdown

Indicators	Status	Males		Female	
		Gokw e	Binga	Gokw e	<u>Binga</u>
No. of clients newly enrolled on CHBC (by functional status)	Bed-ridden	0	0	0	0
	Homebound	2	5	7	7
No. of clients served by CHBC (by functional status)	Bed-ridden	4	0	11	1
,	Homebound	159	193	348	299
No. of CHBC clients deceased		2	2	2	4
No. of secondary caregivers		26	28	28	32

#### 4.2.2. Achievements and Successes



13 bicycles were bought and distributed to the Young People We Care (YPWC) volunteer leaders and this has improved quality of work as they can easily mobilise themselves and the community in all developmental work.

Six Young People We Care volunteers went back to school as a direct result of a

back to school campaign program. As a result of the back to school campaign, two study groups were formed, one in Nabusenga and another one in Musuna.



Another achievement recorded was of the volunteers who had shown an appreciation of the project by developing early health seeking behaviour as evidenced by their participation on VCT (13 in Sinakoma and 6 in Nabusenga). Mr Moffat Dube a nurse at Siabuwa clinic had this to say "Basilwizi is really complementing our efforts by educating the young ones about HIV, AIDS and encouraging the young people to seek VCT before marriage so that they are informed of their HIV status. Since this project started we have begun record

statistics on Young people coming in for VCT," Said Moffat Dube.



The project also made significant changes in education support; one child receiving financial support from the grinding mill in Musuna Benevolence Ngwenya came out as the highest performing student at Neshaya Secondary with 4 As,3Cs and 1 B at national 'O' level public examinations. He is currently doing his lower 6 at Binga High School.

#### 4.2.3 Lessons leant

It was learnt that the client care givers ratio is higher than the stipulated ratio in the HBC national standards. The HBC national standard ratio of client and caregiver is

1:5 the reality on the ground in both Gokwe North and Binga is that the ratio is 1:8. It was also noted under this project that most HBC clients have been adhering and responding well to their medication. From statistics, it was noted that the death rate had gone down to as low as 0.2% in 2014, bed ridden clients was at 2% during the same period while home bound clients those who are capable of performing their duties was at 98%. The project continued to enrol clients. However, very few clients were enrolled during year 2014. The newly enrolled were 2%. It is assumed that this was so because of the improved behaviour of community members and health. The project also managed to reach out to all Home Based Care Givers and all received their allowances.

The project observation is that child abuse cases are not being reported to the relevant structures both at community and district level. There is need to ensure cases are dealt with to their logical end. It was also learnt that some early marriages are caused by lack of economic stability of the communities which then calls for the need to integrate activities which seek to address economic challenges of the communities such as mainstreaming income generating projects so that young people would be economically empowered and desist from engaging in sexual activities at a tender age. The situation also calls for continued awareness campaigns on child rights and child abuse case management to local traditional leaders,. There is also need to strengthen dual reporting by the CPC members, conduct targeted awareness campaigns while continuously involving police or social welfare in project activities.

## 4.3 Education and Culture Project

This project is comprised of three components. The first being the educational support. Under this component, the project has been supporting 31 orphans and vulnerable children since 2011 and 25 have completed their 'O' level and 6 (2 girls and 4 boys) were still being supported with financial assistance for secondary education level. The project also worked with marginalised language groups to lobby for the effective teaching of these languages in the education curriculum. To achieve in this area, the project linked the young people interested in the teaching field with identified colleges to be recruited as the trainee teachers so that after completing their course they would come back and teach in the Zambezi valley to promote the language. The project also assisted schools to access Tonga textbooks and set books for use in schools. For instance, the project collected cash and bought set books in Zambia on behalf of the schools. The project also worked hand in hand with other stakeholders inclusive of Tonga Language and Culture Committee ( TOLACO) to mobilise and organise for a successful launch of the Lusumpuko series held in Kariangwe in October 2014, with the following theme: "to celebrate diversity of Zimbabwe's indigenous languages."

Under the cultural component, this project encourages the revival of the Tonga culture in the Zambezi valley by working with different cultural groups of Chilimba and Ngoma buntibe.

The third component of the education and culture project is the ITC. Under this component the project worked with media clubs in schools and the citizen journalist based at ward level.

## 4.3.1 Summary of activities and progress on outputs

Outcome/Output	Activities	Progress
Community is mobilized and united around a Binga based community radio.	-Sensitisation meetings with local authorities and community LeadershipSetting up of community radio station committee.	<ul> <li>The sensitisation meeting was held</li> <li>A stirring committee was set up comprising of 10 people (4 women &amp; 6 men).</li> <li>The committee had started the process of producing a constitution for the radio station.</li> </ul>
Enhanced information creation; access and utilization	<ul> <li>-Training of youths on Citizen Journalist.</li> <li>-Distribution of Airtime to focal CJs.</li> <li>-Citizen Journalist peer quarterly meeting</li> <li>-Training of young people on media clubs weekly Newspapers distribution</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The number of media clubs increased to 18 from 12 clubs in 2013.</li> <li>The number of youths trained in citisen journalism increased from 130 by 2013 to 260 in 2014.</li> </ul>
Information hub for Zongwe on air on social media maintained.  Education and Language Promotion	Sinazongwe	<ul> <li>2 support visits were made to Sinazongwe.</li> <li>New broadcasters were identified to continue supporting the radio station.</li> </ul>

## 4.3.2 Achievements and Successes

Citizen journalists are now commanding space and have become regular subscribers to mainstream media houses' SMS pages. The CJ concept has also influenced more social media groups to be created such as the Binga current affairs, Kaani CJs, Binga Current Affairs, Lets Debate Issues (Political Issues) and Twaambo Twamulwizi. The chats groups are enabling community to actively participate in socio-economic and political processes of the district and country.



The long waited Lusumpuko for the ordinary series secondary education level have been completed. The government supported the launch by donating 11120 copies of which 10820 were the pupils' books brokendown as follows lusumpuko 3, 4000, Lusumpuko 4, 4000, Zyalolokela 1410, Nkondo kubanakokalya 1410. addition, the government

donated 300 teachers' books broken down a follows; 150 Lusmpuko book 3 and another 150 Lusumpuko book 4. These books have since been distributed in schools in the Zambezi valley.

Newsletters has become a vital source of information to the communities- One lady from Kariangwe was enlightened of getting a birth certificate for his son after reading the story on birth registration campaign from the newsletter. The lady's son was doing grade 6 at Kariangwe Primary without a birth certificate after reading the story she developed courage to facilitate the birth registration certificate of her son.

The Zongwe FM continues to broadcast and help people of Zinazongwe community access current affairs of their country. The radio FM team also secured land to construct an independent Community Radio station. This will help the radio station increase its coverage.



**Photos: Sinazongwe Community radio station in pictures** 

Six youths were inspired and joined the media clubs. Through the relationship between Basilwizi and Austrian partners, AZFA, 20 women were capacitated with photographic skills in Siachilaba ward.



Newspaper distribution continues to benefit rural communities (through updates on current affairs, college and job adverts etc.) The project managed to distribute 147 out of a 384 newspapers target of newsletters (38%).The people reached out to were 1200 (360 females and 840 male, for both the newspapers and newsletter distribution.

Citizen journalists are now commanding space and have become regular subscribers to some local media houses' SMS pages.

Pupils have developed a reading culture that has a positive bearing on academic achievements. "Youths have been inspired to write- through reading articles contributed by their peers. For instance, one of the students at Kariangwe high school commended the distribution of newspaper and the introduction of young people to the CJs project. She said "My friend Luumuno wrote an article, I will also contribute mine for publication. Besides enjoying reading and being inspired to write our own stories the newspapers help us improve our English as well. Both my reading and writing skills has improved through reading newspapers," said Choolwe Muleya, a form three pupil at Kariangwe High School.

#### 4.4 Integrated Fisheries and Aquaculture Project

Basilwizi in partnership with World Vision and Aquaculture Zimbabwe is supporting members of the irrigation schemes in Nabusenga, Kariangwe and Lubanda wards with fishponds. The project is being supported by the EU. The project goal is to improve food security of vulnerable households by creating an environment that is conducive to reducing the dependency of communities on humanitarian assistance and sustainably increases their resilience to shocks.

The project seeks to improve the food security and dietary diversity of vulnerable households in Binga and Hwange districts through market based fisheries and aquaculture activities focused on sustainable fish and water resources management. The implemented activities include trainings on Integrated Aquaculture Agriculture for members of the fish ponds, sustainable natural resources management for the ward environmental management committees, training for capture fisheries and irrigation schemes members on business and marketing skills, value chain addition, nutrition and food processing. By the time of reporting Basilwizi had two partner visits, one with World Vision and the other with Aquaculture Zimbabwe. World vision visited (Lungwalala Irrigation Scheme at Kariangwe) to assess progress on the work done, while Aquaculture Zimbabwe's visit was to assess the quality of fish ponds

excavated and to see if these were up to standard and to find out if these ponds needed any special treatment or material.



Photos: View of completed fishponds in Nabusenga and Kariyangwe Wards

## 4.4.1 Summary of activities and progress on outputs

Outcome/Output	Activities	Progress
Output 1: Improved food production and dietary diversity of vulnerable HHs through fisheries and aquaculture activities.	District inception meetings, Ward inception meetings, Training of trainers on IAA, Training of farmers on IAA, Training of trainers on nutrition and food processing, Farmer training on food processing and nutrition, Integrated agriculture- aquaculture production system design and construction	Five fish pond sites have been identified, 4 fish ponds are 100% complete and awaits stocking. The pond at Nzovunde was 100% complete but it was not yet stocked due to low water level.
Output 2: Income generation capacity of vulnerable HH and marginalised groups increased through fish and aquaculture value chains.	Mobilisation and organisation of producer groups, Train farmers on Business management, Train farmers on value addition	The fisheries were capacitated on the importance of value addition to their fish and fish product.
Output 3. Improved community management in community resources	Training of trainers on Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM), Farmer training on community based natural resources management	Ward environmental committees have been equipped with community based natural resources management skills and some communities community had their by-laws on protection of their natural resources.
Output 4: Improved Capacity of Government	TOT of stakeholders (Extension and DLPD staff)	Government line ministries were equipped with relevant skills on

Institutions to support communities in sustainable fish and water resources management	integrated Agriculture and Aquaculture Systems, TOT stakeholders community based natural resources management, TOT for Government stakeholders on value chain addition, TOT for government stakeholders on nutrition and food processing	Aquaculture Agriculture, CBNRM,
Output 5: Improved coordination and information exchange between small scale fishers and government institutions to positively influence policy.	Establishment and support of fish associations at sub-district, district, provincial and national levels	8 Area fisheries committees and 1 district kapenta union committee have been resuscitated in fishing zones and irrigation schemes

74.4% of the targeted activities have been implemented and project reached out to 1253 people of which 670 male and 583 female participants.

#### 4.4.2 Achievements and Successes

The project was well received at both community and local authority. This gave the project hope for sustainability.

A total of 705 beneficiaries have been registered by the time of reporting.

Five fish ponds have been identified excavated and ready for stocking. Identification and Registration of beneficiaries for the fish ponds was done. Each fish pond has a membership of 25 people, 15 women and 10 men. The inclusion of more women in the ponds was deliberate so that more women would benefit than man in order to address the gap that exist between men and women on economic empowerment.

## 4.5 Self Help Group Project

Basilwizi runs a project that supports women's empowerment through self-help groups in Binga district. This project is generously supported by Kindernothilfe (KNH) of German. The project has three thematic are the Economic empowerment, Social empowerment and Political empowerment. For year 2014, the project focused on helping women understand the SHG concept, the formation of more women's SHG groups and trainings on group savings. The groups comprise of socio-economic vulnerable women who were selected using the Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA).



Photo: Self Help Group participants attending a meeting

## 4.5.1 Summary of activities and progress on outputs

Outcome/Output	Activities	Progress
Introducing women to	Formation of SGH	33 SHGs were formed during the
self-help group concept		period under review.
Capacity building on	Training on savings, loan	33 groups were capacitated on
SHG concept, loan and	and common management	importance of loan and savings.
savings	, and the second	
Leadership and	Trainings on	SHG members were equipped
communication capacity	communication skills,	with leadership and
building to the SHG	trainings on leadership skills	communication skills
Strengthen the capacity	Book writers, business	The SHGs were equipped with
of the SHGs and CLA	management skills, SHG	relevant skills to help improve their
	strengthening and group	business.
	grading.	
Cluster level Association	Formation of cluster level	1 cluster was formed at
	association	Sinansengwe ward.

#### 4.5.2 Achievements and Successes

Women are now able to contribute their \$0,50 weekly savings. The groups realised a cumulative saving of \$7 149,00. The groups managed to save and do other businesses. The groups had raised \$13262,00 from savings and other income (cumulative) by end of year 2014. The total amount of money loaned out for all groups cumulative was \$32337,00

Women had started their own businesses from the loans they had taken. One of the SHG members managed to buy herself a kitchen unit from the profits she made from the savings.

Olivia Muleya is a member of Tuyake SHG. She is a mother of one child, married and resides in Muzinda village under Sinansengwe ward. She joined SHG in April 2013 from inception of the project. She had no concrete plans with her life as she was living in poverty, although she had a talent of hair dressing. Olivia's husband

was not formally employed and the family had no other source of income in the household. After being capacitated with different trainings in the SHG project, Olivia was equipped with business management skills. She suddenly realised that she was not making use of her God given talents. She borrowed \$50.00 from the group and bought some hair chemicals and started a hair salon, operating from her homestead. Photo: Olivia Muleya sharing her success story



Every fortnight she made a profit of \$45.00. She continued with her business and by the time of reporting, Olivia had bought herself a wardrobe worth \$350, 4 Kango pots, 3 chickens and 4 kitchen chair table. The family is now living a better life compared to the previous years before she joined the SHG project. . She is appealing to other women to join SHGs as it is self-helping and empowering.

Another woman, Sabina Mudenda is a mother of two and happily married. She is a member of Tujatane Self Help Group in Muzinda Village under Sinansengwe ward. Sabina joined the Self Help Group in April 2013 when the Self Help Group concept was introduced. In her group, they agreed to save a dollar per week. She did as agreed. She got a loan of \$20.00 from the group, topped it up with \$7,00 from her home savings and bought a box of laundry soap at a local wholesale shop (National Foods) at a cost of \$27.00 for 24 bars. She sold a bar of soap for \$2.00 and got a profit of \$21.00 from the first box. She continued with this type of business for 2 months and managed to pay back the \$20.00 loan with 20% interest. All in all, she paid back within two months and still remained with a profit of \$38,00 profits which is 190% profit within two months. She later ventured into selling clothes which she was buying from Harare for resell in Sinansengwe and she accrued better profits. This made her manage to buy kitchen utensils, blankets, paid school fees and school uniform for her school going children. Now she celebrates for having her wishes fulfilled and appreciates the SHG concept for being an eye opener to development. The 3 focal persons were supported with bicycles to ease transport challenges.

#### 5.0 **NETWORKING AND COORDINATION**

Name of Activity	Attended by	Venue	Purpose
Shangano Arts festivals,	Bbaido and Ngoma buntibe from Siansali	Lupane	To celebrate cultural diversity with other tribes within Matabeleland North province.
Lusumpuko series Launch	All	Kariyangwe Primary	To Launch the Lusumpuko series.
Day of the African Child	Pottar Muzamba and Norman Muleya	Mucheni Primary school	To commemorate the day of the African Child with other stakeholders.

National coordination meeting	Mary Mudimba	Binga	The staff team for SHG implementing organisations met for the partner progress review meeting,
National Director's meetings	Maxwell and Frank	Bulawayo	To review progress on the SHG program as well as plan jointly with fellow partners
CCSF all partners meeting	Frank and Danisa	Harare	Jointly review progress and plan for the future activities of the project.
Child protection Policy development	Maxwell and Norman	Harare	Collectively receive capacity building training on the Child protection policy development.

#### 6.0 RESOURCE MOBILISATION AND FUNDRASING

In order to sustain the development actions in the Zambezi Valley, Basilwizi developed a number of proposals as an individual organisation and also as a consortium with other like-minded organisation. In this endeavour, the organisation secured funding from Peace Nexus for Basilwizi strategic planning, Firelight Foundation for the HIV and AIDS project in Hwange, HIVOS, and British Embassy for the Fisheries warehouse.

#### 7.0 CHALLENGES

There is still high perceived or real fear from witchcraft in the communities we work in. This fear is derailing the active pursuance of child abuse cases by the Child Protection Committees across the operating areas.

Basilwizi will work tirelessly with relevant authorities to subdue this fear and ensure total protection for all children. The organisation's continued operational challenges in Nyaminyami district is a huge setback for programmes in that district.

Lack of stocking of the fish fingerlings in the constructed ponds has delayed the process of fish farming.

#### **8.0 KEY LESSONS LEARNT**

Working hand in hand with line ministries enhanced the working relationship between Basilwizi and the government departments. Engaging stakeholders reduced suspicion and misconceptions about the organisation and all NGOs operating in the districts.

In some cases the CPC committee members were viewed as parallel structures rather than bona fide corrective institutions set up by government ministry of Labour and social services. Lack of feedback on reported cases of child abuse is a concern to the CPC members and home based care facilitators. Issues of gender continue to affect women. Women are not seen in most development work due to different reasons ranging from illiteracy, lack of information, inferiority complex and continued stereotyping of women by men leaders.

## 9.0. CONCLUSSION

Year 2014 was productive for Basilwizi as an organisation. During this period, the organisation developed relationships with Gokwe South and also strengthened some old ties with Gokwe North, HIVOS, KNH and ActionAid Zimbabwe, among other organisations. Basilwizi managed to carry out most of the planned acticities and we look ahead to an even brighter 2015 for the development of the Zambezi valley communities.