



Completion Report

ZIM-SIM-FMF-P01, Zimbabwe
Reporting Period: November 2016 – March 2017

Feed My Family - Zimbabwe

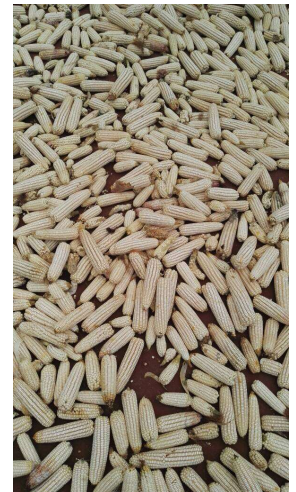
Budget: \$12,300 – fully funded!

Update:

This project worked with families in three locations; two in Zimbabwe's capital Harare in poor black suburbs and one in a rural community in Mutoko village. It has taught intensive and sustainable vegetable growing in order to assist feeding families and to sell commercial crops to earn a living. The project began in April 2016 and has successfully trained 14 families in sustainable farming methods including vegetables and maize.

The families were taught to grow the vegetables in Lodger sacks (which are good in smaller spaces) and they learnt a zero-tillage technique for growing maize, which provides a better harvest than traditional methods. All the families were trained in growing maize and planted it earlier than they usually would, which was partly why they achieved higher yields. The families have grown new herbs and vegetables and sold some of the excess produce. This will allow them to buy seeds for next season making them self-sustainable.

In addition families were trained in basic health and nutrition. Each family was monitored and visited and has been provided with hands-on advice and help with all crops. Each family was given seeds and fertilizers to get them started. In Mutoko our partners have trained two of the staff who have since started a 6 m x 6 m vegetable garden. The produce is being used for lunches for a small group of young children who are part of our literacy program. Our partners also repaired an existing well.



Our partners report, "In Hopley – a township outside of Harare, we have been working with an HIV positive widow named Clara. She has developed her land and has had an excellent harvest of maize from the seed that was provided from the project, which will feed her family and three orphans that are living with her for a year. As a follow-up, she is growing six garden beds with a variety of vegetables – which are currently being used daily to provide one meal for a group of twelve children from the surrounding community, as well as generating income to provide for her and her family's basic needs. Clara has been deeply impacted by all the investment made and has told us more than once that she has experienced the benefits of hard work and having a nutritious diet and is deeply grateful."



In summary our partners report that "All families that have participated have had better food supplies this season as a direct result of this project. This has ensured each family grew a maize crop and became more food secure."

Food security is at the heart of basic needs in life. The uncertainty that food insecurity brings takes over everything. Zimbabwe is still faced with overwhelming needs, many of which the government is not meeting adequately. People are desperate and our partners work tirelessly to help provide some of the basic rights to which all are entitled.

Thank you for making these projects happen. It makes a huge difference to those involved.