

Making a life for women

ZIM-SIM-MLW-P01



Harare, Zimbabwe



Economic Empowerment

Total Budget

\$19,000

Project Timeline

SEPT 19

DEC 20



Overview

Our partners trained very poor communities of women and widows in the capital Harare to implement income-generating projects, namely point-of-lay chickens, bee-keeping and making peanut butter. Their aim to more effectively and sustainably meet their physical needs of general sustenance and then replicate their skills in the longer term was met. As a result, families have better food security and any surplus is sold to generate extra income. The bee-keeping project was re-located to our partner's base due to COVID-19 restrictions and is still a work in progress. The total project was extended by 4 months. Despite the difficulties, our partners soldier on - they are amazing!

Objectives



18 women,
13 men and
30 children
empowered

Impact

Women (and families) learned the skills needed for chicken rearing and making peanut butter. With the profits, loans were given out for small business start-ups or to boost a current business with great success. We love this concept.



Incomes
increased
considerably

Due to training and support and community empowerment, incomes increased. 50% started in the \$0-15 bracket. This was reduced to 15%! Others in the community have been encouraged, using the model our partners demonstrated.



Rachel's life transformed!

Rachel's life had many financial challenges and it was a struggle to put food on the family table. She longed for food security and a good toilet to help with hygiene. She struggled with the stigma of having such an unclean and makeshift toilet. She said, "I was encouraged to join the peanut butter-making project. I was able to get a loan from the sales and started to sell some small medical items. With the profits and my husband's help, we managed to build a new brick pit latrine toilet. I am so happy this has happened within a year! If people can't pay me cash, I receive payment in chickens, maize and beans which I also sell!"



Life change

- Increased income has meant better food security and education for children
- Extra income helped families to survive due to food scarcity from COVID-19
- Women (and men) have learnt to work together to make better decisions for themselves and their communities. This was a new skill for many.

