



care
CARE International
in Zimbabwe

**ANNUAL
REPORT** | **2023**

© CARE International in Zimbabwe 2023

All rights reserved.

Any reproduction of this publication in full or in part must mention the title and credit CARE International in Zimbabwe.

Cover Photo: Ancicalia Simango is one of USAID Takunda lead mothers participating in Care Groups were pregnant and lactating women receive nutrition centered messaging.

©CARE/Charmaine Chitate

Compiled and designed by Pauline Hurungudo

All photos © CARE International in Zimbabwe

Table of Contents

Message from the Country Director	1
About CARE International in Zimbabwe.....	3
Where we worked	4
2023 reach by the numbers	5
Program highlights	7
Featured program	12
Stories of impact	13
Partnerships	16
Partners and donors	17
Featured partnership	18
Financial overview.....	20



Message by the Country Director

In 2023, CARE International in Zimbabwe (CIZ) achieved remarkable progress in enhancing the lives of women, girls and their communities. Despite facing numerous challenges, including food insecurity and a Cholera outbreak, we remained steadfast in our mission to deliver inclusive, resilient and sustainable solutions to address poverty and injustice. Our efforts were not carried out alone; we joined forces with funding partners, the Government of Zimbabwe, non-government organizations, corporations and the communities themselves.

The year proved to be an exciting one for CIZ as we forged strategic partnerships with the private sector, aligning with our six impact areas to support vulnerable communities in a sustainable manner. We made deliberate efforts to ensure that our partnerships and work were guided by principles of gender equality, local leadership and global scalability.

An important development was CIZ's appointment to the National Civil Protection System, granting us the capability to respond to emergencies within 24 hours.

To support this, we established the Zimbabwe Humanitarian Development Partnership Platform (ZHDPP), enabling us to leverage the surge capacity of local partners during crises. The ZHDPP includes nineteen local partners, four of which are women-led rights groups, and two representing people with disabilities. This approach reinforces our commitment to achieving gender equality, promoting local leadership and expanding our impact globally.

Furthermore, we collaborated with tertiary institutions to strengthen our program data, documentation and research. We also invested in various innovative, scalable and impactful community-based solutions. As a result, we have witnessed the empowering ripple effect, with women gaining control over their financial future and the ability to make decisions regarding their well-being and that of their families.

I am delighted to share that our reach extended to 164,856 individuals. We express our heartfelt gratitude to our partners and donors for their invaluable and unwavering support.

I take immense pride in our collective initiatives and the positive impact we continue to generate. I trust that the documentation of our achievements will serve as both an inspiration and a source of motivation for the work that lies ahead.

Yours Sincerely



Patrick Sikana
Country Director
CARE International in Zimbabwe



Four children in school uniforms are standing in front of a chalkboard filled with math problems. They are holding yellow signs with text about disaster preparedness. From left to right: a boy in a dark shirt and shorts holds a sign; a boy in a dark shirt, shorts, and a brown hat holds a sign; a girl in a green shirt and dark skirt holds a sign; and a girl in a green shirt and a checkered skirt holds a sign. The chalkboard behind them has various math problems written on it, including multiplication and division problems.

CHILDREN ARE MORE
VULNERABLE IN
DISASTERS.

EDUCATION CANNOT
WAIT DURING
DISASTERS.

DISASTER
PREPAREDNESS
REDUCES
ABSENTISM.

PROTECT GIRLS
IN
EMERGENCIES.

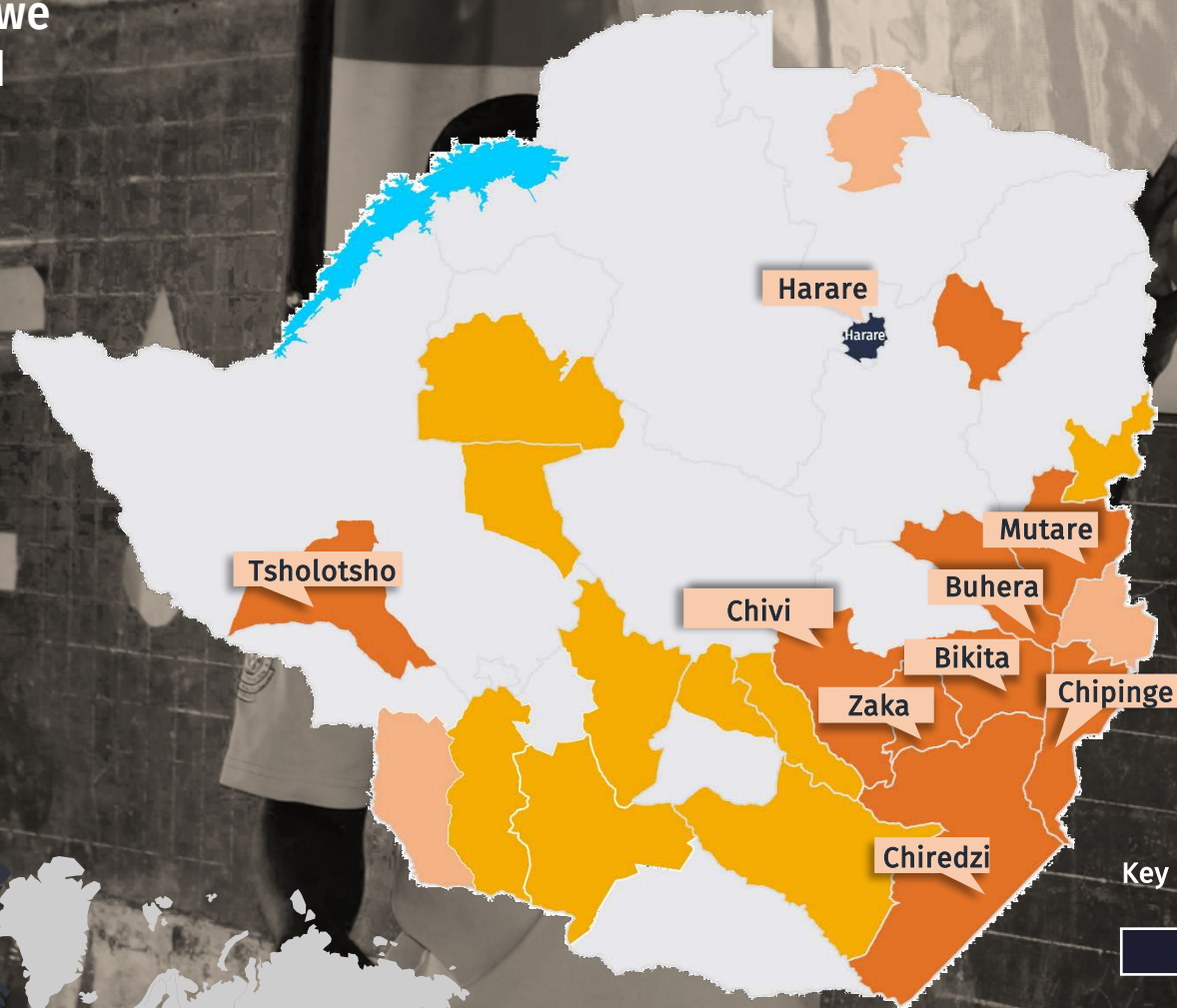
About CARE International in Zimbabwe

CARE International has been actively engaged in Zimbabwe since 1992, striving to improve the lives of vulnerable households by fostering sustainable livelihoods through a combination of short-term and long-term programs. By forming strategic partnerships with local organizations, CIZ implements initiatives that empower these households to meet their basic needs. Presently, our operations extend to three provinces in Zimbabwe; Masvingo, Matabeleland South, and Manicaland. Within these regions, we are executing programs that prioritize various areas such as Gender Equality including Education, Right to Food, Water and Nutrition, and Climate Change and Adaptation. Additionally, we integrate programs addressing the Right to Health, Humanitarian Response and Women's Economic Justice. CIZ offers support to both rural and urban communities, enabling them to generate income and assets, thus gaining control over their future.

Our comprehensive humanitarian and development program encompasses several key components, including sexual and reproductive health (SRH), sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), women's economic empowerment (WEE), youth empowerment, child participation through community engagement and mobilization, village savings and loans association (VSLA) groups, emergency health, protection against SGBV, inclusive governance, and resilience. In 2022 alone, our programs positively impacted a significant number of individuals, reaching a total of 1,262,534 million people. At CARE, we are deeply committed to upholding gender equality and social inclusion, and all our work adheres to these principles and standards. Our approach emphasizes gender-transformative strategies.


To date, CIZ has successfully established 29,533 VSLAs, which collectively comprise 207,725 members, with over 180,000 women actively participating. Furthermore, by the end of 2021, our COVID-19 response efforts had reached an impressive 2.5 million people in Zimbabwe.

Where we worked in 2023



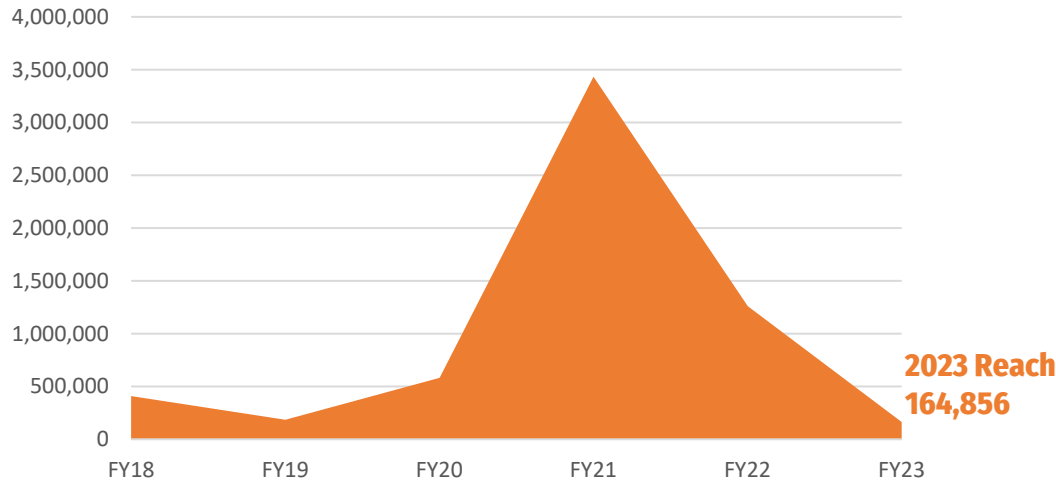
IN FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023
CARE ZIMBABWE WORKED IN
8 DISTRICTS IN THREE
PROVINCES

Key

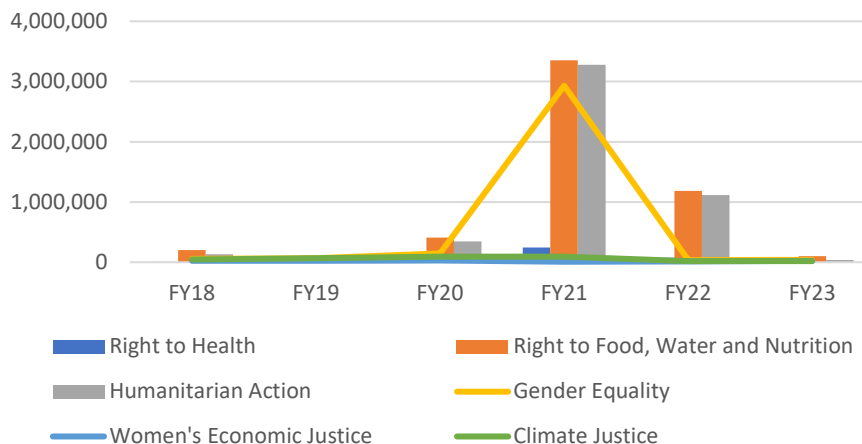
-  Head Office
-  District we worked in 2023
-  Other districts we worked in the past
-  District we are working through a partner

2023 reach by the numbers

Total number of people reached in the last five years



Reach by impact area for the last five years



During the previous fiscal year, we conducted a thorough assessment of our thematic priorities (impact areas) for the upcoming three years. As a result, we strategically refined our focus to prioritize key areas such as Food, Water and Nutrition Systems, Climate Justice and Adaptation, and Gender Equality, including Education. This shift was implemented with the aim of enhancing the efficiency, effectiveness and diversity of our program portfolio.

Throughout the year, we worked in close collaboration with government development initiatives, with a specific emphasis on improving food, water and nutrition security, advocating for climate justice, empowering individuals economically, promoting gender equality, enhancing education and addressing health concerns as well as responding to humanitarian emergencies.

By actively engaging and partnering with communities, we dedicated ourselves to understanding the root causes of poverty and developing innovative solutions that are led by local expertise. As a result of these collective efforts in FY23, our initiatives positively impacted the lives of **164,856** individuals across three provinces.



101,392

people provided with access to food, water and nutrition.



17,633

people supported in strengthening their resilience and adaptiveness to climate change.



38,917

people empowered to advance gender equality and education..



21,576

people assisted in advancing women's economic empowerment.



23,361

people served through humanitarian response.



37,348

people equipped with information and access to health services.

64.9%

of our program participants were women and girls.



Program highlights

Right to food, water and nutrition

In collaboration with various partners, we dedicated our efforts to enhancing access to food, water and nutrition for the most vulnerable individuals, regardless of gender. Our primary focus was on addressing immediate life-saving needs and facilitating early recovery initiatives. Through our endeavors, we successfully supported a total of **101,392** individuals in their endeavors to improve food production and enhance nutrition.

Thanks to the USAID Takunda project, we were able to train lead mothers and Village Health Workers (VHWs) who played a crucial role in organizing care groups. These groups brought together pregnant and lactating women, fathers, and elderly women to spread nutrition-focused messages. Our nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions reached a total of **70,295** people. Furthermore, we made significant progress in the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector reaching a total of **16,034** individuals who gained access to clean water, improving their overall hygiene and sanitation conditions.





Climate change and adaptation

During the financial year, we worked tirelessly to strengthen the resilience and adaptive capacities of **17,633** individuals in four districts across two provinces: Manicaland and Masvingo. Our primary focus was on empowering people to better withstand the impacts of climate change by enhancing their ability to anticipate risks, cope with shocks and stresses, adjust to evolving conditions and transform existing systems and structures.

Through the implementation of the USAID Takunda project, we successfully introduced innovative approaches to water conservation, climate resilience, and water-smart agriculture (WaSA). Our goal was not only to ensure access to clean drinking water but also to enable communities to cultivate food sustainably.

The Urban Social Assistance program successfully reached and benefitted **40,000** individuals, providing them with much-needed support in Masvingo and Norton. The resilience building efforts promoted livelihoods diversification, income generating activities and built local community assets.

Program highlights

Gender Equality & Education

We employed various approaches and proven tools to engage stakeholders at all levels, addressing economic, social, political and cultural barriers that leave women and girls vulnerable. Through these interventions, we reached a total of **38,917** individuals. In Buhera and Mutare rural districts, we implemented the Supporting Transition Attendance Retention and Training for girls (START4Girls) Project with funding from Global Affairs Canada (GAC). This project focused on strengthening the agency and capacities of adolescent girls and young women, including those with disabilities within the broader education ecosystem.

Working in partnership with the Ministry of Education, we implemented the Master Crafts persons/Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Mentorship approach equipping young people, particularly women, including young lactating mothers, with various TVET skills to enhance their opportunities for personal and professional growth.





Right to health

Reflecting on the past year, we cannot deny that it has been fraught with numerous challenges and the presence of cholera has been a stark reminder of the importance of clean water, sanitation and hygiene. The disease affected communities, causing illness and claiming lives.

Our main objective was to enhance preparedness by assisting communities in improving hygiene practices, ensuring access to clean water and sanitation facilities, delivering necessary supplies and collaborating with communities to prevent health issues. In addition, we prioritized addressing immediate life-saving measures and worked closely with the Ministry of Health and Childcare. As a result, our initiatives successfully reached a total of **23,361** individuals.

See page 11 to read more about our Cholera response

Women's Economic Empowerment

Our women economic empowerment initiatives successfully reached a total of **21,576** women. These programs aimed to enhance women's participation in existing markets, improve their access to and control over productive resources, promote access to decent work, empower them to have control over their own time and lives, and amplify their voice, agency, and meaningful participation in economic decision-making.

In Buhera district, specifically women groups participating in Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs), experienced the benefits of revolving loans through the Financial Inclusion for Improved Women's Agency (FIIWA) project, funded by Ecobank. These loans significantly improved their access to finance and decision-making abilities, thus boosting their enterprises and overall economic prospects. By strengthening financial inclusion for female entrepreneurs in rural areas, we enhanced their productivity, improved livelihoods and fostered economic empowerment.

Humanitarian Action

CIZ engaged in active collaborations with multiple partners to strengthen their capacity in preparing for and responding to sudden onset natural disasters, including public health emergencies like cholera outbreaks. Through these collaborative endeavors, we successfully reached a total of **37,348** participants, effectively addressing both the immediate and secondary impacts of these emergencies.

A major focus area for CIZ was the enhancement of emergency preparedness through the development of gender-sensitive and inclusive systems, tools and models. Under the funding support of ECHO, we implemented a project called "Strengthening Disaster Preparedness Structures and Systems." Through this project, we worked closely with all levels of Civil Protection structures, ensuring a higher level of effectiveness in disaster preparedness and response efforts.

Program highlights

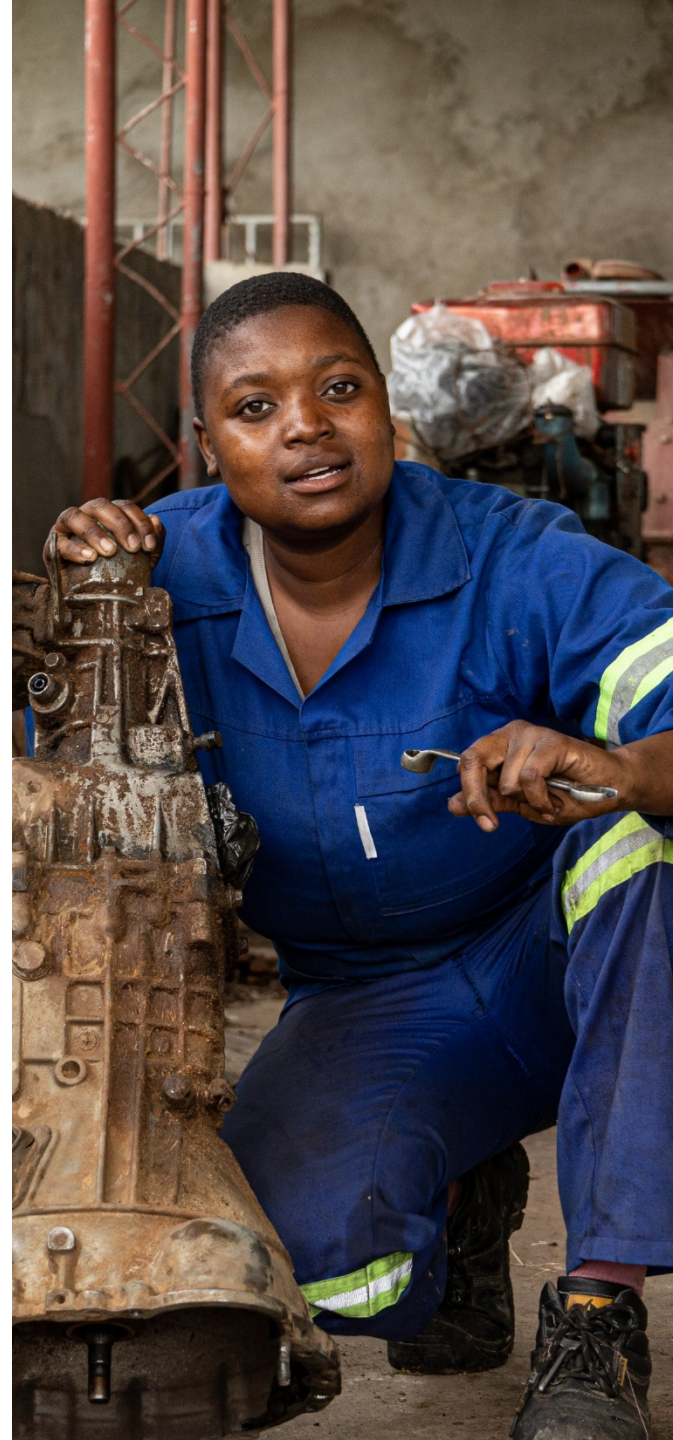
USAID-Takunda project in Masvingo and Manicaland Through our Takunda project, with the support of USAID, we launched a program to provide Technical Vocational Training and Education (TVET) support for young individuals aged between 15 and 29 years. We selected young people from Buhera and gave them the opportunity to undergo a nine-month training program at Magamba Vocational Training Centre, located a few kilometers away from Mutare.

In order to address the limited accessibility of formal TVET training institutions in certain areas of operation, we also leveraged the expertise of skilled master craftsmen to establish a network of private businesses capable of delivering Enterprise-Based Training (EBT). EBT is a training method that focuses on skill development through on-the-job training, similar to the training provided at TVET centers. CIZ conducted a comprehensive mapping and identification

process to identify small private businesses, commonly referred to as master craftsmen, who could be trained and prepared as community-based TVET instructors. These instructors would then provide the necessary training and support to young individuals at the ward level in Manicaland and Masvingo.

Through the TVET assessment, we successfully identified a pool of over 100 community apprenticeship providers who possessed the required capacity to offer the necessary training. The majority of these providers have qualifications as artisans, and some even have prior training experience. The project reached **8,361 (4,228 females and 4,133) males** youths with trainings.

The USAID-Takunda project aims to reach 300,000 participants with support for sustainable, equitable, resilient food and income security in Zimbabwe.



Featured Program

Cholera Response

Zimbabwe experienced cholera outbreak with 3,583 cases with 79 deaths having been reported across the country as of 16 July 2023. In response to the cholera outbreak, CIZ, with funding from the CARE International Emergency Response Fund, provided assistance to the Ministry of Health and Childcare and the Department of Civil Protection (DCP) in order to reduce mortality and contain the spread of the disease in Manicaland Province, specifically in Buhera, Mutare, and Chipinge Districts.

During the response, a total of **509** direct beneficiaries (118 males, 391 females) and **28,028** indirect beneficiaries (11,856 males, 16,172 females) were reached. CIZ worked with various partners to prepare for and respond rapidly, at scale, to sudden onset natural disasters including public health emergencies such as the cholera and its secondary impacts reaching **37,348**.

We also prioritized strengthening emergency preparedness by implementing gender-sensitive and inclusive systems, tools, and models at all levels of Civil Protection Structures. This was done to enhance the effectiveness of disaster preparedness and response efforts, ensuring that the needs and vulnerabilities of all individuals, especially women and girls, were adequately addressed.



Stories of impact

Yolanda's Journey: Empowered to lead

Yolanda, a determined young student at Mukwasi Secondary, has experienced a transformative journey thanks to her participation in the CARE START4Girls project's Girls' Leadership Camp.

Reflecting on her progress, she exclaims, "I can now confidently present in class, something I couldn't do before. I used to be shy and doubted myself constantly."

At just 17 years old, Yolanda has faced immense challenges, having lost both her parents at a young age. Residing with a relative in a household of eight, financial constraints hindered her educational opportunities. Additionally, her self-esteem suffered greatly. However, everything changed when Yolanda participated in the Girls' Leadership Camp. By embracing her own growth, she has become an agent of change, inspiring other girls to believe in their abilities and pursue their education.

It motivated her to challenge prevailing patriarchal beliefs that limit girls' participation in lucrative vocational trades like infrastructure construction.

Inspired to challenge gender norms, she is now motivating peers to prioritize education and reject early marriages. Yolanda aspires to be a leader and believes in a brighter future for herself and her community.

The START4Girls project is targeting 103 schools with the objective to reduce prevalence of harmful gender norms and socio-economic barriers to adolescent girls and young women's continued education and training including those with disabilities in crisis affected fragile communities in Zimbabwe. The project is improving provision of inclusive, equitable, safe, resilient and disaster ready education services.

Story written by Tonderai Takavarasha



Stories of impact



Tackling period poverty to enable girls to attend school

Many adolescent girls in Zimbabwe miss school due to period poverty. According to a study conducted in May 2022 in Zimbabwe, 72% of girls do not use sanitary products as they are unable to purchase them.

A further 62% of girls tend to miss out on school every month due to a lack of sanitary wear.

To combat this, CIZ set up 30 Community Pad Centres (CPCs) and mothers' support groups to help reduce period poverty as the members make reusable pads for girls which enables them to attend classes regularly. These CPCs were established in partnership with the Government of Zimbabwe through a 9-month project funded by the World Bank. One of the groups, the Kumboedza Group is being led by a man, Benjamin (*pictured*), who is championing gender equality, and menstrual hygiene management in Buhera.

He is actively involved in making

pads for schoolgirls so that they do not have to miss school anymore.

In Zimbabwe, it is quite rare to see this, but Benjamin is breaking the silence on a discussion that most men shy away from having.

"Culture and tradition made it a taboo for men like me to be seen being part of a group. However, through the CPC, we were equipped with menstrual hygiene skills and now we know a man can also sew pads, and this has made life easier for our girl children. I work with the women, and I am encouraging other men to join. There are male doctors who help women in hospitals, and I am simply just doing something similar," Benjamin said.

The project has improved access to menstrual hygiene management (MHM) products for 1,007 adolescent girls in 48 schools by distributing: bathing soaps, pants/underwear, non-reusable, sanitary pads, sanitizer, face masks, face towels, and water purification tablets in Buhera District.



Partnerships



Partnerships in CIZ We actively engaged with strategic and private sector partners, with a deliberate focus on achieving gender equality, local leadership, and global scalability in our partnerships. We are proud to announce that in January 2023, we were appointed to the National Civil Protection System, enabling us to deploy emergency response within 24 hours. To support this initiative, CIZ developed the Zimbabwe Humanitarian Development Partnership Platform (ZHDPP). Through ZHDPP, we can effectively utilize the surge capacity of 19 local partners, including four women-led rights groups and two organizations representing people with disabilities.

To ensure that our work remains current and innovative, we have also established partnerships with tertiary institutions. We have signed Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with the National University of Science and Technology and the Africa University, enabling us to exchange knowledge, share resources, and engage in joint research projects that push the boundaries of our work.



FY23 partners and donors

We are immensely grateful for the generous funding support we have received from both local and international sources. Without your contributions in 2023, we would not have been able to achieve the significant impact we have made. Your support has been instrumental in driving positive change and transforming lives. Thank you for your invaluable assistance and belief in our mission.

CARE Support Offices



CARE USA

CARE Canada

CARE Germany

Governments, Multi-lateral Institutions, Private Sector & other funding partners



European Union
Civil Protection and
Humanitarian Aid



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



In partnership with

Canada



**World Food
Programme**

IKI
INTERNATIONAL
CLIMATE INITIATIVE



*Patsy Trust
Fund Collins*



the David
Lucile **Packard**
FOUNDATION

Ecobank
The Pan African Bank

Featured partnership

Partnership with Ecobank

Ecobank
The Pan African Bank

In 2022, CIZ partnered with Ecobank Zimbabwe Private Limited to provide vital support to Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs). This collaboration aimed to empower women through the She Leads in Crisis project in Buhera, Zimbabwe. Thanks to the generous contribution from Ecobank, a revolving fund was established to assist women in VSLA groups, enabling them to engage in income-generating activities (IGAs) and improve their financial access. The initiative in Buhera proved to be a resounding success, as it enhanced women's access to finance and enabled them to participate in various IGAs.

With the revolving fund in place, women were empowered to take control of their financial futures and contribute to the economic growth of their communities. Buhera served as a model for this transformative project, inspiring its expansion to other regions. Building upon the success in Buhera, in 2023, the revolving fund was scaled up and replicated in Gwanda, located in the Matabeleland South province of Zimbabwe. This expansion was made possible through additional funding from Ecobank. By tailoring the project to the specific needs and realities of each community, CIZ and Ecobank aimed to maximize its impact and foster long-term

positive change. The partnership between CIZ and Ecobank demonstrates the power of collaboration and the potential for financial institutions to drive social impact.

The success of the She Leads in Crisis project serves as an inspiration for future endeavors, highlighting the importance of investing in women's financial inclusion and their role in driving sustainable change.



Other partners and donors



We thank you for your continued support in our efforts to contribute to the SDGs.

Africa AHEAD
Apostolic Women
Empowerment Trust (AWET)
CARE International
Childline Zimbabwe
Christian Care
Federation of Organisations of
Disabled People in Zimbabwe
(FODPZ)
Hand in Hand Zimbabwe
Musasa Project Mwenezi
Development Training Centre
(MDTC)
National Council of Disabled
Persons of Zimbabwe (NCDPZ)
Nutrition Action Zimbabwe
Organization of Rural
Associations for Progress
(ORAP)
Padare/Enkundleni/Men's
Forum on Gender
Tree of Life
Women's Action Group (WAG)
Youth Advocates Zimbabwe
(YAZ)
Zimbabwe Women's Bureau
(ZWB)
Africa University
National University of Science
and Technology
The Civil Protection Department

Ministry of Local
Government, Public Works
and National Housing
Ministry of Public Service,
Labour and Social Welfare
Ministry of Primary and
Secondary Education
Ministry of Lands,
Agriculture, Water, Climate
and Rural Resettlement
Ministry of Youth, Sport, Arts
and Recreation
Ministry of Health and
Childcare
Ministry of Higher and
Tertiary Education, Science,
and Development
Ministry of Women Affairs,
Community Small and
Medium Enterprise
Development
Department of Civil
protection
Emthonjeni Women's Forum
Open University
World Bicycle Relief
Education Coalition of
Zimbabwe
Environment Africa
Nutrition Action Zimbabwe
Caritas Zimbabwe

Australian Aid NGO
Cooperation Program (ANCP)
United Nations Development
Program (UNDP)
Foreign, Commonwealth and
Development Office (FCDO)
UK Department for
International Development
(DFID)
Latter Day Saints Charities
(LDSC)
United States Agency for
International Development
(USAID)
United Nations Children's
Fund (UNICEF)
World Food Programme
(WFP)
International Climate
Initiative (IKI- Germany)
Global Affairs Canada (GAC)
CARE Canada Emergency
Response Fund (CCERF)
European Civil Protection
and Humanitarian Aid
Operations (ECHO)
DFID-UNILEVER
Bureau for Humanitarian
Assistance (BHA)
FANRPRAN
Swedish Embassy
Agriculture Research Council

Zimbabwe Resilience
Building Fund
World Vision
UDACIZA
Lutheran Development
Services (LDS)
Local Initiatives for
Development (LID)
Coady Institute
Dan Church Aid
PLAN International in
Zimbabwe
Econet
City of Mutare
VIAMO
Netone
Diamond FM
Hevoi FM
Zi-FM
ICRISAT
Ecobank Zimbabwe Private
Ltd
International Rescue
Committee
Bulawayo Projects Centre
Environment Africa
International Youth
Foundation
FHI360
KUVA
SNV

2023 financial overview

We are tremendously grateful for the generous support from our private donors and other global institutions that helped us to advance our mission. CIZ's total revenue grew by around 9.42% from 19,1 to \$20,9 million in the fiscal year 2023.

CARE's commitment to stewardship and efficiency enables us to maximize the value of every dollar we receive. We endeavor to be responsible with every resource entrusted to us.

FY23 Income and expenditure summary

Total Income (Past 5 Years)					
FY	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
\$ in millions	8,56	7,93	12,2	19,1	20,9
INCOME					20,884,965
Direct grants and revenue					17,618,926
Grant and contracts indirect revenue (commodities)					2,350,221
Miscellaneous income					915,818
EXPENDITURE					
Programming and Operational costs					10,247,325
Financing, depreciation and miscellaneous expenses					685,512
Grants and sub grants					2,221,320
Contributions in kind (distributed) commodities					2,350,221
Indirect Cost Recovery Expense (ICR)					757,685
Total					21,126,194
(Deficit) /surplus for the year					(241,229)

2023 Expenditure



- Programming and Operational costs
- Financing, depreciation and miscellaneous expenses
- Grants and sub grants
- Contributions in kind (distributed) commodities
- Indirect Cost Recovery Expense (ICR)



ZIMBABWE

31 years
of impact

CARE International in Zimbabwe

124 Churchill Road Gunhill, Harare

Website: www.carezimbabwe.org

Inquiries: carezim@carezimbabwe.org

Call us on : +263242708115/708047

Follow us

