

Field Trip Group 1

Muzarabani, Mazowe and Shamva

This field trip consists of:

- A. Visit to Muzarabani to the Zimbabwe Red Cross and Finnish Red Cross project that is supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland.
- B. Visit to Mazowe and Shamva districts to IFRC and Zimbabwe Red Cross project supported by USAID BHA and in cooperation with the Zimbabwe Ministry of Health and Child Care.

A. Zimbabwe Red Cross Society Project in Muzarabani

Context:

The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society project in Muzarabani, based on the initiative of an Integrated Community Based Health, Disaster Preparedness and Disaster Reduction responds to various challenges faced by the local community. These challenges include drought, health and water sanitation issues, and the need for localization efforts. This initiative has been supported by the Finnish Red Cross, together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland.

Link to Zimbabwe Red Cross Society Strategic Plan:

The project aligns with the strategic goals and their key focus areas of:

- enhancing community resilience,
- improving access to health services, and
- promoting disaster risk reduction.

General information:

The project was implemented in Muzarabani District, Mashonaland Central Province, Zimbabwe 2016-2022. It focused on building community resilience through integrated health and disaster risk reduction (DRR) programming. The project aimed to strengthen the capacity of targeted communities to anticipate, prepare for, mitigate, and respond to disasters and the impact of climate change. It also aimed to build a culture of risk awareness and mitigation in communities. The project aimed to reduce the number of deaths, injuries and also socio-economic impacts caused by disasters by building safer and more resilient communities and strengthening Zimbabwe Red Cross Society structures at all levels from branch to national level. The project benefited approximately 2,100 households and a total population of 9,975 directly, with an additional 3,000 households and a population of 14,033 indirectly. The project linked with other partners in the field, such as local health authorities, schools, and community-based organizations, to maximize its impact and sustainability.

Best practices and potential replication in other areas or countries:

The project showcases best practices in integrated health and disaster risk reduction programming, particularly in a challenging context like the drought prone lower Muzarabani. Its approach, including building community resilience through community engagement, and capacity-building, the construction of infrastructure can be replicated in similar settings. The learnings from the construction of the two piped water schemes have been replicated elsewhere in the country including in the IFRC supported project in Mwenezi.

The field trip will include visits to various project sites in Muzarabani, including the piped water scheme, mothers' shelter and school block in Chiwenga, and Kairezi piped water scheme. The visit will also try to fit in a visit to a homestead with keyhole garden and a fuel efficient cookstove.

The delegation will meet with communities to hear how the finished project has benefitted them and how it has helped to build community resilience.

More to read:

<https://www.herald.co.zw/red-cross-breathes-life-into-muzarabani-north/>
<https://www.newsday.co.zw/2022/06/joy-for-muzarabani-grade-7-learners/>
<https://www.herald.co.zw/zrcs-to-ease-muzarabani-water-woes/>

B. Zimbabwe Red Cross/IFRC Risk Communications and Community Engagement (RCCE) vaccination project funded by USAID BHA

Context

Zimbabwe Red Cross Society in partnership with Ministry of Health and Child Care with funding from USAID BHA through International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies is implementing the Integrated Immunization program. The program focuses on strengthening RCCE initiatives particularly in marginalized geographical areas and demographic population groups with lower or constrained access to COVID-19 and child vaccination information and doses. This was in response to the need to increase vaccination awareness and uptake.

General information of the project:

The integrated immunization project is currently being implemented in Mazowe and Shamva districts. It aims to improve on vaccinations for both Covid 19 and Childhood diseases, address vaccination hesitancy through improving quality and consistency in RCCE approaches and capacitate local level structures in vaccination outreaches. The project is targeting marginalized areas with limited access to health facilities and care. Women and children are the majority of those targeted. As of October 2023, 1476 (728males, 748 females) had been reached with Covid 19 vaccinations and 8137 (3584 males and 4553 females) reached with childhood disease immunizations. 340030 people had been reached through RCCE towards building vaccine acceptance. 171 Community leaders (community leaders comprised religious leaders, Traditional leaders, Health Centre Committee chairpersons, Residents, Women group leaders, School Health Masters as well as Traditional healers representatives) have been reached with messaging to prevent vaccination hesitancy among community members.

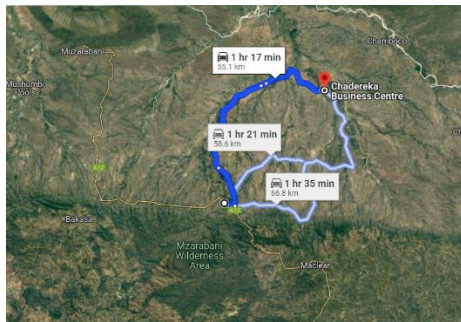
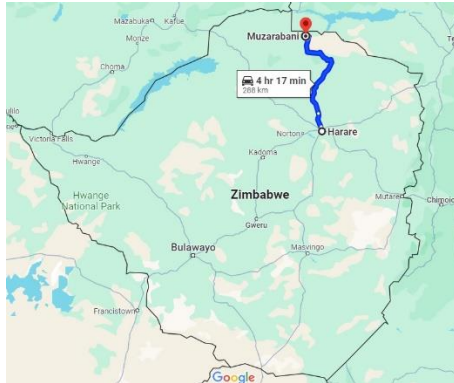
Immunization Statistics:

District	sep-23		oct-23		nov-23		dic-23		Grand Total
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	
Mazowe	3751	5121	1990	2155	3473	4211			20701
Shamva			1594	2398	1378	2567	1643	2223	11803
Total	3751	5121	3584	4553	4851	6778	1643	2223	32504

Best practices and potential replication in other areas or countries:

Resource constraints both at ministerial and community level is a hinderance to accessing to quality health in most rural communities. Partnerships with Ministry of Health and Child Care in terms of resource provision ensures effective and affordable access to health care.

Coordinates for [Muzarabani](#):
-16.089072944790676,
30.69575786357927



Program Tuesday 5 March:

06:00 Departure from Cresta Hotel for Centenary
Collect Packed Breakfast and Lunch.

08:30 Arrival at Centenary, Muzarabani Rural and District Council Boardroom. Meeting with the authorities and overview from district development coordinators and teams.

10:00 Arrival in Muzarabani Business Center to continue to Chiwenga.

12:00 Arrival in Chiwenga. Visit to School Block, Piped water scheme and Waiting Mothers Shelter at Chiwenga Rural Health Centre then to continue to Kairezi.

14:00 Arrival in Kairezi. Visit to Piped water scheme and keyhole gardens pass through Chadereka Footbridge.

17:30 Dinner and overnight at Series Leisure

Wednesday 6 March

08:00 Depart from Series Leisure to Harare. Collect packed lunch

10:00 Arrival at Mvurwi Hospital. Meeting with Mazowe district authorities, overview of humanitarian/health situation in the visit to USAID BHA RCCE Vaccination project Health Outreach Point.

12.30 Depart Mvurwi to Harare

14:00 Visit of the [ZRCS Training Centre](#) and the [Red Cross Clinic](#)

16:00 Arrival in Cresta Lodge Hotel.

Practicalities:

Accommodation: Rooms pre-booked by IFRC, rate \$62 (amount to be paid by each participant on-site)

Muzarabani. Series Leisure - Web site:

<https://seriesleisure.co.zw/>

Please advise there will be very limited restroom facilities during this field trip.

Please advise on any **dietary restrictions or health related issues in the registration form.**