

## Field trip Group 2 - Masvingo Province

### This field trip consists of:

- A. Visit to the Zero Hunger project in Mwenezi District that is implemented by the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society in collaboration with the IFRC.
  - a.1. Visit to Gudomutovhoti Piped Water Scheme, which is part of the project in Mwenezi District.
- B. Integrated Strategy for Cholera Risk Elimination and Mitigation in Hopley Farm, Harare

### A. Zero Hunger Project in Mwenezi District

#### Context:

The ZERO Hunger project in Mwenezi District was initiated in response to severe hunger and critical water challenges faced by the community. The district, located in Masvingo Province, has been affected by chronic malnutrition, with 25.8% of children under five years suffering from malnutrition. Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated the food insecurity situation in the district.

#### General information:

The project is implemented by the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society in collaboration with the IFRC. It focuses on three pillars: Food Security & Livelihoods, Health & Nutrition, and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH). It aims to provide urgent and substantial assistance to address acute food insecurity in Zimbabwe. Currently, the project is being carried out in three wards, targeting 850 households.

The program not only provides immediate relief but also tackles the root causes of food insecurity, aligning with government plans and frameworks to enhance community resilience. It is part of the broader strategy to build upon the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society's previous successes in addressing food insecurity and contributing to long-term solutions.

#### Project deliverables:

- Cash Voucher Assistance is provided to 850 vulnerable households, addressing critical needs and providing cash grants for health and education.
- Malnourished children in food insecure households receive cash and voucher assistance, nutritional education, monitoring and aid from local health workers, with a focus on Acute Malnutrition support.
- Water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions include the rehabilitation of 15 boreholes in 3 wards, solarization of the Gudomutovhoti borehole, and the establishment of latrines and menstrual hygiene support in three schools.
- Handwashing stations and menstrual hygiene kits have been distributed in selected schools to promote proper hygiene practices.

#### More to read...

<https://www.herald.co.zw/climate-change-mwenezi-battles-food-insecurity/> - Zero Hunger Mwenezi  
<https://www.herald.co.zw/climate-change-mwenezi-battles-food-insecurity/> - Zero Hunger Mwenezi

### **a.1. Gudomutovhoti Piped Water Scheme**

#### **Context:**

The Gudomutovhoti Piped Water Scheme aims to address the water challenges faced by the resettled area under the traditional jurisdiction of Neshuro Clan in Mwenezi, Masvingo. The area is arid and experiences erratic rainfall, making access to water difficult, especially in the face of climate change.

#### **Project Impact:**

It will reduce the distance to access water, which currently requires traveling up to 7 km, saving valuable time for productive work. Decentralization of water point from one to four access points for the community reducing time spent by women and girls at water point. Livestock will have access to enough drinking water, reducing the need to travel long distances to nearby dams. The nutrition garden established as part of the scheme will improve household nutrition by providing a sustainable source of vegetables and legumes. The surplus vegetables can be used for rabbit production, increasing meat availability for families. Garden owners can also sell vegetables, generating income for themselves.

#### **Project deliverables:**

- The scheme includes an 8,000L per hour pump with a head of 150m.
- Three 10 cubic water storage tanks installed at the borehole, the school, and the center of the community.
- A pipeline network measuring 2km laid out.
- A one-hectare nutrition garden will be established to grow bio-fortified crops and vegetables.
- Additional infrastructure includes a cattle trough, a pump house, a guard sleeping house, and three taps at each standpipe.
- Solar panels installed above the storage tank to provide sustainable energy.
- A fence erected at the borehole to ensure security.

### **B. Integrated Strategy for Cholera Risk Elimination and Mitigation in Hopley Farm, Harare**

#### **Context:**

Zimbabwe Red Cross Society (ZRCS) with financial support from the European Union and the Finnish Red Cross, is implementing this cholera preparedness project. The initiative to address cholera risk in urban areas such as Hopley Farm in Harare contributes improving environmental health in urban Zimbabwe. With a focus on preventing and containing waterborne disease outbreaks, the project increases response capacities through collaboration with key health, Red Cross, and community stakeholders in 10 hotspot wards in Harare Southern and Western districts.

#### **General Information:**

The project has a focus on 3 key components: Prevention, Containment, and Upscaling. This aims to prevent the spread of cholera among at risk communities in urban Zimbabwe by breaking transmission through Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE), improve community-level and institutional response capacities to contain outbreaks and limit impact on affected communities, and increase scale up capacities to rapidly and flexibly respond to larger outbreaks in the country. Under the Preparedness pillar, the Project purchased ten Oral Rehydration Point (ORP) kits and household hygiene kits to create buffer stocks in readiness for cholera response. Ten additional ORPs are being procured to support scaling up response. Since the 20th of December 2023, the project has deployed three ORPs in Nhando (Hopley), Churu farm and Budiriro. In addition, three ORPs were deployed outside in Manicaland, Masvingo and Mazowe.

The deployments are being supported by teams of volunteers who are continuously providing Risk Communication and Community engagement (RCCE) through door-to-door visits to break transmission in communities, as well as participating in Oral Cholera Vaccination campaigns.

### Linkages with Partners:

The deployments are being supported by teams of volunteers who are continuously providing Risk Communication and Community engagement (RCCE) through door-to-door visits to break transmission in communities. The project collaborates with various partners in the field, including the City of Harare for water quality surveillance and other stakeholders for community-based interventions. This aligns with the global and African Red Cross strategic planning for disease prevention and response.

### Project impact:

To date, 1 426 patients have been served at the three ORPs in Harare while 309 have been referred to nearest health facilities for further attention. The ORPs serve as the primary points of care and the first lines of defense for community-level cholera case management through administration of oral rehydration therapy. Research has shown that 80 % of suspected cholera cases (mild to moderate) can be easily managed at community ORP and may not need to visit a local health facility. This has the effect of not only decongesting health facilities and reduces transport burden on patients, but can save lives by providing quick treatment. A number of people from poor communities succumb to cholera death due to delayed treatment as travel long distances to health centers.

Besides providing oral rehydration therapy, the ORPs serve as information and reporting centers where patients get critical information about breaking cholera transmission and treatment and provide critical reports to health facilities about levels of infection and community readiness for response. ZRCS is looking forward to deploy more ORPs in Harare and beyond as we plan to scale up our response in the country.

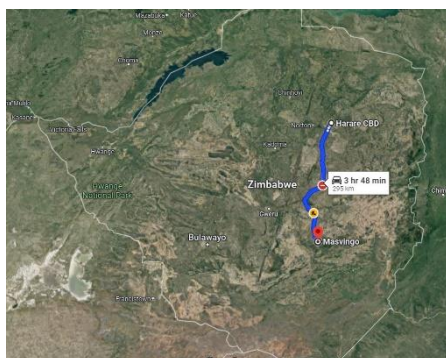
### Best practices:

The project showcases best practices in cholera risk mitigation that can be replicated in other urban areas facing similar challenges. The comprehensive approach and community engagement strategies can serve as a model for future initiatives.

### More to read:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/ZkvNDpVFtzU17ZnA/?mibextid=WC7FNe>  
<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/BtGxsw8eL5PFuFZ4/?mibextid=WC7FNe>

Coordinates for [Mwenezi](#):  
-21.422649540000762,  
30.726538901205412



### Program

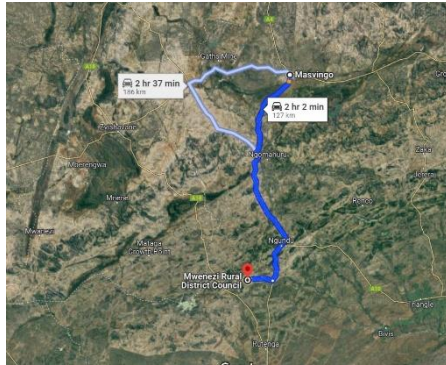
#### Tuesday 5 March

**05.30 Departure from Cresta Hotel. Collect packed breakfast.**

09:00 Arrival in [Masvingo](#). Refreshing and collect packed lunch.

12:00 Arrival in Mwenezi. Rutenga. Meeting with the District stakeholders: government department representatives (1 hr)

14:00 Arrival in the Pipe Water scheme and School. Meeting with the committee of the scheme, the benefited community and a school representative. (dirt road)



16:00 Departure to Masvingo

16:30 Arrival to the Great Zimbabwe Hotel

18:00 Dinner at the Great Zimbabwe Hotel

### **Wednesday 6 March**

08:00 Departure to Harare

12.30 Visit to ORP in Hopley.

13.30 Visit to [ZRCS Training Centre](#)

15:00 Arrival in Cresta Lodge Hotel.

#### **Practicalities:**

##### **Accommodation: Great Zimbabwe Hotel**

Rooms pre-booked by IFRC, rate \$110

Great Zimbabwe Hotel:

<https://www.africansunhotels.com/rooms/great-zimbabwe-hotel/2>.

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