

MACOBAO PVO 15/ 2007 	MASVINGO COMMUNITY BASED HIV/AIDS & VULNERABLE CHILDREN ORGANISATION 47-49 Hofmeyer Street BOX 171 Masvingo, Zimbabwe Tel: ++263 712 589 379, ++263 773 908 440 Email: macobao@gmail.com	
--	---	---

Masvingo Community Based HIV/AIDS and Vulnerable Children Organization

Legal status PVO Reg Number 15/2007



Meet the team (from left-Melody Mataru (programs Coordinator, Jemias Svotwa-Finance Officer, Ailli Langseth-Partner Representative (Firelight Foundation), Mufaro Makamanzi-Programs Officer and Mr Timothy Manyemba-The Director.

ORGANISATIONAL PROFILE

Seven concerned community members formed Masvingo Community Based HIV and Vulnerable Children Organization (MACOBAO) in 2006 to strengthen the livelihoods of AIDS-affected families; provide access to basic services for orphans and vulnerable children; and protect children against all forms of abuse in Masvingo Rural District. MACOBAO offers 'technical and financial support' to communities in the provision of a comprehensive package of services' to children and communities, including home visits, skills development, Livelihoods, school fees, psychosocial support, and economic strengthening activities such as internal savings and lending. The organization is also addressing the effects of climate change through mitigation and adaptation strategies.

Operational Area (District, Province, Country)

Masvingo Rural District, Masvingo Province, Zimbabwe

Funders

GEF/SGP : 2009-2011 Environmental conservation and management for sustainable livelihoods

Firelight Foundation :2008-2014 Community Orphan care, HIV and AIDS and livelihoods

UN Habitat Youth Fund : Skills development and Economic empowerment.

Evidence of Success and achievements

The organization in partnership with the Global Environment Facility, UNDP, UNEP and World Bank is implementing an Environmental conservation and management project that responds to the lost livelihood and food insecurity among vulnerable households and OVC. Communities have been trained in organic farming and growing of drought tolerant crops (small grains), gully reclamation, tree planting, seed saving and seed exchange. MACOBAO with support from Firelight Foundation (USA) has facilitated the payment of school fees supply of stationary, establishment of community owned nutrition gardens in wards 17 and 13 of Masvingo Rural District. The gardens are accessing 450 OVC to food and economic strengthening through the sale of excess produce resulting in their access to education and health services due to availability of disposable cash at household and village level. MACOBAO's programming mainstreams, gender mainstreaming, and educational support for children in difficult circumstances in the 4 wards of Masvingo Rural District and HIV and AIDS care prevention, care and treatment information literacy to vulnerable communities through school kids clubs and community support groups. The organization is in partnership with UN habitat in skills development for vulnerable youths in and out of school. Young people have engaged in candle and soap making. The organization creates market linkages for all programs with economic empowerment component.

Lessons Learnt

Through continuous working with communities, we have realized that communities have their own coping mechanisms to shocks but they just need technical assistance. Community capacity building is the only way of ensuring sustainable development and poverty alleviation. Community empowerment is the best method in tapping resources to them for the benefit of orphaned and vulnerable children. They also have a vast number of strategies to escape the cycle of poverty but there is need for cooperation from both partners and The Government and authorities. We have also realized that there is need to design and implement programs with some development impact to communities and the nation.



Garden and Nursery tools distributed by MACOBAO in partnership with The GEF/SGP

