

Activity Progress Report

Sustainable Intensification of Market based Agriculture (SIMBA)

ZWE 1077

Gokwe South District

Month [&Year] : March 2016

Ward(s) : Chisina1, 2, 3 &4, Nemangwe3, 4 &5, Njelele1, 2&3, Ngomeni, Sayi, Jiri 1&2

1 GENERAL INFORMATION / CONTEXT EVOLUTION

The major activities of the month were the distribution of stock feed and Conservation Agriculture (CA) field days. The field days started on the 7th of March and were done throughout the month of March with the grand finale (District field Day) scheduled on the 7th of April 2016. All Field Officers took part in all the ward days scattered in the fourteen wards of the operational area.

Significant rains were received during the month which rejuvenated veld and pastures to a good condition. The late rains that were received improved the status of the late planted crop. Prices of livestock in the Nemangwes have improved to an average of \$150.00/beast, \$20.00/goat and \$3.00/chicken. An average of 130mm was received during the month. Some farmers removed their early crop which was a write-off and replanted maize. Sorghum recovered quiet well and those who had planted it on significant areas are expecting a good harvest. In the Njeleles farmers have started selling grain at \$5-6 a tin.

The food insecurity situation has temporarily improved for most households as they are enjoying different field crops. However, most households still indicate eating one meal per day but now supplementing with watermelons and squashes that did not exist in the previous months. Most households expect this to last for or two successive months.

ACTIVITIES OF THE MONTH

ACTIVITIES	TARGET	ACHIEVEMENT	OUTSTANDING
Ward Field Days	14	14	0
Stock feed Distribution	3	3	0

2 PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

2.1 Problems

- Few farmers growing small grains in their plots
- Poor attendance at some ward shows
- Death of Boschveld chickens

2.2 Solutions undertaken

- Farmers were encouraged to grow small grains as this is suitable for their region and moreover beneficial as they stand a chance of harvesting more.
- Farmers were encouraged to include overnight costs on their field days budgets so that in the event of having to travel long distances, they can travel a day before the event.
- Causes of deaths were mainly to do with biosecurity issues. Farmers were advised to observe hygienic standards so as to reduce deaths of chicks due to poor biosecurity standards.

3 ACTIVITIES FOR THE FOLLOWING MONTH

ACTIVITIES FOR THE FOLLOWING MONTH

PLANNED ACTIVITIES
Granary construction
Post-harvest training
Pre-planting trainings (horticulture)
Boschveld chickens monitoring