

Activity Progress Report

Sustainable Intensification of Market based Agriculture (SIMBA)

ZWE 1077

Gokwe South District

Month [&Year] : November 2014

Ward(s) : Chisina 1, 2, 3&4, Nemangwe 3,4&5, Njelele 1,2&3, Ngomeni, Sayi, Jiri 1&2

1 GENERAL INFORMATION / CONTEXT EVOLUTION

Farmers continued to procure inputs through the Whh subsidised vouchers. The process closed during the last third of the month. Each farmer was encouraged to procure seed and fertiliser (worth \$120) enough to plant a 0.5 ha plot. Generally some farmers have started planting as the soil moisture status has improved. The rains did not cover the whole district; there are some wards in the district that have not received any rain. The veld condition in all areas has improved as a result of the rains. Most wards are approaching the lean period but the 'banked grain' is expected to cover the staple gap till the post planting period.

2 ACTIVITIES OF THE MONTH

ACTIVITIES	TARGET	ACHIEVEMENT	OUTSTANDING
CF Monitoring	All wards		Still in progress
Demo, QPM & Farmer field schools inputs distribution	142 FFS, 56 QPM Beneficiaries and 28 demo plots	100%	nil
Seed distribution for vulnerable HH	2580kg	100	
CHC monitoring	30 HH	83% (25 HH)	nil
CHC shows	7	86%	14%
Health harvest trainings	2	100%	nil
Granary construction	3	100%	nil
Garden monitoring	All wards		Still in progress

3 PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

3.1 Problems

- 10% of the farmers in ward 10 purchased seed only. These had borrowed money for their inputs voucher contributions. The money lenders demanded that they

be repaid by inputs equivalent to the borrowed amount hence purchase of more seed at the expense of fertilizer purchase.

- Lack of fencing material for CF plots and farmer field schools
- Dry spell affecting maize germination percentage
- Cracking of previously constructed granaries
- Lack of transport to ferry horticultural products to the markets
- Farmers on ROSCA are failing to raise money for savings to an extent of saving \$0,50 per saving and some debtors are also failing to repay in stipulated time

3.2 Solutions undertaken

- Determine the percentage affected by demands from money lenders and how they were affected.
- Farmers were advised to buy fence or use the locally available fencing material to keep their plots safe from stray animals
- If possible farmers be assisted with standard bricks to reconstruct their granaries
- Trainings on post planting management to be conducted early for good results to be achieved