

Activity Progress Report

Sustainable Intensification of Market based Agriculture (SIMBA)

ZWE 1077

Gokwe South District

Month [& Year] : September 2015

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

1 GENERAL INFORMATION / CONTEXT EVOLUTION

The month of September experienced some extra ordinary hot temperatures. The month was characterised by hot dry weather with gusty wind and no rainfall was received. Payment of input voucher was also closed during the month. The hot temperatures affected vegetable production as watering had to be done more frequently to reduce effects of high evaporation. Farmers across the district were busy with the preparation of planting basins in their conservation agriculture plots. Monitoring revealed that quite a number of farmers had stopped digging basins and neglecting CA plots due to the misconception that they were no longer considered as beneficiaries in the SIMBA project. However, meetings were held to clear the issue.

ACTIVITIES OF THE MONTH

ACTIVITIES	TARGET	ACHIEVEMENT	OUTSTANDING
Ward Health Harvest Shows	13	13	Nil
Granary construction	6	3	3
CHC Household Promotion Competitions	4	4	Nil
Poultry production training	7 wards	4 wards	3 wards
Seed fair	1 seed fair	1 seed fair	0
EU delegate Project sites visit	3 sites	3	Nil

PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

PROBLEMS

1. The attendance on the health harvest shows were not very impressive in all the sites hence, farmers should be encouraged to take part in the shows
2. Farmers failing to contribute towards their input vouchers due to poor economy of the country

Solutions undertaken

1. Ward meetings were held to discuss the registration misconceptions. Issues discussed included; SIMBA membership, the concept of CF and the forecasted climate.
2. Farmers are being encouraged to reduce the area of crops to meet water availability, mulch their gardens to reduce the rate of evapotranspiration
3. Farmers are also being encouraged to practice cultural, biological and mechanical methods in pest control and apply chemicals as a last resort.

ACTIVITIES FOR THE FOLLOWING MONTH

PLANNED ACTIVITIES
Ward CHC shows judging
CA monitoring and judging for brown shows
CA Brown shows
Ward CHC shows
Voucher distributions