



CYATC

**YOUTH ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT AND VALUE
ADDITION (YEDVA) PROJECT**

CARITAS MONZE

Chikuni Parish

END OF PROJECT TERM EVALUATION REPORT



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Acronyms

AHS	=	Animal Husbandry Specialist
BSc	=	Bachelor of Science
CBU	=	Copperbelt University
CMF	=	Community Marketing Facilitator
CYATC	=	Chikuni Youth Agriculture Training Centre
FGD	=	Focus Group Discussion
IDE	=	Industrial Development Enterprise
JCP	=	Joint Country Program
KII	=	Key Informant Interview
MBA	=	Master of Business Administration
MDDD	=	Monze Diocese Development Department
NCA	=	Norwegian Church Aid
OSAWE	=	Own Savings for Assets and Wealth
PMU	=	Project Management Unit
PROFIT	=	Production, Finance and Improved Technology
UNZA	=	University of Zambia

Foreword

In December 2015, MDDD through CYATC in Chikuni Parish in Monze district resolved to undertake an end of term evaluation for the youth enterprise development and value addition project being implemented in Chikuni Parish targeting 100 youth.

This report therefore provides the findings of the end of term evaluation and also gives an insight on where other stakeholders wishing to work on the same project in the mission could start from. The report reveals some of the project's achievements; challenges and also provides recommendations on the implementation of future projects.

This project is a novel example of a youth implemented value addition project, aimed at empowering youth with self-employment initiatives. It brings into sharp focus the importance of engaging youth and other stakeholders in self-employment in communities. It also gives a sniped of ideas on how organisations could utilize value addition equipment to preserve food staff to increase its shelf life, add value and make a business out of it, and most importantly it has also outlined the importance of time in project implementation.

With a one-off funding of **ZMW544, 000**, the MDDD has managed to train 4 youth groups, with an initial membership of 25 each in entrepreneurship, sustainable agriculture, livestock production and management, marketing and other value addition related trainings, and in addition the project has distributed crop value additional equipment to the same groups and these are 1 solar drier and 1 peanut butter making machine per group. 1 solar drier and 1 peanut butter machine were left at the centre for demonstrations during the trainings. With limited time allocation however, the project still spells out some successes briefly documented in this report.

Our gratitude goes to Joint Country Program (JCP), entire staff of the MDDD and CYATC, Community leaders and most importantly the Chikuni Parish and community youths for the participation and eagerness to engage in the development of the youths in the community.

We are looking forward to collaborating with more partners like JCP in order to continue empowering our youths in this community.

Solomoni Phiri

Caritas Monze – Promoter of Development

Acknowledgements

The youth enterprise development and value addition project End of Term Evaluation was conducted between the 10th and 30th December 2015. Actual Preparations for the End of Term Evaluation started as far back as 1st December 2015 however, with the development of tools and methodology for the Evaluation but Field work was only conducted on the dates mentioned above.

A number of organizations and individuals have contributed in to the successful implementation of the End of Term Evaluation; I would particularly like to pay sincere gratitude to Joint Country Program (JCP)Zambia, the Promoter of Development Mr. Solomon Phiri and the animal husbandry specialist, Ms. Gertrude Siame for the coordination of the whole exercise.

Special thanks also go to my Co- Consultant Bruno Mtonga for working tirelessly during

the exercise and for his support and guidance.

I will be failing in my duty if I did not thank local stakeholders like the guidance of headman Suntwe and participating in the entire evaluation

Finally and most importantly, I would like to show my sincere gratitude and thanks to all the youths that participated in the consultations as well as the entire Chikuni community for their responsiveness in ensuring that the study was a success.

It is therefore my sincere wish that all stakeholders and data users make effective use of these findings.

Justine Ngosa, MBA (CBU), BSc (UNZA)

Principle Evaluator

ii. Executive Summary

Introduction

The Joint Country Program (JCP) funded the implementation of the *Value Addition and self-Employment for the Youths project at CYATC* for the past 20 months.

The main objective of the Project was **“to contribute to self-employment among rural youth through competency strengthening in agriculture, value addition and marketing by 2015”**.

Project Objectives

The overall objective was assisted with the following specific objectives

1. Specific Objective 1: To empower youth with entrepreneurial and value addition capabilities
2. Specific Objective 2: To increase production output of youth farm enterprises
3. Specific Objective 3: To increase market access for youth value added and other products

Study Methodology

The evaluation used a triangulation of methodologies. Key Informant Interviews and Group Focused discussion tools were developed and administered to both internal program staff and youth beneficiaries and other project stakeholders. To be specific, a total of two youth groups Namakube and Kanchomba youth groups, two village headmen and 3 program staff were consulted.

Evaluation Findings

While the project intentions are excellent and well received by the youths and the community at large, project implementation has been constrained with lack of adequate implementation time. The project which was planned to be implemented in 20 Months was only able to be implemented in 8 months, due to prolonged administrative and approval procedures between the donors and MDDD. This has affected negatively the efficiency, adequacy, effectiveness, impact and sustainability of the project.

While all the trainings and value addition equipment has been conducted, procured and distributed by the CYATC to the youths groups, as per the table below, the youths themselves have not been given enough time to implement and practice what was taught to them. Due to program time lapses, the trainings and distribution of equipment for instance was only completed in September 2015, a month before the project was scheduled to close. As a result therefore the trainings and value addition equipment will only be a white elephant if time is not allocated for the youths to implement what was trained on them.

The table below indicates some of the equipment procured by the project.

No.	Equipment Procured	No .of equipment's Procured	Distributed to
1.	Motorbikes	1	Field Officer
2.	Bicycles	8	2/group for CMFs
3.	Solar Dryers	5	1/group and one for demos at CYATC
4.	Treadle Pump	4	1/group, 2 yet to be given out
5.	Peanut Butter	5	1/ group, 1 for demos at CYATC

Evaluation Recommendations

The Evaluation's main recommendation is project extension to enable the project complete what it started. The project has also proposed an individualized household pass on loan scheme. This in the evaluations point of view will not only enhance project sustainability but also encourage household wealth creation.

1. Introduction

1.1. Background and Context

Monze diocese, a faith-based organisation through the Development Department Office has been part of Zambia's political, economic and social landscape for a long time, occupying the space between the Government and individual households. Their role has largely been to provide social economic development services where Government is constrained to the rural poor in the Southern province of the Republic of Zambia. To achieve this mammoth task, MDDD have been promoting crop and livestock production among vulnerable rural communities as a way of addressing poverty among people in the province. The organization has supported over 5,000 vulnerable women, men and youths to increase their capacity to manage their livelihoods in respect of attaining food security and obtaining incomes from sales of excess produce using environmentally friendly and low input methods to date.

The Joint Country Program (JCP) contributed to Chikuni Parish area's youths with funding for self-employment strategies through competency strengthening in agriculture, value addition and marketing through a project called "*Value Addition and self-Employment for the Youths at CYATC*", managed by MDDD. The value addition project was designed to last for 20 months as a pilot project, with hopes of a follow up project to build on the work undertaken and lessons learned during the pilot project. CYATC commenced work in October 2014 instead of May 2014; and continued from July to December 2015 instead of starting in January 2015. It is clear that there were some lapses experienced in between the implementation period.

Over a period of 20 months (though realistically it was 8 months), the project implemented activities that provided youth self-employment initiatives. In this period the project implemented activities that included forming four (4) functional youth groups, holding project sensitization meetings and conducting training in sustainable agriculture, value addition and marketing among several other related trainings. The project also provided the youth groups with value addition equipment to all the four functional community youth groups during this same period. Equipment including Peanut Butter Making Machines, Vegetable Solar Drier Machines, Treadle Pumps and Bicycles were equally provided to the four functional youth groups.

This report is an end of term project report summarizing the findings of the end of term *Value Addition and self-Employment project for the Youths at CYATC*. The report has thoroughly assessed the progress made by the MDDD in achieving their stated objectives in the log frame and project proposal to Joint Country Program (JCP).

1.2. CYATC Project Objectives

The overall objective of the Value Addition and self-Employment Project was "to contribute to self-employment among rural youth through competency strengthening in agriculture, value addition and marketing by 2015".

The overall objective is assisted with three specific objectives outlined below.

1. **Specific Objective 1:** To empower youth with entrepreneurial and value addition capabilities
2. **Specific Objective 2:** To increase production output of youth farm enterprises
3. **Specific Objective 3:** To increase market access for youth value added and other products

The End of Term evaluation therefore evaluated the project in reference to the above specific objectives.

1.3. End of term Evaluation Study Objectives

1.3.1. Purpose of the evaluation

The core objective of the end of term evaluation was to design and undertake, in consultation with the MDDD PMU, an analysis of the status of Value Addition and Self-Employment project for the Youths after a full term implementation. The evaluation intended to assess to what degree the project has brought change in the lives of the youths, the existing capacity to implement the activities and how resources have been utilized to implement value addition activities.

The findings of the evaluation will help to identify gaps in the project implementation and will make concrete recommendations for strengthening the Centre to find effective ways of addressing the gaps that have been identified.

1.3.2. Specific Objectives of the evaluation are:

To be able to effectively review and achieve the evaluations specific objectives the evaluation conducted the following activities

1.3.2.1. Internal Organizational Review

An internal organization review was conducted in order to achieve the following results:

- i. To assess Chikuni Youth Agriculture Training Centre (CYATC) value addition project document, annual plans, reports and their implementation including the signed agreement with the funding partner.
- ii. To assess staff understanding and knowledge of the project and to identify support needed; and
- iii. To assess the resource allocation (physical, human and finance) for the Centre.

1.3.2.2. External review

External review basically targeted an assessment of the beneficiaries and other community stakeholders. The evaluation specifically looked at the following during the external reviews:

- i. To assess the impact that the value addition project has had among the targeted youths.

- ii. To assess how effectively the project has helped in addressing issues of agriculture-produce value addition, contributed to good marketing price.

The end of term evaluation has managed to respond to all the above specific research objectives. In terms of the internal organization reviews, the evaluation has assessed all project documentations, and personally consulted the Promoter for Development, Animal Husbandry Specialist and Administrative Assistant (Community Field Coordinator). The evaluation has also reviewed all resources procured by the project compared to what was originally proposed. Some pictures of the procurements are pasted throughout the report. The findings of the internal reviews are incorporated in the findings of the entire report.

Additionally, the report has also managed to adequately respond to all the external review specific objectives by consulting with the youth groups, traditional leaders and other relevant stakeholders. Findings to the external review assessment are equally combined with the rest of the findings in the report.

2. Study Approach and methodology

2.1. End of Term Study Approach

The end of term evaluation employed a triangulation of methodologies in order to reach its desired goals. Both qualitative and quantitative methodologies of data collection were employed during the process. Specifically, the study went through the following steps.

2.1.1. Internal Project Document Review

In order to gain a better appreciation of the project, the sector and major players and actors, a comprehensive literature review of project relevant reports, relevant sector reports and national legal and policy documentation was analyzed. Specifically, the following project documentation was consulted:

- i. The project document;
- ii. Relevant stakeholder project documents as selected during the sampling process;
- iii. Project activity reports on updates and trainings

2.1.2. Primary Data Collection

2.1.2.1. Data Collection Tools

Primary data collection was done using two types of tools, namely, a staff checklist Key Informant Interviews (KII) questionnaire and a Beneficiaries Focused Group Discussion (FGD) Questionnaire. These tools are attached as **Appendixes 1 and 2** (not in the appendix) respectively in the appendixes section below. The staff checklist Key Informant Interviews

questionnaire was used to collect information from the MDDD staff involved in the project and the beneficiary Focused Group Discussion questionnaire was used to collect information from the youths, who comprise the project beneficiaries and the community cultural leadership.

While the Key Informant Interviews questionnaire was concentrated on collecting programmatic information from program staff that were involved in the overall and day to day management of program activities, the FGD questionnaire collected information related to program activity impact to the community and the youths themselves.

Table 1: Stakeholders Consulted

No.	Stakeholders Consulted	Type of Tool Used	Name of Interviewee	No. of Staff Consulted
1	Project Youth Beneficiaries	Beneficiary Tool (FGD)	Check Appendix 7.1.3	16
2	Animal Husbandry Specialist	Staff Tool (KII)	Gertrude Siame	1
	Promoter for Development	Staff Tool (KII)	Solomon Phiri	1
	Administrative Assistant (Community Field Worker)	Staff Tool (KII)	Sebastian Hansende	1
3	Village Community Leaders	Staff Tool + Beneficiary Tool (KII)	Headman Suntwe	2

2.1.2.2. Data Analysis

No specific software was used for the analysis of data from this study. Collected data was analyzed using data content analysis. Initially, Information collected through the checklist and FGDs was documented in short hand on separate pieces of paper. This information was later analyzed through content analysis.

2.1.3. Study Limitations

Overall, the study was conducted successfully without major logistical or technical barriers affecting the findings. However a few minor issues were encountered here and there during the process.

- i. For instance, the reader is being reminded that the Value Addition and self-Employment for the Youths at CYATC project, had encountered a time loss both at the beginning and mid project implementation. As such the project is lacking some of the vital documentations such as the baseline report and the mid-term evaluation. This end of term evaluation has therefore generated its findings without any comparison to either the baseline or mid-term evaluation report.

- ii. The evaluation team encountered a challenge to meet all youth group members in Namakube community youth group owing to a funeral of one of their fellow youths in the neighborhood. As a result therefore, only 7 out of a group of 19 members were able to attend the evaluation consultative meeting. Despite missing out on the views of 14 group members, the consultation went on very well with all the 7 youths actively participating in the process.
- iii. Assessing the projects impact was cited as one of the key performance indicators (KPI) for the consultant during this assignment. However, owing to the short time that the project has implemented its activities on the youths, the evaluation encountered some real difficulties to point out to the impact of the project. Most program activities were completed just under a month ago in November 2015, youths are yet to begin real program activities. As a result, it was a big challenge to point out to the project impacts and success stories.
- iv. One of the key stakeholders that were lined up for consultation was the Chikuni Parish Priest. The Chikuni parish priest is a key stakeholder to the project because he lived in the same community where project beneficiaries are found and was privy to every single bit of information relating to the project. However the parish priest that was involved in the project from inception to the end has since been transferred to another parish. Due to time limitation, and the fact that the new parish priest is busy with other things, the evaluation could not manage to consult with him. However, through the Promoter for Development and Animal Husbandry Specialist, most of the information which otherwise could have been presented by the parish priest was retrieved and utilized.

3. Agriculture and Value Addition in Context

While donor funded projects on sustainable agriculture, the use of treadle pump methodologies and crop marketing are plenty in the country, a project specifically focusing on youths, combining it with sustainable agriculture, irrigation technology, crop value addition and marketing strategies are very rare. The evaluation could not find any literature pointing to such projects, apart from this very one. However the evaluation was able to get literature on the Industrial Development Enterprises (IDE), PROFIT and Musika, as well known projects for promoting treadle pump technology for irrigation, sustainable agriculture and Marketing strategies in Zambia through their project websites. However, each of these organizations is specialized in only one of the development strategies. For example, IDE is only specialized in the treadle pump irrigation technology, while Musika's specialty is in marketing and PROFIT in sustainable agriculture.

The MDDD's Value addition project therefore makes one of the rarest organizations focusing on the youths beneficiaries, and combine what otherwise three organizations should have

implemented into one. The organization is among the first organizations in the country to pilot a combination of sustainable agriculture, treadle pump methodology, crop value addition and marketing all in one project.

A check through literature on any value addition project in Zambia reviews very little information, making it extremely difficult to refer to it in this document. For example the Ministry of Agriculture through an article on their website only mentions how important value addition projects are and also recognizes groundnuts as a high value crop, but only goes as far as mentioning that the crop is mostly considered as a woman's crop. Nothing much is written after that.

4. End of Term Evaluation Findings

4.1. Community Youth group descriptions

A total of 22 youths, 3 MDDD Member of staff, and 2 cultural leaders were sampled and consulted using a criterion that has been well documented in section two above of this report. Their selection was purposive and representative of the different geographical locations and differences in community youth group membership. In this case therefore only the Namakube and Kanchomba youth groups were sampled, representing 50% of the total number of youth groups. Chiyobola and Chompa community youth groups were represented by the Namakube and Kanchomba community youth groups.

4.2. Functional Community Youth groups

Four functional community youth groups namely Kanchomba, Namakube, Chompa and Chiyobola have been established within Chikuni parish. The formed youth groups have been in existence from July 2014 to date. Membership varies per group. When they were formed however, each group had 25 youths; however some members have been dropping out mainly because the project had stalled for more than four months starting from January 2015. Additionally, other youths dropped out after discovering that the project was not going to provide handouts as experienced in the past projects. The evaluation found that current group membership has between 18 to 22 youths. Table two below is showing the number of youths per group.

Table 2: Number of Youths in Functional Community Group

Number	Name Functional Youth Community Groups	Number of Youths		
		Male	Female	Total
1	Kanchomba	13	8	21
2	Namakube	12	7	19
3	Choompa	8	11	19
4	Chiyobola	12	7	19
Total		50	34	78

Source: Project Documents & Attendance Lists

Each community group is involved in the following activities; Village Chicken keeping, gardening using treadle pump technology, village peanut butter production, vegetable drying and preservations. The community youth groups have also been provided with bicycles for marketing. In order to effectively be functional in the production of the above, the community groups had to pass through a number of trainings such as animal husbandry, marketing, and other functional skills on how to operate the vegetable solar drier machine, and peanut butter making.

In terms of performance, each group's performance varies significantly. While all the four (4) community youth groups had equal opportunities of programmatic activities, such as trainings and the provision of equipment. Some groups are seemingly more advanced comparatively. The differences in the group's achievements are dependent on the pro-activeness of the youth group leadership. Groups that have active leaders will tend to have some considerable milestones. However it's also worth mentioning that the project only finished trainings and providing equipment a month ago in November 2015. Judging the groups achievements in less than a month may be a bit too harsh on them. However, being an end of term evaluation and noting that the TOR strongly requested for this opinion, the evaluation will endeavor to provide its opinion.

The Kanchomba community youth group for instance is comparatively doing better compared to the rest. The group has a well-established community youth group gardens from which youths are able to wholesale and sale to the local market. Though currently not making profits as planned due to the amount of time that the group has owned the value addition equipment, the community youth group is also able to make peanut butter and dry and preserve vegetables for selling. The group has so far sold peanut butter worth ZMW21.00, and is yet to sell dry vegetables. In addition, the group has managed to save ZMW566.00 through the village youth community group saving group using the OSAWE methodology.

On the other hand, the Namakube community youth group while also doing well, is slightly lagging behind generally. The community youth group has established the OSAWE community youths saving group, but it has not made any savings. In addition, the youth group is yet to make a sale of its dried vegetables and peanut butter. The community youth group is also yet to establish youth gardens. The community youth group needs some extra time to be able to implement these projects.

4.3. Community saving groups

Youth community saving groups using the OSAWE methodology have been established in all the 4 youth groups. Functionally the groups are doing very well; group members have embraced the concept of OSAWE savings very well to an extent that other community members who are not part of the community youth groups are envying to join the group and save with them. This is despite them not doing so well in terms of actual savings, a development attributed to the late establishment of these groups.

Functionally, all the four groups became functional on the 4th of November 2015. Most groups with the exception of the Kanchomba youth group are still trying to organize themselves to begin the savings. The current status quo is especially justified given the fact that all the group fundraising activities such as the value addition projects already mentioned above are yet to begin producing monetary resources.

Despite the generally gloomy picture, Kanchomba community group has been able to save up to **ZMW566** in the one month that they have been operational. This is a good indicator that given enough time, the groups will be able to save much more than that. There is therefore need for more time to be allocated to the project in order to achieve the desired goal.



Picture No. 1: A savings group meeting in Kanchomba

4.4. Gardening & Treadle Pumps

Gardening is a very lucrative and productive activity. The gardening activity in this project was designed to provide the vegetable solar drier with vegetables for drying and preservations, and later on sold to the community and surrounding areas. It was also designed to produce fresh vegetables for immediate sales to the nearby community and wholesaling to traders.

Currently the gardening department of this project is struggling with an exception of Kanchomba community youth group. In fact Kanchomba has the best gardens right now compared to the

“Our garden has largely been successful because of the treadle pump given to us by the Diocese. Using the Treadle Pump our yields have doubled, and we use less energy compared to using buckets”

. Mackson Habasune of Chindolo Village

other 3 youth groups. The community youth has had one season of vegetable productions, which they have been able to sell to the nearby community and other traders who buy at a wholesale price for resell.

Though according to the Kanchomba youths, gardening was currently the most profitable of all the activities, they were unable to account for the amount of money. Asked why they are unable to account for the amount of money made, youths mentioned that they never thought of

keeping records. The situation of lack of records is indicative that there is need for more training

in book keeping and marketing. It may also suggest that the market research training provided might have not been adequate.

The remaining three groups however are yet to begin their gardening activities. In fact some groups such as Namakube and Chiyobola are yet to receive their treadle pump technology; meaning therefore that technically, these groups can only start production after receiving treadle pumps. This also implies that the community is unable to dry vegetables. Following up with the MDDD Project management unit, the evaluation found that the 2 treadle pumps have been procured and ready for distribution to the two groups, however the predicament was whether it is worth it considering that the project is closing within two weeks.

From the evaluation's point of view, the only solution to this predicament is investing some additional time to the project, which will enable the community youth groups to implement what they were taught during the trainings.

Picture No. 2: Ireen Habusune of Kanchoma in her garden



4.4.1. Solar Vegetable Dryers

Vegetable Solar driers are solar powered simple machines that help dry and preserve vegetables for sale or future use. In this project, the aim of the Vegetable solar driers was to help youths preserve the vegetables for use in dry seasons and to be able to sell the dried vegetables to the surrounding community and beyond. Five (5), vegetable solar driers were initially planned, procured and distributed to all the 4 community youth groups while one was retained for demonstration purposes at CYATC.

4.4.1.1. Discussion on Solar Dryers

The evaluators were pleased to find that vegetable solar driers were distributed to all the 4 community youth groups. Each group visited boasted of having received the vegetable solar dryer and were eager to show it off to the consultants that visited them.

However, the evaluation also noted that all the solar dryers were only delivered to the community youth groups in September 2015. This implies that the solar dryers have only been in possession of the youth groups for only 3 months. This obviously implies that the youths have not done enough, if anything, with these valuable assets. Asked whether the youths have been able to sell any products from the vegetable solar drying machine, all the youth groups mentioned having tried drying the vegetables and preparing some of it for home food. They added that they like the taste of the products, adding that all the stocks which normally are thrown away, are used as food when dried with a solar machine.

However, none of the youth groups have been able to sell or market any of the products of the vegetable solar drying machine. Even Kanchomba which is seemingly doing better than the rest of the groups have not sold anything from this machine. The main reason is firstly because the machines were only distributed a late in the project implementation period, and secondly, 3 groups out of 4 do not have functional working gardens like already explained in section **4.4 above**.

The evaluation's only interpretation is that youths will need more time before they can make any sell in this area. They will require to first make functional gardens before drying vegetables for sale can take place. According to the Project Management Unit however, the delay in the procurement of equipment, such as the vegetable solar dryer, is due to administrative challenges caused by prolonged approval processes on the donors' side. The project was not only delayed to begin, but was also halted halfway due to prolonged approval processes. Time will therefore need to be allocated if these equipment can be of use and profitable to the youth groups.

4.5. Village Chicken production and Small animal production

Community youth groups were trained in small animal production. The training was aimed at equipping the youths with the basics of small animal husbandry, such as feeding, common diseases identification, treatment and control among others. In addition, although the project didn't provide the youth groups with some working capital, they managed to use their initiative to start village chicken rearing.

In response to the training, each of the community group has started their village chicken production units. A check in Kanchomba and Namakube groups found the target youth groups keeping village chickens. However, the target youth groups have not started realizing any monies from these chickens as they are still breeding them.

Again, with a bit more time invested, youth groups will be able to realize some sells from the village chickens. In addition to the group village chicken keeping, youths also individually own some small animals such as goats and sheep.

Picture No 3: Jobert Mapanza of Chindolo Village feeding the Youth Group Village Chickens



4.6. Peanut Butter Production

The Peanut butter production was designed with the objective of fundraising for the youth groups as well as fight malnutrition in the community. In response to this, the project procured and distributed five peanut butter making machines to all the four target youth groups with one being retained for demonstration purposes at the CYATC.

4.6.1. Discussions on Peanut Butter Production

With the exception of Kanchomba and Namakube, production is yet to begin in the remaining two youth groups. And the reason for delayed commencement of production is already mentioned, delayed distribution of the equipment and a need for more time.

However, Kanchomba and Namakube groups, representing 50% of the total number of youth groups, have commenced production, though yet to realize some meaningful profit. A check in Kanchomba for example, showed that the community youth group has produced peanut butter and displayed it in one of the local shops for sale. At the time of the consultation, the youth group had only sold its first two packages of the peanut butter, realizing a ZMW21.

Picture No 4: Kanchomba Youth Produced Peanut Butter being displayed in a Local Shop in Kanchomba community



From the evaluation team point of view, youths are trying as much as possible to ensure that this project starts and is profitable. However, time and enough mentorship and monitoring is not on their side. There is also need to help the youths with packaging methodologies and places where new packaging cans can be sourced. The picture above is showing us a used container being used for packaging. This is clearly very innovative; however, this can destroy customer's confidence in the produce leading to fewer sales.

In terms of production however, youths complained of difficulties in sourcing groundnuts for the production of peanut butter. This could be an indication that groundnuts production is not a priority in this area. There may therefore be great need to encourage the production of groundnuts in the project area. This followed by introducing youths to groundnuts market will make a great asset to the peanut butter production and overall agriculture business.

4.7. Marketing

To support Project implementation, a motor bike and eight (8) bicycles were procured. These equipment enabled youth groups and MDDD staff in their day to day project implementation, management and marketing. The evaluation was pleased to find all youth groups well equipped with bicycles, while the motor bicycle was retained for the project officer.

4.7.1. Motor Bike

Picture No. 4: Sebastian with his Motorbike.



In order to ease the transportation needs of a community field worker, who has to touch all the 4 centers almost at once, a project motorbike had to be procured. The project motorbike has been distributed to the community field worker, who is tasked with checking the day to day project implementation activities of all the youth groups. The motorbike has greatly contributed towards the successful implementation of project

activities.

4.7.2. Bicycles

The evaluation team was very pleased to find that two bicycles have been distributed per youth group. The bicycles are accessed by every group member and the CMF who is charged with the responsibility of marketing the group's products.

Apart from marketing the youth group's products, the bicycle is also used for monitoring the implementation of project activities among its targets and attending to other community development meetings and any other development related activity. From the evaluation's point of view, bicycles are currently very helpful and will continue to be helpful in the direct implementation of youth activities, especially in the marketing of the products once all the youth begin production. *Please refer to the cover page for a picture of youths from Namakube showing off their bicycles.*

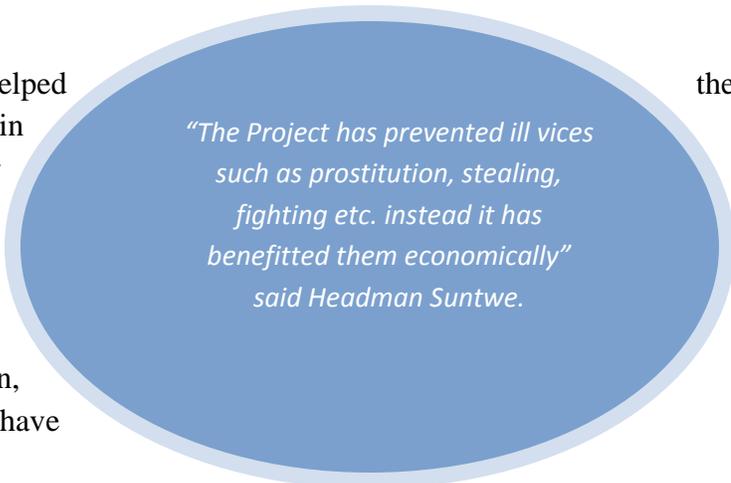
5. Analysis of the Evaluation Focus Areas

5.1. Project Relevance

The relevance of this project to the youths cannot be overemphasized; it is easily visible on youth's faces, and the eagerness to attend project related meetings and activities. The project is one of its kinds; needless to say it has been well received by both the target youths and community membership at large.

Among other things, the project has helped youths of the Chikuni community to gain knowledge which they otherwise never had before the project was introduced to the community. Project beneficiaries boast of knowledge in marketing, sustainable agriculture, animal husbandry and value addition, accrued from the short time they have interacted with the project.

the



*“The Project has prevented ill vices such as prostitution, stealing, fighting etc. instead it has benefitted them economically”
said Headman Suntwe.*

In addition, the community leadership mentioned that despite the project not providing individual capital to the youths, the project has been extremely relevant to the community.

However both the wider community and youths are in agreement that the project would even be better ***if implementation time was increased and youths are provided with individual loans after this current phase.*** The community is for the idea that the current phase be only used as a training phase. And a follow up project be initiated which among other things should include individualized pass on youth loans. The community is for the view that this will create sustainability and individualized ownership, and at the same time create both community and household wealth.

In the consultant’s views, **this idea can further be expanded by both the donor and the implementer;** if this project has to continue being relevant to the community, and especially that implementation time was not only limited but also disrupted for any meaningful results.

5.2. Project Adequacy/ Efficiency

In terms of time, the adequateness/efficiency of the project implementation unfortunately is very bleak. The evaluation team learnt that the project was designed to be implemented over a period of 20 months, however, due to administrative procedures between the donor and the implementer, the project was only implemented over a period of 8 months, implying that only 40% of the project time was implemented.

While the project has endeavored to conduct all the assigned activities including trainings, procurements and deliveries of most of the procurements apart from two treadle pumps to the youth groups, the youths themselves have not been given time to practice what they had learnt in those trainings and adequately practice how to use the value addition machines provided. The youths are well equipped with all the necessary knowledge and equipment, but could not be allowed to implement due to limited time. In our view as project evaluators, the youths require more time if they have to realize benefits from this project, otherwise all the resources spent to this date would have to be wasted.

Chiyobola and Namakube for instance, are yet to receive their treadle pumps even though they have already been purchased. In addition, all the groups reported having not adequately utilized or made any monies worth mentioning from the vegetable solar driers and peanut butter production.

5.3. Project Effectiveness,

Looking at it from the MDDD project activities point of view, the project is on point. It has managed to deliver all the lined up trainings and procurements, apart from two treadle pumps. Targeted youths were trained in research and marketing skills, sustainable agriculture, gardening, vegetable drying, peanut butter making among others.

“For the first time in our lives we have been taught how to garden, dry & preserve vegetables, make peanut butter, and planning and marketing for our farming”,

Encored the youths from Kanchomba and Namakube youth groups respectively.

However, though well conducted, the project did not conduct the trainings on the required time due to already alluded to administrative challenges. And this has caused delayed implementation of youth projects. Judging from this direction therefore, the project has not been effective mainly because the intended beneficiaries have not seen the benefit of the project due to time limitation.

5.4. Project Impact

Though this phase of the project is closing immediately after training and provision of value addition equipment, and unfit to talk about project impact achievements, the project evaluation noticed one or two important aspects worth discussing.

The evaluation noticed some knowledge accumulation resulting from the trainings provided by the project. A rich knowledge among the youths was exhibited in the area of sustainable agriculture, animal husbandry, value addition, and marketing.

“Had the Diocese taught us Planning and Marketing a long time ago, I could have managed to buy an animal by now. The Training on Marketing was particularly very beneficial to me among others”. Said Ignatius Masaka of Suntwe Village

The knowledge that has been accumulated will live on, and be used for the rest of the youths’ lives; therefore **the project gets credit for this.**

Again though too early to mention, the savings groups are slowly accumulating success. As earlier mentioned in section 4.3 above, the saving of ZMK566.00 by the Kanchomba youth group cannot go unnoticed. It is the belief of the evaluation team that other groups will follow

suit and even do much better given time and regular monitoring.

For the rest of the youth group activities, it is just a matter of time before visible impacts can be noticed.

5.5. Project Sustainability

With accumulated knowledge and project activities among the youths, the project has a lot of potential to continue beyond the project life span, *but only if* the project is provided with additional time for the youths to internalize the concepts that have been provided so far. Extended project time coupled with individualized loans is the only medicine for project sustainability in this case.

6. Project Recommendations

- 6.1. **Time/Project Extension:** The first and probably most important recommendation is project time extension. The project is hungry and thirsty for more time allocation in order to complete the activities that otherwise would have been completed if the project did not pause due to administrative procedures. As earlier mentioned in this report the project planned 20 months of implementation but was only implemented for 8 months. There is therefore need to compensate for more time in order for youths to begin implementing what was taught to them. If not extended, the project risks all equipment provided and knowledge turning into a white elephant (unused equipment and knowledge).
- 6.2. **Increased Project Monitoring:** Connected to recommendation number 6.1 above is the need for increased project monitoring of the youth groups. Youth groups are usually demotivated if they are not frequently visited by project staff. There is therefore need for a suitable monitoring and mentorship budget that can support an appropriate number of visits to the youth groups and check and mentor youth groups on what they are doing if the project is extended.
- 6.3. **Individualized Household Pass on Loans:** For sustainability purposes, and individual household wealth creation, there is need to source for funding to finance individualized household loans attached to each group. Depending on individual needs assessments, youth based households can be allowed to get a loan for 2 or 3 value addition equipment, or let alone agro-related facilities such as small animals or seed, which they can later repay to the group. The repaid loans can later be used to recruit new members to the group. If followed and carefully planned, this initiative will see both individualized household and group wealth accumulation. Further, it will see the youth group expand to include other youths and areas, and therefore supporting sustainability.
- 6.4. **Formalize/Register Youth Groups:** Community youth groups also asked for the formalization of individual youth groups. Formalizing youth groups will not only promote sustainability but also enable the youths to take sustainable agriculture and other value addition projects that they are engaged in into a business. As a result of registering

their groups, youths will be forced to work hard to sustain their group; furthermore, the group will be eligible to apply and receive funds from other donors, and therefore creating independence and sustainability.

7. Appendices

7.1. Data Collection Tools

7.1.1. Beneficiary Youth Group FGD Checklist

7.1.2. MDDD Staff/Cultural Leader KII Checklist

7.1.3. Names Consulted