

# Climate Change Capacity Statement 2023

The mission of **Development Aid from People to People Zimbabwe** (DAPP Zimbabwe) is to implement meaningful community-led projects to empower people with knowledge, skills and tools to improve their well-being in five interrelated sectors: climate change adaptation and sustainable agriculture, community development, education, health, and emergencies.

DAPP Zimbabwe is a member of the **Humana People to People Federation**, a global network of 29 organizations working in 45 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Europe and the North America. Through this affiliation, DAPP Zimbabwe leverages experience and expertise from Humana People to People member organizations regionally and globally.

## Our approach

Work shoulder-to-shoulder with communities to share ideas and experiences, and to build and strengthen their capacities to lead local climate change adaptation and resilience building.

Inclusive and participatory approaches, where communities identify solutions to their urgent needs and challenges, and those who are most often left behind are included and empowered and their active role in decision-making is ensured.

Commitment to promote gender-responsive and gender-transformative programming, where women become key stakeholders and local leaders towards poverty reduction, sustainable development, and effective climate change responses.

Alignment to country ownership, through a long-standing relationship with a wide range of key stakeholders, including parliamentarians, government ministries and departments, women's groups, other NGOs and CBOs, religious, traditional and political leaders and the private sector.

## Climate Change in Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe's 2021 Revised Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) signals that:

- The country's **mean annual temperature** is projected to increase **1 to 1.5°C by 2040** from a 1986-2005 baseline, potentially exceeding 3°C by 2050.
- Average rainfall is projected to further decrease by **approximately 10%**, notably in southern and eastern districts.
- The intensity of **rainfall events** is projected to **increase**, with more **erratic precipitation** patterns and heavier rains **leading to increased flood events**.

Extreme weather events are already having adverse impacts on people and livelihoods. The number of **people affected** and the **economic losses** caused by droughts and floods have increased exponentially in recent years. Extreme weather events also exacerbate **epidemic outbreaks**, furthering social and economic losses.



Woman farmer participating in one of DAPP Zimbabwe's Farmers' Clubs.

# FARMERS' CLUBS

## A sustainable and holistic agricultural development model

DAPP Zimbabwe's "Farmers' Clubs" (FC) program supports smallholder farmers with organization, knowledge and skills. Smallholder farmers are organized into self-supportive groups and provided with continuous technical training with guidance from line ministries. The program also establishes **Internal Saving and Lending Groups**, links farmers to markets, strengthens local value chains and promotes a sustainable use of natural resources.

The farmers are organized into groups of 25-50 members, and each group selects a leadership committee of five members. Each group is also assigned a farming instructor, who trains the farmers in conservation agriculture practices, such as: soil and water conservation; agroforestry; protection of the natural environment; improved plant varieties; new seed varieties; integrated pest management; crop rotation; and more. Model fields are used for training and to demonstrate the effectiveness of sustainable practices, and the farmers are also trained in healthy nutrition diets and WASH.



*Demonstration plot at a Farmers' Club.*

Since the adoption of the first Farmers' Club model in 1996:

**DAPP has organized and trained more than**

**60,000**

**farmers with the FC approach**

**The clubs have planted more than**

**500,000**

**indigenous, exotic fruit and wood trees across Zimbabwe**

Moreover, 20% of families have built individual firewood saving stoves to reduce deforestation and environmental degradation, in addition to improving health.

# VILLAGE CIVIL PROTECTION COMMITTEES

## A local response to disasters

DAPP Zimbabwe is strengthening Village Civil Protection Committees (VCPC), local community structures that were envisioned under Zimbabwe's Civil Protection Act to respond to disasters.

After Cyclone Idai hit Chimanimani District in March 2019, DAPP Zimbabwe has been working with the affected communities to conduct recovery efforts, providing **disaster preparedness** training and **Disaster Risk Reduction** strategies.

In 2019, DAPP Zimbabwe implemented an emergency response program over four months to ease the immediate impacts of Cyclone Idai on affected households, which were identified together with the Civil Protection Unit and local leadership. In subsequent years, DAPP Zimbabwe has continued to support communities in Chimanimani by strengthening local capacities in agricultural production, food and nutrition security and economic empowerment.

By providing technical and organizational support to Village Civil Protection Committees structures and by creating new ones, DAPP is enhancing the local readiness and Disaster Risk Reduction at the community level.



*Integrating traditional knowledge into Early Warning Systems within VCPCs in Chimanimani District.*

# GREENING TVET

## Promoting green skills at Technical and Vocational Education and Training

Within the Humana People to People network of Vocational Training Schools, there is increasing emphasis on the importance of **green skills** for the green and just transition and the climate agenda.

At the moment at DAPP Zimbabwe, the main target for greening skills includes training in sustainable agricultural techniques, construction and recycling. DAPP has designed and revised courses that were informed by the job market and relevant climate policies. Through outreach in community-based vocational skills training, youth are being trained in **construction, water pump mechanics, sewing, and smart energy systems, including solar panel installation and construction of biogas digesters.**

Graduates from the **Ponesai Vanhu Technical College**, a private TVET Center managed by DAPP, have formed co-operatives in construction. Some have started their own business initiatives, especially those trained in horticulture, and a small proportion of the students has accessed formal employment in government and the private sector.



TVET students constructing a biogas digester.

## CURRENT PROJECTS

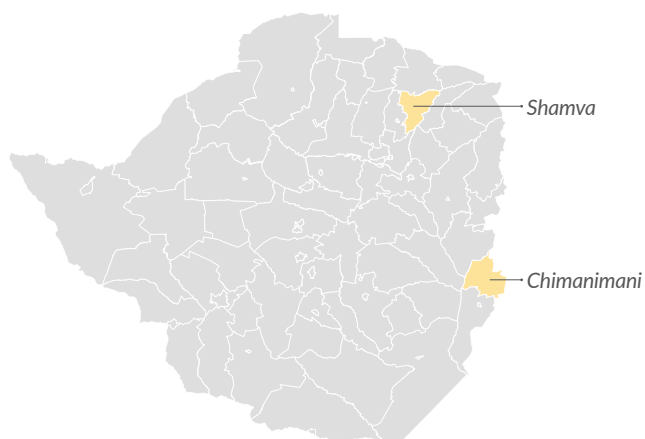
### Disaster Recovery and DRR

*Chimanimani District (Wards 12 and 21)*

Many of the households that were affected by Cyclone Idai in March 2019 have not fully recovered from its effects.

This project has targeted severely affected wards in Chimanimani district with a focus on strengthening post-disaster socioeconomic recovery among affected rural communities, as well as enabling and introducing **Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)** strategies through reinforcing and creating **VILLAGE CIVIL PROTECTION COMMITTEES** and **EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS.**

*Tree planting along riverbanks as DRR strategy in Chimanimani District.*



### Climate Change and Health

*Chimanimani District (Wards 2, 3 and 4)*

After the heavy rains in January 2023, a **CHOLERA OUTBREAK** in Zimbabwe was first reported on 12 February 2023 with cases in eight provinces.

DAPP Zimbabwe has been working in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Child Care in implementing an **Anticipatory Action** project for preventing a major Cholera spread in Chimanimani District. Through community Cholera awareness-raising campaigns, DAPP has improved health and hygiene practices among **4,000 households in the District.**

*Shamva District (Wards 3 and 14)*

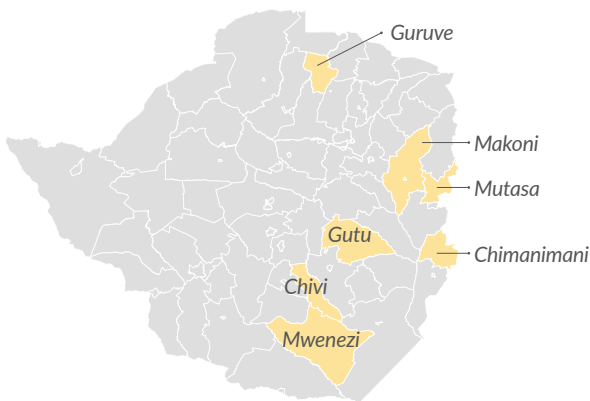
Within this **WASH** project, DAPP is also improving and enabling access to potable and affordable drinking water and adequate sanitation and hygiene facilities in rural areas of the Shamva District.



Women making use of C-Quest firewood saving stoves.



Community-based nursery.



Woman participating in the From Communal to Commercial Farming program.

## Climate Change Mitigation and Sustainable use of Natural Resources

Chimanimani, Chivi, Gutu, Makoni, Mutasa and Mwenezi districts (78 wards)

In partnership with C-Quest Capital, DAPP Zimbabwe is implementing a **mitigation** project through the construction of **FIREWOOD SAVING STOVES** in order to reduce carbon emissions, which is aligned with the country's greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets. The project is currently operating in six districts, reaching out **78 wards and targeting 60,000 households**.

This initiative is also aimed at reducing carbon intake by community members and **improving the health and well-being** of women and children by reducing their exposure to toxic smoke, while contributing to **reducing deforestation and land degradation**.

## Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Building

Makoni District (Wards 12 and 16)

By building on DAPP's long track record on **HEALTH** and **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT** interventions, DAPP is contributing to build resilience among **200 vulnerable smallholder farmers**, particularly women and those affected with TB and/or HIV in Makoni district. Working together with local leaders and community members, the project is promoting the adoption of **climate-smart agricultural techniques** through creation of gardens, installation of solar-powered boreholes, drip irrigation schemes and rearing of small livestock.

Mutasa District (Wards 12 and 16)

Agriculture is the main economic activity in Mutasa district, but farmers suffer from climatic extreme events, pest invasions and other production-related losses that are enhanced by climate change effects. Since 2021, DAPP has enabled farmers' learning exchange through **FARMERS' CLUBS**, where farmers are piloting approaches to climate change adaptation. Currently, **750 smallholder farmers** are strengthening their skills and knowledge in **CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE** techniques and solar-powered irrigation pumps and increasing food and nutrition security and household income.

Guruve District (Wards 12 and 16)

With its strategy **FROM COMMUNAL TO COMMERCIAL FARMING**, DAPP Zimbabwe keeps adding to government efforts to promote **conservation agriculture** and leave no one behind through the governmental **Pfumvudza Programme**. DAPP has facilitated a shift from Communal to Commercial farming working with farmers in Guruve. Currently, DAPP is supporting **157 A1 resettled smallholder farmers** transitioning into semi-commercial production, by promoting sustainable land use crop and animal production.

## Current and recent partners and donors



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