



**CHITANI COMMUNITY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
ORGANIZATION**



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

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Welcome

The year ending 2018 July to 2019 June had brought sustainable change in the lives of marginalized people and communities who were empowered and reinforced customary laws that protect women's and girls' rights, reduce poverty and inequalities. It had improved literacy levels for orphans and vulnerable children.

It is the belief of CHICOSUDO that; poverty, illiteracy and injustice can be addressed by the outsiders, but the marginalized people have to be empowered to enable them take active role in addressing issues affecting their lives and being supported by outsiders. Therefore, CHICOSUDO's business used this bottom up approach.

CHICOSUDO believes in working with partners, therefore in this year reporting, our partnership with community stakeholders made contribution both relevant, effective, sustainable, innovativeness, and cost effective. The highlights include:

Almost 650

Orphans and vulnerable children report access to early childhood learning, and received relief support to attain their primary and secondary school.

Almost 81

Parents reported the improvement in child care in sanitation and hygiene at home and at the Community Based Child Care Centers.

More than 15,311

Communities were mobilized by traditional leaders and community based volunteers to modify harmful cultural practices and reinforcement of customary laws that protect women's and girls' rights.

Almost 7,013

Women and girls report the sense of protection in their homes.

About 80

Survivors of domestic violence reported the improved economic status through village savings loans initiative.

1. Education support for orphans and vulnerable children



Figure 1 pic by Lesley Kapile (Programs Officer)

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2. Cultural approach to prevent domestic violence to Promote and protect women's and girls' rights.



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3. Food security and climate resilience for poor families



Figure 3. Pic by Lesley Kapile, (Programs Officer)



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Over 224

Poor families benefited from goats pass on and sustainable crop production.

Traditional Authority Kapeni which is located in the north east of Blantyre, Poverty, illiteracy and injustice has been on the face of women and girls. These have triggered gender based violence which was rooted by cultural norms which were penetrated by traditional leaders. Therefore there were great need to engage these traditional leaders so that they could change these to protect women and girls at the same time promote education for orphans and vulnerable children.

It is our commitment to do all our work by uprooting the causes with the belief that to end poverty, people's economic, social and human rights must be respected and concerned people have to be protected, with a focus on women's rights. We celebrate other example throughout this report.

The following pages to follow you will find the outline on how the work was done. Adding to that, we have included financial support and solidarity so generously given by our dedicated supporters that made the difference. **Therefore, we give our all heartfelt thanks to all.**

Miss Fanny Chikwakwa

Board Chairperson

AREAS OF FOCUS

1. Education support for orphans and vulnerable children

In 2018 to 2019 CHICOSUDO supported 650 orphans and vulnerable children of 3 to 17 years old to attain early learning under 6 Community Based Child Care Centers, surrounded primary and secondary schools. At the same time, CHICOSUDO supported 81 parents to improve child care at home and at the Community Based Child Care Centers including sanitation and hygiene.

In 2018 to 2019, CHICOSUDO supported 650 orphans and vulnerable children by providing early childhood education and relief. CHICOSUDO assisted 3 to 5 years children to attain early learning by enrolling them in established 6 Community Based Child Care Centers (CBCCs) (Chiyambi, Tikondane, Timvane, Mlaina, Mlambe and Pitala). These children benefited from school feeding programme where by each day they received food at the Community Based Child Care Centre. Through this programme many children who were in poor health, improved their health since the food was nutritious. All Community Based Child Care Centers have reported the increase in attendance for children with 2 % compared to 2017 to 2018. At least 35 older orphans and vulnerable children received relief items and provided referrals to keep them going to school.

School construction for early childhood development

2018 to 2019, CHICOSUDO facilitated the construction of one Community Based Child Care Center at Pitala village. One classroom block, kitchen, 2 holes Pit Latrine and hand washing facility for sanitation and hygiene at the center. This had enabled over 76 orphans and vulnerable children of 3 to 6 years from surrounding villages to attain early childhood

development. We have also supported 24 older orphans and vulnerable children who are in primary schools and Community Day Secondary Schools to find the place for evening classes. Lastly, the centre have benefited village savings loans group as the meeting place for women empowerment.

Parenting education

The year ending 2018 to 2019, CHICOSUDO supported 80 parents from and Chigumula villages. Those parents reported improvement in child care and home sanitation and hygiene which had reduced the cases of water borne disease which were hardly affecting under five children in the area. 80 parents have reached 220 parents from surrounding villages. They reported to the practice where by each home reported to have Pit Latrine and hand washing facilities for sanitation and hygiene. The Children at the Community Based Child Care Centers showed good performances in language, plays and mathematics and the use of sanitation facilities at the CBCC and home.

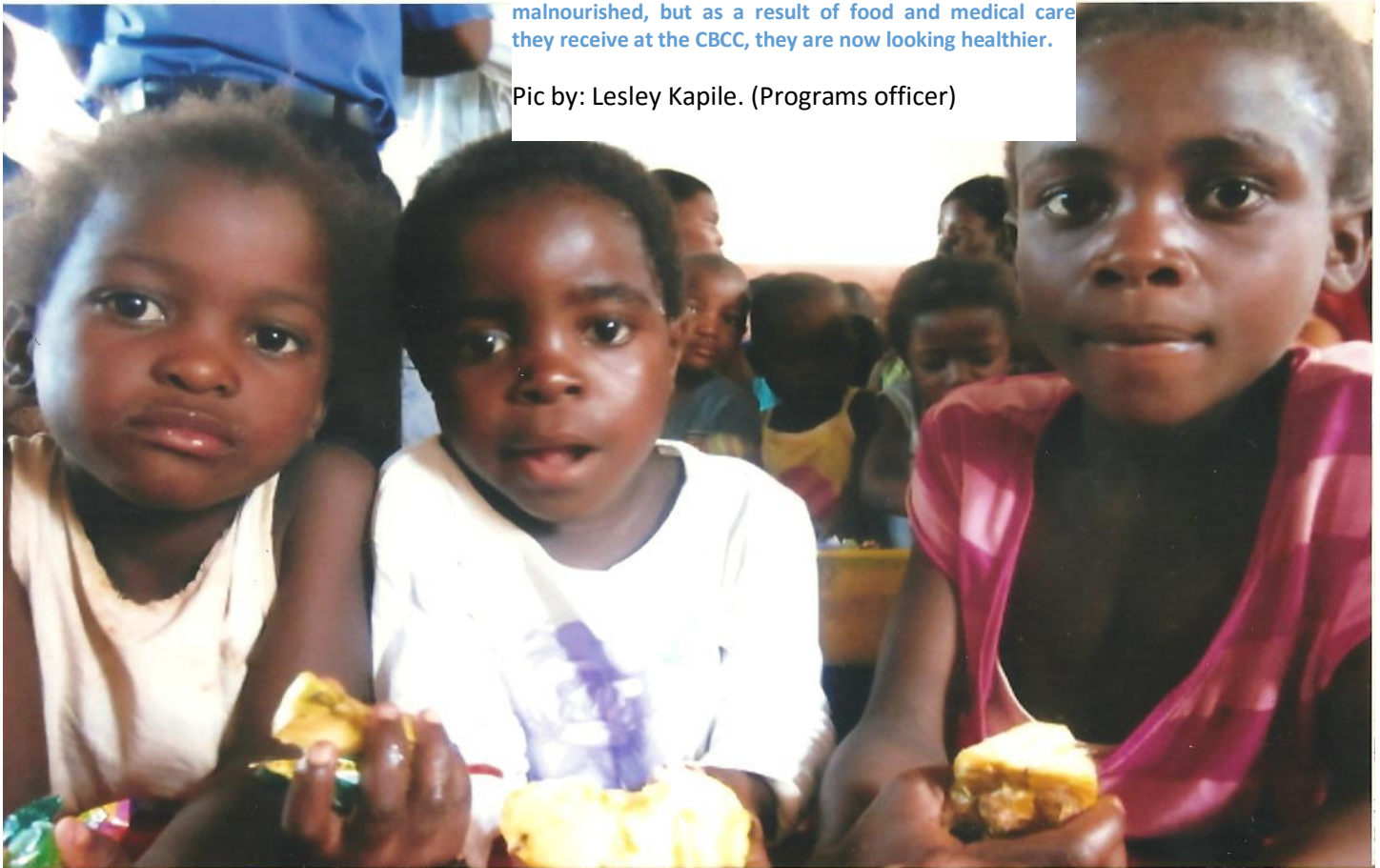


Figure 4 and 5

Chiyambi Community Based Child Care Centre (CBCC) in Mira Village. The school is providing early learning 145 orphans and vulnerable children. This CBCC harvest water to use during the dry season. The CBCC provides nutritious food to orphans and vulnerable children.

The children below joined this school while they were malnourished, but as a result of food and medical care they receive at the CBCC, they are now looking healthier.

Pic by: Lesley Kapile. (Programs officer)



2. Cultural approach to prevent domestic violence to Promote and protect women's and girls' rights.

In 2018 to 2019, CHICOSUDO empowered 60 traditional leaders and 40 community based volunteers who mobilized 15,311 communities to support the modification of harmful cultural and religious norms that promoted violence against women and girls including early and forced marriages, raise the voices of women and girls, advocate for access to legal and sexual reproductive health services.

This programme was piloted in the following group village heads; Mponda, Kumnponda, Roben Nsambuizi and Mchere, 60 traditional leaders after working hand in hand with 40 community based volunteers, reported to be champions after successfully mobilized 15,311 communities to their respective villages and supported the reinforcement of customary Laws that protected women's and girls' rights. In 7, 0311 women and girls reported the sense of protection in their respective homes.

Referral network for promoting women's rights access to legal and health service.

CHICOSUDO in partnership with Community Based Organizations and other stakeholders under group village heads, Roben Nsambuizi, Mchere and Mponda, formed the referral network where all service provider such as; health clinics, local police-victim support unit, HIV Testing and Counseling, ART providers joining hands in supporting the survivors of domestic violence. ----- Clients referred at least ----- reported access to services.

Men as protector's campaign to protect women and girls' rights

CHICOSUDO and its partners at community level, mobilized 100 men formed 10 clubs with 220 members to prevent domestic violence so that they could promote women's and girl's rights by reducing domestic violence.

M-health for reporting domestic violence issues

CHICOSUDO adapted M-health technologies in reporting gender based violence cases on monthly data reporting by community based volunteers. The initiative has motivated community based volunteers who have found it easy sending secret reports to supervisors' o issues of domestic violence happen at community level. At the same time, community based volunteers have found it easy in referring cases to referral points like Police-Victim Support Unit, HIV Testing and Counseling, ART Clinics, referrals to health service providers. This initiative saved the lives of victimized women and girls in the way that traditional leaders and CHICOSUDO supervisors new incidences related to domestic violence which were happening, this urgency enabled CHICOSUDO to act fast to rescue the victim.

Modification of harmful cultural practices and reinforment of customary laws to protect women and girls' rights.

Traditional leaders from group village heads, Mponda, Roben Msambuizi and Mchere mobilized 15,311 communities in their respective villages through community dialogues, awareness meetings trainings, and workshops to modify cultural practices which included: **"wife exchange"** (where men were exchanging their wives without the concerts of their wives. After the realization of men on sexual reproductive health rights of women and girls, they have stopped wife exchanging), **"Early and forced marriages for young girls"**. Under this, traditional leaders reinforced customary laws where any parent or guardian forced their young girl child getting married to older men, the family is punished and the new family is ended by traditional leader. This has

become possible with support from customary laws set by traditional leaders in conjunction with community members. “Death cleansing” currently they are using herbals instead of forcing the widow to

have unprotected sexual intercourse with the hired man.

Village Savings Loans for women economic empowerment

In group village headman, CHICOSUDO piloted village savings loans for survivors of domestic violence where 80 women joined and formed their groups where they are saving money on the weekly basis and have access to soft loans to start their small businesses. Five groups were formed in the following villages: Kamwendo, Mpira, Ndemanje, Maluwa, Kumponda . This initiative have enabled survivors of domestic violence and other poor women have access to soft loans to start their small business such as farming, cooking. These avenues have enable these women generate incomes for their daily needs including paying school fees or their children. Over all, the initiative had reduced dependency on men.

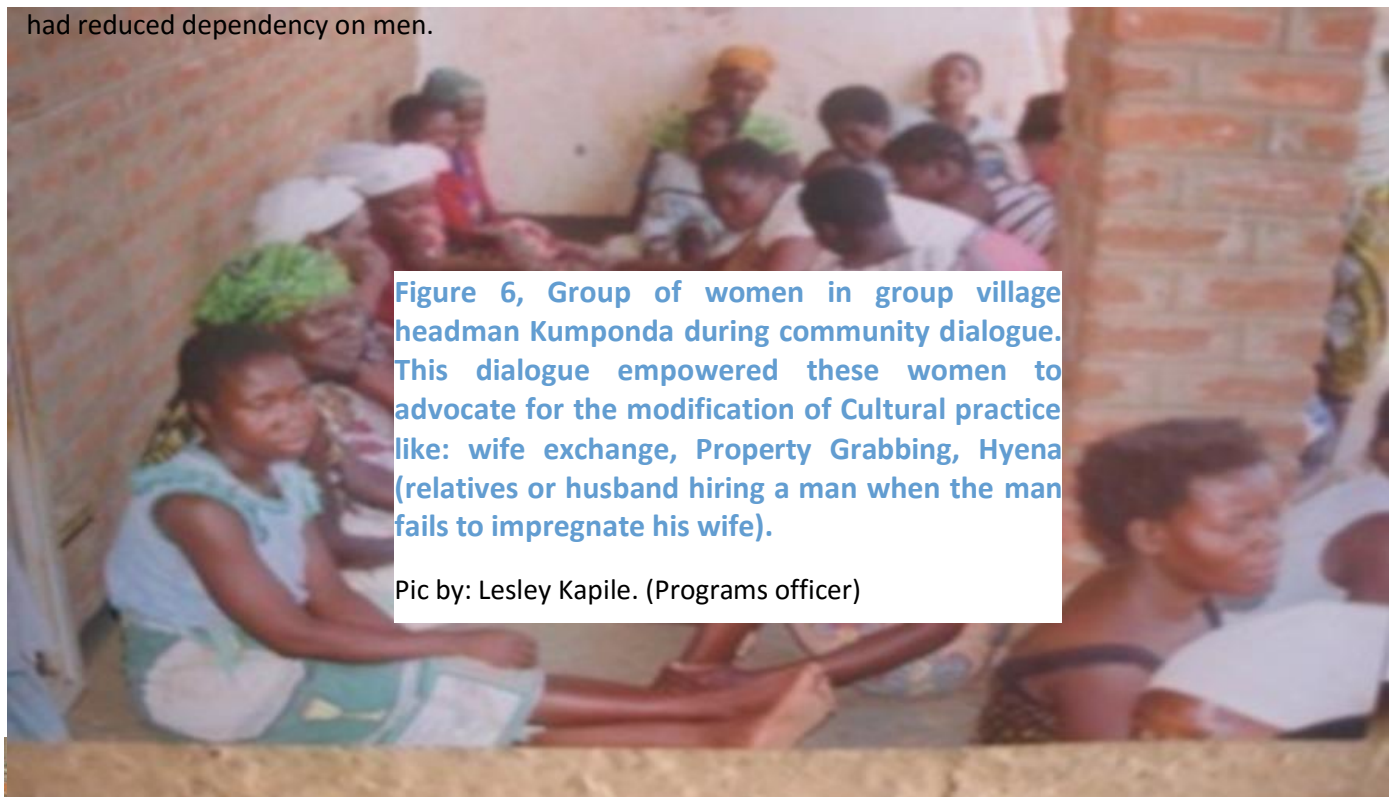


Figure 6, Group of women in group village headman Kumponda during community dialogue. This dialogue empowered these women to advocate for the modification of Cultural practice like: wife exchange, Property Grabbing, Hyena (relatives or husband hiring a man when the man fails to impregnate his wife).

Pic by: Lesley Kapile. (Programs officer)

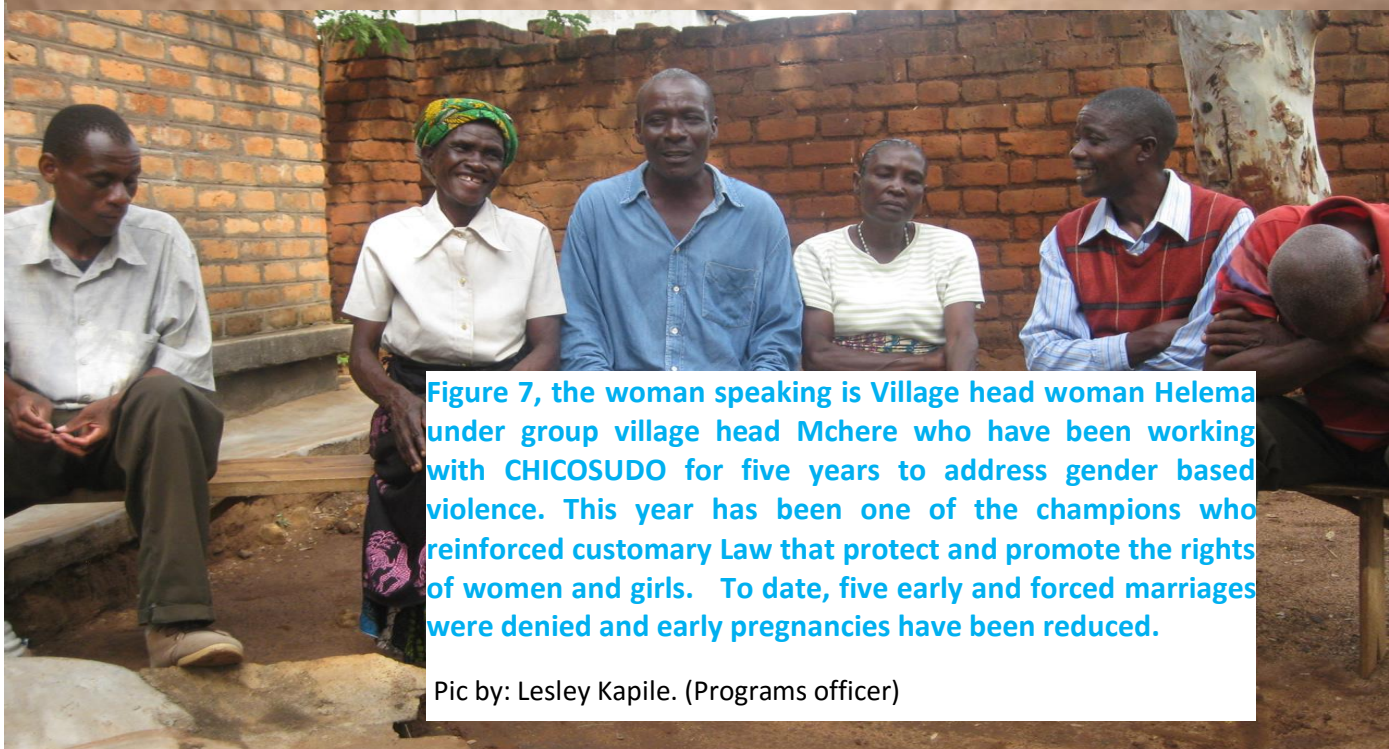


Figure 7, the woman speaking is Village head woman Helema under group village head Mchere who have been working with CHICOSUDO for five years to address gender based violence. This year has been one of the champions who reinforced customary Law that protect and promote the rights of women and girls. To date, five early and forced marriages were denied and early pregnancies have been reduced.

Pic by: Lesley Kapile. (Programs officer)



Figure 8. Women standing wearing Blue, red and white colored clothes, are Community Based Volunteers and paralegals who advocate for women and girls rights. They are the pioneers of CHICOSUDO. This year ending, they have managed to promote justice to victims of domestic violence especially women and girls. Hear they were at home of Mr and Mrs Mvula at Tipasi Village where the parents forced their girl child (third from right hand side) to leave school to get married. The parents recognized the rights of her child and they allow ending that marriage. Currently the girl is back to school after bearing the child.

Pic by: Lesley Kapile. (Programs officer)

3. Food security and climate change resilience for poor households

In 2018 to 2019, CHICOSUDO supported 124 poor families to practice sustainable food and crop production through rain water harvest for home gardening, river diversification for small scale irrigation and promoted sustainable livelihood to families living away from rivers with goat pass on initiative.

In the period of July 2018 to June 2019, CHICOSUDO assisted 124 poor families affected and infected by HIV and AIDS from, Maluwa and Mpombe to harvest rain water for watering in the vegetable garden. In addition to that, they adopted the system of growing crops in the bags around their homes for food and for sale. 54 Poor families in and surrounding villages had benefited from Chapala irrigation scheme where each family has a piece of landha to cultivate crops ranging from maize and vegetables. These initiatives have enabled these families meet their required nutritious food needs and generate incomes from the sales of crops.

On sustainable livelihood, CHICOSUDO assisted 2 parenting groups from Kumponda and Chigumula villages with 10 goats for sharing. In the first round, 8 families benefited and the second round, 12 families benefited also.



Figure 9, Anny Williams from Mpira village, group village headman Kumponda, Traditional Authority Kapeni, Blantyre Malawi, is one of the beneficiary who have benefited from sustainable agriculture garden in Bags programme. She is an orphan living with her grandmother and two young sisters and one brother. They harvest rain water and use for watering vegetables in bags in their fence. She generates incomes from the sales of vegetable which she used for buying household daily needs at home.

Pic by: Lesley Kapile. (Programs officer)



Figure 10 and 11: Alefa James from Maluwa village have been working with CHICOSUDO since 2016 on small scale irrigation programme. Here, she was applying Urea Fertilizer in her garden during the rain fed growing season in her small scale irrigation portion. Alefa is the caregiver of orphan who is HIV positive and her three children. She has championing food security at her home. While before joining the in this project, she was unable to have food year round. *"I am now happy since I am now managing to buy needs for my children and nutritious food for HIV positive child"*.



Pic by: Lesley Kapile. (Programs officer)

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR COMMUNITY STRUCTURES IN TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY KAPENI, BLANTYRE.

The year ending 2018 to 2019, CHICOSUDO managed to reach 30 youth with computer training, establishment of three computer training outreach centers, 20 members of Tiwasamale Community Based Organization in areas of resource mobilization, incubator technology, reached 250 youth and 2,350 community members with sexual and reproductive health and end child marriage.



Description of the project

The consortium of CHICOSUDO and FOHOP is implementing the project on “ Capacity Building for Community Structures/ Institutions in Senior Chief Kapeni”. This project is 36 months starting from November 2016 to October 2019.

Project goal

The overall goal of the project is to empower the community structures/institutions in Senior Chief Kapeni through capacity building in identified areas of need.

Therefore, the objectives of the project include:

1. To strengthen at least 10 existing community structures in Senior Chief (Snr) Kapeni in resource mobilization.
2. To enable citizens, particularly poor and excluded groups, to access information on rights, entitlements and responsibilities.
3. To increase citizen participation in developing communities of Senior Chief Kapeni.
4. To equip youth, women and other vulnerable groups with necessary skills and knowledge that can improve the economic status of the community.

Hence FOHOP and CHICOSUDO have registered the following achievements under the capacity building of community structures project.

In Blantyre FOHOP worked hand in hand with Chitani Community Sustainable Development Organisation (CHICOSUDO) in uplifting the lives of the vulnerable in the area.

Through the capacity building project in Senior Chief Kapeni, the following are the achievements:

- **Strengthening of Manesikapeni youth club:** Here, 30 youth were enrolled into this club, there were 6 youth who were doing secondary school education and the rest were just staying. These youth were strengthened using the government structure to participate in community work collectively. For instance, they established a woodlot which were able to manage existing trees in the community, helping the elderly with some field and domestic work just to mention a few.
- **Establishment of Information Technology (IT) lessons to youth:** As one way of youth empowerment, the organizations introduced computer lessons to youth from which basic skills were acquired among 13 youth in the operational area. The youth were trained in Microsoft word, excel and internet. The idea was that these unemployed youth would become self reliance through having their own communication bureaus and also getting employed by other institutions. Along the way, the project together with the youth would source some computers for establishment of youth IT center.
- **Introducing proposal writing lessons to Manesikapeni Youth Club:** The project conducted lessons in project proposal writing skills to youth club. The aim is have these youth able to write successful proposals on their own so that they advance their activities in the community.
- **Capacitated Tiwasamale community Based Organisation (CBO) in resource mobilization.** Trainings were conducted on ways of fundraising for CBO where integrated poultry production was emphasized. In this case, 8 participants were trained in poultry management, solar technology, Incubator technology and marketing development. In poultry the training, concentrated in chicken, quails, doves, Guinea fowl and ducks production using incubator.
- **For incubator technology,** participants were trained on how to use incubator for poultry production as well as maintenance and management of incubators. The idea was to enable participants to get wider knowledge in poultry production technology. The training was both theoretical and practical.
- **Provision of one Incubator machine to 1 CBO:** The organizations secured one incubator for poultry production to Tiwasamale CBO for an income generating activity. This was the first phase and the second phase would be provision of solar technology set for incubator services.
- **Sensitization on early child marriages:** FOHOP and CHICOSUDO sensitized 30 youth of Manesi Kapeni about the effects of early child marriages. This was done during the youth meeting sessions in the area.

CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED.

The project faced the following challenges:

High demand of services by the community: More community members pleaded with the organization to reach out in their respective areas as well. But this was solved by assuring to the community members that as organizations would reach out to those areas in the future since the project had very limited resources to cover a wider area..

Limited resources: As the organization carried out the project on voluntary basis, there was a big challenge of operations due to limited resources. For instance, it was difficult to cover more areas so that more beneficiaries would be reached out.

Lessons learnt:

Using community structures to fight community challenges is sustainable because majority of community members take part in the activities collectively.

- Community structures have greater role in strengthening community capacity in supporting multi interventions..
- Youth skills training, creates job opportunities among the youth who went to schools but they don't have access to job.
- Working in partnership provides numerous opportunities to strengthen the capacity to implementing organization.

PLAN FOR THE NEXT YEAR

According to the progress, lessons learnt and challenges encountered, FOHOP and CHICOSUDO have lined up the following activities for 2020.

- Youth empowerment through vocational skill training.
- Women empowerment through capacity building in Village Saving loans groups, agricultural production.
- Continue working with community structures in uplifting the lives of the vulnerable.
- Raising awareness campaigns on child marriages, gender based violence, sexual reproductive health and other relevant topics in the communities.
- Design projects that have investment for community beneficiaries as one way of reducing poverty which influence child marriages and gender based violence.
- Strengthen support groups in promoting ART adherence so that the 90:90:90 goal is achieved.
- To raise awareness for Cervical Cancer among women in the area.
- To influence the communities of senior Chief kapeni to manage their natural resources through mobilizing and building the capacity of the community in tree planting, soil and water conservation thereby reducing climate change, land degradation and conservation of biodiversity.

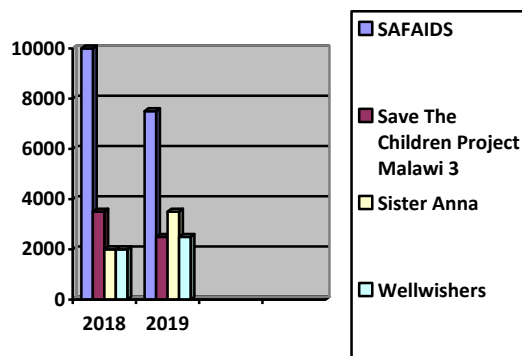
CONCLUSION

The organizations plan of 2017 was achieved, Community structures were empowered through capacity building which made them to work hand in hand with the organisations in achieving their own community

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Though we have been struggling in getting support to fulfill our mission, this year we have made significant progress on our organizational objectives. These based on our three priority areas we focus on and which we have highlighted in this report. It has also strengthened our governance, management, remain accountable and raise our profile, income and influence.

Income by donor names as of July 1st 2018 and 2019

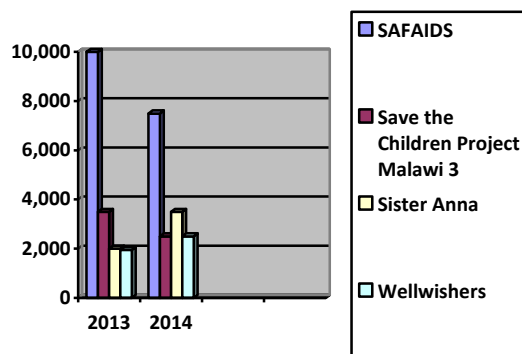


KEY STATISTICS

USD

Chitani Community Sustainable Development Organization total income for the year 2018-2019 , there were an increase in funding from donors with less members contributions.

Expenditures per donor name as of 30th June 2012, 2018 and 2019



There was an increase in supporters making regular donations in 2018 -2019 than in the year 2018-2019 .



Figure 12 and 13:

Lesson learned and way forward

Chitani Community Sustainable Development Organization is inspired to learn from our success and failures, then share and apply that learning for the benefit of future work.

This year we have learnt the following.

- **Championing traditional/religious leaders in domestic violence prevention promote not only in modification of harmful cultural practices, but also sustain the efforts.**
- **We will continue providing capacity building for traditional / religious leaders. Cultural norms that infringe women's and girl's rights cannot be modified overnight and with only one strategy but it needs creativity.**
- **We will keep on trying new ways to keep our women and girls protected by addressing root causes. Partnerships have power in addressing poverty and other issues affecting poor families.** We will build more of these.
- **Creating bright future for the hope less children like orphans and vulnerable children starts with early childhood development.**
- **We will continue support the existing and create new where there are no learning centers and provide required materials, equipment, and food. It is possible to reduce water borne diseases by providing sanitation and hygiene facilities both at school and home.** We will continue supporting schools and communities to have sanitation and hygiene facilities. **Village Savings Loans empowers Women's economic status and reduce dependency on men.** We will continue providing capacity building and training for poor women so that they can depend on their own.



Pic by: Lesley Kapile. (Programs officer)