

ZENZELE NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2023



Greetings to our Partners and Stakeholders

Your unwavering support has fueled our mission and allowed us to create positive change in the lives of those we serve. Below are updates of what transpired during the last quarter of 2023 (Oct- Dec).



Input support to FFS members

The KAZA ARISE Food Security and Habitat Protection Program supported by the World Wide Fund (WWF) distributed farming inputs to Farmer Field Schools (FFS) members for use in both the FFS and in their fields in September 2023. The farming season of 2023 was the second in which inputs were distributed to members of the FFS with maize (2kg), sorghum (5kg), millet (2kg), cowpeas (5kg), groundnuts (2kg), sunflower (2kg) and lablab (2kg) being distributed. All 700 members of the FFS received a pack of each for use in their plots. The beginning of the 2023 farming season however had an erratic rainfall pattern that is making farmers uneasy. The program is promoting Agroecology in Binga district through the FFS approach and has seen more and more farmers appreciating the conservation practices by taking them to their main fields.



General Assembly of Associations (GAA) Meeting.

ORAP being a membership-driven organization, hosted yet another GAA meeting in October 2023. The GAA meeting was held at the ORAP headquarters and housed Association Representatives from the organisation's all areas of operation. The assembly had discussions and reflections on the challenges and successes that had been experienced by the different associations. Dr SG Nyoni, ORAP President, urged all staff members to not only preach the ORAP Philosophy at work but to also practice Zenzele in their day-to-day lives. The GAA is a key ORAP platform where members converge every quarter to interact and share ideas on their various development aspirations, challenges and opportunities.

Qogelela Loans Resume!

One of the major beneficial components of being an ORAP member has started bearing fruits. Registered and subscribed members, individually or in their groups are now eligible for soft loans that are meant for expanding their already existing income-generating activities. Loans were awarded to qualifying members and groups in December 2023 with a maximum of 4 months pay back period to enable the next group of awardees access to the loans. Go team Zenzele.



Painting The Town PINK!

On the last Friday of October 2023, ORAP staff members in different locations across all projects wore pink in observation of Breast Cancer Awareness month. It was a great reminder of the importance of supporting those who are affected by breast cancer because it might not affect you personally but family, friends, colleagues and neighbours to name a few might be victims of cancer. One of ORAP's strategic pillar is Workplace and Community Wellness which puts a lot of emphasis on physical and mental wellness aspects

New Project Alert: Integrated Nutrition, WASH And Protection Project

ORAP in partnership with Save the Children International were awarded funding under the USAID/Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) for an Integrated Nutrition, WASH, and Protection Project. The project aims to improve the nutrition security of vulnerable households with under-5 children and Pregnant and Lactating Women; improve water access, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) conditions, and; ensure comprehensive protection of project beneficiaries through community case management and system strengthening. The project is targeting selected wards in Bulilima and Mangwe districts of Matabeleland South Province with 83,139 individuals expected to benefit from the project's activities over the course of 12 months beginning September 2023. With ORAP having a sound membership on the ground and a good working history in the province, there is no doubt that the project will yield excellent results.



Integrated Nutrition, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Protection



Kachecheti Dam Commissioning

The Amalima Loko program funded by USAID seeks to enhance food security in Matabeleland North of Zimbabwe through steadily increased food access through sustainable watershed management. Water is an essential input for agriculture and food production, as well as a vital component for functioning ecosystems. Adequate access to water can support productivity and food security, improve public health, and contribute to economic growth and poverty reduction in rural areas. This being said, Kachecheti Dam establishment work was completed in Hwange District in November 2023, through the Cash for Assets approach, which allows community members to benefit both in the short and longterm. The Dam commissioning drew an audience of many local community members.



Binga communities empowered through ESSF

Under WWF's supported KAZA ARISE Agro-ecology Program in Binga, the ORAP team facilitated an Environmental and Social Safeguarding Framework (ESSF) training workshop which was designed to address a broad range of environmental and social risks, and systematize good governance practices to achieve human rights, transparency, nondiscrimination, public participation, and accountability, among other goals within the program. The activity was attended by AGRITEX and Farmer Field Schools (FFS) Chairpersons so as to ensure cascading of information to other members of the Farmer Field Schools. The ESSF training manual was shared in order to ensure that practical measures and processes that help protect what is valuable (e.g., people and their rights, natural environments), prevent undue harm and enhance positive impacts of interventions in the project's area of operation.



Series of "A day in the life of..."

Under the Schools Feeding Program, ORAP visited Mathonisa Primary School in Umguza District to record a documentary termed "A day in the life of..." as part of a series of videos that showcase how the nutrition project implemented by Mary's Meal and ORAP fits in the everyday lives of some of the key stakeholders involved in running of the project. The goal is to feature different individuals like the volunteers, Teachers-In-Charge and members of the School Development Committees amongst others adjusting their schedules to accommodate the noble intervention. Be on the lookout on ORAP's social media pages and website for these awesome videos giving you a glimpse on the lives of the Schools Feeding Program beneficiaries and stakeholders.



Lupane Amalima Day Celebrations

Under the USAID-funded Amalima Loko Program, Lupane District hosted an Amalima Day in November 2023 under the theme "Recognising and Celebrating our Achievements". The achievements were made possible through Community Visioning, a process they term in local language "Imihlangano Yamaphupho". Mr Mpendulo Ncube (Headmaster of Gegema Primary School) graced the event as the Guest of honour and Mr Dominic Graham (Amalima Loko Chief of Party) was amongst the VIPs present. Amongst achievements celebrated were 21 collective action activities that include construction of Kheswa Pre-School, 10 refurbished boreholes, 5 solarised new boreholes, 10 Community Animal Health Workers capacitated and over 400 trees planted in a bid to curb deforestation.

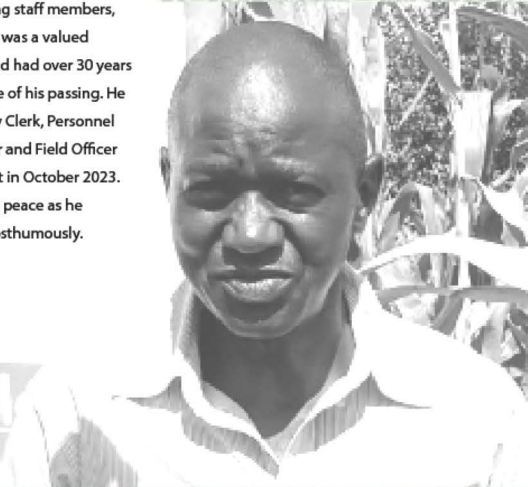
ORAP Wellness Day

ORAP officially closed shop on the 18th of December 2023 for the Christmas and New Year Holidays. This followed an End of the Year Wellness Gathering which was themed "Our wellness, Our identity, Our pride" and held on the 15th of December 2023. The Wellness Day had speakers on Silent killer diseases, Mental Health, Dental Hygiene and Physical Health (Fitness). It also brought staff together in the spirit of getting to know each other more as the organization has projects running concurrently in different provinces and districts.



Bereavement Announcement

ORAP lost one of its long serving staff members, Mr Thandanani Sikhosana who was a valued member of the organisation and had over 30 years of service in his belt at the time of his passing. He occupied the offices of Registry Clerk, Personnel Clerk, Human Resources Officer and Field Officer in his tenure. He was laid to rest in October 2023. May his soul continue to rest in peace as he continues to inspire all of us posthumously.



Guiding Phil

ORAP's development philosophy starts with the belief

Call to Action

Join us in making a difference! Whether it's volunteering, donating, or spreading awareness, your involvement matters. Visit our website at www.orapzenzele.org to learn more.

Thank you for being part of our journey. Together,

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