

The Hunger Project-Mozambique

Executive Summary

During the last six months, The Hunger Project-Mozambique (THP-Mozambique) did not introduce new activities. It has concentrated on improvement of ongoing activities.

In comparison with the last six months and previous six months, this period has shown improvement in terms of project implementation. The improvements regard:

- 1) Partners' involvement in project activities: more villagers are involved in project activities especially in the Manhiça Epicenter. For instance, parents of children who attend classes at the Manhiça Epicenter usually assist with cleaning the epicenter. Meanwhile, women, especially microfinance partners and animators, have been involved in vegetable production and plant nursery activities. Another example is a villager in Manhiça who mobilized other villagers to create a fenced-in water system at the epicenter.
- 2) Overall, the number of microfinance partners has steadily increased during the last six months.
- 3) Partnership with Government is going well. Government representatives have visited both the Manhiça and Chokwe Epicenters.



The main challenges faced by THP-Mozambique during the last six months are still the same faced in previous six months:

- Insufficient staff for three complete epicenters.
- Lack of equipment, i.e. cars or computers.
- Natural disasters. Food production faced difficulties, especially in Chokwe, because of drought and lack of irrigation systems.
- Keeping villagers in adult literacy training. Many leave training before the end of the year.

Details on Progress

Achievement	Measurement
Food Security: Food production and nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trained about 30 partners in food production techniques in Manhiça and Zuza. • Produced and sold vegetables in Manhiça. • Planted two hectares of maize in Chokwe and began preparation on another two hectares of land. • Trained 24 partners (14 women and 10 men) in food processing at the Manhiça Epicenter.
Income-generation activities / financial sustainability for epicenters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment for potable water at the Zuza and Manhiça Epicenters. • Brick making: Animators made and sold about 1,500 bricks at the Chokwe Epicenter. • Bread making: More than 850 breads were made and sold at the Chokwe Epicenter. • Trained four women in bread making in Chokwe (Djodjo Village). • More than 30,000,00 metric tons saved in banks as a result of income generation activities at the Chokwe, Manhiça and Zuza Epicenters.
Education: Pre-school and literacy classes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the Manhiça Epicenter, 46 Children (22 girls and 24 boys) are in pre-school activities. • In all epicenters, 335 partners (about 83 percent women) attend adult literacy training.
Vaccinations, health care, malaria and HIV/AIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaccinations: 159 children and 43 were vaccinated. • 80 children were weighed to monitor their health. • 2,717 people suffering from diseases were treated at the Chokwe Epicenter. • 70 people (50 women and 20 men) attended workshops about infectious diseases, HIV and malaria held at the Chokwe and Manhiça Epicenters.
Microfinance activities	Increased the number of microfinance partners, from five

	groups to 13 groups, totaling about 90 partners. All were trained and received loans for income generation activities.
Environmental issues and water supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 students from secondary school visited the Manhiça Epicenter to learn about plant nursery techniques. • More than 100 new plants were introduced into the nursery at the Manhiça Epicenter. • Trained partners in graft of plants techniques. • Graft of 66 plants at the Manhiça Epicenter. • Sold about 30 plants and fruit trees in Manhiça. • Sustained a potable water supply for local villagers in the Manhiça and Zuza Epicenters. • Organized a workshop about water and sanitation attended by 22 partners (17 women and 5 men) at the Manhiça Epicenter
Objectives	Reasons/Lessons Learned
It is important to ensure the proper budget before implementing new activities (especially epicenter construction) or before beginning mobilization in a new area of intervention.	THP-Mozambique moved to Zuza as a new area of intervention without budget security for the epicenter's construction or at least health center. This situation put the project in a difficult situation and resulted in partners not feeling motivated to continue with project activities.

Partnerships

THP-Mozambique is partnering with several government institutions namely: Agriculture, Education, Health and Local Administration. In addition, THP-Mozambique also established a partnership with an NGO in Manhiça for adult literacy training. This national NGO trains adult literacy trainers and provides some school materials for those who attend adult literacy training.

Broader Awareness and Advocacy

THP-Mozambique did not have any media coverage. However, the project has been sharing information with local government and NGOs.

Recent Innovations

THP-Mozambique introduced a manual machine to produce sugar cane juice and trained villager partners to use it at the Manhiça Epicenter. Thus, children attending preschool in the epicenter have access to sugar cane juice.

Furthermore, this low-cost technology has been used by local people to produce and sell juice.

Profile of a Leader in the Community

Mr. Azarias Guilambo is 24 years old, married and the father of two children. Mr. Guilambo is an animator at the Manhiça Epicenter and joined THP-Mozambique in 2008.

Before he joined THP-Mozambique, he was closely working with another project called Pathfinder as an animator and activist. He was trained by this international NGO as a community health agent. Therefore, he has been crucial in organizing thematic Vision, Commitment and Action Workshops (VCAWs) about health care in the epicenter.



According to Mr. Guilambo, since he joined THP-Mozambique, he has learned a lot from trainings held in the epicenter, especially in food production, food processing and plant nursery techniques.

Besides these trainings, epicenter building and facility resources are some of the great things that THP has provided to the villagers in Manhiça, said Mr. Guilambo. Mr. Guilambo, like others, has some concerns in relation to certain project activities. For instance, he would like to see an extended loan repayment period. Additionally, he would like to see loans for agricultural activities.

Furthermore, he would like to ask THP to coordinate with health sectors in local government in order to train villagers in health care so that they may help in the epicenters.

Impact Assessment

For impact assessment, THP-Mozambique has been using questionnaires. This is done with the involvement of animators and almost all of THP-Mozambique staff. However, THP is still facing challenges due to the low education level of animators involved in this activity. To overcome the problem, animators are encouraged to attend literacy classes. THP-Mozambique also collects information from other sources, namely: people working in

communal health services like the Chokwe Epicenter, literacy trainers, Assistant Project Officers and local government. The data gathered is used for activity planning.

Future Plans

For the next six months of 2010:

- Build health center in Zuza
- Set irrigation system in Zuza
- Increase food production at Zuza Epicenter
- Open a small village shop at the Chokwe Epicenter and Djodo Village
- Improve health care at the Chokwe Epicenter, i.e. sufficient equipment and village awareness of facilities
- Set irrigation system at the Manhiça Epicenter
- Improve income generation activities in all epicenters
- More training in epicenters
- Continue with ongoing activities in all epicenters
- Introduce media (TV and DVDs) for education, training and recreation in Manhiça
- Increase monitoring activities in all epicenters
- Increase training in microfinance
- Train partners to run village shops at the Chokwe Epicenter

THP-Mozambique believes that during the next six months the problems facing epicenters, i.e. budget, lack of computers and cars and Assistant Project Officer in Zuza, will be solved. Otherwise many planned activities will not be implemented.