

AFRICA



ACCESS WATER



**2023
ANNUAL
REPORT**

www.africaaccesswater.org

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9 Solar powered
WATER
infrastructure

210
Women households food
secure with income

80
Young people on Training
& producing crops

5,000 & 1,200 Animals
people with cleaning drinking water

1,178
small scale farmers trained in smart climate agriculture

US\$150,000
Annually communities' income from produce

DRIVEN BY WATER IMPACT

This report highlights the accomplishments of Africa Access Water in Zambia during the year 2023. In a nation where 78.8% of the rural population grapples with extreme poverty, heavily reliant on rainfed agriculture—productive for only four months annually, and facing a staggering 45% stunting rate—our dedication to provide water for productive purposes underscores our commitment to fostering improved rural economies, as evidenced by the strides made in 2023.

The year witnessed escalating commodity prices, with fuel and food costs steadily driving a larger segment of Zambia's populace into the depths of extreme poverty. This economic challenge, coupled with the looming specter of climate change, is projected to curtail the country's annual economic growth by approximately 0.4 percent. Without decisive action, the volatility in rainfall patterns alone threatens to erode GDP growth, thereby perpetuating widespread poverty in Zambia.

By the end of 2023, Africa Access Water had successfully installed nine (9) solar-powered infrastructure units across six (6) Zambian communities. Consequently, **210** women-led households attained food security and experienced income growth, **80** young individuals received training in crop production, **1,178** small-scale farmers embraced climate-smart agricultural practices, **5,000** people gained access to clean drinking water, and **1,200** animals benefitted from water provision. These interventions enabled communities to collectively generate an annual income of **US\$150,000**.

Furthermore, we established a green farm and demonstration center powered entirely by solar energy. Located in the Mphande Area of Zambia, this hectare-scale farm boasts solar-powered water systems for all activities and provides solar-powered accommodation and lighting, attracting over 150 visitors, including international tourists. Noteworthy visits to the farm by dignitaries such as the Israeli Ambassador to Zambia, Ofra Farhi, and Dr. Lawrence Mwananyanda, Presidential Advisor on Project Implementation to Zambia's Republican President, garnered commendation and recognition for our endeavors.

Additionally, 2023 witnessed growth and support for AfAW, exemplified by increased funding from partners such as the Jewish Community Support, Vita Group, and unrestricted fund from the Segal Family Foundation. We transitioned to automated financial systems, and fundraising efforts further fortified the organization's operational capabilities.

Together, we are steadfast in our commitment to realizing positive change. I invite you to join us in our noble endeavor of fostering rural economies through the provision of water infrastructure for productive use—a cause that promises to render communities food secure, elevate incomes, and enhance livelihoods.

Enjoy the insights presented in this report!

Rodney Katongo,
Chief Executive Officer



LEADERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION CAPACITY- SHARPING THE FUTURE

The year 2023 marked an incredible journey for the first Board of Africa Access Water. Seeing it from an idea, shaping it as an infant and milking it to a child that can walk and talk with evidence of its work, gives us the joy of having been part of this milestone. This is time to say bye to some of the board members and let others carry the mantle.

It is not only at Board level that changes are going to be. Beginning 2023, the organization underwent a transition in leadership, with its co-founder Paul Kapanda, after four (4) years of exceptional executive leadership as Chief Executive Officer, transitioning to a role on the board. Rodney Katongo, co-founder was appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer. Being a co-founder and served as Director of Projects and Communication, has been instrumental in Africa Access Water's mission over the past five (5) years, deeply cognizant of our driving forces, which are water for impact, and water for wealth, with dedicated determination. Therefore, there is no doubt that the team is poised to achieve significant impact in 2024 as demonstrated during 2023 even under trying times.

It is by no doubt that the new partnership with Segal Family Foundation has helped to build capacity for the organization in terms of its management. Of critical importance is the automation of the financial management, training on fundraising and premier paid platform resources. In addition, the unrestricted fund has helped in needy priority areas that helped the organization deliver effectively without the need to strain. Of course, we hope for more or increased support around this as support for the growth of the organization is not on the project only, but its vision and organization as well.

To the supporters and funders who have walked with us thus far, we are grateful, and we plead that you continue to support this organization with a new leadership. With the new strategy to be launched in the first quarter of 2024, we hope to step up the delivery of our programs.

EVIDENCE INSIGHTS



FEBRUARY AND JULY- MIDLINE SURVEY 2023- We conducted two important surveys for our projects in Mphande and Shibuyunji. The midline surveys help assess the progress we are making each year at selected project sites. These surveys help shape our projects and programs.

February Midline survey of the 300 Households

- Helped to understand the progress in 2022 regarding water points installed in those areas.
- Also led to the installation of additional boreholes.
- Partnered with other organizations in health, agriculture, and youth.
- Donation of a greenhouse for nursery and trees.
-

July Midline Survey of 300 Households

- Helped include access to inputs - Input Loan for the Climate Smart Agriculture trained farmers.
- Increased water production.
- Implemented dam trails.
- Provided data on increased income per household involved in the project.

Projects & Programs

- A total of 9 solar-powered infrastructures in six communities: Mphande (three villages), Shibuyunji (two villages), and Masopo. Three of these are at the demonstration learning community farm. We also converted 2 boreholes from hand pumps to solar-powered kiosks. Additionally, we installed another water kiosk for drinking and animal trough, and expanded communal land farming.
- 1,000 community members were trained in smart climate agriculture, with about 120 provided with inputs.
- Completion of accommodation at the demonstration green farm.
- The Israeli Government, through MashaV, donated greenhouses for vegetable and tree seedlings.
- Shibuyunji Women produced 100,000 cobs of green maize (corn), raising a capital of US\$21,200.
- Masopo Women contributed to milk production, amounting to US\$12,000.
- Vegetable and crop production, along with savings groups in Mphande, Shibuyunji, and Masopo, generated US\$116,800.
- The Youth Service Program trained 80 young people, and they are currently enrolled in the program.
- 210 women achieved food security and increased income.

Important Media Appearances –

- National media coverage of Africa Access Water and its work, graced by the Israeli Ambassador to Zambia, Ofhra Farhi, and Presidential Advisor Dr. Lawrence Mwananyanda, on 24th August 2023.
- Interview of AfAW CEO and its work on the National Broadcaster ZNBC:
- <https://fb.watch/akaKzA9INw/>

MPHANDE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION CENTER

THE RONEET CARMELL TRAINING FARM



1.0. Mphande Community Development and Innovation Project

This project focuses on comprehensive development anchored on solar powered water system provision for productive use, smart agriculture training and community development that promotes food security, increases household income and improves livelihoods of the community. This project is being implemented in partnership with Tevel b'Tzedek.

The project site called Mphande area (with three villages) is located 30 km south of Lusaka, home to about 5,000 people. According to international indexes, most of the residents in the area are poor. In the rainy season, they rely on agriculture as their primary source of livelihood. During the non-rainy period covering eight (8) months of the year, they rely on charcoal production for their livelihood. During the dry season, access to water becomes particularly limited, and many households lack water for drinking, irrigation, and animal husbandry. The climatic water shortage is exacerbated by the lack of water infrastructure, pushing rural communities into extreme poverty. The villages in the Mphande area suffer from severe poverty - low crop yields, severe food shortages in many months of the year, increased diseases associated with malnutrition, and high rates of teenage pregnancies and marriages.



1.1. Provision of Water Infrastructure:

Installation of solar powered water systems for productive use, clean drinking water and animal trough.

- 1.1. **Community Development and Demonstration Farm:** Regarded as a Green farm and in line with our model of community water for productive use, this Community farm has been a great source of support for the community in terms of water and food provision.
 - a. **Improved with two (2) additional solar powered water points** with drips meant to increase water supply for the irrigation with at least 2.5 hectares of production.
 - b. The **first cohort of 28 young people** is being trained in hands-on agricultural practices, water management, community development, sustainable development, and financial literacy. **This is a two-year program**, after which they will receive a grant to be used for their identified business - either in agriculture or any other field of interest gained during the training. They are also the change-makers who conduct outreach programs, training community members in improved agricultural practices and water management. They have been **provided with bicycles for** easy movement and receive a monthly stipend.
 - c. **Accommodation for Agronomist Interns and Visitors-** Accommodation has been built with a capacity of 24 single beds, intended for the agronomists who assist in training the community and for visitors who wish to learn about our activities. The reason for this is that the project site lacks social amenities, and adding this infrastructure makes it easier to implement the project. Additionally, this accommodation is powered by solar energy, contributing to the sustainability of the green farm.
 - d. **Production of Vegetable:** The farm has started production of different crops, with tomatoes being the first, bringing in US\$10,000 from its initial harvest. This occurred during the trial and learning period, which presented challenges such as failed cropping.
 - e. **Water Construction of small Dam:** Given the challenge of borehole water and water stress at the targeted project site, in 2023, we began trials on water harvesting. Detailed dam surveys were conducted across the three (3) villages and at the Community Farm. A small dam has been constructed at the farm and is estimated to store at least 35 million liters of water. Once successful, we will utilize solar-powered technology to pump water to the fields.

1.2. Green House Construction:

Greenhouse Construction: The Israeli government, through MashaV, helped us construct a greenhouse intended to produce saplings and seedlings that will be provided to the community for tree planting and to support kitchen gardens.

- a. Given that the community engages in the cutting of trees for charcoal, this greenhouse, supported by solar-powered water, will produce the needed vegetables and tree seedlings for community distribution. It has so far produced 12,000 seedlings.
- b. Official Handover: On 23rd August 2023, the Israeli Ambassador to Zambia, Her Excellency Ofra Farhi, officially handed over the greenhouse to the project. The occasion was also graced by the Presidential Advisor for Project Implementation (to Zambia's Republican President), Dr. Lawrence Mwananyanda, and other senior government officials and stakeholders.



1.3. Community Smart Agricultural Training:

- a. **Training of 500 Community Members/Peasant Farmers:** With the advent of climate change and less rainfall, it is important for us to educate the community on how they can practice dryland farming—using little water but yielding great results. Following our 2022 training and the success of good yields for those who practiced conservation farming and techniques such as 'Gampani' or potholing, we increased the number of people being trained to 500 (from all the three (3) villages). This was done in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture through the Kafue District Agriculture office.
- b. **Access to Input Support:** During the training, farmers indicated the challenge of accessing quality inputs in their area. Therefore, in 2023, the project provided farming inputs for growing maize (corn) to community members after they were trained in climate-smart agriculture—with detailed prescriptions as per the training. This input initiative targeted 120 farmers for the 2023 season due to limited resources. The farmers will repay the inputs received, using their harvest. The Youth Service Program is monitoring and assisting farmers throughout the project as part of a feedback loop.





1.4. Developmental Tourism and Support:

Site Visit and Experience: With the available accommodation at the project site, we initiated developmental tourism and provided initial support where we invited people from across the globe to visit our project site to learn about our activities. During these trips, visitors have the opportunity to offer hands-on assistance to the Youth Service Program or the community, as well as visit community sites and activities. This initiative aims to raise resources for the project and increase global awareness of our impact on communities. Visitors also have the opportunity to visit the majestic Victoria Falls in Zambia. In 2023, we managed to host 24 visitors (who spent at least one night at the site) from different parts of the world. This endeavor also resulted in raising about US\$14,000 specifically for the Input Support program.

1.5. Community Water Kiosk:

We have installed two (2) solar-powered water systems for drinking and upgraded a hand pump to a water kiosk with a capacity of 5,000 liters each in Shamanjanji and Nanduba villages. Additionally, these additional water points for drinking and animal troughs have been handed over to the community for management through the creation of village water committees.



2.0. Shibuyunji Solar Powered Women Project

2.1. Women Crop Production:

This project is meant to specifically help women through solar powered water systems by increasing crop productivity throughout the year, food security, increased income and improved livelihood.

2.2. 80 Women Cohort:

- a. The 60 Shibuyunji women have been producing vegetables since 2021. With the boost in 2022, including a fenced area for production, there are now 80 women producing different crops. In 2023, they cultivated fresh maize or corn outside the rainy season. They completed three cycles of growing maize, yielding 156,000 cobs and generating sales of US\$37,142.86.
- b. Additionally, from the vegetables, they made a combined income of US\$11,220 in 2023

2.3. Community Training -Smart Climate Agriculture:

- a. **328 Training:** The project has continued to train community members and small-scale farmers in climate smart agriculture. So far, we have trained 328. Out of these, 53 were beneficiaries of the Input Support initiative in 2023.
- b. **Out of these trained, at least 203** have adopted the potholing or Gampani method in portions or some of their fields for the year 2023 compared to only 89 in 2022.
- c. 15 saving groups have been established in this community with a focus on adopting solar-powered water systems. We anticipate that by 2024, some members of the community, including the women involved in production, will have raised sufficient resources. This will enable them to install smaller versions of the solar-powered water system on their own or on identified/shared land. As at the end of 2023, the 15 saving groups had accumulated approximately US\$12,431.

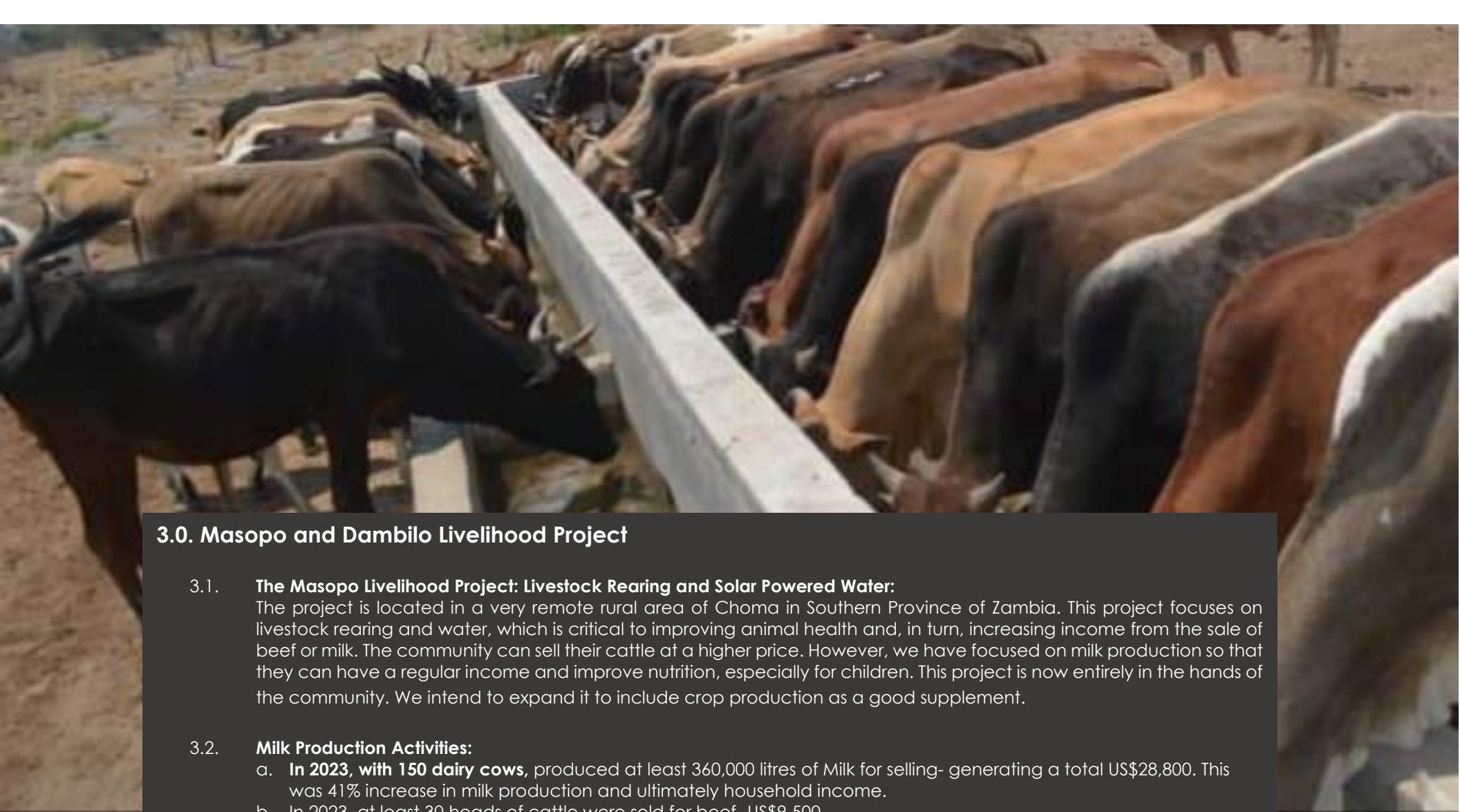


Challenges of Shibuyunji Project:

The challenges of this project revolve around ownership and changes in the community fund terms. There has been a shift from a 10% to about 15% sharing mechanism of the sales, which goes towards a community fund used for system maintenance and other identified community needs.

The women felt it was unfair for them to do all the work and then contribute to a community fund that is utilized by everyone in the community. Based on lessons learned from the project, adjustments were made to the income sharing mechanism to ensure project sustainability and increase the number of community beneficiaries. However, this adjustment did not sit well with the women, impacting both production and project implementation.

Nevertheless, a series of planning meetings for the year 2024 were held, with resolutions aimed at addressing some of the concerns raised.



3.0. Masopo and Dambilo Livelihood Project

3.1. **The Masopo Livelihood Project: Livestock Rearing and Solar Powered Water:**

The project is located in a very remote rural area of Choma in Southern Province of Zambia. This project focuses on livestock rearing and water, which is critical to improving animal health and, in turn, increasing income from the sale of beef or milk. The community can sell their cattle at a higher price. However, we have focused on milk production so that they can have a regular income and improve nutrition, especially for children. This project is now entirely in the hands of the community. We intend to expand it to include crop production as a good supplement.

3.2. **Milk Production Activities:**

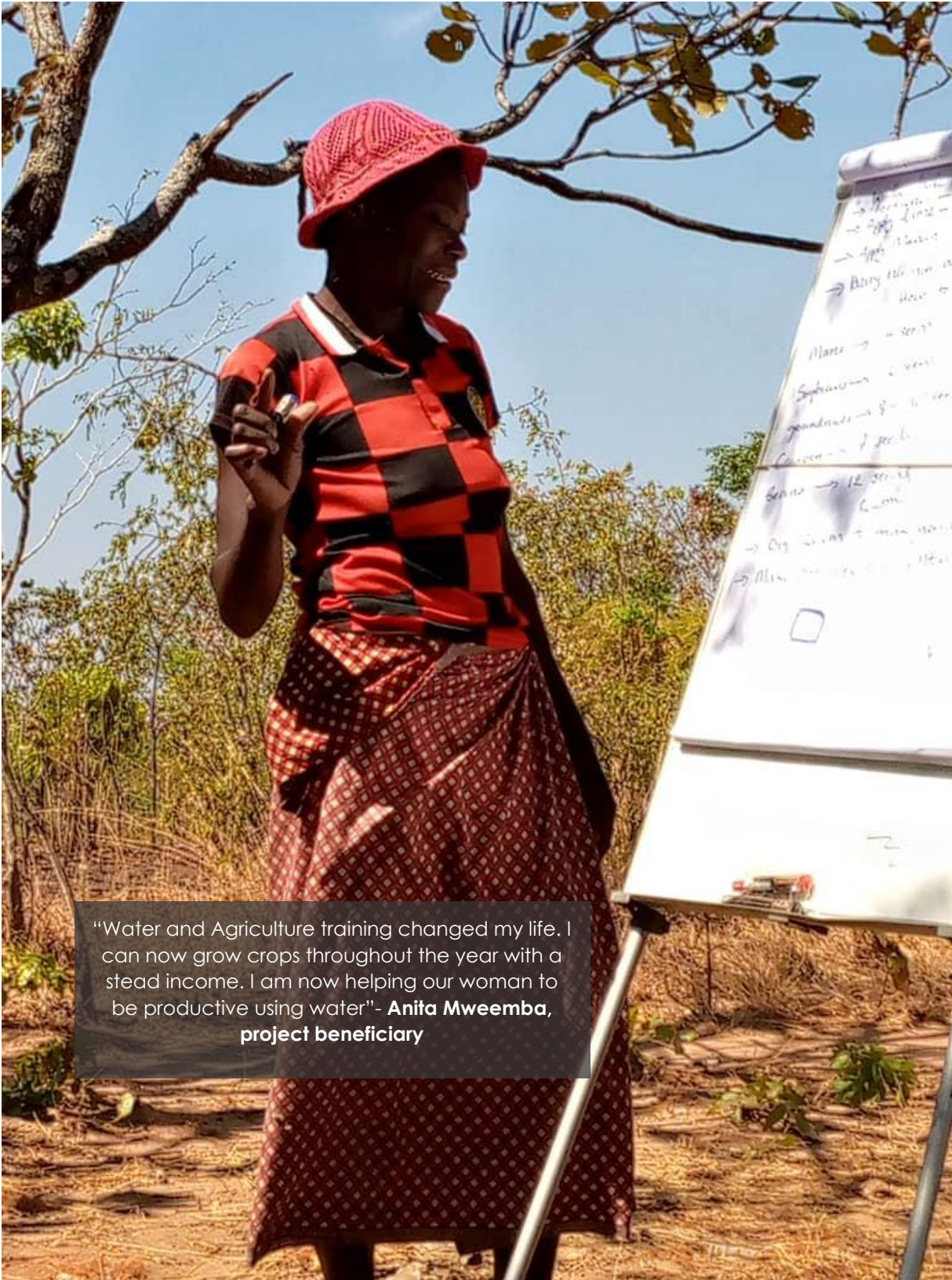
- a. **In 2023, with 150 dairy cows**, produced at least 360,000 litres of Milk for selling- generating a total US\$28,800. This was 41% increase in milk production and ultimately household income.
- b. In 2023, at least 30 heads of cattle were sold for beef- US\$9,500.

3.3. **Crop Production:**

- a. **There are now 71 women** involved in fresh vegetable growing and they made US\$13,205 in the year 2023. This community also have clean drinking water from the solar powered water system and has a population of 1,000 people. This project needs extra investment and more training for women in growing different crops and market linkages.

3.4. **Community Smart Climate Agriculture Training:**

- a. **350 Trained:** In 2023, we trained 350 community members in smart climate agriculture, crop growing and management, milk production, hygiene, and nutrition. At least two (2) of the trained individuals have now installed smaller solar-powered water systems for their irrigation.



4.0. ADVOCACY AND RESEARCH

Midlines Survey February and July 2023

To measure progress and impact in 2023, we conducted two (2) midline surveys for our projects in Mphande and Shibuyunji.

The midline survey informed us about the progress of activities and interventions and guided our programming and planning efforts. These surveys have now informed our 2024 programming. They indicate an increase in incomes by at least 20% for the year 2023, improved yields of at least 25% during the rainy season, and achieving at least 15% food security for those who practiced potholing or Gampani farming techniques. We project that with increased support, there will be further increases in incomes, yields, and food security.

5. CONCLUSION

2023 was a great year as we witnessed the growth of the organization both in terms of projects and management. The increase in funding for both projects and administration was crucial in the year. The organization successfully achieved its targeted budget income of over US\$300,000 for its projects and administration. Additionally, we strengthened our partnerships and welcomed the Segal Family Foundation as a new partner.

The development of the Mphande Community project has enhanced the organization's capacity to fulfill its mandate. The impact, as highlighted in the report, gives us confidence to continue our efforts. 2023 was also a year for evaluating our organizational strategy and providing direction for the next 3 to 5 years. Recognition of the organization by the Government and the media further contributed to the growth and credibility of our mandate and model.

In 2024, we invite you to join us and support our cause and vision. We hope for increased support and funding in these crucial years ahead so that we can continue delivering water for productive use and work towards eradicating poverty in the poor rural communities of Zambia.

“Water and Agriculture training changed my life. I can now grow crops throughout the year with a steady income. I am now helping our woman to be productive using water”- **Anita Mweemba, project beneficiary**

OUR DIFFERENCE – THE BOARD

The Board members of AfAW have been a great force in shaping the policy side of the organization, providing guidance and support. This group of six (6) highly qualified individuals nurtured the organization in its infancy stage, providing the necessary guidance and leadership for the past 5 years. As agreed upon in their last Board meeting, some of the board members will remain to ensure institutional memory, while others may return at a later time.

With a new board coming into office in the first quarter of 2024, the next stage for AfAW is critical. That is why we call on different stakeholders to support this important institution and cause so that ultimately, we can develop rural communities through solar-powered water infrastructure, which is desperately needed.

We would like to thank Reuben Banda, the board Chairman, for his unwavering support during these first 5 years; Patricia Akullo, Vice Chairperson, for her commitment to the organization and personal visits to Zambia; Maurice Dillon for his support from day one, including financial contributions—his initial contribution of US\$20,000 was crucial during the birth of the organization; Anna Butler for her inspirational support of the organization; and Patience Zuze Moyo for insights into the model.



Reuben Banda (Zambia) – Chairperson: He is the Managing Director/Co-Founder of Musika with over 20 Years' experience in Agribusiness, Project Management, Market Systems Development, Value Chain Development, Private Sector Development and Rural Development.



Maurice Dillon (United Kingdom) - Board-Finance and Resource Mobilization Advisor : He is a Global Investment and Financial Consultant. He has 30 years' experience in structuring, financing and delivery of complex projects. Furthermore, has experience in grant aid and economic development/ knowledge transfer.



Patience Moyo Zuze (South Africa) - Board Trustee: She is a Business Executive of Masinga Africa Group and Philanthropist with interest in Water and Sanitation. She has over 15 years' experience in Business Development and Management in the private sector.



Patricia Roy Akullo (Uganda) - Vice Chairperson: She works for Act Alliance Regional Office and DanChurch Aid in Uganda. She has vast experience in Advocacy, Gender, Climate Change, Finance and Development.



Anna Butler (USA) - Global Networks & Partnerships Advisor: She has extensive experience in sustainable social programming, equitable education access, and global protection policies. Her fieldwork and research to date has spanned four continents, with a regional focus on Africa. She consult on various development projects with both grassroots organizations as well as international institutions.

6. PARTNERS AND FUNDERS

Thank you to our partners and funders, and we are committed to making you proud by showcasing the impact that every dollar and support means to the poor communities of Zambia that we serve.



Baba Group



Jewish Community



7.0 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

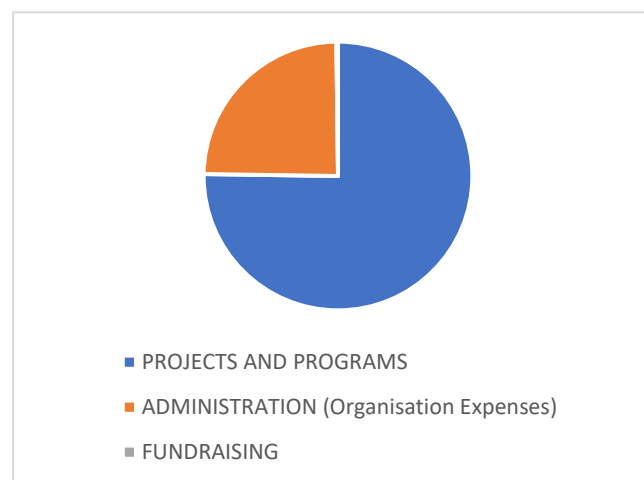
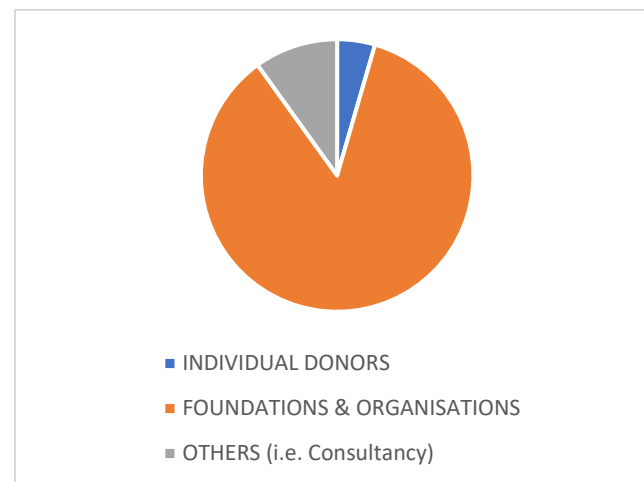
Below is the summary of our financial for the year 2023

REVENUE END YEAR 2023

	US\$	
INDIVIDUAL DONORS	17,080	4%
FOUNDATIONS & ORGANISATIONS	325,109	86%
OTHERS (i.e. Consultancy)	37,743	10%
TOTAL	379,932	100%

EXPENSES END YEAR 2023

PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS	273,954	75.2%
ADMINISTRATION (Organization Expenses)	89,503	24.6%
FUNDRAISING	707	0.2%
TOTAL	364,164	100%





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