



Zimbabwe Catholic
Bishops' Conference



CATHOLIC COMMISSION FOR
JUSTICE AND PEACE
Z I M B A B W E
If you Want Peace, Work for Justice

CATHOLIC COMMISSION FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE IN ZIMBABWE (CCJPZ)

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

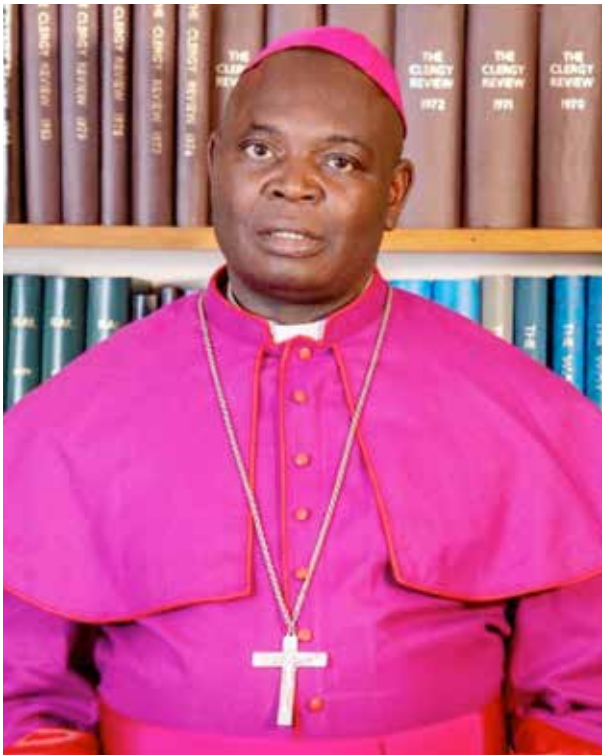


**"Walking in the Light of Justice:
A Journey Towards Peace and Dignity" (Isaiah 1:17)**

CONTENTS

1.0 CCJPZ Bishop Chairman's 2024 Annual Report remarks.....	3
2.0 CCJPZ National Coordinator's 2024 Annual Report remarks.....	4
3.0 Environmental scan in Zimbabwe.....	5
4.0 National coordinating office progress report.....	7
5.0 Diocesan Reports.....	15
Archdiocese of Bulawayo.....	15
Archdiocese of Harare.....	19
Archdiocese of Chinhoyi.....	26
Archdiocese of Gweru.....	32
Archdiocese of Gokwe.....	36
Archdiocese of Masvingo.....	39
Archdiocese of Mutare.....	43
Archdiocese of Hwange.....	19
6.0 Conclusion.....	49

1.0 CCJPZ BISHOP CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS



Rt Reverend Bishop Rudolf Nyandoro

Dear esteemed partners and stakeholders, as we reflect on the events of 2024, it is with immense gratitude that I address you on behalf of the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace in Zimbabwe (CCJPZ). This year has been a remarkable period of engagement, advocacy, and unwavering commitment to the principles of justice and peace that our faith calls us to uphold. Throughout the year, CCJPZ has responded proactively to requests from the bishops, providing evidence-based information on the justice and peace situation in Zimbabwe. Our efforts have extended to meaningful engagements with both government institutions and non-state actors. In doing so, we have sought to amplify the voice of the Church in a manner that positively influences policy and just laws.

The theme for the Annual report, ***“Walking in the Light of Justice: A Journey Towards Peace and Dignity”*** fittingly invites all people of God to reflect on the profound message of Isaiah 1:17, which urges us to seek justice, correct oppression, and defend the fatherless and widow, we are reminded

of our sacred duty to advocate for those who cannot advocate for themselves. This report calls us to action, urging us to not only acknowledge the needs in our communities but to actively engage in seeking justice and uplifting the marginalized. Together, let us be the hands and feet of compassion, embodying the spirit of this scripture in our service and outreach, ensuring that our efforts resonate with the love and justice that God desires for all His children.

As we navigated the challenges of the year, our dedication to promoting human dignity and advocating for human rights remained steadfast. The engagements we facilitated have not only fostered dialogue but have also influenced legislative reforms essential for national development.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our partners who have generously provided resources to support CCJPZ's mission across Zimbabwe. Your contributions have been vital in our pursuit of justice and peace. In the spirit of collaboration, we recognize the importance of working together with all stakeholders. As Proverbs 15:22 reminds us, “Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.” The 2024 report outlines the successes and ongoing efforts of CCJPZ throughout the country, highlighting our collective achievements and the path ahead. Let us remain committed to our mission, inspired by the words of Pope Francis, who states, “Peace is not merely the absence of war. It is also a state of mind.” May we carry this message forward as we strive to foster peace, justice, and human dignity in Zimbabwe.

2.0 CCJPZ NATIONAL COORDINATOR'S MESSAGE



Mr Paul Muchena

As the National Coordinator of CCJPZ, I am honoured to share the progress we have made in 2024, particularly at the community level. This year, our initiatives have focused on empowering local communities to engage in meaningful dialogues with solution holders, ultimately improving the quality of life for our people. Our diocesan commissions have worked diligently to cultivate relationships with local authorities and stakeholders, promoting the common good and addressing the needs of the communities we serve. Through these efforts, CCJPZ has complemented government initiatives aimed at fostering peace and development. We have provided civic education and created platforms for citizens to engage with relevant stakeholders at the local level, ensuring that their voices are heard.

At the national level, CCJPZ convened engagement meetings with high-level stakeholders, including Chapter 12 and constitutional bodies such as the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission. The establishment of Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission and the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption

Commission marks a significant milestone in our work. These agreements will enable us to engage at a strategic level while also supporting our diocesan commissions in their community initiatives.

Our successful engagement with parliamentary portfolio committees, particularly regarding the politicization of food aid and inputs, highlights our commitment to addressing pressing issues reported by our dioceses. Furthermore, our discussions with the Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs regarding the human rights situation have been crucial in advocating for policies that uphold the dignity of every individual.

As a key member of the Technical Team at the Zimbabwe Heads of Christian Denominations (ZHOCD), CCJPZ played an essential role in facilitating high-level engagements to promote peace and development. We will continue to mobilize resources from like-minded institutions that share our mission to support the Church's work in promoting peace and human dignity. In closing, I am reminded of Micah 6:8, which calls us to "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God." As we look ahead, CCJPZ will persist in our commitment to engaging high-level stakeholders to ensure that policies and laws promote human dignity, peace, and social cohesion in Zimbabwe. Together, we can create a brighter future for all. Thank you for your unwavering support and collaboration as we journey forward in faith and service.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN IN ZIMBABWE

3.1 Policy and Legislative Environment Impacting Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)

The passing of the Private Voluntary Organizations Amendment Bill by the Senate on October 17, 2024, without amendments, raises significant concerns regarding civil society operations in Zimbabwe. The Bill is currently awaiting presidential assent before becoming law. However, its constitutionality is questionable on several grounds which include the observation that; It infringes upon the right to freedom of association as guaranteed by Section 58 of the Constitution; The cancellation of public hearings due to disorder prevented proper consultation with the public and stakeholders, violating Section 141 of the Constitution and the inclusion of unrelated provisions concerning the Standard Scale of Fines and the composition of the NSSA Board, which were not reviewed by the relevant parliamentary committee, further breaches Section 141.

3.2 Political and Human Rights Environment

The ruling ZANU PF party has proposed an amendment to extend President Emmerson Mnangagwa's term beyond the constitutionally mandated limit. Resolution number one from the party's annual people's conference held in October 2024 in Bulawayo, recommended that the president's term be extended to 2030. This proposal poses a significant threat to Zimbabwe's democratic framework, undermining constitutional safeguards and democratic principles. Legal experts warn that such amendments would necessitate extensive legislative processes, including public consultations and a national referendum. Opposition parties and civil society organizations, including the Zimbabwe Human NGO Forum, have pledged to oppose these changes, as they threaten to erode democratic norms and consolidate power. This environment complicates engagement efforts, where even policy discussions may be perceived as partisan, jeopardizing the progress made toward constitutional alignment.

3.3 Displacement, Land Degradation, and Environmental Challenges

During the year, there were several reports across the country on displacements, land and environmental degradation. In Mashonaland West and East provinces, residents are experiencing distressing evictions and land disputes that result in significant displacement and loss. Evictions often conducted under opaque circumstances, have destabilized communities and threatened livelihoods. The ongoing disputes, marked by legal ambiguities, have intensified tensions among residents, fostering an atmosphere of uncertainty and fear. The forced removal of families from their agricultural lands disrupts their immediate sustenance and jeopardizes their long-term economic stability. The loss of land contributes to food insecurity and emotional trauma, as individuals are uprooted from their communities and cultural ties. The psychological effects of such displacement can lead to anxiety and depression, further complicating the recovery process.

Additionally, the massive land degradation occurring due to unregulated mining activities poses serious threats to the environment and the livelihoods of local populations. These mining operations not only devastate the landscape but also compromise water sources, exacerbating existing environmental issues. The impact of El Niño-induced drought has further intensified water challenges and grazing land shortages across the country. Prolonged dry spells have led to substantial declines in agricultural productivity, jeopardizing food security for many households. The scarcity of water affects both domestic use and livestock, leading to increased competition for dwindling resources and heightening tensions within communities.

3.4 Unfair Distribution of Aid

The current aid distribution landscape reveals systemic partisan bias that marginalizes individuals based on political affiliations. Political activists often face significant barriers to accessing essential resources, undermining fairness and equality while stifling diverse voices critical for a healthy democracy. This inequity fosters exclusion, division, and eroding public trust in institutions meant to support communities. The implications extend beyond immediate needs, as this biased distribution creates disillusionment and distrust among the populace. Societal fragmentation along political lines complicates collaboration and dialogue, essential for progress in a democratic society. Addressing these disparities is crucial for individuals' and community's well-being and the integrity of the democratic process. Aid allocation should be based on need rather than political loyalty, reinforcing social justice and inclusive governance. Legal Implications: This practice violates: - Section 56: Right to equal protection and benefit of the law.

In summary, the operating context for CCJPZ reflects significant challenges in the policy landscape, human rights violations, land degradation from unregulated mining, environmental challenges due to drought, and inequitable aid distribution. These issues require urgent action to uphold constitutional rights, promote social justice, and protect vulnerable communities in Zimbabwe.

4.0 NATIONAL COORDINATING OFFICE PROGRESS REPORT

4.1 NATIONAL COORDINATING OFFICE PROGRESS REPORT

4.1.0 Introduction

The National Office coordinates the CCJPZ activities throughout the country and largely depends on advice and input from the country's eight dioceses. As mandated by the ZCBC; the CCJPZ national coordinating office integrates its work in line with the ZCBC and the CCJPZ strategic plan.

4.2 CCJPZ Programs/Projects Implemented in 2024

NAME OF PROGRAM	PARTICIPATING DIOCESES	FUNDING PARTNERS	FOCUS OF PROGRAM
Devolution and Advocacy	Mutare	European Union (EU) -TROCAIRE	Strengthening the role of the Church in promoting social cohesion and civic participation within devolution processes
Churches Promoting Social Cohesion and Democracy in Zimbabwe (CPSCDZ)	Masvingo Mutare	Danish Church Aid (DCA)	Social cohesion and Peace building
CAFOD Peace Initiatives Project Activities	ALL Dioceses	CAFOD	Amplifying the voice of the Church in promoting peace, tolerance and non-violent environment in Zimbabwe.
National Church-led Action for Accountability and Citizen Engagement Program in Zimbabwe	National Office	Misereor	Empowering the Church and citizens to hold the state accountable in promoting peace, respect for human rights and democratic principles.
Promoting Dialogue and Mediation for National Unity, Peace and Reconciliation in Zimbabwe (PDM-NUPRZ)	National office & Zimbabwe Council of Churches	Misereor & Bread of the World	Inclusive dialogue and strategic engagements towards improving democratic governance in Zimbabwe.

4.3 Programmes implemented in line with ZCBC and CCJPZ Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

Advocacy and Liaisons



ZCBC Secretary General Fr Tryvis Moyo (left); Minister Ziyambi Ziyambi and CCJPZ National Coordinator Mr Paul Muchena posing for photo after the bilateral engagement meeting in Ministers office in Harare. (12 December 2024)



Participants group photo after Church and ZGC engagement meeting at Africa Synod House, Harare (9 February 2024)

In the reporting period, the following activities were conducted;

- i. On the 9th of February 2024, CCJPZ engaged the Zimbabwe Gender Commission (ZGC). The meeting was attended by CPDSCDZ consortium partners represented by ZDD (psychically), CCJP Mutare and Masvingo, ECLF, ZCA (Sent issues via email for consolidation by CCJPZ), representatives from ZGC, Centre for Conflict Management and Transformation (CCMT), and ZHOCD technical team. The meeting reflected on gender related issues that emerged before, during and after 2023 Harmonised Elections. The engagement focused on amplifying emerging gender related issues at both local and national levels. Also, the thrust was to influence change in attitude towards gender issues, policy formulation, policy implementation and policy review related to gender issues in Zimbabwe.
- ii. **End of project evaluation meeting**
CCJPZ National office convened an end of project evaluation meeting on the 20th and 21st of March 2024 at Fairmile Hotel, Gweru Diocese. The meeting was attended by CCJPZ National office staff (coordinator, programs officer, research and documentation officer and finance officers), all the 8 CCJP diocesan coordinators and program officers, the CPLO, SOCCOM, CCJP Resource persons, CCJPZ chairperson, District Development Coordinator (DDC) and CCJPZ Chair Bishop Rudolf Nyandoro. The meeting reflected on the activities against the outcomes, and drew lessons learnt from the project implementation.

Recommendations from the project;

- There is need to continue engaging the key stakeholders such as Security service, Chapter 12 Commissions and political parties to promote peace in the post-election period and beyond.
- There is need for a successor project to focus on civic education (voter education) and continues engagements with Parliament and political to ensure electoral reforms are implemented.
- Continuous information sharing between CCJPZ and its Diocesan commissions to enable CPLO to facilitate advocacy and lobby initiatives at national level.
- Continue engaging relevant stakeholders is key in helping the Church to be pro-active (rather than being reactive) throughout the electoral cycle.

The meeting resolved that;

- The project was a success based on its impact. e.g. engagements with the main political parties prior to the elections promoted peace- all leaders preached peace in their campaigns.
 - The project promoted linkages with key institutions such as the Chapter 12 Commissions, political parties.
 - The project amplified the voice of the Church in promoting peaceful and nonviolent elections.
 - The project activities need to mainstream in ongoing activity.
 - There is need for another follow up/extension project which focus on recommendations based on the 2023 harmonisation observation report.
- iii. On 21 May 2024, CCJPZ convened a Stakeholder situational analysis meeting. The stakeholder situational analysis meetings analysed the current situation in Zimbabwe and proffered recommendations to Church, Government and political parties. The meeting

also come up with various actions which included the creation of WhatsApp platform to share information and progress on the action plan.

- iv. From 19-23 August 2024; CCJPZ conducted partner information and experience sharing meetings in Bulawayo, Masvingo and Mutare for CPSCDZ consortium partners. CCJPZ presented the Situational Analysis position paper it developed. The consortium partners were all very satisfied with document in its current form and made few additions with provision of evidence-based information particularly challenges to convene meeting in communities as police and local government officials blocked the Church to convene meetings particularly in Gutu district in Masvingo province, Mutasa district in Manicaland province, Shamva district in Mashonaland Central and Hurungwe district in Mashonaland West provinces. These issues, were to be presented then presented and discussed at the upcoming national level engagements with Zimbabwe Republic Police and Government ministries whose engagements was informed by evidence-based information on the emerging conflict issues from the grassroots to influence policy action by ZRP and Government ministries.
- v. On 05 September 2024, CCJPZ convened an engagement on Climate Change and Food security peace building initiatives in Zimbabwe with the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare and Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development. The meeting discussed in detail ways to address politicisation of food aid and inputs in communities. The meeting was also attended by the Zimbabwe Catholic Bishops Conference Secretary General, representatives from the CPSCDZ consortium partners, Zimbabwe Heads of Christian Denominations (ZHOCD) leadership and CCJPZ Resource Persons. The meeting resulted in a joint action plan by Church and Government. The following are agreed issues: the Church supporting government food aid and input programs; Sharing of food distribution manual by Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare with CCJPZ for onward, sharing with CPSCDZ partners and ZHOCD structures; Awareness raising and dissemination of the food distribution manual on food aid and input distribution processes at local levels (CPSCDZ and ZHOCD using local peace committees); Involvement of local leaders (pro-active initiative programs); Church representatives to join food and inputs distribution committee structures as part of complains handling desks. (<https://x.com/OMpplsw/status/1831760344810975381?t=GhU027ZLIJm4D87jvYpOQw&s=08>)
- vi. On 17 September 2024, CCJPZ convened an engagement meeting on Climate Change and Food security peace building initiatives in Zimbabwe with the Parliamentary Portfolio committee on Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare. CCJPZ submitted its recommendations on how to address politicisation of food aid and inputs in communities. The engagement was also attended by the Zimbabwe Catholic Bishops Conference Secretary General, representatives from the CPSCDZ consortium partners, Zimbabwe Heads of Christian Denominations (ZHOCD) and CCJPZ Resource Persons. The meeting was aimed at advocating for fair distribution of food aid following politicisation of food aid in rural areas. The joint agreed action plan between the Church and the portfolio on Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare; Advocacy on farm workers welfare; Climate proofing programmes; Partnerships for development (prioritising women empowerment projects); Public awareness on Climate Change and Selection criteria for food aid deserving beneficiaries. (<https://catholicchurchnewszimbabwe.blog/catholic-commission-for-justice-and-peace-zimbabwe-ccjtz-hosts-meeting-on-climate-change-and-food-insecurity/>).
- vii. On 22 October 2024, CCJPZ convened Presentation of the Situational Analysis Position Paper to stakeholders. The meeting discussed the position paper and specific recommendations for auctioning by Church, government, political parties and CSOs.

(Acknowledgement of concerns: Government representatives acknowledged the concerns raised in the position paper, demonstrating a willingness to engage with civil society. **Commitment to dialogue:** Government officials committed to ongoing dialogue with CCJPZ and other stakeholders to address the issues raised; **Increased Collaboration among Stakeholders - Improved relationships:** The presentation facilitated improved relationships among stakeholders, including government, CSOs, political parties, and the church- **Enhanced collaboration:** Stakeholders expressed a willingness to collaborate on addressing the issues raised in the position paper.; **Informed Decision-Making and Policy Engagement-Informed policy discussions:** The presentation informed policy discussions among stakeholders, ensuring that decision-making processes are grounded in evidence and analysis; **Policy influence:** CCJPZ's position paper influenced policy discussions, with stakeholders referencing the document in their engagements).

- viii. From 05-06 November 2024, CCJPZ participated in a Zimbabwe Heads of Christian Denominations (ZHOCD) Technical Team inception meeting and the establishment of ZHOCD Masvingo provincial structure, Under the ZHOCD project titled: **Promoting Dialogue and Mediation for National Unity, Peace and Reconciliation in Zimbabwe (PDM-NUPRZ)**. The project is being co-implemented by CCJPZ and Zimbabwe Council of Churches (ZCC). The project is focusing on strategic engagements with relevant national level stakeholders while also strengthening ZHOCD structures at provincial and national levels to promote efficiency and effectiveness in Church-led advocacy work.
- ix. From 11 – 13 November 2024, CCJPZ and ZCC under the Under the ZHOCD PDM-NUPRZ project convened a ZHOCD Training of Eminent Persons on Dialogue and Engagement in Kwekwe. The two- and half-day training of Eminent Persons, discussed on issues related to Church-led high-level engagements as well as reviewing the Engagement Paper to be used for advocacy engagements and the workshop developed an Action Plan (EAP) for the engagements.
- x. On 19 November 2024, CCJPZ working with ZCC convened a meeting in Mutare under the ZHOCD PDM-NUPRZ project, to establish a ZHOCD Manicaland Provincial structure. The provincial structure will spear head ZHOCD activities and provide relevant information that will inform national level ZHOCD advocacy and lobby work.
- xi. On 21 November 2024, CCJPZ in collaboration with Silveira House convened a Jubilee 2025 Campaign Launch: Faith Leaders Workshop on Debt Relief and Climate Justice, at Cresta Oasis Hotel, Harare. The workshop targeted ZCBC management and staff, Pastoral Coordinators, CCJP Diocesan coordinators and Heads of other religious denominations as prominent voices for raising awareness and advocating for debt relief and climate justice during the Jubilee Year 2025 Campaign, empowering them with the requisite knowledge and tools to lead the campaign in their communities and congregations.



Participants following proceedings during the Jubilee 2025 Campaign Launch: Faith Leaders Workshop on Debt Relief and Climate Justice, at Cresta Oasis Hotel, Harare

- xii. On 22 November 2024; CCJPZ engaged the Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Development and Vocational Training. The engagement aimed at empowering youths to contribute meaningfully to peace and development in Zimbabwe. The engagement focused on the National Youth Service and explored ways on how ZHOCD can support government initiatives. The meeting discussed numerous challenges facing youths, including unemployment, poverty, substance abuse, and climate change. These issues hinder their potential to contribute to national development. Furthermore, the National Youth Service, which is aimed at promoting youth empowerment was best placed to ensure that issues facing youths are addressed. At the end of meeting it was agreed that for National Youth Service to better serve the needs of young this requires collaborative efforts from stakeholders, including faith-based organizations. The meeting to empowered ZHOCD youths to become agents of change, promoting peace and development in Zimbabwe.
- xiii. On 12 December 2024; CCJPZ National Coordinator and Zimbabwe Catholic Bishops Conference (ZCBC) Secretary General had closed door bilateral engagement meeting with Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs. The meeting discussed if Churches are exempted from the Private Voluntary Organisations (PVO) Amendment Bill if becomes law and state of the human rights situation in Zimbabwe.

4.4 Media Engagement

4.4.1 Radio/TV programmes

- On 14 March 2024 CCJPZ hosted a TV program that was premiered on the ZTN TV *The Chase* program where ZHOCD leaders reflected on the role of the Church in the post-election period.
- On 05 September 2024, CCJPZ hosted a TV program on Zimbabwe Newspapers Television Network (ZTNTV) Church-led peace building initiatives on the Current situation in Zimbabwe. The TV program panellist comprised, ZHOCD Bishop President, Bishop Never Mparutsa, CCJPZ National Coordinator, Mr Paul Muchena, Evangelical Fellowship of Zimbabwe (EFZ) Pastor Trevor Masuku and CCJP Archdiocese of Harare diocesan Coordinator, Dr. Leocardia Shayamunda. The TV program was premiered between 1900-2000hrs which is prime time viewing, on the DSTV Channel which is watched across

the country and the southern Africa region with an estimated viewership of 100 million people. The activity also showed the adoption and uptake of CPSCDZ advocacy by ZHOCD highest level who then use their influence to engage with relevant stakeholders for appropriate action at the highest level.



Statements



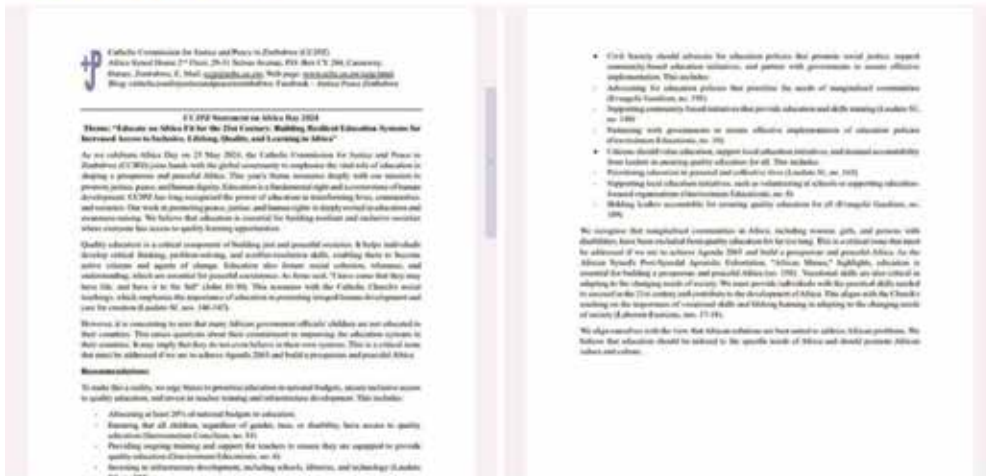
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23 May 2024 · 🌐

CCJPZ AFRICA DAY STATEMENT. #JUST4ALL... See more



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On 23 May 2024, CCJPZ published Africa Day statement.

5.0 DIOCESEAN REPORTS

Archdiocese of Bulawayo

CCJP Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Christopher Ngwarai

Diocesan Coordinator: Fr. Fikile Dlamini

Area: 69,456 square kilometres

Population: 140.000

Districts: Bulilima, Mangwe, Nyamandhlovu, Tsholotsho, Bubi, part of Lupane and Nkayi with Shangani River as boundary, Insiza, Umzingwane, Beitbridge and Gwanda West of Umzingwane River, Matobo.

5.1 Introduction



Trauma healing sessions with Contact Family Counselling Centre

The Catholic Commission for Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation (CCJPIC) Bulawayo is proud to present its annual report, which reflects our commitment to promoting justice, peace, and the integrity of creation within the community. This report details our achievements, challenges, and lessons learned over the past year, focusing on social, economic, and environmental issues impacting society. Our initiatives are rooted in the Church's mission of social justice and guided by its Social Teachings, emphasizing community empowerment through advocacy, education, and practical interventions. Given the current socio-economic challenges in Zimbabwe, including environmental degradation and drug abuse, our projects are timely and address these pressing issues.

Project name, area of implementation, duration

CCJPIC Bulawayo currently implements four key projects:

- Misereor Project: “Enhancing Peace, Justice and Integrity of Creation” (July 2023 – June 2026) across Bulawayo CBD and Matabeleland regions.
- Archbishop Henry Karlen Healing Centre Project: “Programs for Archbishop Henry Karlen Healing Centre” (June 2024 – May 2027) focusing on youth ministry and substance abuse.
- Roncalli Project: “Let’s keep Bulawayo Clean” (July 2024 – June 2025) addressing environmental stewardship in Bulawayo Metropolitan Province.
- CMM Foundation Project: “Safeguarding Vulnerable Youth from Drugs and Substance Abuse” (July 2024 – June 2025) targeting Bulawayo and Matabeleland.

These projects build on previous findings, particularly addressing critical social issues identified in earlier initiatives. This year’s projects are a continuation of the recommendations from previous efforts, such as the Asikhulume and Misereor projects, which highlighted the need for action on drug abuse and environmental issues. Demonstrate its satisfaction of the Mission of the Church. The projects align with the Church’s Social Teachings, focusing on:

- Justice and Peace: Through various community engagement initiatives.
- Integrity of Creation: Environmental projects promoting sustainability.
- Human Dignity: Addressing drug abuse and fostering community development.
- Respect for Human Life: Advocacy against gender-based violence.
- Contextualise to Zimbabwean obtaining situation: The initiatives are timely, addressing Zimbabwe’s challenges, such as environmental degradation and increased drug substance abuse among youth.

The projects complement government efforts to combat these crises, promoting community-driven solutions that resonate with national priorities.

Main Activities Key activities for the year

Misereor Project: Conducted sustained dialogues, conflict management training, and environmental protection awareness programs.

Archbishop Henry Karlen Healing Centre Project: Launched baseline surveys and sustained dialogues on substance abuse, fostering community-based action groups.

Roncalli Project: Engaged in workshops with the Environmental Management Agency and conducted baseline surveys on environmental awareness.

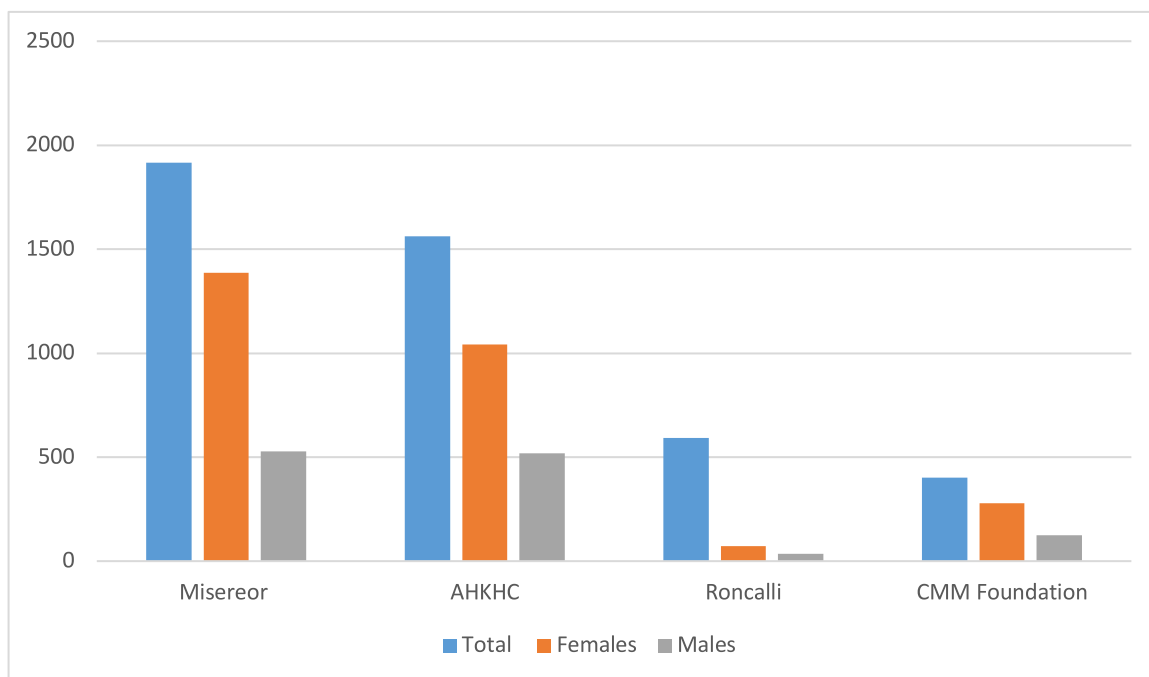
CMM Foundation Project: Focused on sustained dialogues and action planning to combat drug abuse, alongside staff capacity-building workshops. Integration and collaboration with various stakeholders, including government bodies like the Zimbabwe Gender Commission and the Environmental Management Agency, enhanced program effectiveness and community engagement.

Statistics Graphs and charts illustrating the target versus actual reach will be included in the full report, highlighting the effectiveness of our outreach efforts

Statistics

- Graphs, Charts, and Tables showing target versus actual reach

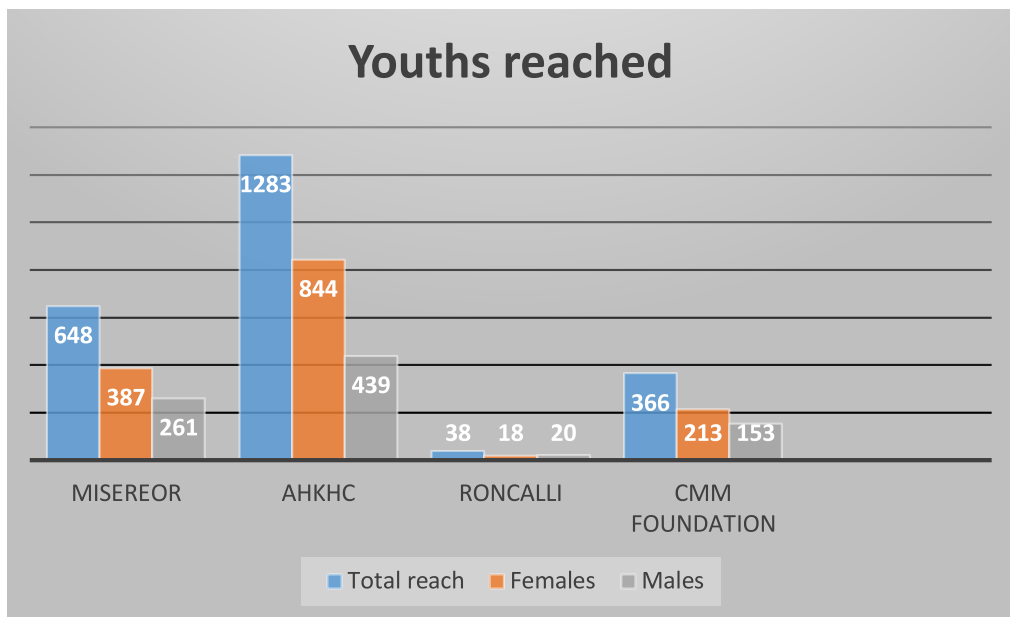
Total reach for the programs that are running in CCJPIC Bulawayo



PROJECTS	TOTAL REACH	FEMALES	MALES
Misereor	1961	1388	528
AHKHC	1561	1042	519
Roncalli	593	73	35
CMM Foundation	402	278	124

The total reach for youths is as follows:

PROJECTS	TOTAL REACH	FEMALES	MALES
Misereor	648	387	261
AHKHC	1283	844	439
Roncalli	38	18	20
CMM Foundation	366	213	153



Overall youths reached – 2335

Significant Change and Impact of Programming

Indicators show a positive impact on community awareness regarding drug abuse and environmental issues. Participants reported significant changes, such as increased engagement in clean-up campaigns and improved understanding of GBV. For instance, a participant stated, “The workshops opened our eyes to the importance of keeping our environment clean and standing against violence.” Overall, the initiatives met their objectives, fostering community ownership and action.

Challenges and Recommendations

Challenges included logistical issues in project implementation and the need for greater community engagement. Lessons learned emphasize the importance of localized interventions and the need for ongoing training and support for community leaders.

Conclusion

CCJPIC Bulawayo’s initiatives in the past year have made significant strides in addressing community challenges while aligning with the Church’s mission. Continued support and collaboration are crucial for sustaining these efforts and ensuring meaningful impact in the communities we serve.

Archdiocese of Harare

CCJP Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Mark Jaya

Diocesan Coordinator: Dr. Locardia Shayamunda

Area: 63555 square kilometres

Population: 4,250,000

Districts: Mazowe, Bindura, Shamva, Murewa, Rushinga, Mutoko, Kadoma, Chegutu, Harare, Goromonzi, Marondera, Chivhu, Wedza and Buhera

Introduction

CCJP Archdiocese of Harare continued to implement two (2) of its projects funded by Misereor and CAFOD additional to the Election Project activities carried out in the year 2023. Election projects were short term and specific to election programming which were conducted in collaboration with the National Office with support from CAFOD and Misereor. Additional to these, we also received START Emergency funds which benefited 20 parishes in the archdiocese.

The long-term projects funded by Misereor and CAFOD targeted various community players who included religious leaders, traditional leaders, politicians, health practitioners, educationists, women, youth and various other organisations in the selected communities/parishes. We conducted research on *Existing conflict resolution strategies in communities*, for the MISEREOR-funded project and an *Outcome Harvesting Exercise*, for the CAFOD-funded project for learning purposes whose results brought to light the thoughts and feelings of some of the people met during the course of the year. Towards the end of the year, the Commission rolled out a new CAFOD funded project following the government of Zimbabwe's call for humanitarian assistance after the El Nino induced drought which reduced crop yields for some and about 60% crop write off across the country. Taking into account previous incidents of politicisation of food aid in various parts of the country, the Commission received support to build the accountability and transparency capacity of traditional and elected leaders involved in food distribution processes, thereby safeguarding the dignity of all people affected by the drought at the same time prioritising option to the poor. The table below shows details of projects implemented.

Main Activities

The commission, working with selected parishes continued with activities carried forward from 2023 for the two projects. Both aimed at fulfilling the mission of the Commission; *"to enable and empower people at all levels in the Archdiocese of Harare to actively participate in the establishment of a just and peaceful society guided by the Social Teachings of the Church"*. This mission has continued to guide the resource mobilisation and implementation strategies of the Commission, by adopting participatory approaches in delivery, allowing all people to play a part in development issues affecting their communities. Important to note is that, outside existing projects, the Commission, was able to respond to calls from various other parishes for different meetings, offering support as per request, pushing forward the mission and vision of the church and the role of the Church at large.

Table 1: List of projects implemented during the year, their durations, implementation areas and goal.

Project Name	Duration and Funding Partner	Area of Implementation	Project Goal
1 Strengthening Social Cohesion through Community Participation in Development Processes”	3 years (April 2021 – March 2025) - Misereor	20 parishes selected from parts of Harare, Mashonaland East, Mashonaland West and Mashonaland Central. The 20 parishes covered all 10 deaneries in the Archdiocese of Harare	Local communities in the 20 parishes of the Archdiocese of Harare are actively involved in promoting social cohesion and empowering vulnerable and marginalised groups.
2 Youth Peace Building Initiative	1 year (April 2023 – March 2024) CAFOD	8 parishes – Chegutu, Chikomba, Murehwa, Bindura, Seke Rural, Mbare, Kambuzuma and Mbare	Reduced suffering in silence and improved psychological wellbeing through tolerance and peace building initiatives
3 Unlocking Accountability and Transparency in public service provision	1 Year (November 2024 – 31 October 2025)	Chikomba Rural District (Chivhu)	Establish a robust accountability model that ensures transparency and accountability, fairness, and efficiency in resource distribution and service provision to enhance integrity and community trust.



Participants gathered around the CCJP information desk during a sports tournament in Chegutu

Strengthening Social Cohesion through Community Participation in Development Processes Project Activities

The 20 parishes selected for implementation are “*actively involved in promoting social cohesion and empowering vulnerable and marginalised groups.*” The Secretariat met with justice and peace promoters, local church members, community members, elected and appointed leaders, traditional leaders and various government departments and representatives (ZRP, Min of Health, Min of Women’s Affairs, Min of Justice) among others. Training workshops targeted marginalised and vulnerable groups such as women, youth and people living with disability (PWD) and these attended, shared their views openly and contributed to the action plans drawn up at each engagement. In the last quarter of the year, the Commission conducted a research on existing local strategies for conflict resolution in preparation for the end of project while also checking on sustainability of the efforts of the project as it came near to its end. This research informed parts of the follow up application submitted to Misereor together with the feedback gathered in project exit meetings carried out in the last quarter of 2024. Documentation of Stories

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1aq8RMBj8IBZfBXPtUT9GjYG6iAeaG3CB>

Mid-Term Evaluation -Misereor Funded

The evaluation was conducted over a six-week period from mid-June to end of July 2024. It examined standard OECD/DAC criteria of Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact, and Sustainability. The evaluation results and recommendations were meant to guide and inform the development of a follow-up project proposal, subsequent interventions and improve future programs and project interventions. The evaluation recommended adjustments on project focus area and be more youth centric since young people have livelihood insecurities and face social issues such as drug and alcohol abuse; prostitution; forced and child marriages. It was also recommended that programming and activities be gender sensitive, inclusive and non-discriminatory to marginalized groups. The evaluation also suggested a focus on community leaders and services paying attention to stakeholder approaches to accountability, governance and rule of law and a focus on building CCJP institutional capacity at Parish level to engage and build positive relations with duty bearers/ service providers to strengthen trust and accountability systems.

Youth Peace Building Initiative

In 2024, the Commission concluded the youth peace building project that was implemented in collaboration with AQUA Trauma Counselling and Healing. The aim of the project was to interface with victims of different forms of conflict, offer them counselling, and follow up with capacity building training sessions in the form of conflict management and resolution, training for transformation and peace building trainings for the various target communities. The trauma healing sessions helped to heal individuals at a personal level, giving them a chance to speak out and come up with solutions to help them go on with life. The capacity building sessions bridged the gap created by the trauma, offering solutions for survivors to be able to come back and contribute positively towards community development. A peace tournament was carried out in Chegutu with 3 other parishes (districts) participating, Kambuzuma, Mbare and Seke Rural as one of the conflict resolution mechanisms and to close the project .



Chegutu and Kambuzuma Youth Preparing for the Final Soccer match for the tournament

Outcome Harvesting Exercise

To continue to build internal capacity and learning, and promoting local leadership, CAFOD undertook a full-fledged and jointly managed outcome harvesting process with CCJP Harare and AQUA Healing on ZIM691 project, incorporating the recommendations from the learning in reporting. A total of 66 individuals participated as substantiators across the 13 harvested outcomes in the selected communities for the process. Of the 66 participants 32 were male while 34 were female. The process identified and confirmed sources of trauma within the different groups and communities under the project. Gender-based violence (GBV) in the form of physical manhandling and financial abuse, is reported to be perpetuated by male spouses and male members of households in general. Drug and substance abuse was reported to be prevalent among youths, causing conflict and trauma in the substance users, their families, and communities. The commission had a first-hand experience of learning and implementing an evaluation on a project which the team had actually implemented. CAFOD took this learning and exchange process initiative as a pilot process which the commission is expected to lead other partners.

Unlocking Accountability and Transparency in public service provision

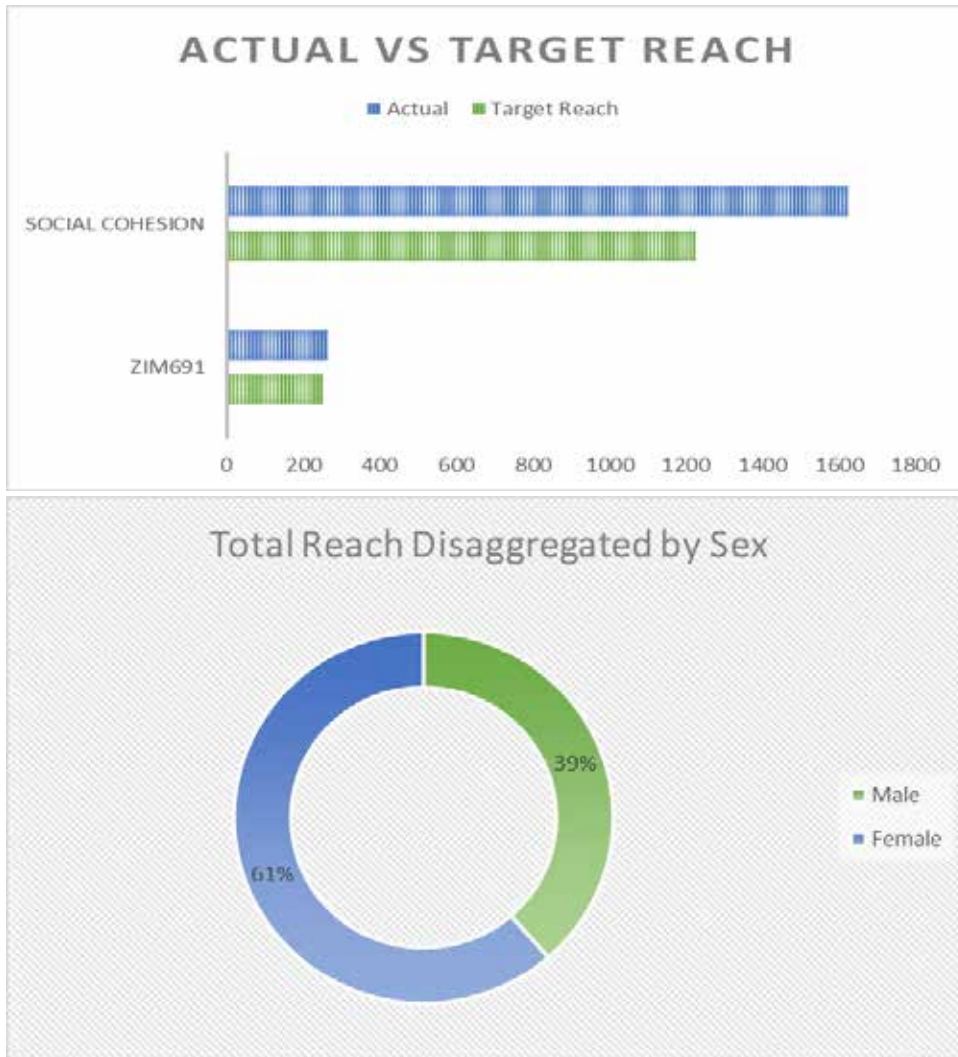
This project focused on the effects of climate change and in particular the El Nino-induced drought that adversely affected the 2023/24 cropping session. It was in response to an appeal for humanitarian assistance after about 6,5 million households were found to be food insecure. The commencement date for this project is 01 November 2024. This was however delayed due to the delays in disbursements of funding subsequently delaying implementation.

Integration and Collaboration with other Commissions, Partners, and Government

The Commission continued to build synergies working with various other commissions, organisations and government departments to meet the mission and vision of the Commission, and acknowledging the strengths, roles and functions of others. Within the Church, the Commission worked with the Education Secretariat of the Archdiocese of Harare, targeting school authorities around safeguarding issues for both learners and teachers, CARITAS for collaborative efforts in similar implementation districts, Silveira House & Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace Zimbabwe (CCJPZ) reaching out to different target groups for dialogue steering towards lobbying and advocacy for developmental issues and Jesuit Communications (JESCOM) for media purposes. The Commission was invited to various other engagement and sharing platforms by government departments, media houses and other likeminded organisations at different intervals during the year and all these not only improved the visibility of the Commission but helped in building necessary synergies for growth and sharing of ideas.

Statistics

Different projects managed to reach their targeted and projected numbers and even exceeded in some areas. This section presents the statistics, using graphs and charts.



The commission managed to engage a total number of 1892 participants across the Archdiocese of Harare. The graph above depicts the actual versus target reach in terms of the participants who were engaged for the different project activities.

The wide gap between male and female participants was attributed to the women empowerment focus on both the projects which even had other scheduled activities specifically meant to improve the participation of women in communities. Also, other rural communities had female dominated participants because most men migrate to urban areas for employment and their mobilization to participate in activities is in most cases difficult to achieve gender balance at 50-50.

Significant Change and Impact of Programming from beneficiaries or community perspective

This section highlights the noted stories of most significant change which were documented on a rolling basis by the commission. Some of these stories have been documented and recorded on videos which have been shared on different platforms by the commission.

Project- CCJP-AQUA Youth Peace Building Initiative: St Francis' , Chegutu

*"I am proud of the decision that I made to engage with CCJP and Trauma healing, that engagement opened my eyes to possibilities that I never knew existed, my mother now calls me **mwanangu**".*

Lucky lives in Pfupajena, Chegutu with his siblings and elderly mother in Mashonaland West province in Zimbabwe. A high school dropout and a talented music instrument coach, his elderly mother is unemployed and in the care of his handicapped sibling. He was not able to cope with stress, post trauma, poverty and the pressures of being a responsible older brother to his siblings. With the support from CCJP and Aqua Trauma Healing, after his first interaction in 2023, Lucky was trained and participated in the trauma healing sessions. It marked the beginning of his journey to transformation and healing. The interaction in project activities and other participants with common struggles, helped him to regain confidence, self-value, be reasonable and lead a normal life at home and his community. He said that *"hard work and determination pays, I was rescued, found myself and I am happy that I was able to leave my ways, reconcile with my mother and assist her to take care of my siblings with respect and put my talent to work. Above all I am now clean and have since deleted all the pornographic content I had on my phone, enrolled for night school and I am sober for months now"*.

Lucky commends the support from local facilitators and church as they have supported him to be strong, enrol into a proper school, get contracts to teach music in local pre-schools and make a decent earning. He has been able to make amends and put his conflict management skills to use through behavioural change and avoiding misplaced anger issues. His sibling smiled as he said that *"there is peace in this house for a change, Lucky buys us bread and does not shout at mama anymore"*

The experience impacted on Lucky's life and made it possible for him to live in dignity and his bravery has inspired other young people to change in his community and even his former school mates who attended a CCJP workshop are proud and happy that Lucky has gone back to school, is back to his usual self and they can have a civil conversation with him.

Challenges and Recommendations

The rural urban divide in success of the project: The rates of relapse regarding trauma are higher in urban areas compared to rural areas. It should be considered as an important factor for programming, planning and project implementation that rural and urban communities respond differently to projects and the impact is not homogenous.

The gap in tapping into available electronic communication systems: The participants in all communities have not formed WhatsApp groups for continued provision of psychosocial support to each other despite most having access to smart phones. The success of the project requires psychosocial support 'circles' to be sustained beyond the lifetime of the project. For sustainability participants should have an accessible platform for communication, virtual meetings and updates for the project.

Limited contact with participants by the project: AQUA and CCJP Harare Officers contacted the communities twice while conducted healing sessions and training for transformation with the third contact being that at the sporting tournament. The project success and high motivation for project participants would increase with more contact from the project implementation teams.

Lessons Learnt

Community engagement: The Commission tried to continue engaging communities however, out of the 20 selected parishes there remain other over 40 parishes which also require the presence and the work of the commission.

Cultural sensitivity: Due to the diversity of the parishes spread across the diocese, it is important that cultural sensitivity and ethical concerns are prioritized to allow smooth sailing of engagements with traditional and local leaders.

Effective resource mobilization strategies: Strategies for resource mobilization were identified, recommending the establishment of a dedicated resource mobilization team and diversification of funding sources.

Regular monitoring and evaluation: This played a pivotal role, suggesting the development of a robust monitoring and evaluation framework and fostering a culture of continuous improvement having a standalone M&E budget to cater for field monitoring visits, carrying out independent monitoring and evaluation activities for the project.

Conclusion

The Commission will continue using the social teachings of the church, guided by its vision and mission to serve all people needing support till they attain their full dignity. The work of the Commission as guided by the , "SEE, JUDGE, ACT" principles will continue to find best practices in responding to the cries of the poor and oppressed, raising awareness and lobbying and advocating for better and safer communities.

Diocese of Chinhoyi

CCJP Spiritual Advisor/Diocesan Coordinator: Fr. Samuel Nyadzayo

Area: 56000 square kilometres

Population: 2000,000

Districts: Makonde, Hurungwe, Kariba (East of Sanyati River), Guruve, Centenary, Mount Darwin and Rushinga (North of Mazowe River)

Introduction

The year 2024 was characterized with a myriad of positives and negatives to our work. This report seeks to explain CCJP Chinhoyi's achieved project objectives, successful insights lessons learned and challenges faced during the course of the year.

The Commission implemented TROCAIRE project in Zvimba, Makonde District despite the minimal operational glitches, PVO bill and political environment have been somewhat friendly to the smooth implementation of the project. In this reporting period a number of events took place notably the 44th Southern African Development Community (SADC) Ordinary summit, CCJP Chinhoyi witnessed an escalating crackdown on human rights including repression of civic space and severe restrictions on project activities. In a blatant attempt to silence dissenting voices ahead of the 44th Ordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Southern African Development Committee (SADC), the Mashonaland West Provincial CIO office instructed the Zimbabwe Catholic Bishops Conference (ZCBC) through Bishop Mupandasekwa not to release any Pastoral letter or Statement and he was also asked to update the President's Office of CCJP's activities of which he did so. As a security measure CCJP Chinhoyi had to stop implementing its activities during the week of SADC summit.

Main Activities

CCJP – Chinhoyi is currently implementing the following projects funded by:

TROCAIRE- Enhancing the Promotion of Civil and Political Rights in Zimbabwe September 2022- June 2023

CCJP –Chinhoyi civic education workshops and activities are designed to have a structured programme that speaks to the objectives of the activity. However, there is always refresher session on the mandate of CCJP and overview of the Social Teachings of the Church (STCs) in line with the activity. For instance, the aspect of participation in governance issues is rooted in the principle of subsidiarity and of common good. CCJP Chinhoyi received support from Trocaire team during a partner monitoring visit where they reviewed CCJPs vouchers and visited Nyamupamire community. Trocaire also, had a support visit in Kanyaga as part of safeguarding audit. Through Trocaire's immense support towards CCJP Chinhoyi's organisational development, the organisation now has Board members that are independent from the Diocesan Board.

CCJP- Safeguarding Refresher Sessions

CCJP-Chinhoyi conducted safeguarding refresher sessions during activity meetings and trainings. The trainings outlined what is safeguarding, safe reporting and feedback. Participants chose their preferred mechanism which they can use to give feedback. A safeguarding committee and focal person's name and phone numbers was shared with participants. The Commission now has a safeguarding and *Complaints Handling Policy*, which has been shared with staff and community beneficiaries. Following training, CCJP adopted the need to have its animators thus YVFs, WVFs, Watchdog committees sign *CCJP Code of Conduct* to affirm their responsibilities in upholding safeguarding mechanisms. This has already been achieved and participants are beginning to

comprehend safeguarding principles. Participants make use of a suggestion box when giving feedback and complaints. Furthermore, the organization is in a processes of drafting a case management log sheet to log complaints received and action that would have been taken. The Diocese of Chinhoyi has a toll free number which is manned by the HR and Safeguarding Officer.

Women Voices Forum

During this reporting period there was an overwhelming increase in women's participation and this was greatly attributed to a combination of awareness-raising efforts, supportive gender policies, community mobilization, leadership opportunities. Open discussions were used to look at the barriers to women taking up leadership positions. A facilitator from Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association and Ministry of Women Affairs shared on how the barriers could be overcome. Safe spaces for women centred forums have been created, and this has built up vibrant and confident women who are now voicing up their civil and political rights violations. In Chipfuwamiti and Kanyaga women identified that they were failing to access safe and favourable maternity health conditions due to limited staff in local clinics this was mostly experienced in Kanyaga. Kanyaga women voices forum engaged their duty bearers (Councillor Ramu, Makonde Rural District Council, MP Ziyambi, Ministry of Women Affairs, and Ministry of health at Provincial level) in an effort to be availed safe service delivery in a maternity ward through provision of nurses and nurse aids. Feedback indicates that the clinic will receive one nurse aid in January 2025. CCJP Chinhoyi conducted a women's voices forum in Kanyaga a platform that women were able to list their grievances that they were facing in the community.



CCJP-Chinhoyi Project Officer Facilitating a meeting in Kanyaga

Citizen Duty Bearer Engagement Meeting

The Human Rights project has managed to successfully engage hard-to-reach leaders such as local national legislators and key government heads of departments through meet-your-leader forums and dialogue meeting as part of vertical engagement approach. The meeting was conducted in Chipfuwamiti. The meeting ensured that pertinent governance issues such as community cohesion, abuse of power by traditional leaders, service delivery, corruption, and gender-based violence and development projects are discussed with the involvement of all the community members. The most significant issue that topped the discussion was the completion of Chipfuwamiti Clinic which enables women to easily access their health rights.



CCJP-Chinhoyi Programmes Officer facilitating a citizen duty bearer engagement meeting at Kanyaga Primary School

Youths Voices Forum

CCJP-Chinhoyi conducted *Youths Voices Forum* with youths and PWD'S from ward 14 Chipfuwamiti. The activity attracted a great number of People with Disabilities and stakeholders from the community. At the workshop, rights for people with disabilities were discussed and the participants were given a platform to hold their duty bearers to account. The commission is still monitoring any changes at the moment. Also, CCJP engaged Hope Foundation an organization (a PWD organization which operates in Makonde) that works with PWD's to assist in offering sign language to some of our PWD as the Commission does not have that skill. As a result of this activity the organization has successfully managed to influence the participation of PWDs in community development meetings which they reported to not have been attending as they did not receive any public invitation by their local leaders. The local leaders such as traditional leaders and Councillor Chipfuwamiti now invites PWDs to participate in community development meetings through CCJP's PWDs fora. The PWD fora works in collaboration with Hope Foundation. PWDs in Chipfuwamiti have successfully engaged Chipfuwamiti Clinic management, Councilor and traditional leaders to construct a ramp at Chipfuwamiti Clinic for easy access to acquire health services at the Clinic.



CCJP-Chinhoyi Youth Voices Forum in Chipfuwamiti

Integration and collaboration with other Commissions, Partners, and Government

CCJP Chinhoyi collaborated with Institute for Young Women Development (IYWD) and Women Coalition of Zimbabwe (WCOZ) particularly the Transformative leadership training and digital activism training in women voices forums. Ministry of women affairs and Gender Commission also contributed to facilitating at *Women's Voices Forum*. The Commission collaborated with NGO Forum to conduct mobile aid legal clinics in Chipfuwamiti and Chinhoyi and trained watchdogs from Chipfuwamiti and Kanyaga to monitor, report and document human rights violations during elections whilst the Zimbabwe Peace Project strengthened CCJP's Watchdog skills on reporting and documenting of human rights violations during a Refresher Training held in Chinhoyi.

Significant Change and Impact of Programming

Amplifying Women's Health Rights in Kanyaga

The Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace (CCJP) Chinhoyi played a crucial role in supporting Women Voices Forum in Chakobora by providing legal guidance, organizing workshops on civil rights, and facilitating dialogues between the community and a Chinese Sunny Yi Feng which was taking resources from Chakobora in Chipfuwamiti without developing the community therefore, with this background , CCJP empowered women to articulate their demands effectively to the mining company to construct a Secondary School for the community.

Chakobora Women Voices Forum collectively presented their advocacy work to the Resident Minister of Mashonaland West Marian Chombo with support from Member of Parliament Mercy Dinha for Zvimba West Constituency, NGO Forum and CCJP Chinhoyi over the Sunny Yi Feng Chinese

company based in Norton. This initiative has resulted in the delivery of 20 000 bricks and 210 bags of cement towards the construction of a classroom block at Chakobora Secondary School. In Zvimba ward 5 and Nyamupamire ward 8 women have taken on leadership roles in development structures, advocacy groups, and community organizations. Women have been organizing campaigns on issues like gender-based violence, advocating for equal representation in decision making bodies, and provision of safe and clean water. Women in Kanyaga noted that they were receiving poor services at the Kanyaga satellite clinic especially the maternity ward. The project capacitated women on how they can conduct research on how many people are attended to by the one nurse that is available at the satellite clinic and how many women give birth per month, this was in effort to draft a petition letter that would be submitted to the council. Through the citizen engagement duty bearer engagement platform, youth and women presented their grievance of poor service delivery at the Kanyaga satellite clinic noting that 1250 patients per month seek medical attention at the clinic, 248 babies for vaccines per month. Also, 41 patients are served per day attended by 1 nurse and as per nurse's regulation council they are allowed to assist at least 8 patients per day. The poor services delivery at the clinic is a result of shortage of nurses.

Therefore, the project managed to create a platform for youths and women to be able to present the issue to village heads, council officials and councillor's secretary. After the meeting the women and youth submitted their petition letter to the council officials to submit it to the CEO at Makonde RDC offices. Also, two nurse aids have been added to help at the clinic.

Building relations between the youths and local leaders through joint planning and regular citizen engagement meetings

Through the Human Rights project, CCJP Chinhoyi successfully conducted *Youth Voices Forums and Citizen Duty-bearer Engagement Meetings* with solution holders and youths. These meetings provided a platform for youths to engage with their local leaders, leading to a greater understanding among traditional leaders that youths should hold positions in VIDCO and WADCO committees. In Chipfuwamiti, the Councillor applauded CCJP-Chinhoyi's efforts in creating these engagement platforms, which resulted in three youths being incorporated into VIDCO committees. Additionally, one member of the Youth Voices Forum (YVF) is now the village secretary, responsible for drafting letters to the chief. Furthermore, it was suggested that every committee should have a representative from Youth, Women and PWDs.

Another track of success that was a result of CCJP's interventions in collaboration with IYWD was that of Chakobora community in Ward 14. CCJP Chinhoyi seconded 2 women to participate in a Transformative leadership training with IYWD, the training strengthened their confidence and skill to advocate for their right. The young women built a collective action group of women, youths, PWDs, councillor, traditional and church leaders to tackle an advocacy issue related to a mine company Sunny Yi Feng. It was reported that the Chinese mine has brought more challenges than solutions to the community and most affected are women, minors and PWDs. The mine has been leaving open pits which has caused loss of cattle, goats and injuries to women and minors who would have fallen into the open pits as the area is not protected. The activities of the mine has also contributed to damaging the roads. Through petition writing the mine has renovated the Chakobora road but has done nothing in protecting the community from the open pits. The community is now collectively engaging NGO Forum to legally advise them on how to peacefully demonstrate against the Sunny Yi Feng mine so that that they stop their operations or they fence off the pits, construct Chakobora Secondary as the children are using un safe structures for learning.

Significant change from beneficiaries or community perspective (the first person narrative and in quotes even with pseudonyms)

- *I learnt the aspect of leadership which encompass principles of good governance which are –participation, effectiveness, transparency, efficiency, responsiveness, consensus and accountability, with all this, the community is supposed to have rights to follow up, ask for clarity and decides together on what needs to be done.*
- *I was helped in understanding my rights. I came to know that as women, we have organizations that represents women. For one to be a leader you should have principles, now have knowledge of self-reliance in doing projects e.g. ISALS, to compete doing elections and through the training the community managed to have a great relationship with their leaders and councilors.*
- *I used to be in fear and through CCJP; I managed to stand for myself. -self-reliance and -children rights*
- *Learnt to do projects that can sustain our families, to promote peace in communities, understanding in gender roles, to take part in youth quota system and to respect our leaders.*

Challenges

- Politicisation of our work remains a huge threat in our area of operation with some individuals with their own agendas trying to sway the image of the organisation away from its real mandate in the eyes of the stakeholders.
- Internal conflicts within stakeholders such as Councils have also made communication very difficult in some communities as work place politics took over centre stage.
- Due to limited funds we are not able to reach out all the parishes in the diocese our coverage remains very small even though our services are required in the whole diocese.
- The issue of shifting donor priorities remains a challenge as fundraising is now very difficult due to high competition and less funding partners

Recommendations

- Advocacy and lobby to relevant service provider institutions such as Econet and Netone to improve connectivity in remote communities
- Establishing information centres for communities to access information in the absence of CCJP.
- More staff capacity building trainings to continuously mould staff to speak to the changing operating environment, resource mobilisation and strategic planning.
- Organising partner learning and sharing meetings for example those implementing similar projects.

Lessons learnt

- There is need to have more livelihoods to help young women and youths to be motivated in participating in the project being implemented.
- To have quarterly meetings with key stakeholders such as the President's Office and ZRP so we create good working relations CCJP –Chinhoyi learnt that each month reports are supposed to be submitted to the social services in Makonde so that good relations are kept with no suspicions of being agents of change, we have requested for one staff member from the Makonde district to attend our meetings so that in case anything happens there is evidence that the social services were in attendance.
- There is need to have a fundraising strategy to help the organisation in sourcing funds from different donors.

Diocese of Gweru

CCJP Spiritual Advisor/Diocesan Coordinator: Fr. A. Dzingai

Area: 29 158 square kilometres

Population: 1 521 000 people of which 381 659 are Catholics

Districts: Gweru, Shurugwi, Zvishavane, Mberengwa, Kwekwe and Chirumhanzu.

Introduction

This report outlines the activities and accomplishments of CCJP Gweru Diocese over the past year. While we did not secure funding for independent projects, we successfully collaborated with various organizations aligned with our mission. Notable initiatives included a youth entrepreneurship and governance project co-led by Silveira House under Misereor, engaging 25 youths from Zvishavane, Gweru, Kwekwe, and Chirumhanzu Deaneries. We also partnered with the Zimbabwe Heads of Christian Denominations on a Social Accountability project aimed at enhancing transparency and accountability within the Devolution process in Zvishavane Deanery. Additionally, we worked with the Ecumenical Church Leaders Forum to address drug and substance abuse among youth and engaged the Centre for Conflict Management and Transformation to mitigate internal displacements in Gweru Deanery. These efforts reflect our commitment to the Church's mission in the context of Zimbabwe's current socio-political climate.

Main Activities

Strong Governance Institutions and Inclusive Participation – Silveira House 2023-2025

In 2024, CCJP Gweru facilitated cross-learning platforms with the Arch Diocese of Harare, focusing on digital marketing to enhance business visibility. Participants received coaching from Dr. Kudzanai Vere on entrepreneurship and digital marketing. Our mentorship program connected youths with experienced professionals, fostering transparency and ethical practices in business operations. Participants reported increased confidence, improved skills, and business growth.

ZHOCD Social Accountability Project

As the Secretariat of the Zimbabwe Heads of Christian Denominations in the Midlands, CCJP Gweru engaged numerous stakeholders in Zvishavane District from 2024 to 2025 in Ward 7 and 12. This initiative empowered our animators to monitor government performance and advocate for accountability, enhancing citizen participation in governance and public service delivery.



Mr K Muzadzi facilitating on Social Accountability workshops and CCJP Masvingo, Mutare and Gweru on a panel discussion on a Ministry of Finance advocacy meeting

Empower Youths, Equip Pastors: Breaking Free from Substance Abuse

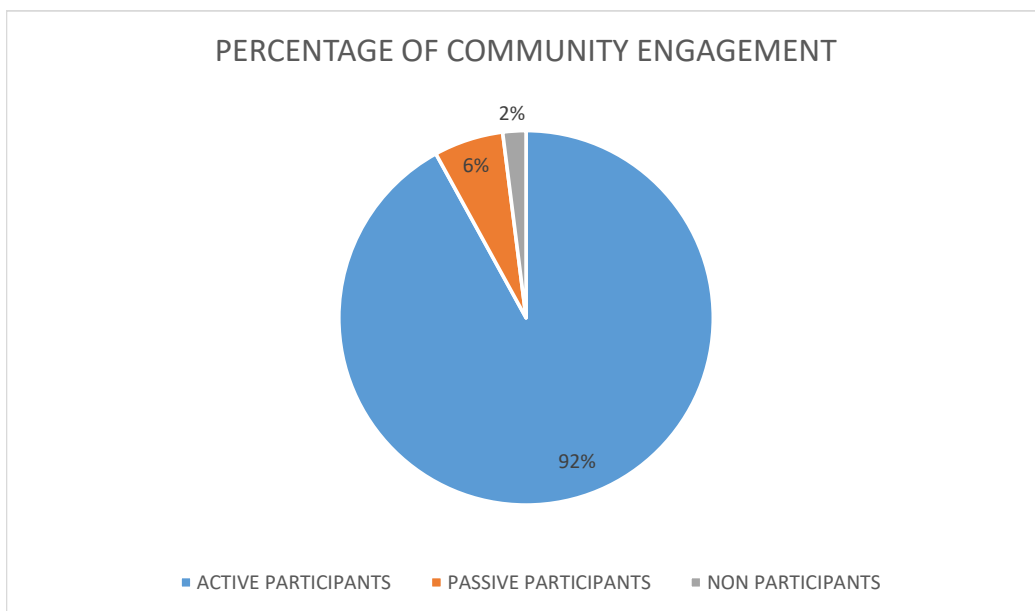
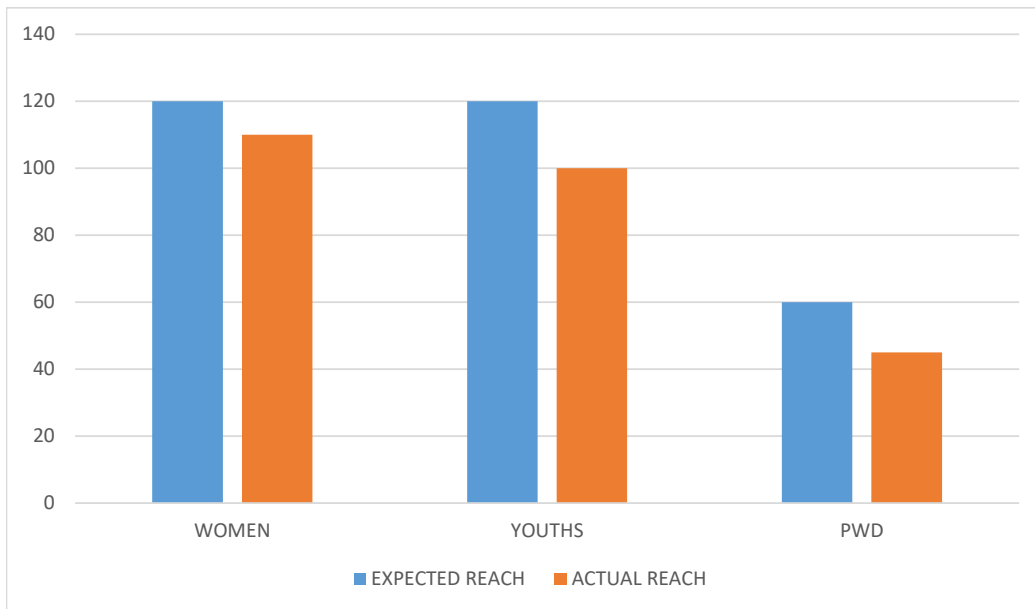
CCJP Gweru trained 36 Bishops from the Ecumenical Church Leaders Forum on addressing substance abuse on the 1st and 2nd of May 2024. Workshops provided valuable insights and skills to equip pastors and youth leaders to support those struggling with addiction. As a result, 12 support groups were established in the Midlands, promoting youth involvement in drug policy development and advocacy for vulnerable populations.



Youths digital marketing posters show casing their activities

Significant Change and Impact of Programming

Reach table statistics



Social Accountability Project

The Social Accountability project has significantly increased transparency in government operations. Citizens have been empowered to hold officials accountable, leading to a culture of accountability and improved public service delivery. Testimonials from community members highlight the transformative impact of the project, reinforcing the importance of citizen engagement.

Quotable quotes:

"Thanks to the project led by church, our voices are finally being heard, the project has empowered us to hold local leaders accountable and advocate for positive change in our community." GH

"I never thought I could make a difference, but the social accountability project has shown me that my voice matters. Together we have achieved so much and created a safer and more inclusive community." FM

I am grateful for the opportunities provided by the churches to engage with policy makers, participate in decision making processes and advocate for social justice. The project has truly transformed our community for the better. SW

Strong Governance Institutions and Inclusive Participation

The digital skills training enabled participants to launch businesses in areas such as social media management and online advertising, fostering collaboration and growth within the community. Feedback from youths indicates a profound change in their ability to promote their businesses effectively.

Financials

We extend our gratitude to funding partners including Trocaire, the European Union, CAFOD, Misereor, and the CCJP National Office for their financial and moral support. We also appreciate the collaborative efforts of our partners, including CCMT, Silveira House, ECLF, and the Zimbabwe Heads of Christian Denominations Midlands Chapter.

Conclusion

We thank all supporters for their contributions. Although we faced funding challenges for independent projects, our collaborative efforts have made a significant impact. We look forward to building on this foundation in the coming year to further our mission and positively affect the communities we serve.

Diocese of Gokwe

CCJP Spiritual Advisor/Diocesan Coordinator: Fr. C. Wusiku

Area: 26 000 square kilometres

Population: 600 000 of which 76 284 are Catholics – participating beneficiaries are both Catholics and non-Catholics.

Districts: Gokwe North, Gokwe South, area of Omayi between Sengwa and Sanyati River in Kariba

Introduction

This report covers a period from 1st of January 2024 to 31st of December 2024. The Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace in the Diocese of Gokwe has programs which cover all the 24 missions in the 5 deaneries of the Diocese. The Diocese cuts across 3 provinces namely; Matebeleland North, Midlands and Mashonaland West. These are further divided to 4 districts namely; Nkayi, Gokwe South, Gokwe North and Nyaminyami (Kariba). The Commission operates with a total number of 2 full time staff members (Coordinator Fr Christopher Wusiku and Finance officer Ms Pamela Mahlanzi who replaced Ms Dorothy Nyanyiwa who resigned, Very Rev. Fr. Joseph Mugara being the Ex Officio Member (who replaced Fr Damian Gumbo who has worked with CCJP for six years and five voluntary facilitators/animators from different deaneries.

Activities

Formation and Strengthening of Grassroots Structures: The office has a three-year program funded by Misereor which started in June 2021 and ended on May 31 2024. In the year 2024 a total of 10 workshops were conducted where Peace Committees were set on every mission. The committee has the major duty of information sharing, from the Diocesan office to the grassroots level and compiling reports from the communities to the Diocesan Office. An evaluation was done at the end of the project and the new project started on the 1st of November 2024.



Peace committees training workshop

No	Post	Name	Deanery
1	Chairperson	Mr Paraffin	Northern St Kizito
2	Vice Chairperson	Mr B Sibindi	Southern Kana
3	Secretary	Miss D Chitswatswa	Western Zhomba
4	Vice Secretary	Mr H Takaza	Eastern Tongwe
5	Treasure	Mr O Chikara	Central Good Shepherd

Training and Engagement with Traditional Leaders: Chiefs and village heads are a very influential group in the rural communities, with the funding from Misereor CCJP-Gokwe is carrying out a project which is aimed at training the traditional leaders on the Traditional Leaders Act and the Social Teachers of the Church. The target being that the leaders should be non-partisan and uphold the rule of law in their exercise of daily duties. 186 traditional leaders were trained.

Opportunities

New Political Leaders: After the General elections of August 2023, a new crop of leaders came on board Gokwe-Nembudzia got a new Member of Parliament (MP) (Flora Bhuka), the MP of Gokwe Chireya (Hon Moyo) was appointed Minister of education, and the MP of Gokwe-Kana (Hon Owen Ncube) was appointed Provincial Minister of Midlands province. This presence CCJP with an opportunity to engage with new people in the government. The hope is that where restrictions were given to carry out activities in some areas at least these new people or the new portfolios will give CCJP a chance of engagement.

Networking with Other Commissions: with limited funds, CCJP-Gokwe has taken on board the aspect of networking with other Diocesan commissions in carrying out activities which might be having shared objectives. These activities include Human Rights, Governance, Child safe guarding, Gender Based violence, climate change and the Social Teachings of the Church. The Diocese of Gokwe has the following commissions Education, Caritas, Social Communication, Health and OVC. Currently all these commissions are housed under the Diocesan complex of offices, they seat in one board under the name Social Ministries Board and they have one legal holder (the bishop). There are big opportunities of carrying out activities together, hence cutting costs.

Short Term Programs and Coordination Meetings by The National Office: at the time when the Diocesan office is facing a dry spell in terms of funds, some short-term programs from the National office have been a great relief. The National office has enabled the Diocesan office to carry out and address some issues in the communities which are not covered by the long-term grants that we have in the Diocese. The National Office also provides information sharing platforms and manpower development platform through regular meetings conducted at National level and support visits that are done to the Dioceses.



Group presentations by participants

Challenges

Drought: The country experienced drought in 2024 which was caused by very little rainfall which was received in most parts of the country and in the whole of the SADC region. The people of Gokwe depend on agriculture for their livelihood. When there is draught people will have very little or no food, there will be no source of income since they sell farm produce in order to get money. When there is draught in the communities the participation of people in the civic activities reduces as they tend to participate more in humanitarian activities like Food for work or garden projects or water harvesting programs. *In April and May the attendance of people was now very low for the workshops and the reasons given were; they have gone to register for food aid, they are participating in Food for work programs or they have gone for community gardens. In Nenyunga 40 participants were expected but only 21 turned up and in Manoti only 17 turned up instead of 40.*

Interruption of our Activities by Civil Authorities: The civil authorities of Gokwe North are not friendly to NGOs and they do not tolerate Civic groups. CCJP has constantly been called at the District Development Coordinator's office (DDC) and even banned from visiting certain communities, as well as banned from meeting traditional leaders. *The program that CCJP had with traditional leaders in Chireya and Nemangwe was terminated.*

Limited Funding: CCJP-Gokwe only has one funder (Misereor) this is a big limitation to the initiatives and demands of the people of Gokwe. There a number of issues which are raised in the communities which require the attention of the Church, but CCJP cannot meet them due to limited funds.

Harsh Economic Conditions: The economy is directly affecting the work of CCJP-Gokwe. Formal supermarkets like Spar have closed, which leaves us with informal (Cash shops) as the only option. Most of the Cash shops do not comply with ZIMRA regulations hence buying from them is illegal according to financial systems. The people in the communities are also affected by the non-existence of formal shops since the Cash shops do not accept local currency (ZIG).

Conclusion

As the Social arm of the Church CCJP is doing its best to fulfil its mandate in the Diocese of Gokwe regardless of the challenges and limitations mentioned above. The support from the Diocesan administration and the national office as well as the cooperation of the community members is helping the office to reach greater heights in evangelisation. There is less development in the communities, the Members of Parliament have not yet fulfilled the promises which they made during the campaigns. Most of the MPs do not even reside in their constituencies. The commission hopes to create awareness and help the communities to raise advocacy issues and also create platforms for political leaders to meet their people.

Diocese of Masvingo

CCJP Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Cleopas Magundani

Diocesan Coordinator: Mr. Simon Parwaringira

Area: 70,000 square kilometres

Population: 1, 863 650

Districts: Beitbridge, Chiredzi, Chivi, Bikita, Gutu, Masvingo, Mwenezi and Zaka

Introduction

The year 2024 was replete with both triumphs and tribulations for the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace (CCJP) Masvingo. As we reflect on the past year, as a commission of the Catholic Diocese of Masvingo we are proud to have taken tangible steps towards realizing our vision of a society that promotes and protects basic freedoms and rights. Guided by gospel values and the Social Teaching of the Church, we have worked tirelessly to promote good governance, fairness, and peace in our community. Notably, we successfully implemented our projects across all 9 Deaneries of the Catholic Diocese of Masvingo, demonstrating our commitment to inclusive and widespread impact. Notably, evaluations and audits conducted throughout the year revealed exceptional performance across all our departments, including coordination, programs, monitoring and evaluation, and finance and administration. We are pleased to report that four out of five projects implemented were rigorously evaluated, and timely audits ensured transparency and accountability. While four projects were successfully completed, we are thrilled to have secured funding for the continuity of two projects, with the remaining two under review.

Main Activities



CCJP participants interacting with elderly women after giving them food during an option for the poor campaign in Zimuto Maraire, ward 2, Masvingo on 27/07/24

In 2024, for projects aimed at enhancing civic education, social cohesion, and the promotion of civil and political rights were implemented with varying levels of success. For the Civic Education on Electoral Processes project, a total of 62 activities were targeted, of which 49 were achieved, resulting in an overall achievement rate of 79.03%. Key activities included social accountability training and leadership training, both of which met their targets, along with community dialogue meetings that achieved 84.2% of their goal.

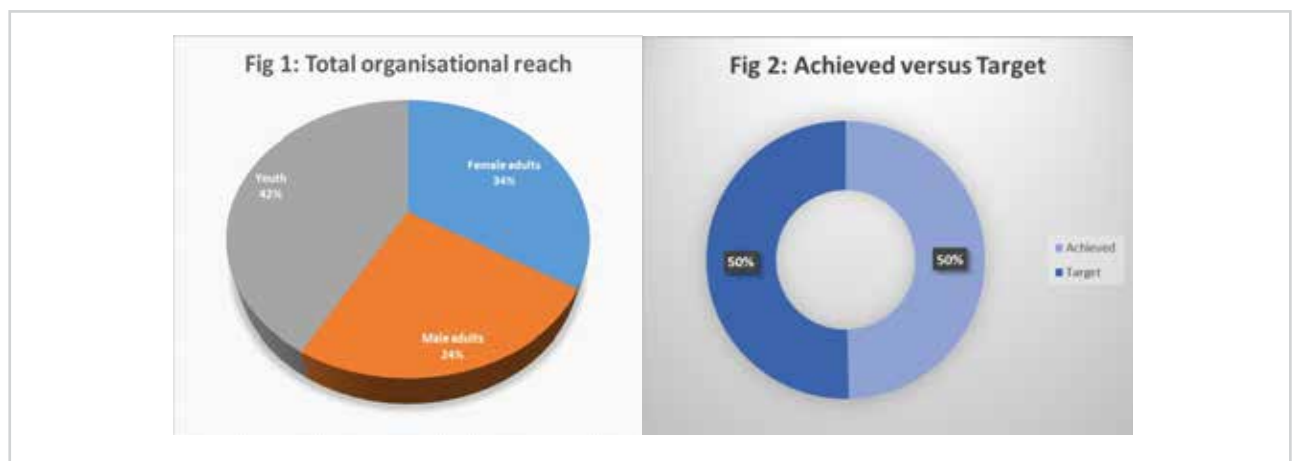
The Churches Promoting Social Cohesion for Democracy project excelled, achieving 100% of its 55 targeted activities. This included successful community monitoring and reporting, stakeholder engagements, and peace education initiatives.

In the Enhancing Civil and Political Rights project, 99 activities were planned, with 95 successfully completed, reflecting a 95.9% achievement rate. Most initiatives, such as civic education and citizen duty bearer engagement, were fully completed; however, the refresher training for watchdog committees did not meet its target.

Lastly, the project focused on Supporting Vulnerable People had a total of 30 activities, with 22 achieved, resulting in a 73.3% completion rate. Some efforts, such as dialogue towards durable solutions, fell short of their targets, while dialogue moderation meetings were fully achieved.

Overall, across all projects, the total number of activities targeted was 246, with 221 successfully completed, yielding an impressive overall achievement rate of 89.8%.

Statistics



Significant Change and Impact of Programming

Advocacy against forced marriage in Gutu district: In Gutu District, the Local Peace Committee (LPC) tackled the pervasive issue of forced marriage, particularly affecting vulnerable individuals like underage girls. Through advocating for victims' rights, the LPC reported cases to the police and facilitated referrals for psychosocial support. This intervention not only mitigated the immediate threat to the victims but also showcased the LPC's growing influence in promoting human rights and civic participation within the community. The experience highlighted the need for training community organizations and collaborating with law enforcement to create robust support systems for at-risk individuals.

Transforming food aid distribution in Mapanzure: In Mapanzure, food aid distribution had been politicized, leading to the exclusion of vulnerable community members. After strategic engagements facilitated by CCJP Masvingo, local leaders shifted their approach to distribute surplus food to anyone in need, irrespective of political affiliation. This change fostered inclusivity and rebuilt trust in local governance, enhancing social cohesion. The intervention demonstrated the importance of community engagement and the need for sensitive approaches to address political contexts, paving the way for more inclusive governance practices in the future.

Holding duty bearers accountable in Ndanga: Before CCJP's intervention, community members in Ndanga felt powerless to hold local leaders accountable for service delivery. Through community dialogue meetings, they gained the confidence to engage with duty bearers, leading to improved responsiveness from local leaders. As a result, councillors became more communicative and began addressing community issues, fostering greater citizen participation and transparency. This shift exemplifies the power of community engagement in promoting accountability and transforming local leadership dynamics.

Enhancing tolerance and social cohesion in Beitbridge: Prior to CCJP's project, the host community in Beitbridge held negative perceptions of migrants, viewing them as threats. The project aimed to change these attitudes through community dialogues that raised awareness of the struggles faced by people on the move. This initiative led to increased empathy and willingness among community members to provide support, such as food and shelter. Improved coordination among stakeholders resulted in comprehensive support services, enhancing the well-being of vulnerable individuals. The project significantly shifted community attitudes, fostering a more tolerant and supportive environment for migrants.

23.0. Challenges and Recommendations

- a) The organization was often labelled by community gate keepers as an opposition group or a "regime change agent." To address this, continuous strategic engagement with stakeholders was necessary to clarify misconceptions and improve CCJP's image.
- b) Incidents of victimization by radical Zanu-pf activists and sympathisers have been reported among CCJP facilitators and members. In response, the CCJP office referred these matters to the Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR) and engaged with relevant stakeholders to address the issue.
- c) Prior to the enactment of the PVO bill, District Development Coordinators (DDCs) in Beitbridge, Gutu, and Mwenezi Districts applied restrictive measures. Strategic engagements with DDCs, provincial authorities, and the CCJP National office were recommended to seek remedies.
- d) The presence of state security agents at CCJP workshops has deterred community participation. To mitigate this, the use of participatory methodologies was encouraged, along with creating an environment where all participants, including security operatives, feel comfortable engaging in project activities.
- e) While youth participation has increased, maintaining their involvement remains challenging due to competing demands on their time. To address this, creating youth-driven initiatives that empower young people to lead their own projects can enhance their investment in the community and foster a sense of ownership.
- f) Resource limitations hindered the expansion of initiatives and the sustainability of awareness campaigns. Mobilizing local volunteers and community members reduced financial burdens and increased community ownership of project activities.
- g) Significant delays in fund disbursement from Misereor have impacted the ability to meet planned activity targets. To counter this, flexible budgeting and prioritization of critical activities are recommended to ensure essential components of projects are implemented despite financial constraints.
- h) The prevalence of drug abuse, particularly among young girls in the nine Deaneries, poses serious risks to their health and well-being. In response, peace committees were spearheading "Stop Drug Abuse" campaigns that include awareness programs, workshops, and community outreach to educate individuals on the dangers of substance abuse.

Financials

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to Trocaire (FCDO/SIDA), Miserior, Dan Church Aid, Trocaire (EU), CAFOD, American Friends Service Committee, and Global Focus for their invaluable financial support. Your generous contributions have been instrumental in empowering our initiatives and driving meaningful change in the communities we serve.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the year 2024 has been a pivotal period for the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace (CCJP) Masvingo, marked by significant achievements and valuable lessons learned. Our dedicated efforts to promote human rights, good governance, and social cohesion have yielded impactful results across various projects, enhancing the lives of many within our communities. While we celebrate the successes, we also acknowledge the challenges encountered, including misconceptions about our organization and barriers to engagement. These experiences have underscored the importance of strategic collaboration, community involvement, and adaptive approaches to ensure sustained progress. As we look to the future, we remain committed to refining our strategies, empowering marginalized voices, and fostering an inclusive environment where every individual can thrive. With the continued support of our partners and the community, we are optimistic about our journey ahead and the opportunity to effect lasting change.

Diocese of Mutare

CCJP Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Tarzen Nyanga

Diocesan Coordinator: Mr. E. Vengesa

Area: 32,202 square kilometres

Population: 1, 675,000

Districts: Maungwe, Mutasa, Mutare, Nyanga, Chimanimani and Chipingo

Introduction



CCJP Mutare staff members

In 2024, the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace Mutare (CCJP-M) implemented five key projects across Manicaland, Zimbabwe. These projects include the Justice and Peace Program (2022 - December 2024), the Human Rights Project (2022 - 2027), the Social Accountability Project (2023 - December 2025), the Churches Promoting Social Cohesion for Democracy in Zimbabwe (January 2023 - December 2024), and the Citizen Participation and Accountability for Social Cohesion (2023 - 2026). This report builds upon the previous year's findings, illustrating continued alignment with the church's mission, particularly through its social teachings that promote human dignity, participation, and social cohesion. The ongoing socio-political and economic challenges in Zimbabwe, characterized by human rights abuses and inadequate service delivery, underscore the relevance of CCJP-M's initiatives.

Main Activities



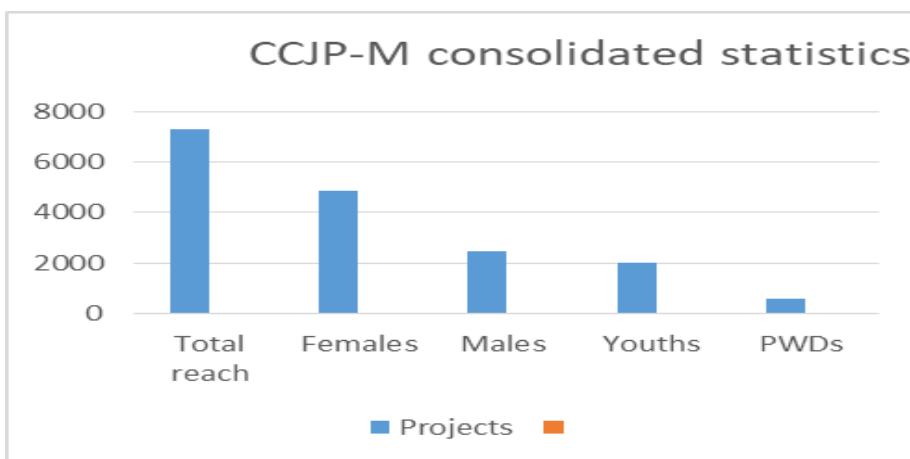
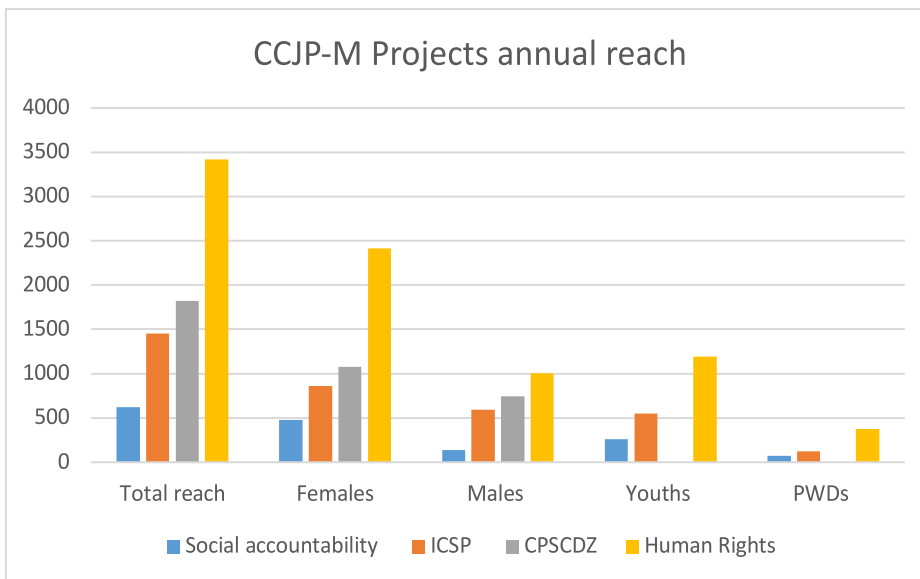
Minister of state responding to advocacy issues presented by representative's from Nyanga and Mutasa district

During the year under review, CCJP-M engaged in a variety of key activities aimed at enhancing civic engagement and community resilience. These included citizen-led policy advocacy, community dialogue sessions, and the facilitation of safe spaces for marginalized groups to voice their concerns and engage with duty bearers. Collaboration with other commissions, partners, and government entities was emphasized, aligning with broader church objectives and addressing critical issues affecting communities. The integration of environmental and gender considerations into project implementation was also noted, reflecting the organization's commitment to holistic development in the context of the current socio-economic challenges in Zimbabwe.

Statistics

In 2024, the annual target for CCJP-M was to reach 5,000 individuals, with an actual reach of 7,316 people, surpassing the target by 2,316. This included 4,832 females, 2,484 males, 2,007 youths, and 574 persons with disabilities (PWDs), demonstrating the effectiveness of increased outreach activities.

Bar graph showing projects annual reach



Significant Change and Impact of Programming

The programming has led to significant changes within communities. Beneficiaries reported positive outcomes such as improved access to water and health services, enhanced civic participation, and increased advocacy for marginalized groups. For instance, community members in Makoni expressed, “We were able to mobilize resources to drill a borehole after the LPC intervened, which has greatly improved our water situation.” Overall, CCJP-M achieved its set objectives for the year, as evidenced by the successful implementation of community-led initiatives.

Challenges and Recommendations

Several challenges were encountered, including surveillance by local authorities that hindered open dialogue, particularly with the presence of intelligence officers at community meetings. Lessons learned include the necessity of integrating PWD considerations into project planning, enhancing monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, and ensuring logistical support for reaching remote areas. Recommendations include fostering relationships with local authorities to improve dialogue and support for marginalized communities.

Financials

CCJP-M received funding from various partners, including Misereor, Trocaire, Dan Church Aid, and Christian Aid, totaling \$315,199.

- Funding information including partners

Partner	Misereor	Trocaire- Human Rights	Trocaire- Social accountability	DCA- CPSCDZ	Christian Aid - ICSP
Received	\$ 75,496.31	\$ 90,556.63	\$ 26,730.23	\$65,441.09	\$57,874.85
Spent	\$ 75,496.31	\$90,539.55	\$ 26,683.97	\$65,436.36	\$55,206.69
Balance	\$ -	\$ 17.08	\$ 46.26	\$4.73	\$2,668.16

The financial report shows appropriate use of funds, with a balance indicating effective management and planning for future initiatives.

Conclusion

In 2024, CCJP-M's activities effectively aligned with the church's strategic objectives and social teachings, resulting in meaningful impacts on target communities. The need for increased funding and support remains essential, particularly in underserved areas like Nyanga and Buhera, to continue addressing the critical challenges faced by these communities.

Diocese of Hwange

Spiritual Advisor/Coordinator: Fr. S.W. Lumano

Area: 43, 427 square kilometres

Population: 373, 900

Districts: Hwange, Binga, Lupane (North of Shabula River) – It is bounded on the North by Zambezi River, on the West by Botswana on the East by the civil districts of Omay, Gokwe, Lupane and on the South by Nyamandlovu

Introduction

This report highlights some of the key initiatives and activities that we have undertaken during the course of the year.

Activities

The following key activities were implemented:

1. **Social Teachings of the Church (STCs):** Two workshops were conducted, one at Sacred Heart (deanery) on June 15, 2024, with 22 participants, and another at All Souls on October 16, 2024, with 12 participants. Drawing from the diocese's theme: *Christ Our Hope - A Synodal Journey Towards a Self-Reliant Church*, this engaging course offered participants an opportunity to delve into the transformative power of faith in their communities. Through discussions and reflections, they explored the foundational teachings of Christian hope in the face of a seemingly hopeless society. By analyzing the role of Small Christian Communities (SCCs), they discovered the benefits and challenges of embodying the Church's presence in the world. In examining the principles and practices of self-reliance, they developed strategies for building sustainable self-reliant church communities. A reflection on the centrality of the Eucharist as "the source and summit" of our Christian life, was cultivated as the basis for the understanding of faith and its implications for daily life and social engagement.
2. **Building a Catholic Justice & Peace organization:** Two workshops were conducted, one at Chisuma parish on September 13 & 24, 2024, and another in Makwa deanery on September 24-26, 2024, with 12 participants. The workshops aimed at equipping participants with the necessary knowledge, skills, and tools to develop and sustain an effective catholic social justice organization. Through a combination of theoretical foundations, practical strategies, and experiential learning, participants explored the foundational principles of social justice work, understanding the dynamics of community engagement, and learning about effective strategies for advocacy, fundraising, and leadership.
3. **Talk show. Acid drainage in the Deka river:** A discussion show was conducted on Lyeja FM on September 30, 2024, with approximately 30 participants. The discussion explored on the effects of acid disposal in Deka river and what can be done to drain acid deposited in the river.
4. **Leadership (Transformational).** A workshop was conducted at Mzola parish on September 4-7, 2024, with 12 participants. This interactive workshop equipped participants with foundational skills and practices needed to become effective leaders in the church. Through a combination of theoretical material and practical exercises, participants learnt about different leadership styles, communication techniques, conflict transformation strategies, and how to motivate and inspire others to achieve common goals. Additionally, participants explored ethical considerations in leadership and examining the role of diversity and inclusivity in effective leadership. Participants embarked on a journey of self-discovery, exploring the principles of transformational leadership, developing key skills, and applying them in real-world scenarios.
5. **Peace Initiative (April 2023 – March 2024).** Amplified the Church's voice in promoting peace, tolerance and non-violent environment in the Lupane district where people are still in fear of political violence from their historical experiences of Gukurahundi and post-election violence

of 2008. Communities were engaged in constructive dialogue to address issues of peace and well-being. Participants also emphasized the need for the church to be involved in addressing the *Gukurahundi* issues as it is more trusted.

Themes generated from the workshops among others, included; teenage pregnancies and child marriages, drug and substance abuse, lack of safe, clean and potable water, environmental degradation and pollution, politicization of food handouts, unemployment, etc.



Chisuma peace animators ready for the mission



Circle of learning in Mzola Mission



Lyeja FM manager presenting the talk show



Binga deanery missionaries of peace

Challenges

Three of the seven deaneries have not established their structures so as to form the diocesan executive committee. Furthermore, the distances between the deaneries makes it difficult to hold face to face meetings in addition to unavailability of resources to travel. Mobilizing participants with limited resources contributed in having low turn-outs for most activities.

Financials

Most of the workshops were locally funded, which was a good sign towards not entirely depending from outside funding. We are grateful to CCJPZ who through CAFOD afforded us to conduct the peace initiative project.

Conclusion

The activities in 2024, were aimed at promoting social justice in general, and building the diocese's deanery structures in particular. Despite challenges, the projects had a significant impact on the participants and communities. We look forward in continuing scale up activities in the coming year, with a focus on increasing funding, improving mobilization strategies, and exploring alternative transport options.

7.0 Conclusion

As we reflect on the CCJPZ 2024 Annual Report, it is evident that the organization has made significant strides in promoting justice, peace, and human rights in Zimbabwe. Through its national level and diocesan level activities, CCJPZ has continued to advocate for the rights of the marginalized and vulnerable, while also promoting dialogue and reconciliation.

The report highlights the organization's efforts to address various challenges facing the country, including economic inequality, human rights abuses, and environmental degradation. Through its advocacy work, CCJPZ has brought attention to these issues and pushed for policy changes that benefit the most vulnerable members of society.

At the diocesan level, CCJPZ has worked closely with local communities to promote peace and reconciliation. The organization's efforts to empower local leaders and communities have been particularly noteworthy, as they have helped to build capacity and promote sustainability.

Future Plans

As we look to the future, CCJPZ is committed to building on its successes and addressing the ongoing challenges facing Zimbabwe. Our future plans include:

Strengthening Advocacy Efforts: We will continue to advocate for policy changes that promote justice, peace, and human rights in Zimbabwe. This will include working with government officials, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders to push for reforms that benefit the most vulnerable members of society.

Empowering Local Communities: We will continue to empower local communities to take ownership of their development and promote peace and reconciliation. This will include providing training and capacity-building programs for local leaders and community members.


Promoting Environmental Justice: We will prioritize environmental justice and sustainability in our work, recognizing the critical role that the environment plays in promoting human well-being and dignity.

Building Partnerships: We will seek to build partnerships with other organizations and stakeholders to amplify our impact and promote collaboration.



Through pursuing these goals, CCJPZ aims to continue making a positive impact in Zimbabwe and promoting a more just and peaceful society for all.



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