

2024



Annual Report

2024

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Board Members (2024)

Ross Parsons (Chair), Farai Samhangu (Vice Chair), Temba Munsaka (Treasurer), Sikhatele Matambo, Duduzile Ndawana, Malini Patel, Shobna Chakravarti, Paul Themba Nyathi, Robinson Chikowero (outgoing Chair)



Who we are What we do



Established in 2002 and officially registered in 2010, the Tree of Life (ToL) Trust is a local Zimbabwean Non-Governmental Organisation focusing on individual, family and community wellbeing and resilience building. We provide community-based, group-based mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) approaches that help people living with stress and trauma to reconnect with self, nature, family and community. ToL also conducts effective resilience-building Social Cohesion interventions that provide safe spaces for communities to openly discuss the problems that affect them, along with solutions that they can implement together using a clear Community Action Plan. Women are at the centre of our work and constitute over 65% of our beneficiary-base, with youth representation being at approximately 30%.

Many rigorous evidence-based studies and evaluations have proved the efficacy of Tree of Life's key interventions. Tree of Life works in 8 of the 10 provinces across Zimbabwe, through a network of over 1400 Community-based Facilitators (the "Big Tree") located across 22 Districts. Over the last twenty-two years we have directly reached over 220,000 beneficiaries.

In 2024, our team comprised 35 core staff and 3 interns. ToL's core team (the 'small tree') operate from 2 substantive offices in Harare and Bulawayo, as well as a small office in Masvingo whilst we are implementing a project in that district. With the combined support of close to 30 funders in the last fifteen years, we have implemented over 39 projects (mostly multi-year) totalling close to US\$18,000,000 and have collaborated with over 40 other Civil-Society Organisations in various ways. ToL are also active members of several key networks such as the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT), the Pan-African Rehabilitation Initiative (PARI), the Peace Building Network of Zimbabwe (PBNZ), Human Rights NGO Forum and more.



Vision

A healed and resilient cohesive society

Mission

To inspire peaceful communities through processes of well-being and social cohesion

Goal

Tree of Life will be recognised as an organisation that inspires relevant and scalable collective trauma healing processes that are evidence-based

Values

Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, Connection

Theory of Change

If trauma is dealt with through a group-based community-rooted process, including both victims and key people, then social-cohesion will increase, enabling reconciliation, peace and development to happen.



Our Core Activities

- 
-  Trauma Healing & Empowerment (TH&E) Workshops
 -  Psychosocial Awareness & Coping Skills (PACS) Workshops
 -  Psychological First Aid (PFA) Workshops
 -  Youth Empowerment Programming
 -  Working with Children and Protection
 -  Women Empowerment Interventions
 -  Capacity Building community cadres, CBO's, FBO's and other NGO's
 -  Self-Care workshops for public and private enterprises



Chairperson's Letter



“

The year 2024 was a time of significant transition and determination for Tree of Life (ToL). We entered the year under new leadership, following the appointment of Mrs. Nokuthula Lorraine Mahaka as Director from 1 December 2023. Nokuthula, who had served with distinction as the Finance and Administration Manager for over a decade, brought with her a deep institutional memory, a clear strategic focus, and a compassionate yet firm hand to guide the organisation through a rapidly shifting landscape.

At board level, I assumed the role of Chairperson in July 2024, taking over from Mr. Robinson Chikowero. I would like to sincerely thank Robinson for his steady leadership during a turbulent time in the sector and for his significant contributions to strengthening ToL's governance framework.

2024 was a year marked by both intense financial pressure and extraordinary resilience. The loss of significant funding at the end of July 2023 could have crippled operations. Instead, it became a crucible in which the organisation redefined its approach to sustainability. With limited traditional funding opportunities available, ToL widened its net, engaging in strategic networking, forming new partnerships, and making critical investments in alternative revenue streams, including corporate wellness services and the introduction of an online donation platform. These were not only adaptive responses but bold steps toward securing greater financial independence.

Our leadership and team demonstrated creativity and resolve in re-engaging partners, and it was heartening to see the fruits of these efforts in the second half of the year. Among the highlights were the renewal of a three-year partnership with Bread for the World and the continuation of the WFP-Zambuko collaboration.



The successful presentation of ToL's longitudinal impact study to key stakeholders, including IRCT and USAID affiliates, further cemented our credibility as a leader in trauma-informed community-based support.

Internally, we did not shy away from addressing structural and interpersonal challenges. Under the Director's guidance, ToL prioritised organisational healing alongside its external work, initiating check-in sessions, resuscitating the small circles, revising core policies, and conducting engagement surveys. These were crucial steps in creating a healthier and more inclusive working environment.

Yet, the challenges remain real. The persistent funding gap left by the USAID exit has not yet been fully closed. The operating environment remains impacted by global shifts in donor priorities. While we celebrate our gains, we must remain vigilant, strategic, and innovative in how we position ToL in the coming years.

As Chairperson, I am encouraged by the synergy that is emerging between the Board and the leadership team. The Board has welcomed new members with expertise in HR and M&E and continues to provide strategic guidance and support to the Secretariat. I particularly appreciate the commitment shown by fellow trustees during a demanding year, including time invested in field visits, networking meetings, and ongoing subcommittee work.

To our partners and donors, your continued faith in our mission is what keeps the roots of Tree of Life deep and the branches reaching. Thank you for standing with us during this time of recalibration and growth.

As we look ahead, we remain grounded in our belief that healing is both individual and communal, and that Zimbabwe's future depends on the resilience, restoration, and empowerment of its people. With a committed team, a bold vision, and a shared sense of responsibility, we will continue to bring light into dark places and hope into the heart of every community we serve.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to our staff, partners, and communities for their unwavering commitment. Together, we are not only surviving adversity—we are transforming it.

Dr. Ross Parsons

Chairperson of the Board (Tree of Life Trust)

Director's Foreword

“

As I look back on 2024, my first full year at the helm of Tree of Life, I do so with deep gratitude and a profound sense of stewardship. It has been a year of rebuilding and rediscovery: of reconnecting with our core values, renewing the collective spirit that has always defined us, and planting the seeds for a more sustainable and impactful future.

Tree of Life has always been more than an organisation. It is a space of healing for the communities we serve and indeed for those of us who have dedicated our lives to this work. Over the past year, we found ourselves gently unlearning some patterns that no longer served us, while reaching back for the practices, principles, and culture that once made this such a vibrant, inspiring, and cohesive place to work. In doing so, we began to reawaken a sense of shared purpose and mutual support within the team. That renewed spirit, which is anchored in dialogue, openness, and reflection, has already begun to bear fruit.

The Chairperson's message this year captures well the resilience and fortitude required of all of us. Navigating a difficult funding landscape, marked by shifting donor priorities and reduced flows to contexts like Zimbabwe, has demanded creativity and collaboration.



Nokuthula L. Mahaka
Director (Tree Of Life)

Yet in the face of these challenges, our team has demonstrated remarkable commitment. We have held fast to our mission, supported one another, and embraced new ways of working; more agile, more interdependent, and more rooted in our values. Our work in 2024 was underpinned by both continuity and innovation. We renewed critical partnerships, including a three-year cooperative agreement with Bread for the World and a six-month Field Level Agreement with WFP-Zambuko. These were more than contractual wins. They were affirmations of trust in our methods and our people. Encouragingly, we were also invited to submit new proposals



to donors such as the U.S. Embassy, ZIMACE/DAI, and USAID-BHA, many of whom now see us as a credible and capable partner of choice.

The year also saw deliberate efforts to widen our resource base. With donor dynamics shifting, we knew we had to think beyond traditional avenues. This led to innovative engagements with corporate partners like EcoCash and Stanbic Bank, where our self-care and psychosocial support offerings found new relevance. Our newly launched online donation platform, while modest in its early returns, represents another step toward building a more diverse and resilient funding model.

Our impact in communities remains our strongest motivator. Field visits continued to be a source of clarity and inspiration, reminding us that our work is deeply needed and profoundly effective.

The longitudinal study commissioned by USAID, which was completed this year, provided external validation of our healing model’s long-term positive impact on mental health, well-being, and social engagement. Though we are constrained from publishing the full report, the findings are being shared with current and prospective partners to strengthen our case for support. Inside Tree of Life, we have made meaningful strides in strengthening our internal systems and culture. Through regular team dialogues, revived “small circles,” and leadership engagement, we have fostered a more inclusive and collaborative environment. An internal survey conducted this year reflected growing morale and a renewed sense of cohesion among team members.

While the journey continues, we are encouraged by these early signs of re-alignment and solidarity.

Throughout the year, I have been deeply supported by our Board, whose guidance, encouragement, and presence have been invaluable. I am particularly grateful for the Board’s consistent engagement, including participation in critical events and donor engagements. Equally heartening has been the return of former colleagues, such as the Knowledge Management and Advocacy Manager, whose institutional wisdom and commitment have played a vital role in strengthening our resource mobilisation efforts. The road ahead will not be without its tests.

The funding environment remains uncertain, and the operational demands of delivering high-quality programming with lean resources continue. Yet I remain hopeful, buoyed by the passion of our team, the strategic clarity we are building, and the trust of our partners. We are learning that sustainability is not only about financial stability, but also about culture, leadership, and learning to adapt without losing ourselves.

To everyone who has walked with us, our staff (Small and Big Tree), our Board, our partners, and most of all, the communities we serve, I say thank you. Thank you for your belief in our vision and your commitment to the slow but transformative work of healing. As we carry this momentum into 2025, may we do so with courage, humility, and the quiet confidence that comes from knowing we are rooted in something much larger than ourselves.

Let us continue to grow. Let us continue to heal. And let us always remember why we began.



Zambuko Livelihoods Initiative - Phase 2

Tree of Life Project goal: Equitable management of shared resources and Strengthened Protection against GBV & Child Abuse

Expanding on the gains of R4 and running since 2020, the World Food Programme (WFP) led and USAID/BHA funded Zambuko Livelihoods Initiative is a comprehensive program strategically concentrating on fostering social cohesion within communities, advancing crop and livestock production, and facilitating improved access to financial resources. In 2024, Phase 2 of the Zambuko Livelihoods Initiative continued through to September, with an extension granted in November. Tree of Life's role in the Zambuko consortium was to provide extensive Social Cohesion Programming for the improvement of resource management and sharing in existing R4 projects and new projects established by the communities themselves. Protection Mainstreaming was introduced in Phase 2 of Zambuko, with ToL taking the lead.



During 2024, 14 Psychosocial Awareness and Coping Skills (PACS) workshops were conducted for 1713 community members (being 329 males and 1384 females) across 11 new wards in Mwenezi and Chiredzi. PACS is an evidence-based psychoeducation intervention that has been proven to improve mental health outcomes and increase social cohesion. During the PACS workshops held in Mwenezi and Chiredzi, participants got to understand the negative impact of stress and unresolved trauma at individual, family and community levels, along with healthy coping mechanisms to improve their mental and social wellbeing. Discussions around Protection revealed that cases of child abuse, child marriages, GBV and drug and substance abuse were prevalent in the communities. Awareness on protection was raised and participants were equipped with information on how and where they could report any cases of abuse that occurred in their respective communities, e.g. Department of Social Development (DSD), through the community Child Care Workers (CCWs), the Ministry of Women’s Affairs, Childline, Musasa Project, the Local Police, ZRP/ Victim Friendly Unit (VFU) and ToL. After discussing barriers and enablers of their development, community members then co-created a Joint Community Vision. Thereafter they co-designed their own Community Action Plans (CAPs) which identified new or existing activities that they can immediately begin working on collectively.

To support community members as they work together on their Community Action Plans, ToL trained community-cohesion facilitators (CCF’s) in a variety of skills including building their capacity in basic MHPSS skills, conflict management, tracking and reporting on Community Action Plans, advocacy skills and leadership skills. Trainees included Child Care Workers (CCWs), Village Health Workers (VHWs), Plan International Community Representatives, Lead farmers, Agritex officers, Village heads and other community members. Furthermore, to ensure that communities would remain supported beyond the lifespan of the project which was due to end in mid-2025, the major focus of Phase 2 was to build the capacity of existing Community Cohesion Facilitators (CCF’s) from Phase 1 in Mwenezi and Masvingo, and to train new CCF’s in 11 new wards in Mwenezi and Chiredzi. To this end, 2 Refresher trainings were held for 100 existing CCF’s (being 48 males and 52 females from Mwenezi and Masvingo.) Two new cohorts of CCF’s were trained in Phase 2, being 59 CCFs in 11 new wards across Mwenezi and Chiredzi, being 28 (12m & 16f) in Mwenezi and 31 (12m & 19f) in Chiredzi. A further 14 refresher and mentorship trainings were carried throughout the year for all the 159 CCF’s, amplifying their existing skills and imparting new skills in protection awareness raising, supporting protection cases, making referrals and compiling protection reports.



Three months after the PACS workshops, follow-up visits were made to 718 past participants (221 males and 497 females) to ascertain progress on the Community Action Plans (CAPS) and community engagement. Participants shared that since the PACS workshops new garden projects were commissioned, gullies and roads are being attended to, existing delapidated infrastructures were revived by community members and new Village Savings and Lending (VSAL) projects were established and are still running. They also shared that people now cooperate better and offer support to common pool facilities like schools or clinics with the understanding that they all benefit from these, whereas prior to ToL's interventions many people were unwilling to cooperate, stating that project belonged to "the donor". Participants also reported that they were supporting each other better during land preparations for the ploughing season. A number of conflicts were identified by the CCF's and were managed amicably.

Engaging with all stakeholders was a key component of the Zambuko Project. In all three participating Districts, ToL worked closely with Government, community leaders and community structures, in a bid to give ownership of the processes and the outcomes to the communities themselves and to achieve sustainable community transformation. Project participants and stakeholders were encouraged by the processes to collaborate, take ownership of their livelihood options and the supported projects, as well as to work on improving their relationships for ease of collaborations and coexistence. The spill-over effect was also evident as participants shared their newfound knowledge with the broader community.

In 2024, 78.5% of beneficiaries were women whilst 12.5% were young people below the age of 29. Protection awareness raising on Gender-based Violence, Child protection issues, women's rights and the encouragement for women to play a more useful role in community and family development initiatives were a central message in all of the workshops. 4 people living with a disability attended the workshops being two females and two males. CCF's also played a significant role in identifying many protection cases and referred them on for further support.

"The workshop enlightened us about ownership. People in the community used to be very reckless on community assets as a result it was hard to benefit from them or see any development in the community. People used to have a mentality that the assets belong to the donor and would abuse the assets such as community gardens and boreholes. After attending the ToL workshop we learnt that whatever we have in the community is ours and as such it is very important to take good care of our assets and use them to benefit ourselves and the community. I must say there is a lot of improvement now". – A Zambuko participant who works closely with the local leaders in the community development committee (Chimbudzi ward 4)



Youth Led Community Projects(YCP)

The Youth-led Community Projects (YCP2) continuation is a three-year and three months project also funded by Bread for the World, running from July 2023 – September 2026. The main purpose of the project is to promote peace and community cohesion across the target communities, as well as providing young people with a business mindset and the basic skills to create and manage their own small projects. To achieve this, ToL provided various capacity building trainings related to group-dynamics/teambuilding/leadership, project design and management, entrepreneurship and livelihoods development, to enable them to independently design and implement their own community projects. The project is currently being implemented directly by ToL through capacity building and mentorship activities and indirectly through youth groups who are implementing context specific community-led activities. The youth-led community activities seek to provide a collaborative neutral platform between young people and the community to collectively shape out the development of their community through the promotion of peace and community cohesion. The project is being implemented with 18 Youth groups across 6 communities that include Chitungwiza, Epworth, Mabvuku, Entumbane, Nketa and Chinhoyi.

1309

Youths Reached

589

Males

720

Females

2024 Reach breakdown

3 Group Dynamics Refresher Trainings were held for all 18 youth groups with 205 youth participating (94 males and 111 females). The trainings enhanced and increased the capacity of youth groups to collectively work together - providing skills and knowledge for youth members to understand each other, know how to communicate and form first steps towards the formalization of their groups.

5 Project Design and Management trainings were held for the 18 youth groups where 294 youth (132 males and 162 females) participated. The training provides young people with all of the skills necessary for the design and implementation of new Youth-led community projects that they wish to implement.

Stakeholder engagement by ToL was increased in 2024, as well as mainstreaming of key strategic national, regional and international Days aligned to youth empowerment and programming. During 2024 all 18 youth teams participated in National and International Day commemorations including National Youth Day, International Youth Day, International Day of Peace, Women's Day, Day of the African Child, 16 Days of Activism, World Youth Skills Day and Human Rights Day.

Local Government authorities across the participating communities commended the Tree of Life youth for being active citizens in their communities, particularly for the effective ways in which they lead their own community projects.

2 Panel of Experts meetings were held where 12 Youth-led community project proposals were approved for implementation by 9 youth groups in 2024. Together these 9 youth groups reached a total of 550 other youth (236 males and 314 females) across their communities with diverse community development initiatives.

Tree of Life also participated in Bi-annual Stakeholder Meetings with 25 organisations engaged in cross-pollination

Throughout the year the YCP team conducted routine Monitoring and Evaluation visits to monitor the implementation and impact of the various youth-led community projects.

Tree of Life also participated in 2 Exchange Meetings with 10 National and International Bread for the World Partners

Celebrating Achievements/Highlights

- Following the Group Dynamics Refresher Trainings, all of the 18 youth groups were able to refine their group constitutions that enable the group to function well. To date the youths are able to conduct planning and review meetings on a monthly basis, and document the work being done in their respective communities. To this end, the youth have been able to engage and partner with various stakeholders using the tenets and guidelines of their constitutions.
- Stakeholder engagement, through the BftW Small Project Fund CoP and the Bi-annual stakeholders engagement meetings have facilitated for cross pollination and exchange of ideas that enhance project delivery and implementation in general. Added to that, the continued stakeholder engagement between the National Association of Youth Organisations and the Centre for Conflict Management and Transformation resulted in strong exchange and collaborations, which saw the organisations learning from each other.
- The youth managed to implement their first community-led activities and established a good working relationship with multiple stakeholders through collaborations which is a strong indicator for sustainability beyond the project's lifespan.

Lessons Learnt

- Investment in Stakeholder engagement is critical to the success and sustainability of the project: The quick gains of collaborations and joint partnerships being experienced both by ToL and the youth groups is a testament and result of a strong stakeholder engagement drive. The sustainability of the YCP 2 project is centred on a strong partnership with various stakeholders both at local, national and international level.
- Peer to peer empowerment platforms enhance buy in and ownership of the project by the youth: The peer-to-peer learning model is a critical model to empower young people to own the project, realise their self-worth (the bigger and positive contribution that they can make) and lead, all of which are strong indicators for sustainability.

Youth Engagement For Peace Project(YEPP)

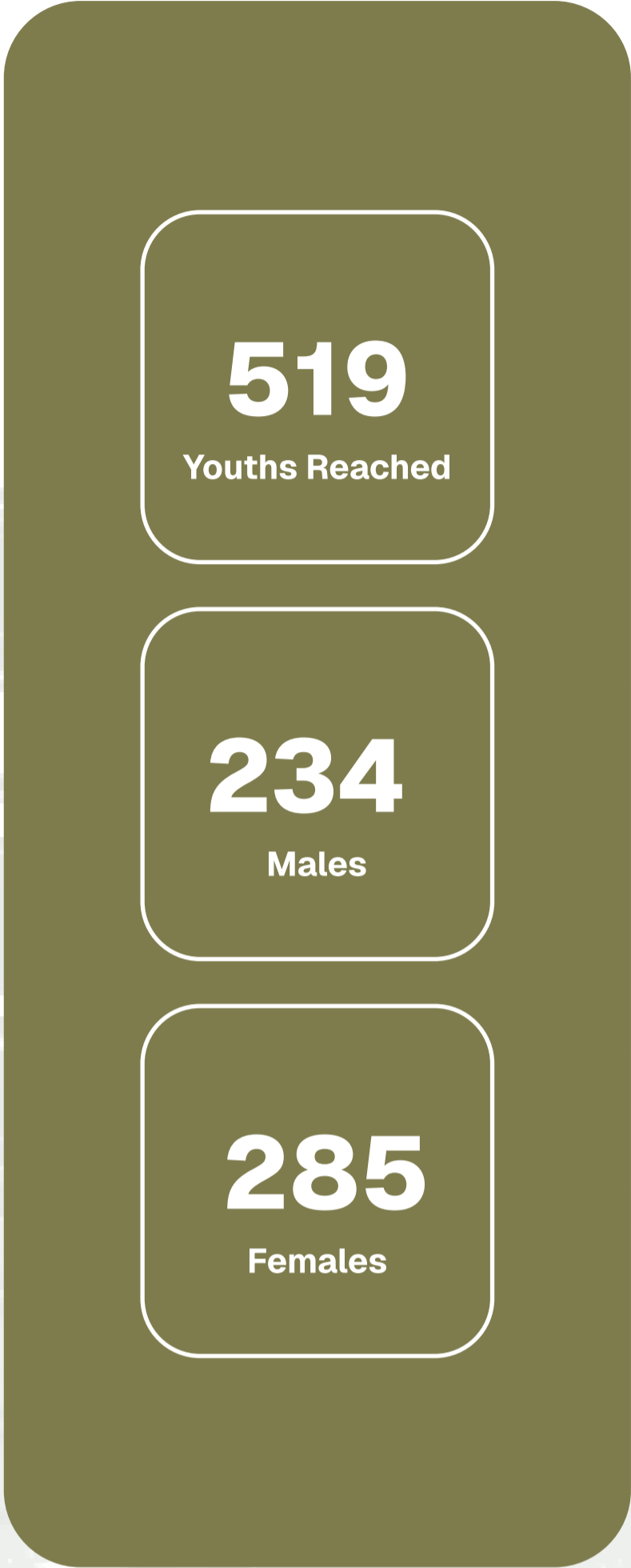
Tree of Life’s Bread for the World Youth Engagement for Peace Project (YEPP) has been running for the past 10 years, with the YEPP4 project extension being approved in November 2024 for a further three years. The YEPP project seeks to strengthen:

- 1. peace and social cohesion building activities amongst young people
- 2. mental health and well-being of young people, and
- 3. youth livelihood and entrepreneurship in communities.

Communities that have benefited from the YEPP project include Chitungwiza, Epworth, Chinhoyi, Entumbane, Mabvuku, Nketa, Nkayi and Goromonzi. To date, the project has established 14 youth groups (being 12 youths per group) and since 2016 thousands of young people in the participating communities have been reached by the trained Youth Facilitators (YFs) with the wide variety of skills they have learnt.

In 2024, the YEPP 3 and YEPP 4 projects reached a total of 519 Youth (being 234 males and 285 females). An external evaluation conducted on YEPP3 during 2024 evidenced that the project successfully improved the wellbeing of youths through social cohesion and livelihood options, thus enabling youth to become positive social agents for peace in their communities. The project also helped youth to develop a shared community vision to guide their livelihood initiatives. Community Action Plans developed were implemented, monitored and reported on by the youth groups, creating a clear plan of action for their chosen community development initiatives. Leadership, advocacy, networking and peer support skills were imparted and the youths put these to good use as they implemented their various community-based projects. Stories of success and feedback from the external evaluation are found later in this report.

During the period under review, field activities for YEPP 3 were completed in March 2024, 6 months ahead of time. This allowed for extensive monitoring and mentorship to ensure the sustainability of the projects and also provided ample time for the end of project evaluation to be conducted.



Key Success

During the project the participating youth demonstrated increased confidence, exhibited leadership and enhanced networking skills, enabling them to better participate in the overall development of their communities. In particular, their growth was recognised by local leaders and the Ministry of Youth who have since reached out to the ToL Youth Facilitators to support them in their ongoing projects.

CAPs that were mooted and developed at the beginning of YEPP 3 are still under action and some youths have visibly improved their incomes.

Activity	Target	Achieved	Variance
2 x Group Dynamics Refresher trainings	60	59(30F & 29M)	-1
2 x Experience sharing & exchange (Peer to peer) refresher trainings	60	64(33F & 31M)	+4
4 x Participatory Livelihoods training for youths	250	218 (121F & 97M)	-32
Remote mentorship and support	60	60	0
Baseline	50	49(23F & 26M)	-1
Inception meetings and Strategic PACS	120	129(78F & 51M)	+9



The Nkayi District Development Coordinator applauded the youth program which she felt was able to help young people realise their self-worth and had the following to say:



We have been struggling with young people in our communities because they lack proper counsel, they do not see eye to-eye with their elders in the communities because of their anti-social behaviours. Having witnessed the sessions that you are taking them through, I am confident that slowly we can make a difference. I like the combination of Psychosocial support with Livelihoods and I believe a holistic person is being moulded. I would really request that you increase your coverage to reach all our 35 wards”.

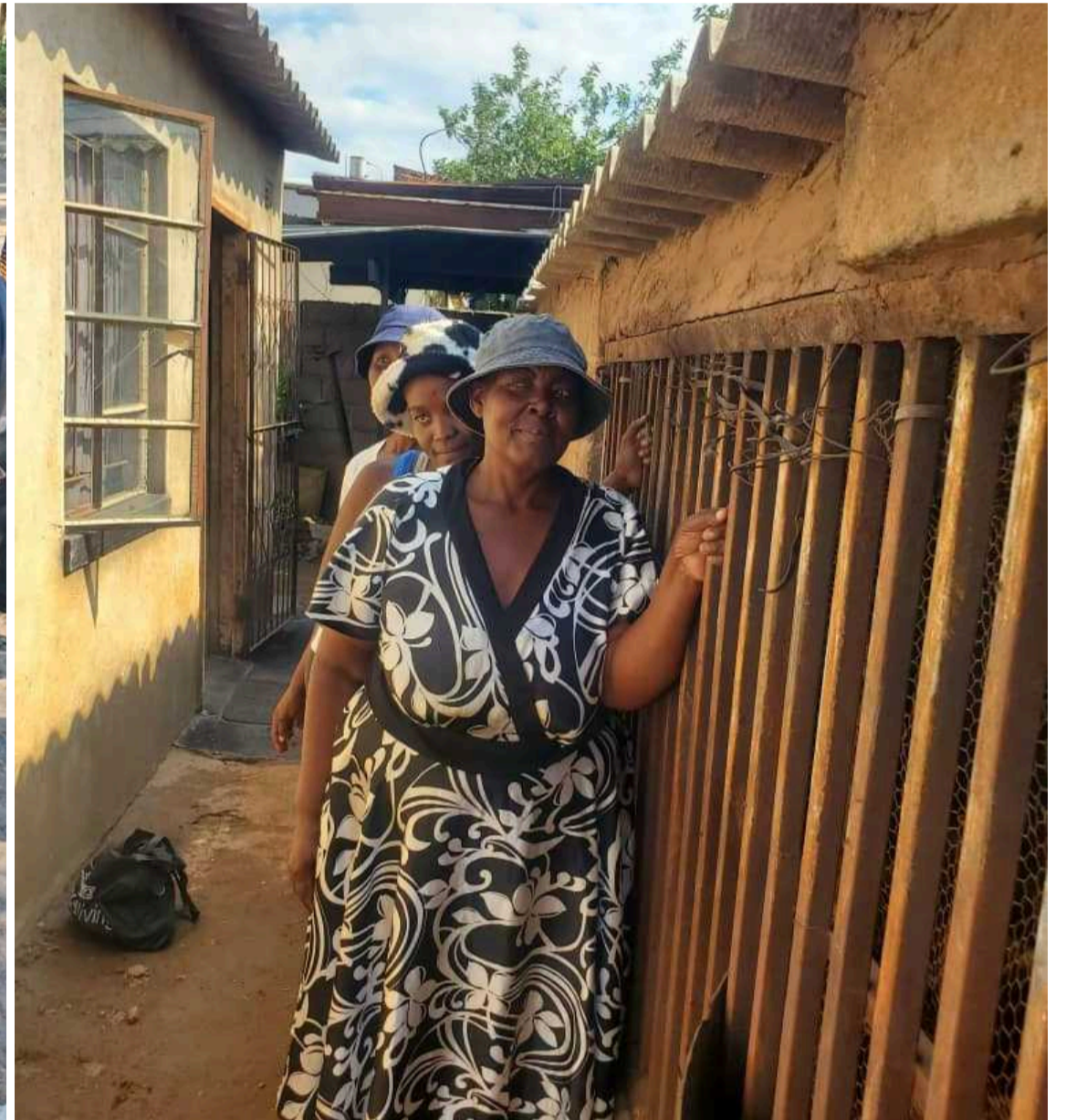
The Tafara youths have a soccer club which helps them to socialise as young males in the society. “We have a Tafara Social League where we socialise and play soccer every weekend. The youths in the community are also working with other organisations like Mavambo to raise awareness on issues of drug abuse, early child marriages among other issues affecting the youths of this day.” – YEPP 3 feedback

“I was a shy person and was not confident. I now participate in community youth activities like cleaning drains with blocked mud with other youths in our community. I was always a depressed person, but after the workshop I have started socializing with other youths. As youth in our community, we do social games like netball during the weekend to promote social cohesion in our community. – YEPP 3 Epworth participant



Photo Gallery





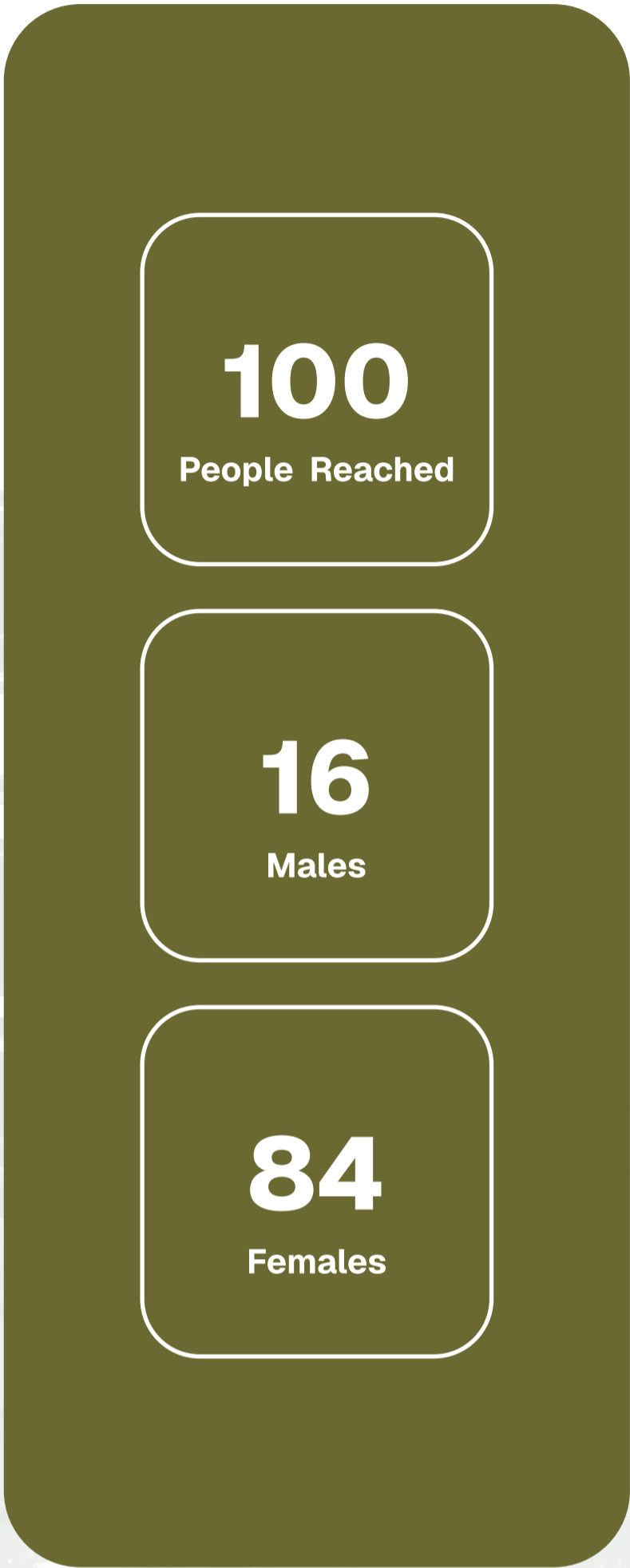
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Diakonia cholera response & disaster risk project

Tree of Life implemented a four-month humanitarian Cholera response project from March – June 2024 in Epworth through the support of Diakonia. This strategic partnership enabled Tree of Life to provide innovative strategies through community-based mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) approaches that create awareness and help to prevent the spread of cholera. The intervention was mainly centred on building the capacity of project participants, key strategic stakeholders and the community at large to adapt, cope, respond to and mitigate the physical and psychological effects of the cholera pandemic, whilst strengthening their resilience.

To strengthen the community’s response to the current cholera outbreak and to empower the communities with disaster risk reduction skills for future outbreaks, a Psychological First Aid (PFA) Workshop was implemented in Epworth. The collaborative engagement process involving various stakeholders that included Médecins Sans Frontiers (MSF), the Local Councillor, Community Health Workers and ToL Community Facilitators. A PFA workshop is a unique intervention designed deliberately to (i) empower communities to build resilience and coping strategies at community level and (ii) to manage the impact of sudden shocks.

A total of 100 project participants (84 females, 16 males) were directly reached during the project implementation. Of the 84 females, 40 participants were adults whilst 44 were young girls. Of the 16 males who attended the workshops, 6 were adults whilst 10 were young boys. To measure knowledge gained soon after the training workshop, a pre and post KAP assessment was held before and after the workshop. The pre-assessment score was recorded at 54% which demonstrated that communities were generally knowledgeable. The post-assessment was recorded at 79%, translating to a 25% increase in knowledge and awareness gained soon after the training. Two months after the workshop, a qualitative follow up meeting was held with a 25% sample of participants to measure behaviours and attitudes post-training. Findings from the follow up assessment clearly indicated increased adherence to the cholera safety rules



& guidelines, increased network of referrals and the capacity of participants to utilise the knowledge to cope and recover from the sudden shocks brought about by the cholera outbreak. For example, all the participants’ capacity to deal with stress and anxieties brought about by Cholera had improved and all felt they were able to support their communities in preventing and responding to future outbreaks.

IRCT Survivor Engagement Project

This project was built on Tree of Life's 2022 and 2023 initiatives with regional partners, supported by International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT), to strengthen survivor engagement in torture rehabilitation across Southern Africa. It aimed to enhance therapeutic services through experience-sharing, capacity building, and a scalable Survivor Engagement (SE) model adaptable to local contexts.

In 2024, two Survivor Engagement pilot workshops were held with 51 Tree of Life Community Facilitators (CF's) in the Northern and Southern Regions (25 males and 26 females) to test and refine Survivor Engagement Framework and the draft SE Manual, to ensure that it effectively addresses the needs of survivors and their communities. The sessions laid the groundwork for implementing the model on a larger scale while maintaining its relevance and impact. The workshops successfully validated the SE model, empowered CFs, and strengthened their capacity to deliver trauma-informed, survivor-centred interventions. This marks a significant step toward scaling the model, with possibilities of cascading to other communities and to benefit more survivors and communities. Feedback from the Regional Partners and Community Facilitators underscores the potential of Survivor Engagement to transform rehabilitation approaches, create lasting impacts, and address mental health challenges effectively and sustainably.

Key Outcomes realised:

- Development of a Survivor Engagement Manual and promotional video
- Transformative Impact: Survivors shifted from passive recipients to active contributors, improving outcomes and sustainability.
- Social Support: Peer networks reduced isolation and fostered mutual healing.
- Ownership & Leadership: Survivor involvement increased program sustainability and leadership opportunities.
- Scalability: The SE model is cost-effective and well-suited for regions with limited mental health resources.

Lessons Learned:

- The SE model must be locally adapted, with emphasis on peer support and survivor ownership.
- Continuous learning, feedback, and training are essential for long-term impact.
- Significantly enhancing the effectiveness, sustainability, and overall outcomes of rehabilitation is key.

IRCT Women's Livelihood Pilot Project

With support from the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT), Tree of Life implemented a Livelihoods Development Pilot Project for 40 women, being Trauma survivors who had previously gone through the ToL Trauma Healing and Empowerment Workshop. The project acknowledged that recovery and rehabilitation for survivors, especially women, requires a comprehensive trauma-informed and gender responsive approach. Furthermore, integrating trauma healing together with livelihoods support can offer a holistic approach to address the multidimensional challenges faced by survivors, empowering them to heal and regain stability.

The project kicked off with inception meetings in four communities being Epworth, Chitungwiza, Nketa and Entumbane with 51 participants (36 females and 15 males) present. Thereafter 40 women (being past ToL trauma healing beneficiaries) were selected for the pilot, all of whom were unemployed, lacking a stable income, and living in poverty while caring for their children, grandchildren, and other relatives. They had not received entrepreneurship training and were facing significant barriers to economic participation. Whilst they were being supported socially and emotionally by existing ToL structures on their ground, their livelihoods situation was dire.

Our Women's Livelihoods Pilot Project blended training by integrating psychosocial support (PSS) and entrepreneurial skills so as to enhance women's personal resilience and economic capacity. Throughout 2024, 40 women, being 10 from each of the four communities, participated in Psychosocial Support, Livelihoods, Group dynamics and Project Design and Proposal Development training. Despite their varying ages and low levels of education, participants successfully grasped the group-based training, which aimed to build psychosocial resilience and financial independence. The training strengthened peer support groups, fostering community ownership and trust-building. Community Facilitators based in their communities provided ongoing emotional and practical support throughout the training period.

After the intensive training sessions, the women got to work and established their own livelihoods projects (with start-up seed funding provided by IRCT). They had the opportunity to design their livelihood projects, weighing the pros and cons of different options and selected small-scale high-turnover businesses such as poultry farming and detergent making, given the affordable raw materials. Business training throughout implementation ensured that the women included a reinvestment strategy so that profits were reinvested back into their business, without depleting the start-up funds. Ongoing monitoring and mentorship ensured effective project implementation, with Community Facilitators (CFs) playing a key role in managing power dynamics, fostering healing, and supporting livelihoods. One of the monitoring visits aligned with the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, highlighting the project's transformative impact in linking mental health, psychosocial support, and economic empowerment.

Impact

- Technical Support & Mindset Shift: Women received ongoing capacity-building training to strengthen teamwork and problem-solving skills and expand their vision for more significant income generation, adding value to implementation.
- Group Coordination: Despite societal and family commitments, each group maintained active participation (10 members per meeting). Roles were evenly distributed, with a designated member handling financial records.
- Safe Space Platform: The groups became a safe space for collaboration, opportunity exploration, and problem-solving, fostering empowerment and resilience amid challenges, including gender-based violence.
- Community Support: Local leaders provided spaces for women to display and sell their products, enhancing market access and visibility.

“The ladies in Chitungwiza have started their detergent making project. The ladies in the group shared that they have been producing dishwashing liquid, pine gel and domestos once fortnightly. The ladies have shared that they have managed to secure a space in their area where they will be selling their products. They intend to increase their production to once a week. Among the lady’s group one participant shared that they are really appreciating the project that they have received as it has given them a sense of livelihood and they have seen changes in their lives. They are now occupied as they spent most of their time selling or making their products. This has helped them improve on their mental health and has increased their source of income.” – Shared by Fortunate Mavasa, ToL M&E Officer, during a monitoring visit

IRCT Rehabilitation & Support Project For Children

45 STL Trainers Trained (15 males and 30 females)

90 Children reached (44 males and 46 females)

Project Objective: To strengthen sustainable, holistic rehabilitation and psychosocial support services to children and families affected by organised violence and torture

The International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT) Rehabilitation and Support project strengthened the proven Tree of Life framework, delivering community-based MHPSS and rehabilitation services for survivors of trauma in full alignment with International Rehabilitation Standards. To deepen the impact, the project integrated Singing to the Lions (STL), an evidence-based resilience-building intervention that empowers children and communities to confront fear, trauma, and adversity stemming from violence, displacement, and intergenerational harm. Grounded in positive psychology, storytelling, and participatory learning, STL approach restores hope, confidence, and agency to children as well as strengthens community structures that support children.

From March to December 2024, Tree of Life trained 45 Singing to the Lions (STL) trainers being 12 Tree of Life staff members (5 males and 7 females), 18 Northern Region Community-Facilitators (7 males and 11 females) and 15 Southern Region Facilitators (3 males and 12 females). After the Facilitator trainings, four Singing to the Lions workshops were held with 90 children (44 males and 46 females) in Goromonzi, Chitungwiza, Mganwini and Menyezwa respectively. Parents, guardians and other key Stakeholders in the community were informed of referral pathways to support abused children including the Department of Social Development (DSD), Community Care workers (CCW's), local NGO's working with Children such as Childline and other CBO's, FBO's and INGO's. After the workshop the children were supported to establish Singing the Lions Clubs, being action groups to provide ongoing support to other children and expand reach within the community through the use of skills learned in the STL workshop. By the end of 2024, the number of children reached had doubled to 185.



NUNCAMAS DP4P Project

3911 people reached (1747 males and 2164 females)

Project Goal: Enhanced local governance systems of Traditional Leaders to deliver development in their regions by December 2024

In 2024, Tree of Life partnered Ukuthula Trust and the DP4P Consortium to implement Nunca Mas DP4P Program: Empowerment of Traditional Leaders and Community Leaders, to ensure ethical village hearings related to Gukurahundi Hearings - ensuring psychological support (PSS) and safety of information to those who testify. DP4P was implemented between January and December 2024, marking the 3rd phase of the project that started in 2021 (with a break in 2023 due to lack of funding).

During the period, 2024, the Gukurahundi hearing process was launched by the President of Zimbabwe, His Excellency, Cde. Emmerson D. Mnangagwa, in July 2024. However, hearings did not start owing to technical processes. As ongoing sensitisation meetings continue in the participating communities, Ukuthula has noted that, by and large, the Gukurahundi Community Engagement Outreach Program has facilitated an enhanced understanding and appreciation of its objectives and envisaged outcomes among these communities. However, in some survivor communities, memories triggering re-traumatization pain, fear, anxiety, mistrust and skepticism was overwhelming, particularly in Matabeleland North. A large role of the consortium, therefore, is to ensure that community members and their leaders are provided with mental health and psychosocial support before, during and after the hearing processes occur.

Tree of Life together with Ukuthula Trust conducted training and psychosocial support to the districts mostly affected by the early independence Gukurahundi disturbances. Psychosocial First Aid (PFA) Refreshers workshops were conducted for Chiefs and their Council members to strengthen their capacity to support others pre, during and post the hearings. 14 of the 18 Chiefs were reached for this process and 3911 participants (1747 males and 2164 females) benefitted from the psychosocial support and sensitization processes for the community people in the Chiefs' jurisdiction. Chiefs together with the Rudimentary Counsellors or Community Facilitators (CFs) conducted Focus Group Discuss with community people and Tree of Life and Partner Ukuthula supported the processes. The PFA workshops have also equipped the communities to support each other to address social ills such as drug and substance abuse amongst youth which many communities shared as a major issue, as well as to mitigate and respond to cases of gender based violence and child abuse.

The consortium has noted a positive attitude shift of some Matabeleland region communities that were most affected by Gukurahundi, to interact with the Gukurahundi Community Engagement Outreach than to shun the process. Attendance of the community meetings further empowered and strengthened their courage, emphasizing the power of collective voices in seeking truth and accountability.

"I feel empowered and ready to share my traumatic experiences of the 1980s, I feel the load in my heart has been lessened" shared by a participant from Gwanda.

Washington State University

Research

In 2024, Tree of Life's research collaboration with the Washington State University (WSU) and Accountability Lab (AL) was completed. The research sought to gauge the efficacy to the ToL Psychosocial Awareness and Coping Skills (PACS) workshops amidst conflict affected groups. In 2023, 6 PACS workshops were conducted for 418 people (94 males and 324 females) and in 2024 a representative sample of 99 people from each of the 6 communities (17 males and 82 females) were followed-up to ascertain the impact.

Excerpts of Key research findings on the Community PACS Workshops were as follows:

1. Engagement of Community Leaders

- Key community leaders' active involvement significantly enhanced the workshops' effectiveness. The Tree of Life (ToL) 's long-term relationship-building efforts made this participation possible, demonstrating the importance of strategic partnerships in community engagement.
- Leadership representation was noted in all the communities, including traditional political, faith, administrative, and local strategic people who actively participated during the workshops and gave messages of solidarity, ownership, support and unity.

2. A high level of participation and enthusiasm was noted, and there was hope for the better.

- Participants shared personal testimonies on the workshop's impact, indicating trust amongst the groups despite their political differences.
- Mobilisation was carefully and intentionally done with support from ToL and AL community structures and included those who had gone through the initial assessment with Accountability Lab.
- Strengthened community bonds and support networks were evident during the workshop, including increased tolerance, listening to each other without judgment, and the motivation to work together.

3. Utilisation of the Compassionate Corner

- The Compassionate Corner proved invaluable, providing one-on-one support to fifty community participants. This initiative highlighted the importance of personalised assistance in fostering mental wellness.

4. Active Participation and Connection

- Participants engaged enthusiastically throughout the workshops, expressing appreciation for the PACS process. This engagement fostered a sense of connection among attendees, reinforcing the importance of community solidarity.

5. Valued Peer Support

- Encouraged by follow-up initiatives, participants recognised the significance of peer support and took proactive steps to maintain connections and support each other beyond the workshops.

6. Enhanced Understanding and Implementation of Coping Strategies

- The workshops led to increased understanding and implementation of effective coping strategies. During recap sessions, participants shared practical experiences and successes in their families and communities, reflecting the program's positive impact on mental wellness.

7. Strengthened Family and Community Relationships

- Increased engagement within families and communities was observed, leading to stronger relationships and heightened trust among members. This improved dynamic is crucial for long-term community resilience.

8. Action on Agreed Activities

- Participants successfully implemented all activities outlined in the Community Action Plans (CAPS) and provided relevant updates on their progress during follow-ups. This demonstrated their commitment to taking actionable steps toward community improvement.

9. Sustained Functionality of Groups and Committees

- The various groups and committees formed during the workshops remain active and effective. They have shared their accomplishments and plans, showcasing ongoing collaboration and commitment to community goal

10. Improved Conflict Resolution Skills

- Local leaders reported enhanced conflict resolution skills, enabling them to make informed, emotion-free decisions that benefit the community. This development is crucial for fostering a peaceful and cooperative environment.

11. Increased Community Participation

- Previously isolated community members have begun to engage in projects, influenced by the knowledge and skills gained during the workshops. The relationships built during this time have transformed their attitudes towards community involvement.

12. Open Communication About Challenges

- Community members feel more comfortable sharing their challenges and seeking help, a significant shift from previous behaviours. This openness contributes to a supportive community atmosphere where individuals can rely on one another.

These successes underscore the profound impact of the PACS workshops on community cohesion, mental wellness, and proactive engagement, paving the way for a more resilient and connected community.

Some Evaluation Comments

- The process also improved the conflict resolution skills of the local leaders, who can now make informed decisions that are not guided by emotions.
- Some of the community members who had previously isolated themselves and not taken part in community projects have since changed their mentality due to the knowledge shared with them, as witnessed by the high number of participants in the village meeting.
- The community members can now openly share when they encounter challenges that have not happened before.
- One of the Youth present shared how they managed to start up a community garden with her peers and the adults in the community. She stated how much this has changed their lives, as some people are now earning a living out of the produce in the garden, selling vegetables. She expressed how this initiative has managed to keep many young people off the streets, where they are now spending most of their time.
- A resident chairperson shared how much attending the workshop has helped him improve his leadership skills as he used to be very harsh and unwelcoming considering the duty that he has in the community, but after being part of the PACS workshop and understanding how psycho-social problems can affect you, he then reflected and found effective ways of coping with his stressors.
- One of the local leaders shared how the workshop has managed to bring the community together, as witnessed by the number of initiatives undertaken by community members with the same goal in mind: making their ward better.

YEPP 3 External Evaluation

In 2024 an External Evaluation was conducted on the YEPP3 project. The excerpts below outline the key project learning considerations and recommendations:

The YEPP 3 evaluation drew lessons across the project components, relevance to scaling and adjustments, as well as the impact on beneficiaries and stakeholders. The project effectively made a positive difference to the beneficiaries at individual, family, group, and community levels, including local leaders, parents of beneficiaries, and other stakeholders. A few excerpts from the evaluation are found below:

Tree of Life's strategic goals and human capital deployments were major determinants of the identified project successes. Leveraging its experience in mental health, psychosocial support, peacebuilding, and livelihood support initiatives, ToL implemented the project with maximum caution. Most activities achieved the targets set out in the design documents in terms of outputs. The project activities were conducted to completion and largely met the expected targets showing the capacity of the organization in mobilization and implementation. For example, the PACS workshops facilitated by ToL were oversubscribed, and community members were very grateful. Nevertheless, it is crucial to acknowledge that certain activities implemented were not as initially planned but emerged as spillover or multiplier benefits. For instance, the Art of Hosting activity contributed to the creative OASIS games to enhance coordination and cooperation among youths. This decision was made after recognizing the need to involve additional stakeholders and incorporate relevant content into the training workshops and community initiatives, thus aligning with adaptive programming needs. Similarly, these activities were also included in the social cohesion PACS workshops to promote sustainable empowerment. Despite such unplanned adjustments, ToL demonstrated adaptive programming, flexibility, and openness to learning.

Some Key Findings:

- Tree of Life's Intervention Impact: The project had a significant impact on both young people who directly participated in the project, their families, as well as local leaders who were engaged by the youths in response to community needs. However, there was limited tracking of the youth facilitators' impact in their individual and group engagements within the communities and there was a considerable attrition of youth facilitators from 2021 to 2024. From the gathered data, Mabvuku had the highest turnover of 58% and Chitungwiza had the lowest at 0%.
- YEPP-3 Project Design: The YEPP-3 project design uniquely integrated peacebuilding, mental health and wellbeing, livelihoods and economic empowerment targeting youths. The project demonstrated immense potential to address complex challenges facing the youths and their communities. For example, the project motivated young people to take responsibility for their own lives and that of their communities and in the process building youth confidence in public speaking, engagement with leaders and building relationships among parents and their children.

- The key challenges facing youths were drug and substance abuse, teenage pregnancies, unemployment, and youth dependency. The project delivered all these results in a way that is reflective of Global Compact approaches.¹ There is need to inject minimum resources to the established youth groups and projects to ensure continued and sustainable economic empowerment activities.
- Economic Empowerment Skills Training: Economic empowerment skills training both for livelihoods and entrepreneurship were highly praised by the project participants as impactful. All youths who participated in the FGDs attributed their appreciation of the training and how it motivated them to start their own initiatives for income generation. Tree of Life needs to scale up the initiative and provide minimal seed funds to motivate the youth groups to remain cohesive and at the same time jumpstart group income generating projects. An alternative would be resourcing ToL with a Livelihoods Programme Officer who will specifically work on sustaining economic empowerment initiatives across the organisation's interventions.
- Project Reception and Sustainability: YEPP 3 was generally well received by youths and local leaders, including those in government positions, despite the high levels of polarity and toxic political gatekeeping within the targeted communities. This is unlike most youth interventions that receive backlash and scorn because of political polarisation and mistrust from some gatekeepers. Tree of Life should leverage on this project as it promotes easy entry into communities while addressing key socio-economic and governance issues affecting young people. In fact, ToL has earned itself trust with multiple stakeholders as a result of this project.
- Partnerships and Stakeholder Engagement: Tree of Life deliberately left partnerships and stakeholder engagement to be carried out by the Youth Facilitators, an approach that increased project ownership and responsiveness among participating youths. This approach enhanced the project sustainability within communities and grew ToL's institutional footprint going forwards.
- Gendered Nature of the Project: The evaluation learned that more young women were carrying out entrepreneurial projects and were also participating in livelihood projects, reflecting the gendered nature of the project design and its empowerment of women. This is commendable, although there is a need to understand why more young men were not visible in these income-generating projects comparatively. Understanding this gap may help identify spaces where young men could be reached so that they become part of the broader agency in promoting cohesion and well-being in their communities.
- Monitoring and Evaluation: Building on existing monitoring systems, ToL should develop a monitoring plan to track the impact of the project, particularly the work of Youth Facilitators. A robust outcome and sustainability indicators tracking system would help the organisation to identify more results they are bringing to the communities, especially through their Youth-led activities and Youth facilitators groups.

To underscore the outputs of the activities, one participant at an FGD in Chitungwiza stated that "I learnt how to manage my situation, resilience and to help others in difficult situations." Another participant from Goromonzi expressed that "Tree of Life yakatimutsa, (Tree of Life awakened us), they gave us a vision and now we can have a vision and ambitions." The participants generally appreciated that the project activities helped them learn how to develop a vision for their lives and become more ambitious. The project's success in empowering young people was evident in their newfound resilience, ability to support others, and the clarity of purpose acquired through the trainings and activities.

Stories & Testimonies from the field

“I as the councillor for Ward 7 would like to say that am very grateful for the knowledge we gained from our friends from Tree of Life. The awareness we got on social cohesion and having a vision as a community has helped us to be more focused and will surely help us to develop. The discussions were in line with the ward development bench. Many people in the ward have joined projects such as mikando and garden projects, as a result people are now able to sustain themselves and their families. We now understand what stress is and that if a person is stressed or has endured a traumatic experience it becomes hard for them to function and partake in projects, hence we now know that we as a community have to look out for each other so that we develop together. We are very grateful.” – Councillor Murabarari, Ward 7 Mwenezi

“After attending awareness on child rights and protection, I became to understand that I need to be tolerant and improve my relationships with the minors that I live with. I learnt that they have rights.” - Testimony of a grandmother who was intolerant towards her grandchildren and would harass them, Zambuko 2 participant

“If the ToL workshops had come earlier before people started efforts to work together, most projects would be successful. People were given assets without understanding how to work together, and without taking ownership and we have seen a number of these projects struggling. Social cohesion workshops have opened our minds to understand that we should jealously guard our assets and also the need to work together” said by a young man in Chiredzi Ward 2, Hama

“My husband and I were always fighting because we were struggling to make ends meet in the house because we are both unemployed. After attending the PACS workshop where I was taught to be confident, own my livelihoods efforts and collaborate as a family, I happened to be given a starter-pack of chickens by MDTC. We came together and looked after the chickens and I can confirm that we have become so united around our family project and we have started to slowly benefit from the fruits of the chicken project. We have surprisingly become a happy family because I started from the point of sharing the discussions we had during the workshop” – Testimony from Zambuko 2 participant Cicilia from Svitsa, Ward 5 of Mwenezi

“Children and women were living a horrible life in our community. Culture would not allow us to do anything about, patriarchy socialized us to accept abuse as a way of hardening children and wives. Sometimes very young girls were married off and using traditional approaches, the community saw nothing wrong with this act. After attending the protection awareness, with some reflections, I am one person who was really challenged and I have become an advocate, encouraging other women to be on the lookout and report child abuse cases.” Said by a woman in ward 7 of Mwenezi

“We are grateful to ToL for the knowledge we gained from the workshop especially on child protection issues. We are now more accommodating and understanding to our children making them to also freely express themselves to us. It is important for a child to live a healthy lifestyle. We also noted that we were hiding a lot of Child abuse issues which potentially were affecting the lives of children” - said by mother who was part of a Zambuko Focus Group Discussion.

“The workshop helped us to have a vision as a community and be focused in all that we do. Prior to attending the workshop there used to be a lot of strain in our projects and others would even opt to quit, however after attending the workshop people got to understand that in each and every project, we have to be resilient till we see the end result. There is indeed positive change” – Zambuko 2 participant

“Tree of Life workshop empowered us as women. We are now able to successfully run our money savings schemes we learnt from SNV and garden projects, popularly known as “mikando”. This has helped reduce domestic violence in the sense that women are able to also contribute financially at home. We no longer have to wait for our husbands to cater for all the provisions while we sit at home and do nothing”

“Before attending the Tree of Life workshops, we were struggling to work together and also, we did not have a clear vision, now we know we want to completely change our lives and take our villages savings to greater levels”. A middle-aged woman who leads a VSAL group shared the above.

“I was always depressed and was always seated idle at home. I heard about ToL through a senior facilitator and he invited me to a PACS workshop. I attended the PACs and I learnt a lot about stress and trauma. After attending the workshop, I realised that I was always stressed about how I could get money or where I could get money. I started saving money that I would get from my husband as little as I could. I had to starve my kids at times. When I had enough, I decided to start an open kitchen cooking sadza, rice, beef stew and chicken at Rueben Shopping centre. Now I no longer stress of where to get money because I now have a source of income although the money will never be enough. I now have somewhere I can spend time and keep myself occupied. I have also encouraged other youths in our community to do a livelihood project.” – YEPP 3 Chitungwiza participant



Successful teams in Masvingo from Zambuko 1 have also acknowledged the contribution of social cohesion, which they referred to as “social fabric mending lessons” to their successes and their ability to keep together for more than 2 years now. 10 groups in Mazani in ward 16 are doing very well in their VSLs – pictured below is the VSAL group started 2 years ago.



From Devastation to Advocacy

“I will never forget the pain of being abandoned. After my house and property were destroyed because of my political views, my wife left, and my family turned their backs on me. They blamed me for putting myself and my loved ones in danger. I felt isolated, broken, and completely alone. But then, something changed. Community facilitators from Tree of Life invited me to a trauma healing workshop, and from that moment, my life was never the same. I found healing, strength, and renewed purpose through their support and the Survivor Engagement Model. Today, I work with other survivors in my community, and they genuinely appreciate what I do. I am no longer just a victim of circumstances but an advocate for peace. Because of Tree of Life, I now work with people from all political backgrounds, bridging divides and fostering reconciliation. This work is truly amazing. It has changed my life and the lives of many who had lost all hope. Thank you, Tree of Life, for restoring my dignity and helping me turn my pain into purpose.” – IRCT Survivor Engagement participant

The Epworth youth facilitators were all invited to the PACS workshop through ToL senior facilitators. As a group they have started running a layer's project. The project is located at Delport Road in Epworth. They started their livelihood project with 80 layers. This was as a result of realising that they were always seated and they were bored at most times. They were stressed all the time but after attending the PACS workshop they saw that it was necessary for them to find something to do to keep them busy and occupied. – YEPP 3 feedback

“I did not want to talk to other children even my grandmother. My mother left me with my grandmother in search of employment in South Africa when I was very young. I was very angry with her. I became bitter and did not want to talk to other children and my grandmother as well. I was rude to everyone whom I talked to. I was unforgiving. The workshop has transformed me. I have learnt that I am not alone. It does not help me to stay angry bitter, rude and unfriendly. I just need to press the change the channel button when I have bad thoughts.” – IRCT Singing to the Lions participant in Goromonzi.

“I used to bully others at school. I would lie and steal from my parents and even shout at them. As result of the workshop, I have stopped bullying my colleagues at school, I am now friendly to others. I now want to tell the truth I no longer have to steal from my parents and shout at them.” – a 14-year-old boy who attended a Singing to the Lions workshop



Diakonia PFA Cholera response testimony: A participant shared that she has been living in Epworth since she was 5 years old and now, she is 28 years old. She shared that they have been in a crisis on a number of occasions but sometimes they don't know how to respond. The workshop has taught her to look listen and link when supporting adults in crisis. She gave an example of a situation she faced after the workshop. A neighbour was not feeling well. He had diarrhoea and was very weak because of dehydration. The participant was sensitive not to attend to him alone; she called other neighbours so that they could assess the situation together. They then called a village health worker who took the victim to the clinic. The patient was tested for cholera and he tested negative.



I am now raising awareness on cholera response, including how communities can cope and recover utilising the PSS knowledge acquired from the training workshop.” – A female youth participant



2024



The End

Thank You | Tatenda | Siyabonga

2024