



END OF PROJECT REPORT

COMMUNITY LITERACY FOR ADULT PARENTS (CLAP)

SUPPORT FOR POVERTY
REDUCTION IN ZAMBIA

Table of Contents

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Community Literacy for Adult Parents (CLAP) project was a one (1) year five (5) months project funded by Japan Tobacco International Leaf Zambia from 1st September 2019 to 30th January, 2020. The main aim of the CLAP project was to build on the progress achieved by the Fighting Agriculture Child Labour Together (FACT) project implemented from 21st August 2017 to 30th August, 2018 with support from JTI. The CLAP project specifically focussed on providing adult Literacy to vulnerable parents whose children were engaged in or at high risk of engaging in child labor. The project was implemented in eleven (11) communities drawn from five (5) districts of Eastern Province namely; Chipangali, Lumezi, Kasenengwa, Chipata and Mambwe. During implementation, SPRIZ collaborated with members of the District Child Labour Committee members from the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services, Ministry of General Education (MoGE), Ministry of Labour and Social Services (MLSS), NGOs and other stakeholders such as the Community Child Labour Committees (CCLCs) and Traditional leaders. The specific of the project were;

1. To provide access to adult literacy for vulnerable parents with children engaged in or at high risk of engaging in child labour.
2. To provide livelihood support to vulnerable women enrolled in literacy classes including microcredit for establishing or expanding their own businesses.

The following were the main activities implemented during the project under review;

2.0 RESULTS ACHIEVED AT OUTPUT LEVEL

2.1 Securing venues for Adult literacy circles

Considering that the vastness of the 11 targeted communities, community members opted to have each community divided into two in order to reduce on the distances to the nearest literacy centers. The identified venues were mainly from local schools, churches and community halls as detailed shown in table 1 below. The securing of adult literacy venues, recruitment of learners and running of adult literacy centers was the responsibility of the Community Child Labour Committees (CCLCs) established during the implementation of the FACT project.

S/N	Community	Venue A	Venue B
1	Mphomwa	Anglican - Kakoma section	Mphomwa Primary School
2	Sisinje	Sisinje Primary School	Sisinje Primary School
3	Mshawa	Mshawa Primary School	Mshawa Primary School
4	Diwa	Catholic church (kandukile village)	Catholic (Tiyese village)
5	Chafisi	African church (Chafisi trading)	Chafisi primary School
6	Chipangali	Ngocho village	SDA Church (Chipangali Centre)
7	Vizenge	Vizenge primary School	Chipangali turn off
8	Kasenga	Kasenga primary School	Kamchiliko Baptist church
9	Mafuta	Mafuta Centre	Mafuta village
10	Mwalauka	Baptist church (Chilawo village)	Islam mosque (chipilimuzi section)
11	Kapara	Kapara primary School	Community sheds

Level of Achievement of Output: The project secured a total of 22 adult literacy venues out of the targeted 11 venues resulting into a 200% level of achievement of the output. Of these venues, 9 were in local public schools, 7 were in local churches, while the remaining 6 centers were from other types of community infrastructure such as community sheds.

2.2 Enrol adult literacy learners

The enrolment of adult literacy learners was done by CCLCs following the guidelines provided



Adult literacy lessons in progress at Sisinje

by SPRIZ. Overall, priority was given to women from vulnerable households listed under the JTI tobacco farmers who had children who were either engaged or at high risk of being engaged in child labour. Households with children withdrawn from child labour under the FACT project were also given priority in the selection process. A total of 879 adult literacy learners were enrolled by the end of the project of which 75% (659) of the learners were women, while 25% (220) were men. The gender bias towards women was also in accordance with the design of the CLAP project which was aimed at mitigating the low literacy levels among women compared to that of their male counterparts.

Level of Achievement of Output: Each Adult Literacy center enrolled 40 learners on average, with the total enrolment standing at 879 learners by the end of the project against the targeted 800 learners. This represents a 110% level of output achievement by the project.

2.3 Train Adult literacy instructors in Reflect Methodology

SPRIZ identified local volunteers who had attained secondary education level within the local communities. The identification of candidates for the Adult Literacy instructor position was done with the help of the local leadership, local schools and the CCLCs. Thereafter, SPRIZ staff proceeded to conduct the final screening process mainly using interviews. Thereafter, the successful applicants were subjected to a three-day training workshop in REFLECT Methodologies which was conducted by SPRIZ in collaboration with the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services district officials from Chipata. Notable topics covered during the training include: teaching methods and techniques for adults; qualities of a good literacy instructor; designing lesson plans; teaching literacy and numeracy; entrepreneurship; cross cutting issues; and report writing among others.

Level of Achievement of Output: A total of 22 out of the targeted 11 Adult Literacy instructors were trained of which fourteen (14) were male while eight (8) were female

representing a 200% level of output achievement. The instructors were also supported with simplified teaching guide manuals which were translated in local languages for easy use.



Instructors during REFLECT Methodology training

2.4 Procure Adult Literacy Materials

During the implementation period, all the learning centers were supported with various learning materials that were delivered on monthly basis. These materials included; folders, boxes of chalks, dusters, perforators, box files, bond paper, pens and pencils among others. Thus, instructors were advised to submit monthly progress reports alongside a list of requirements for teaching according to the needs of each center.

Level of achievement of Output:

All (100%) the 22 Adult Literacy centers were supported with adequate teaching and learning materials throughout the project period.



Instructors receiving the teaching materials

2.5 Procure Bicycles for Adult Literacy Instructors

In order to ease movements for the Adult Literacy instructors, SPRIZ procured a total of 22 bicycles which were distributed among the 22 Adult literacy centres. Various stakeholders namely the JTI officer from the Chipata office, members of the CCLCs and school managements witnessed the distribution of the bicycles to the 22 Adult Literacy Centers.

Level of Achievement of Output: All (100%) the 22 Adult Literacy centers were supported with a bicycle for use by Adult Literacy instructors. The bicycles remained the property of the respective centers.



Figure 1: Instructors receives bicycles at Mwalauka.



Figure 2: Head teacher receives on behalf of instructors at Diwa primary sch.

2.6 Train Participants in Financial Literacy and Business Management

A two days training workshop was conducted for each center in financial literacy and business management. The main objective of the training was to equip the groups with some financial literacy knowledge and help them generate business ideas that respond to the income needs of their households. The trainings were conducted in collaboration with officers from the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services. The training was predominantly based on the use of participatory methodologies which allowed for the effective participation of the trainees.

Level of achievement of output: All the 879 Adult Literacy learners were trained in financial literacy and business management representing a 100% level of output achievement.



Participants in the financial literacy and business management training

2.7 Establish Credit and Savings Groups

The CLAP project established eleven (11) credit and savings groups using the guidelines set in the SPRIZ Microcredit and Income Generation Manual developed with support from JTI. The process involved conducting training and providing technical support to the groups to enable them come up with bye-laws that govern the operation of the credit and savings groups.



Level of achievement of Output: All the 11 credit and savings groups (100%) developed the bye laws and were duly registered under the registrar of societies in November 2019. Thus, all the 11 groups were presented with registration certificates that can help link them to other prospective donors as legally registered entities.

2.8 Support Loan Revolving Fund

The project supported a total of 330 beneficiaries with a loan amount of K250 each to support their businesses. The loans were disbursed in two batches starting with a group of 220 beneficiaries followed by the second group of 110 beneficiaries. There was no interest charged on the loans, while the recipients were required to pay back their loans within 4 months. All the groups were supported with a special accounting record keeping book for their monthly reconciliation of all transactions. This was done in an effort to improve record keeping and enhance accountability for the effective and efficient running of the saving groups.

Level of achievement of Output: All (100%) the targeted 11 credit and savings groups received loans with 330 as beneficiaries.

2.9 Produce IEC materials

In order to enhance access to information by community members on the importance of adult literacy and microcredit, SPRIZ produced Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials which were distributed to all the Adult Literacy centers. The materials included T-shirts, posters, brochures and booklets that were labelled with messages on adult literacy.

Level of Achievement of Output: Altogether, a total of XXX IEC materials were produced and distributed to various targets over the project period. This represents 100% of the targeted IEC materials.



SPRIZ officer preparing for the distribution of IEC materials.

3.1 Participation in International Womens' Day

During the commemoration of International Women's day in 2019, SPRIZ in collaboration with JTI Chipata Office supported 10 women from Mshawa community to participate in the commemoration. JTI Chipata Office provided the logistics for the movements of the women from the targeted communities to Chipata. This was a good incentive to the women who could not hide their joy of participating in the event. The event was hosted at Protea Hotel in Chipata and was characterised with entertainment performances.



Arrival of Mshawa Women at IWD.



Mshawa women during a meal at Protea Hotel after IWD celebrations.

3.2 Installation of solar borehole

Mshawa is one of SPRIZ's leading performing community in Eastern Province. As a result, SPRIZ recommended the Community to JTI to be considered as one of the most performing community to benefit from the **table for two** JTI initiative. Following this recommendation, JTI drilled a borehole for Mshawa community targeting Kwacha Women Support Group. The borehole has since contributed significantly towards poverty reduction as the women group has established a garden business where they are growing tomatoes, maize and beans using the water from the borehole. Furthermore, the table for two has also benefited Mshawa primary school pupils with drinking water which was a huge challenge for the teachers and pupils before the installation of the borehole. In her vote of thanks, Mshawa head teacher added that the school has also encouraged the school to start a gardening project to encourage agricultural science among the pupils.



Solar Borehole at Mshawa.

4.0 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

4.1 Conduct Mini Baseline Survey

A mini baseline survey to get the bio data and household economic characteristics of adult literacy learners, among others, was done during the enrolment using a questionnaire. Therefore, from the 800 targeted beneficiaries, 400 respondents were interviewed representing 50% of the targeted beneficiaries. Among others, the mini baseline survey measured the status of the project indicators thereby providing a basis against which future progress could be measured'

Level of Achievement of Output: The mini baseline survey report was produced and helped generate evidence against which future progress for the project could be measured.

4.2 Conduct monthly monitoring visits

The monitoring of the project activities were done on a monthly basis and /or as need arises.



Although most visits were done by the SPRIZ field officers, some visits were done in collaboration with the DCLC members. This was in an effort to have oversight on the performance of the Project by other stakeholders and as a sustainability. All the Adult Literacy centers were monitored on monthly basis to ensure effective backstopping, resolution of project challenges and adherence to the set goals.

Furthermore, SPRIZ staff and stakeholders also monitored the collective performance of the credit and savings groups as well as the individual businesses on regular basis. The random visitation to individual business proved essential as it acted as a verification exercise and further provided an opportunity to offer technical advice to individual businesses thereby strengthening the performances of the businesses.

Level of Achievement of Output: A total of 45 monitoring visits were conducted during the project period representing over 200% of the targeted visits.



4.3 Hold stakeholders' quarterly meetings

SPRIZ supported the holding of quarterly stakeholders' meetings in Chipata involving DCLC members from different government Line Ministries and NGOs. During the meetings, DCLC members deliberated on various issues pertaining to the CLAP Project including the project challenges and actions from specific stakeholders. Notable agreed actions that were implemented include increased child labour inspections by the District Labour Office, while the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services scaled up its provision of technical support to the credit and savings groups.

Level of Achievement of Output: All the four stakeholders' meetings that were planned by the Project were held accordingly representing a 100% achievement of the output target.



DCLC Stakeholders' Project meeting in progress

5.0 SUSTAINABILITY MEASURES

5.1 Hold familiarisation meetings with district government stakeholders

The familiarisation meetings were necessitated by the creation of new districts which were



not there at the inception of the CLAP project. This therefore meant that the officers in the newly created districts were not privy to the CLAP project details in order for them to be able to sustain the project. Therefore, the familiarisation exercise was undertaken to familiarise stakeholders in the new districts with the CLAP project as well as inform them of the imminent ending of the project. Most stakeholders complained that the partnership had just started and therefore needed to continue given the short period of project implementation. They submitted that SPRIZ and its partners should instead consider extending the project to ensure increased impact. SPRIZ however explained that this could only be possible with the continued support from JTI. Those in attendance included the District Commissioners, District Agriculture Officers, District Community Development Officers and District labour Officers among others.

Mambwe district familiarisation meeting

5.2 Registration of Women Support Groups.

All the women support groups were duly registered under the Registrar of Societies Act Cap 119 Section 7(2). As a result, certificates of registration were presented to the groups to use to solicit for more donor funding as well as access agricultural inputs through the Fertiliser Input Support Programme.



Tikondane women support group



Chikondi support Group

5.3 Link the Microcredit groups to financial institutions

SPRIZ in collaboration with Atlas Mara Bank conducted visits to the groups to sensitize members of the credit and savings groups on various services offered by financial institutions. The purpose of these visits were to link the groups to financial institutions so that they can be exposed to more financial services that would grow their businesses. The Chipata Atlas Mara Bank Manager explained the different business services that they could access including the Tenga savings mobile money service which was well received by the groups. By the end of this activity, 45 people opened Tenga mobile accounts, while two groups opted to open group accounts.



Atlas Mara Bank Manager addressing people Meeting in progress

6.0 KEY OUTCOMES

The monitoring revealed that literacy classes were doing very well, with the attendance among the learners being at 95%. Similarly, majority of the learners are now able to write and read, with 20% of the learners still lagging behind in reading and writing. Efforts are being made to remediate this gap among the slow learners can also catch up. It is interesting to learn that some women are now able to help their children with homework and are also able to sign on documents. During monitoring, it was also evident that the savings groups are currently doing well with their individual business. Some women reported having bought uniforms and books for their children while others reported being financially able to buy food for their households. The CCLCs have also continued to play pivotal role in the CLAP project by conducting sensitisations on child labour issues in their respective communities.

Overall, data from the monitoring of the performance of both the Adult Literacy and Microcredit programmes revealed the following achievements against the projected outcome indicators.

Outcome 1: *Adult literacy learners are able to demonstrate their literacy knowledge and skills in both functional literacy and formal education.*

- 80% of the learners were able to read and write by the end of the Project against the targeted 25% of learners.
- 90% of learners were able to demonstrate that they are empowered with knowledge on how to critically analyze their environment by the end of the project against the targeted 75% of the learners
- 100% of learners had all their children of school age enrolled in local school by the end of the project against the targeted 100% of the learners.

Outcome 2: *Microcredit beneficiaries have increased knowledge and skills, including financial and functional literacy and core entrepreneurial and business skills.*

- 90% of beneficiaries were running profitable individual businesses by the end of the project against the targeted 75% of beneficiaries.
- 90% of the beneficiaries were able to demonstrate basic financial and business skills in running their businesses by the end of the project compared to the targeted 100%.
- 90% of the beneficiaries were able to support their school going children financially by the end of the project against the targeted 50%.

7.0 CHALLENGES

- ❖ Lack of permanent independent learning shelters meant that lessons were disrupted at times.
- ❖ Record keeping was not very impressive
- ❖ Some adult learners needed more time in class especially the slow learners
- ❖ The project period was too short to achieve more desirable results.

6.0 LESSONS LEARNT

- ❖ It has been proven that adult literacy plays a major role in parents sending their children to school and appreciate the value of education.
- ❖ Supporting vulnerable families with soft loans can significantly help fight child labour and poverty as a whole.
- ❖ The use of local instructors gives confidence to learners and also makes the delivery of lessons by instructors easy because of they can easily use of local language.
- ❖ Adult learning and IGA complement each other well.
- ❖ Adult literacy centers should always be linked to local schools for oversight and sustainability purposes.

ANNEX I

STORIES OF CHANGE

Name: ATALIA MBEWE

Location: Kasenga

Village: Israel

Chief: Mshawa

Age: 50

Sex: Female

Marital Status: Separated



This is a story of **ATALIA MBEWE** aged 50 years old. After her separation from her husband, Atalia had to fend for her three children alone. Life became so difficult for her and she started doing piece works for their survival. When the CLAP project was introduced, Atalia was selected by the Community Child Labour Committee (CCLC) to be part of the adult literacy learners in Kasenga community. She was very excited because she only went up to primary grade 4 as such she was unable to read or write not at the time of the enrolment. However, after a few months of learning under CLAP, she is now able to read in local language, write letters and numbers properly. Atalia further says she can now solve mathematical problems be it addition, subtraction, division or multiplication. This has helped her in doing business and she can give proper change unlike before when she could not calculate change for customers or calculate profits and losses.

When she received the K250 CLAP soft loan in June 2019, Atalia started a business of selling tomatoes and cooking oil. She narrates that she arrived at this business after analysing the market on what would bring in profits quickly. According to Atalia, she started by buying tomatoes at K180 (6 boxes@K30) which gave her a K60 profit which gave her K240 and she added the K70 which she kept from the k250 bringing her total to K310 . She then decided to buy 20 litres cooking oil @ K265 and tomatoes @K90. When buying the tomatoes, she topped up her own K45 in order to maximise her profits which gave her K75 profit while the cooking oil gave her a profit of K65. She has continued buying and selling of the same products and in 3 months she managed to raise K750 and thus saved K300 in the CLAP project village Bank. Additionally, from her profits, Atalia was able to buy some building materials for the house she is currently occupying. *“My life has changed and I can now boast of earning my own money, before people used to call me names because of begging”* says Atalia. She is grateful to SPRIZ and JTI for the CLAP project which has also helped others in the community. She adds that she is now able to support her 15 years old daughter with school requisites and her advice to other women is have discipline when doing business and not to always look for big capital before starting a business.

Name: BRIDGET MBEWE

Location: Mafuta, Zambia

Village: Chizuma

Chief: Mafuta

Age: 28

Sex: Female

Marital Status: Married

BRIDGET MBEWE aged 28 years is married with three children aged 9 (girl), 5 (boy) and 2 years old (girl). She is one of the CLAP beneficiaries who was selected for literacy classes in Mafuta community. Bridget is a grade 9 drop out as such at the time she joined the adult literacy classes she was able to read and write in local language and a bit of English. According to her, she was a bit reluctant at the beginning to join as she thought CLAP was just about learning how to read and write. To her surprise, the CLAP adult classes were more than just learning how to read and write but also learnt how to manage a business and calculate business profits. When she got her soft loan, Bridget ventured in selling Chitenge materials and explained that her decision was based on the demand of chitenges by all women and the fact that traditionally every woman should wear a chitenge in her community. *“ I decided to be selling Chitenges because in our community every woman needs to have several chitenges and when we go out for community meetings or functions, we look for best chitenges to wear. Similarly, in our homes when doing work every woman is expected to wear a Chitenge. I saw that Chitenges are a necessity to every woman in our community. A husband feels good when his wife is wearing a nice chitenge and walks with her to meetings or functions. When you don't wear a nice chitenge, your husband cant walk with you to meetings or functions, you go separate ways. Thus, I saw that Chitenges would be a good business especially that they are non-perishable.”*



With a K250 which Bridget got from SPRIZ in July 2019, she decided to buy and resell chitenge materials. For her first stock, she bought 7 pieces at K35 each and sold them at K50 each which gave her a profit of K105. For her second stock, she bought 8 pieces and made a profit of K120 of out it. For her third stock, she bought 12 pieces and made a profit of K180. Bridget has continued her business and in 2 months she managed to save K180 in the village bank and at the time of monitoring, she had K230 cash at hand and K700 in stock (Chitenge materials). Bridget is so grateful to SPRIZ and JTI adding that he says currently she is able to supports her children with school requirements from her business profits. She adds that the fights over money with her husband are a thing of the past now.

PROJECT STAFF

staff below as project Officer

