

Social capital table reference (SD report page 77)

Zimbabwe

1. RECONSTRUCTION OF NYANGWENE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Nyangwene Primary School, located at Mhondoro Mubaira 35km from Zimplats' Ngezi operations, was destroyed during a rainstorm in February 2010. The School Development Association (SDA), consisting of parents, teachers and community leaders, contacted Zimplats with a request to rehabilitate the classrooms, as the buildings were no longer habitable and the children were learning in tents supplied by UNICEF. Zimplats considered the request given that education is a key issue within its community investment initiatives.

After assessment by Zimplats' engineers and in consultation with the community a decision was made to rebuild the school as this was deemed more sustainable and safer than repairing the buildings. The classrooms were demolished and 15 new classrooms, a teacher's office and a storeroom were built.

More than 740 students now have access to a modern school that is even accessible for children with disabilities. A total of 500 new desks and chairs were purchased to augment the existing school furniture some of which were destroyed in the storm. Some of the challenges faced during construction were shortages of water and cement both of which led to a two-month delay in the handover of the project. The water shortage was due to insufficient water in the single borehole. This was mitigated by members of the community collecting water from a nearby river. The shortage of cement was a national shortage which was corrected after a six-week gap.

The school located at Mubaira in Mhondoro was completed at a cost of US\$366 000 and handed over to the community at a colourful ceremony in April 2011. Zimplats pledged to sink a borehole for the school to ensure adequate water supplies in future. Work on the borehole is underway.

2. COMMUNITY BRICK-MAKING COOPERATIVE

In an effort to integrate the organisation's development plans into the community by providing employment and developing local skills, Zimplats assisted members of the community to form a brick-making cooperative that would mould bricks for the housing project that is part of the Phase 11 Expansion plan. The housing project will see the construction of 1 300 employee houses.

Initially, the cooperative consisted of 26 women from the villages immediately surrounding Zimplats. Having women as founders of the cooperative was a deliberate effort to empower women in the community. However, as the workload increased and the need to meet targets grew, the numbers in the cooperative swelled to more than 120. Members were taught how to mould the bricks using modern brick-making equipment. The cooperative is managed by a committee of seven. The chairperson, who is a woman, is responsible for overseeing the work of the cooperative and for chairing meetings. She also leads the group in planning, financial accountability and fundraising. The committee liaises with clients and signs agreements and contracts on behalf of the group. The secretary is responsible for all record keeping and the treasurer ensures financial accounting and controls. In pursuit of sound financial management the cooperative opened a bank account with one of the commercial banks at Ngezi's Turf Village. The group's revenues are expected to initially come from Zimplats.

It is estimated that at project completion the cooperative will have earned close to \$500 000. Beyond the Zimplats housing project, the cooperative intends to continue moulding bricks for individuals and companies in the vicinity using the equipment and infrastructure donated by Zimplats. At that stage the cooperative will take on paying for electricity and water bills. It also intends to diversify into other projects dealing with poultry, piggyery and other small enterprises.

Zimplats is organising business skills training for the cooperative members in FY12.

3. POULTRY PROJECTS

The Mubaira and Musengezi poultry projects, started by Zimplats at a cost of \$55 000, are aimed at empowering communities. Both projects were started by requests from the community to address the need for food security and income generation. Through the Mubaira project Zimplats donated 3 000 chickens to 100 families living in Mhondoro, about 35km from Zimplats' Ngezi operations. The recipients who are all women were trained in animal health, vaccination and proper feeding of the birds. It is envisaged that the project will not only benefit the 100 recipients but will also benefit the surrounding communities who now have easy access to meat and eggs for purchase.

A similar project was launched at Musengezi High School, about 30km from the Zimplats Selous Metallurgical Complex (SMC). In line with the request from the School Development Council (SDC), comprised of both parents and teachers, the school received 2 000 chickens, 400 of which lay eggs. The 600 pupils will use the chickens and eggs for own consumption and the excess will be sold to the surrounding communities. While Zimplats provided the initial drugs and feed, the school sold some of the chickens and raised enough money to buy more chicks and the concentrate to feed them, an indication of the potential sustainability of the project.

4. AMBULANCE FOR ST MICHAELS HOSPITAL

St Michaels Mission Hospital in Ngezi, situated about 30km from the Ngezi operations, engaged Zimplats regarding their need for an ambulance to ferry passengers from their homes in Mhondoro communal lands to the

hospital and sometimes to carry referral cases to the nearest town or to Harare, if necessary. Mhondoro Ngezi is a labour catchment area for Zimplats.

The hospital doctor told of heart-rendering stories where some patients were carried in wheel barrows or on scotch-carts because they were no longer able to walk to the hospital.

Zimplats responded by purchasing a \$45 000 four-wheel all-terrain ambulance fitted with modern equipment for pre-hospital care. The ambulance was handed over to the hospital administrators at a colourful ceremony attended by a large portion of the community.

5. NGEZI DISTRICT SCHOOLS' TOURNAMENT

In its endeavours to promote sport at district level, Zimplats responded positively to a request from the local district school authorities and sponsored the Ngezi District Secondary Schools' sports tournament. The tournament pitted 14 schools in the district against each other in soccer, netball and volleyball for both girls and boys. The tournament presented an opportunity for the students to engage in sporting competition that promoted the values of excellence, friendship, fair-play and team spirit. To promote ongoing sport development the participating schools won prizes of balls for all the sports and kit.

The tournament was overseen by technical experts from the Zimbabwe Olympic Committee and the various sporting associations including the Netball Association of Zimbabwe and the Volleyball Association of Zimbabwe in an effort to ensure high standards of administration and technical compliance during the tournament. The event provided free entertainment for the community who turned up in their hundreds to watch and enjoy the finals.