



4-H Zimbabwe



“Nothing for the youth, without the youth”

4-H Zimbabwe`s 2024 Annual Report

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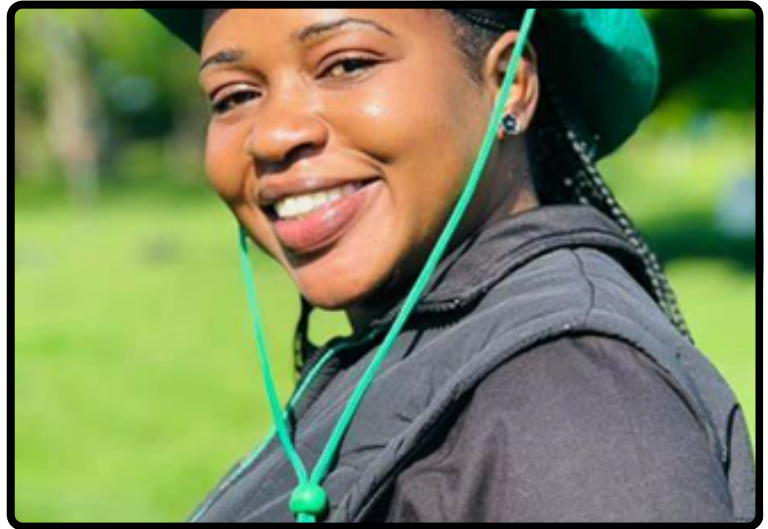
4-H Zimbabwe Foundation

Table of Contents

Contents

Cover page.....	1
Board Chairperson’s Foreword.....	3
Executive Director’s Remarks.....	5
Project overview.....	7
Our National impact.....	11
Strategic direction.....	12
<i>Programming Areas.</i>	
1. Peace and Governance.....	13
2. Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change Programming.....	16
4. Youth Healthy Living Environment.....	18
<i>Highlights: 4-H Zimbabwe Regional Recognition</i>	
Regional level.....	20
Financial summary.....	22
4-H Zimbabwe Donors and Partners.....	23

Board Chairperson's Remarks



4-H Zimbabwe Board Chairperson – Mrs
Wendy Madzura

As the Board Chairperson of 4-H Zimbabwe Foundation, it is my pleasure to present the organisation's 2024 Annual Report. The Government of Zimbabwe declared 2023-2024 agricultural season State of National Disaster following the El Nino induced subdued rainfall pattern which resulted in food shortages in many areas in Zimbabwe. FY 2024, was also the year after Zimbabwe held its harmonised elections. Elections in most cases leave communities divided and this slows the development rate. In 2024, 4-H Zimbabwe has taken additional steps in building climate change resilience amongst rural communities, targeting women and youth. In addition, the organisation further strengthen its youth work, with the launch of the National Youth Council for Peace and Development (YCPD) in Zimbabwe.

During the year, 4-H Zimbabwe initiated the review of its strategic planning document which is expected to be launched by mid-2025. The document review report indicated that the organisation’s work should also include other vulnerable communities such as women and person with disabilities (PWDs). This has resulted in 4-H Zimbabwe establishing a PWD desk to ensure inclusion at all programming levels. 4-H Zimbabwe Foundation was honoured to be selected as one of the top 5 Youth Engagement organisations in the world and came 2nd behind Brazil in the competitions held in Chicago, United State of America (USA). Locally, the organisation was honoured by National Association of Non-Governmental Organisations in Zimbabwe (NANGO) under the “Community Development Award” for its food and water security initiatives in the rural communities. As we reflect on the successes of 2024, we affirm the God’s grace and guidance through the increase in partnerships despite challenging contexts. We also recognize the continued support from our donors, political parties, 4-H Global and Africa, partners, the Government the Republic of Zimbabwe, the farmers, the youth and communities we serve. On behalf of the 4-H Zimbabwe Board, I congratulate the leadership and staff of 4-H Zimbabwe Foundation for their ongoing commitment.



4-H Zimbabwe

Executive Director's Foreword



4-H Zimbabwe Foundation
Executive Director - Mr John
Muchenje

The year 2024 report demonstrated 4-H Zimbabwe Foundation's commitment to our strategic focus on the vulnerable groups, the youth and the women. As our current strategic document (2020-2024) comes to an end, we are pleased to have established a youth engagement platform (YCPD) which was endorsed by all 11 political parties which participated during 2023 harmonised elections. In addition, we have reached marginalised rural women farmers through farmer education programs on Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA), ensuring access to clean and safe water through solar powered She-Villagised Women led gardens. With 2023-2024 agricultural season affected by low and erratic rainfall patterns due to climate change, 4-H Zimbabwe has intensified its work on building communal farmers resilience through structured Farmer Field School in conjunction with the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Fisheries and Rural Development, AGRITEX officers to mitigate the impact of the drought on vulnerable communities. 4-H Zimbabwe has also redesigned its ongoing programs to better respond to the current challenges, especially on addressing the nexus between climate change and conflict. FY 2024, 4-H Zimbabwe has witnessed growth in grants received by 35% which reflects the confidence in the organisation's governance and impact.

A total of 5,000 rural women farmers and 20,000 youth were reached through various community development and youth engagement interventions during the year. The Board and the Secretariat remain committed to strengthening our governance and accountability for the resources we received from various partners to ensure a peaceful, food secure, resilient and prosperous Zimbabwe where young people collectively play a significant and meaningful role in sustainable development.

Attending 2024 World Justice Challenge in Chicago, USA was a milestone to the organisation. The organisation attended the challenge under the “Youth Engagement” category which reflected our sterling efforts to strengthen young people’s active engagement with and to commitment to democratic processes in Zimbabwe. Special recognition goes to the youth from the 11 political parties (ZCPD, ZIPP, ZANU-PF, CCC, MDC, NCA, DOP, FreeZim, NPC, UANC and UZA) for their commitment to the Youth4Peace program, which ensured youth peaceful participation in 2023 harmonised elections in Zimbabwe. The opportunity to engage and network with other various youth organisations in the world has strengthened our youth programming. As we look forward to 2025, I am grateful for the contributions of the Board, staff and our volunteers who have sacrificed in challenging contexts to deliver sustainable interventions in Zimbabwe. In conclusion, 4-H Zimbabwe give special thanks to our Board of Trustees, Partners, Donors, and Stakeholders for both financial and technical support.



4-H Zimbabwe

Project overview

4-H Zimbabwe Foundation's 2024 Institutional Report gives a summary of the impact on our three main strategic thematic areas:


(a) Youth Peace & Governance;

(b) Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change programming,

(c) Youth Health living environment.



Youth representatives from 11 political parties pose for a picture with the Executive Secretary in the Office of the Attorney General, Mr Joane Gandiwa, Father Fidelis Mukonori (Peace Expert) and former NPRC Commissioner, Dr T. Rukuni during the YCPD National Launch in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.



4-H Zimbabwe is committed to mainstreaming youth inclusion, gender and youth well-being initiatives, while ensuring a peaceful and food secure Zimbabwe. The overarching goal is to empower the most vulnerable communities (youth, women and persons with disabilities) to ensuring their inclusion in the national development processes in Zimbabwe. Under the Youth Peace and Governance cluster, 4-H Zimbabwe successfully launched the National Youth Council for Peace and Development (YCPD), which is a youth by the youth platform for youth engagement on peace building, leadership and national development processes in Zimbabwe. The council has national and provincial structures and its members are drawn from the 11 political parties who are signatories to the Zimbabwe Youth Charter on Peace and Development in the Electoral Processes.

In 2024, 4-H Zimbabwe Foundation managed to reach out to 20,000 youth, and 5000 communal farmers, among them over 4000 are women and youth with an annual budget of US\$400 000 with the support of IKI International Climate Initiative, Swedish Development Cooperation (SDC), Embassy of Canada in Zimbabwe, Crossing Borders with the collaborations from the Government of Zimbabwe.



Communal farmers from Chiwundura Rural district, ward 12 during Farmer Field School training program on Conservative Smart Agriculture (CSA).

Beyond the youth peace and governance work, 4-H Zimbabwe also prioritises youth physical and mental health to help them to respond to drug and substance abuse which has affected many youths in Zimbabwe. In addition, on Food security, Sustainable Agriculture and Climate change programming, 4-H Zimbabwe successful enhanced rural communities' access to clean water, increased the adoption of climate smart agriculture (CSA), improved communal farmers improved crop variety that are short term and drought resistant (small grains) and increased the income levels of farmers at household level.



During a youth sport tournament in Glendale Mashonaland central, commemorating unity day.

Our National Impact

20 000, Youth reached directly

5000, communal farmers reached directly through farmer field schools

25 000, people indirectly benefitted from food security, sustainable agriculture programming

4 000, women and youth farmers directly reached

960, women farmers who benefitted from the SHE-Gardens

67 Ward based AGRITEX Officers received smart tablets

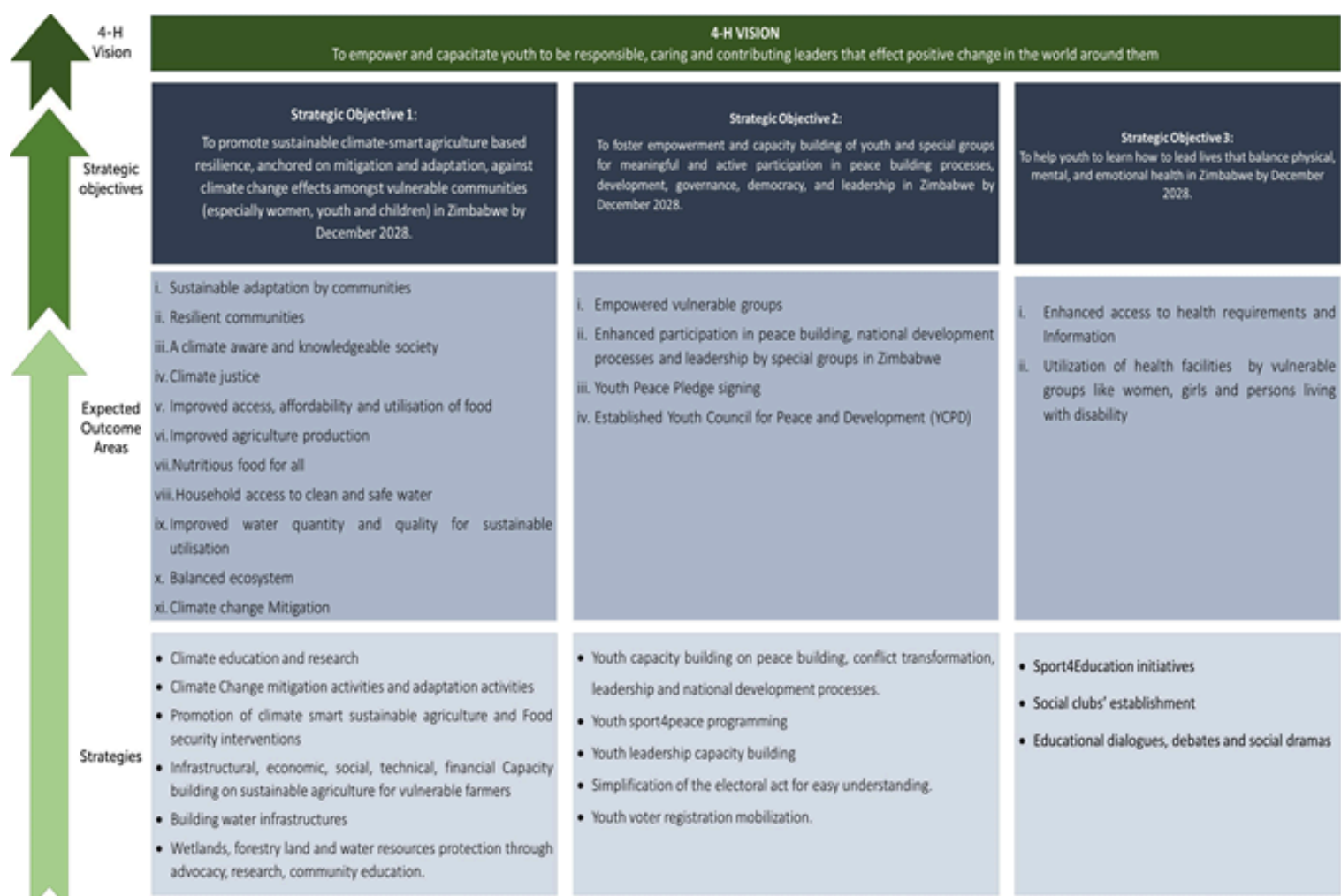
4 800, community members benefitted from water sources established

4 000 people engaged through sport

USD354 621.24, total funds received in USD in 2024



4-H Zimbabwe Strategic Direction 2025-2028





1. Youth Peace and Governance

4-H Zimbabwe's Youth Peace and Governance cluster is a youth-oriented initiative designed to ensure meaningful and sustainable youth participation in peace building, conflict transformation, leadership and national development processes in Zimbabwe through the established Youth Council for Peace and Development (YCPD). This intervention contributes to SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. By addressing youth marginalisation and exclusion, the program empowers the youth with decision making and leadership skills for meaningful participation in the development of this nation. The young people have traditionally been used as tools for political violence, and this program seeks to promote political tolerance amongst diverse youth groups. In 2024, 4-H Zimbabwe Foundation successfully launched the national YCPD which was officiated by the office of the Attorney General (AG) and was endorsed by all 11 political parties, the former Commissioner from National Peace and Reconciliation Commission and renowned chief mediator and peace expert Father Fidelis Mukonori. The YCPD is a unique youth and by the youth structure which comprises of 22 members from the 11 political parties namely, the ruling party Zimbabwe National Union Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF), Citizens Coalition for Change (CCC), Movement for Democratic Change (MDC), National Constitutional Assembly (NCA), FREEZIM Congress (FREEZIM), Zimbabwe Coalition for Peace and Development (ZCPD), United Zimbabwe Alliance (UZA), Democratic Opposition Party (DOP), National People's Congress (NPC), United African National Council (UANC) and Zimbabwe Partnership for Prosperity (ZIPP). Each party is represented by 2 members (male and female).



The provincial YCPD platform will be launched in all 10 provinces and will have same members in 2025. The YCPD will have 242 members from 10 provinces and national members. The YCPD has already emerged as a vibrant and sustainable platform, fostering inclusive governance and empowering young people to take active and leadership roles in peacebuilding, governance and development in Zimbabwe. Furthermore, the platform will be used to facilitate youth engagement with the Ministers of State for Provincial Affairs and Devolution and Youth Quota Members of Parliament from all the 10 provinces.

4-H Zimbabwe's youth inclusion advocacy intervention also prioritizes People with Disabilities (PWD) as key beneficiaries, recognizing the importance of inclusive programming. To safeguard against exclusion, a specialized PWD desk has been established to facilitate tailored support and community engagement. Furthermore, the establishment of a dedicated PwD desk at 4-H Zimbabwe was a critical outcome, providing a platform for young people with disabilities to access information, resources, and support on civic engagement matters. This strategic initiative helped to bridge the gap in civic participation and ensured that the voices and concerns of young PwDs were integrated into the broader civic engagement agenda.

Youth peace and governance photo gallery



ensuring youth inclusion



2. Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change Programming

4-H Zimbabwe Foundation's Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change intervention aims to build climate change resilience amongst rural small-scale farmers, increase the adoption of climate smart agriculture (CSA) and small grains production, enhance food and water security amongst vulnerable communal farmers in rural Zimbabwe. This intervention contributed to SDG 1: No Poverty, SDG 2: Zero Hunger, SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities and SDG 13: Climate Action. The continuous efforts were aimed at increased crop production and productivity, building capacity of the local AGRITEX officers, improving access to income, strengthening household and community strategies in sustainable and indigenous agricultural interventions. In 2024, 5000 communal farmers received trainings through farmer school and on the field training programs and 80% were youth and women, more focus was on Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) adoption and promotion of small grains. 67 local AGRITEX Officers received smart tablets to facilitate infusion of technology on climate change, effective farmer training and information dissemination. The programming areas were Hurungwe (Mashonaland West Province), Chiwundura (Midlands Province) and Matobo (Matebeleland South Province) rural districts. In addition, 4-H Zimbabwe established additional 8 villagised business units (VBUs) in form of women led nutrition gardens in Chiwundura to make a total of 16 VBUs which benefitted 960 women. The 960 women received trainings on good agronomic practices (GAP), financial management, entrepreneurship, post harvesting management and value addition. During the year, 5 women savings clubs were established in Hurungwe rural districts.

Food security, sustainable agriculture and climate change programming photo gallery.





3. Youth Healthy Living Environment

4-H Zimbabwe Foundation's Youth Health Living Environment thematic area sought to improve young people's physical and mental health through sport. This intervention contributed to SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. During the year 2024, Sport4Development innovative approaches promoted physical and mental health, peace building, social cohesion for the youth and other marginalised groups, such as inmates at Whawha Medium and Chikurubi Maximum prisons through sport. During the year, 4-H Zimbabwe successfully engaged over 4000 people through sport4Education program. One of the key activities was the integration of sport in behavioural change amongst inmates at Chikurubi Maxim Prisons which reached over 1000 inmates. The organisation commemorated the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (IDSDP) on 6th of April at Chikurubi Maximum Prison. Through the use of sport, the primary objective was to leverage on the power of sport to combat discrimination amongst inmates while promoting peace and facilitating a smooth reintegration into their communities when their time in prison is over. 500 school children were reached through Sport4Education, thus integrating sport into education as a holistic approach to learning and development. The school going children (13-18 years) appreciated values like mutual respect, building trust with their peers and teachers. Furthermore, 1500 youth (16-35 years) were reached in Hurungwe (Mashonaland West province) and Glendale (Mashonaland Central province) through sport4Education, with specific focus on an anti-drug and substance abuse awareness and promoting peace building and social cohesion

Youth healthy living environment photo gallery





HIGHLIGHTS

4-H ZIMBABWE RECOGNITION AND OUTSTANDING AWARDS

International Level

Through our Youth Peace and Governance work, 4-H Zimbabwe was recognised internationally by World Justice Project as top five (5) organisations for advancing youth inclusion and engagement in the peace building and national development processes in Zimbabwe.

<https://worldjusticeproject.org/news/these-30-world-justice-challenge-finalists-are-defending-rule-law-and-democracy>

Local level

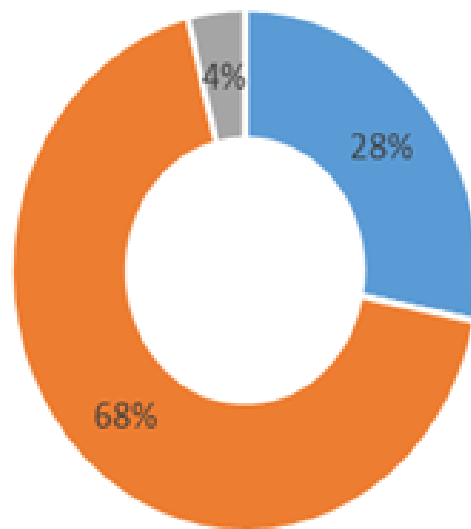
Through our Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change programming, 4-H Zimbabwe Foundation was recognised by NANGO Annual NGO Awards 2024 for community development work, thus farmer capacitation programs and establishment of women led solar powered gardens in the marginalised communities in Zimbabwe.



4-H Zimbabwe Foundation`s award from NANGO for the “Community Development Award 2024”.

Financial summary

The Grants received in 2024 amounted to USD354,621.24 which reflected a 35% increase from 2023 income. The total expenditure for the year was USD341,666.62. The increase in income was necessitated by more fundraising in climate change programming to mitigate El-Nino induced drought. Youth Peace and Governance 28%, Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change programming 68% and Health Living Environment Y24, more funds were spent on Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change due the El-Nino induced drought.



- Youth Peace and Governance
- Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change Program
- Health Living Environment

4-H Zimbabwe Donors and Partners



Canada



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