ENSURE PROJECT OVERVIEW

The ENSURE Food Security Program is a World Vision-led, USAID-funded, five-year project designed to profoundly and sustainably impact 215,000 vulnerable and food-insecure people by 2018.

WHERE: The programme is being implemented in 6 district in Zimbabwe, Buhera, Chimanimani and Chipinge in Manicaland Province, and Bikita, Chivi and Zaka in Masvingo Province.

WHO: The program is a shared commitment by four partners and one service provider—World Vision, CARE, SNV, SAFIRE and ICRISAT.

HOW: ENSURE focuses primarily on empowering and capacitating poor, rural households to become more food secure across three strategic objectives:

- Improving nutrition among women of reproductive age and children under the age of five.
- Increasing household income via improved agricultural production and marketing.
- Increasing resilience to food insecurity of communities via improved disaster risk reduction and natural resource management.

With Gender as a crosscutting objective.

GENDER INTEGRATION

ENSURE recognizes that gender equality and women’s empowerment are key development components which are fundamental to the realization of food and nutrition security, and has therefore placed gender at the center of programming.

Gender Integration models

ENSURE has adopted gender transformative models, the Social Analysis and Action Model, Male Engagement Syncronisation Approach, Women Empowerment Framework, Gender dialogues and Gender Outcome Mapping.

Through these models ENSURE is working with communities to transform social norms and practices that perpetuates gender inequality and lock women in poverty.

Gender Integration Processes

- A Gender Analysis was conducted in 2014
- Capacity building of staff, partners and stakeholder
- Appointment of Gender Focal Point Persons 2015
- Gender Outcome Mapping was conducted in 2015
ENHANCING NUTRITION STEPPING UP RESILIENCE AND ENTERPRISE: PATHWAYS FOR GENDER INTEGRATION

- REORGANIZING THE PROJECT TO FOCUS ON WOMEN’S NEEDS
- ELIMINATING DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN IN ACCESS TO AGRICULTURE RESOURCES AND PROMOTING WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT
- USING REPORTS AS ADVOCACY TOOLS
- USING PRACTICAL FIELD LEVEL MODELS AND TOOLS FOR GENDER AND WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT
- STRENGTHENING ENSURE MONITORING SYSTEMS: GENDER OUTCOME MAPPING
- BUILDING CAPACITY WITH PARTNERS
ENSURE is working with a group of male advocates as role models and advocates for gender equality. By end of FY16, 544 male advocates had their capacity enhanced in gender and nutrition.

These male advocates work with groups of 8-10 men, that meet on a monthly basis to dialogue about maternal health and nutrition, fatherhood, caregiving and promote gender equality. Male advocates are also given opportunities at public gatherings to talk about gender. Male Advocates are using these foras to speak against early child marriage, gender based violence and advocate for gender equity.
ENSURE Graduated Set of Gender Progress Markers for Men

- Men encourage and support other men to assist their wives with household chores.
- Men assist women with feeding the baby, bathing male child, cook food for the family and washing.
- Men openly speak out against early child marriages.
- Men allocate their inheritance equally to male and female children.
- Men fetch water and firewood even when the wife is around and is not sick.
- Men discipline and expect both boy and girl children to share household chores.
- Men participate equally in community activities such as FFA.
- Men disclose all finances to women.
- Men jointly make decisions with women on the type of seeds to grow in the family field.
- Men send both girl and boy child to school up to tertiary level.
- Men openly support women's views in public.
- Men join VS&L groups.
- Men resolve domestic disputes without violence, intimidation or harassment.
- Men accompany women for antenatal and post-natal care.
- Men walk with their wives in public.
- Men speak up, condemn and report Gender Based violence.
- Men stop spending budgeted household income on beer.

- Men assist women in farming activities (gardening, planting, weeding and harvesting).
- Men assist women during pregnancy and when sick with going for milling, fetching water and collecting firewood.
- Men consult and agree with women before making final decisions at home.
- Men plan and make decisions jointly with women on use of household income and children welfare.
- Men encourage women to attend community trainings and skills development.
- Men encourage women to participate in community activities such as VS&L, Care groups, FFA, DRR, Producer groups, Water Point Committees.
- Men select women to take up leadership roles in the community.
- Men openly communicate their plans and concerns with women.
- Men listen and acknowledging their wives views as they discuss.
- Men give women money for women to participate in VS&L, income generating projects, and buy inputs.
ENSURE Community Perspective of a Role Model Man

A role-model man is exemplary to his immediate family and community at large. He owns productive assets and provides basic needs for his family such as food, clothing and paying educational expenses. He supports his wife and does not expect her to carry all responsibilities. He assists his wife with household chores so that she can be able to engage in other economic activities. He enables his wife to own productive resources and assets such as livestock. He is respectful of his wife and consults her over use of income, and does not spend all the money on beer. He does not have extra marital relationships. He has an open and supportive relationship with his wife and children and treats boy and girl children equally. He resolves domestic disputes amicably and does not resort to violence. He provides financial support to his wife to engage in income generating activities and encourages her to participate in community activities. He speaks up for women and child rights and intervenes against abuse.
Munyaradzi Gwenhamo, Ward 15, Chivi prepares nhopi, a nutritious traditional snack prepared from mashed and peanut butter.

Munyaradzi said “from when we were children, cooking has been a woman’s duty in our society, if a man is seen cooking, it’s taboo. That man will be a laughing stalk of the village. All bad things would be said about her wife especially being accused of using love portions. However after male advocates training I realised that manhood would not be lost by cooking. Actually I am realising I am a better cook. I can prepare porridge for my child and feed her. She loves me. My wife also feels relieved when I do so, she is happy too”. when he was asked about how other community men are viewing his actions he replied “It is difficult for many around me to understand how I have changed. I am a headmen and village men expect me to enforce the tradition that prescribes that women only should do such chores but when they see me doing so they are surprised and I am sure I am sending a good message about time sharing”.

Munyaradzi’s wife had a few words to say, “It all started after the trainings, my husband for the first time asked me to give her prepared porridge to feed our 18 months old daughter. I was surprised and I realised he was serious when he fed the baby and washed the plate. The following day he asked for the ENSURE recipe book and asked for the simplest recipe to prepare. It continued like that and now he is the one who does feeding of his daughter. I would like to thank ENSURE we are a happy family again”.

To date 68 men have taken part in cooking demonstrations using recipes developed by ENSURE.

Through the men’s fora men are learning about basic nutrition, nutritional requirements of children under 2 years and women of reproductive age.
ENSURE held an inaugural inter district tournament in 2016. The 6 Districts, Bikita, Buhera, Chimanimani, Chipinge, Chivi and Zaka participated in the tournament. It was attended by more than 300 people including Government stakeholders. The tournament provided male advocates with an opportunity to share experiences and benefits of participating in men’s fora.

Male advocates conduct gender dialogues in line with the ENSURE Gender domains during the training and matches.

GENDER DOMAINS
- Gender Division of Labor and Workload Sharing
- Intra-household negotiation and decision making
- Access and Control of income, productive resources
- Self-confidence, autonomy and leadership in Public
- Respect, non-violence, open communication in relationship

Impact of male soccer
- Has facilitated regular meetings for men
- Has brought together the elderly and the youth (intergenerational)
- Has enabled the program to reach young men

Collins Zvoushe who is 23 years had this to say, “I want to thank the ENSURE project, for educating us on gender. This is going to assist me when I get married.

Collins Zvoushe, 23 yrs, single. Cell # 0779944727
I will not be abusive to my wife, as I will assist her with some of the household chores. I now know that women are important for family development.”
IMPACT OF MALE ENGAGEMENT

Male Engagement: working with men for transformative behavior change

Successes:
1. 60% of beneficiaries in union made joint decisions about the consumption of nutritious foods in their households compared to a target of 30%;
2. Adoption of gender sensitive practices at Household Level
   - No to Domestic Violence – 55.6%
   - Gender Division of Labour – 59.3%
   - Moving away from Gender Socialization – 47.5%
   - Control of resources and assets – 45%
   - Financial Control – 31.4%
   - (%) of beneficiary mothers who received support in at least 3 of 5 targeted activities
   - Fetching Firewood - 61% from 40%
   - Weeding in the Crop Fields – 63.1% from 24%
   - Helping with Gardening Activities – 62% against 64.6%
   - Fetching water – 53 from 40%


Men accompany their wives to FDP:

Accompanying spouses for ANC – 55% against 12.7%

Fathers take their children for growth monitoring
FACES OF CHANGE AT COMMUNITY LEVEL: WORKING WITH MEN TO TRANSFORM SOCIAL NORMS
ENHANCING NUTRITION STEPPING UP RESILIENCE AND ENTERPRISE

FATHERHOOD AND CAREGIVING
David Mashonganyika, male advocate for Ward 4 Chimanimani coming back from Nhedsiva Clinic where he had taken his son for growth monitoring.

“I was not really concerned about my child’s health before, I thought it was my wife’s duty. After the session on nutrition, I now want to ensure my child is healthy.”

SAVING NO TO GENDER BASED VIOLENCE:
Mbedek Chapurwa, a male advocate, Ward 18, Chivi, had this to say “I am a changed man, I asked myself the benefits of beating my wife they were none.” He assists his wife with household chores so that she has time to breast feed. “I now know what it means to be a real man.”

IMPROVED ACCESS TO PRODUCTIVE RESOURCES
Sithakozile Masendeke could not contain her joy after her husband encouraged her to register the cattle she had purchased using her Village Savings and Lending Share-out. For her it was a defining moment. Mr. Thompson N’aba is a member a men’s fora. (Ward 15, Chivi)

JOINT DECISION MAKING
“I typically would never consult my wife on household matters. The gender training changed my perception. I now involve my wife when making a decision. This year my harvest increased because I consulted with my wife and she gave me ideas I never knew she had and had not thought of.” Tupai
Chiripo and wife, Ward 21, Chimanimani