

MUBAYIRA Community ICT Meeting

10 June 2006



By

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1. Introduction

Twenty-eight participants who included male youth, schoolchildren, schoolteachers and adult women and men attended the meeting. However, as in Mutoko, girls were conspicuously absent. EKOWISA has to devise ways to bring in the girl child. By the time the EKOWISA team arrived, participants to the workshop were all ready and eager to go. The meeting started with a drama performance before introductions.

2 Welcome remarks and Introductions

The Chairperson of the Community Management Committee (CMC) that manages EKOWISA activities Mrs. Edna Mtizwa welcomed the twenty- eight community representatives that included the Counsellor for the area and the headmaster of Rio Tinto High School – Mr. Mpande. Again as in Mutoko, the majority of participants introduced themselves as Mr. or Mrs. so and so without mentioning their first names, with only a few mentioning their first names. A similar discussion as happened in Mutoko arose at the end of the introduction session; the facilitator Ms T Nzira pointed out the need for people to introduce themselves by name as this had a bearing in the depth and openness of discussions that follow and even in future interactions within the community.

The Chairperson informed the EKOWISA team that several people from the community had registered to be EKOWISA project participants. The committee agreed to charge a joining fee of \$ 400,000.00 and a monthly subscription fee of \$50, 000.00 for all community members interested to take part in the project. She also informed the meeting that a local Church that had a function a few weeks before the meeting requested the use of the digital camera. They charged the church a fee of 1 million dollars, and the local EKOWISA Chapter was in the process of opening a group account with the local bank. The EKOWISA group was currently finalizing their group constitution and by-laws. The chairperson explained that the joining fee and any other income made from the hiring of project equipment would be banked. The meeting was further informed that a community management committee elected to run EKOWISA project was in place and consisted of the following members:

Mrs Mutiza	Chairperson
Mrs Vera	Vice Chair
Mrs Matchatini	Secretary
Mrs Antonio	Vice Secretary
Ms Munzvandi	Treasurer
Mr A Chifamba	Committee member Central Ward
Mr K Matemera	Committee member East Ward
Mr Chinyanyiwa	Committee member North Ward
Mr S Musasa	Committee member South Ward
Mr Mujome	IT Teacher

It was very evident that this community had already internalized the project and women occupied positions of leadership. This spoke well on the social sustainability aspects of the project.

2. Objectives of meeting

Ms. M. Zunguze reminded the participants of the broad project objectives and that of the day's meeting, which were:

- To further discuss issues of gender and development and some root causes of poverty; and
- To select participants to attend a TOT workshop at Silveira House

3. Gender and Development: Some root cause of poverty

Following the drama on HIV and AIDS, Tsitsi Nzira of WLSA facilitated a group discussion based issues raised by the drama. Some of the issues raised included:

- ❖ Child abuse
- ❖ Women as carriers of HIV
- ❖ Teachers as role models in the community
- ❖ Women fighting each other: mother in-law and daughter-in-law
- ❖ Tolerance of men's infidelity

- ❖ Men spending family resources on ‘small houses’ that some group members decided to call ‘smell’ houses
- ❖ Women using their bodies to access resources in the hands of men
- ❖ Women’s economic dependency on men leading to gender violence
- ❖ Domestic violence – what messages are we sending to our children?
- ❖ Practice of roora/lobola that seems to have gone out of hand

The drama group was advised to use the drama as a means of rousing discussions about pertinent issues affecting communities, for example the roora/lobola issue that was given as one of the cultural practices disadvantaging and discriminating against women. One male participant raised the point that gender equality would remain a long pipe dream as long as men paid roora/lobola. Moreover, the exorbitant amount of money currently charged by parents was tantamount to commercial exchange. Participants agreed to take lobola as one of the issues for discussion under the project.

The facilitator ended the session by presenting some WLSA materials on: women’s access to and control over resources, inheritance and maintenance laws in the form of publications, pamphlets and posters.

4. Way forward for Mubayira, Rio Tinto

Women discussed some of the ways they could help and support each other in marketing their products – sharing information, referring potential buyers and encouraging each other when chips were down. Ms. Zunguze encouraged participants to make use of each other’s website that she had developed for them as sources of information.

She also introduced the idea of the training for trainers workshop that would equip community members with analyzing skills so they could more effectively take part in the Community ICT project. The proposed training will work from the information needs assessments done in the site last year. The objectives of the TOT are to ;

- Enhances their understanding of the development process;

- Appreciate the need for addressing gender issues in all the activities that the community undertake to do
- Enhances their need to change their beliefs and attitudes and practices so they can address challenges of poverty and HIV AIDs equitably
- Facilitate the community to interrogate topical issues from their communities and strategize on the appropriate ICT methodology or tool to address the issue.
- Enhance the community's capacity to interact with local authorities and local leadership concerning issues identified in 4

Ms Zunguze will deposit money for bus fares into the school account which will be distributed to the ten prospective participants to travel to Harare on a date to be announced.

Participants list

Name	Sex	Age	Address
1. Stanford Musasa	M	40	Rio Tinto
2. Sinodia Madzivanzira	F	54	Box 80, Mubayira
3. Tambudzai Mukonori	F	20	Box 80, Mubayira
4. Lucia Marimo	F	28	Box 80, Mubayira
5. Kundai Chaka	F	32	Nyangwene Sch.
6. A Mabvura	F	49	Box 80, Mubayira
7. B Karongo	F	22	Box 80, Mubayira
8. A Chifamba	F	22	Box 80, Mubayira
9. C Nerwande	F	57	Box 80, Mubayira
10. Joyce Gobvhu	F	57	Box 80, Mubayira
11. Hans Mtemasango	M	20	Box 80, Mubayira
12. Prosper Nyambiro	M	18	Box 80, Mubayira
13. Mugove Chiyangwa	M	24	Box 80, Mubayira
14. Juliet Antonio	F	28	Box 80, Mubayira
15. K Mavingire	M	25	Box 80, Mubayira
16. P Matekenya	M	41	Box 80, Mubayira
17. A Chifamba	F	40	Box 80, Mubayira
18. Rose Vera	F	44	Box 80, Mubayira
19. J Kamangiro	F	32	Nyangwene Sch. Mubayira
20. P Tafa	F	48	Box 80, Mubayira
21. Eunice Masuwa	F	33	Box 80, Mubayira
22. Annamoce Muchinguri	F	33	Nyangwene Sch. Mubayira
23. Takanyadziwa Takawira	M	40	Box 80, Mubayira
24. C Pasimire	F	35	Box 80, Mubayira
25. Tandiwe Masube	F	40	Box 80, Mubayira
26. Edna Mtizwa	F	38	Box 99, Mubayira

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