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Takunda

WE HAVE OVERCOME

Special Edition 2022 Q4

[HTTPS://LINKTR.EE/TAKUNDARFISA](https://linktr.ee/takundarfisa)

Fostering women's participation in public spaces



After her care group meeting, **DOROTHY MARIVASA**, stands by the side of a road carrying a bag containing learning materials she uses as a lead mother in Mamutse village, Ward 29 - Zaka. © Tariro Tshuma/ TAKUNDA RFSA



Thirty-three-year-old **DOROTHY MARIVASA** lives in Mamutse village under **CHIEF BOTA** in Ward 29 Zaka district. The last born in a family of 11, **Dorothy** was spoilt by her parents as they provided everything she wanted and needed more than they ever did for her siblings. She cherished the memories of her upbringing as she as they clashed with the reality of marriage in a patriarchal society.

Dorothy met and married **Christopher** from Dekeza village in 2007. Together they have four children, the eldest being fourteen years of age. As the couple is not formally employed, they rely on horticulture and casual jobs such as brick molding & preparing other people's fields to earn a living. This has led to their waking time being consumed with daily tasks to make ends meet. The transition

into becoming **Christopher's** wife was a difficult experience for Dorothy.

It was not her place to voice her concerns but to take instructions from her husband without question. It wasn't her place to discuss some of the challenges they face as a household, let alone advise him on the best decision to make for their family, as it always led to frustration.

The onus was on **Dorothy** to tend to the household chores, including fetching water, as **Christopher** did not believe it was his place to assist with around the household as he had a wife and children to do so. "His tone was always harsh when he spoke to the children and I," confides Dorothy and adds she was not allowed to participate in community meetings, as the husband felt it was the men's job to plan for their women and

children.

With the advent of the Takunda project, **Christopher** attended a meeting where a team from Takunda was sensitizing the community on male champion training and group registrations. **Christopher** decided to follow through on what he learned and joined a men's fora group led by a peer. **Dorothy** said, "Joining the men's fora meetings transformed him. Everything changed, and we started planning as a family."

Cheerful, **Dorothy** is grateful for the peace and happiness in her family. **Christopher** now actively and openly discusses their financial issues with her and the children. Sometimes, he fetches water and helps her wash the dishes, a job which was previously done by **Dorothy** and the children. **Christopher** said, "My family did not believe it during the first days when

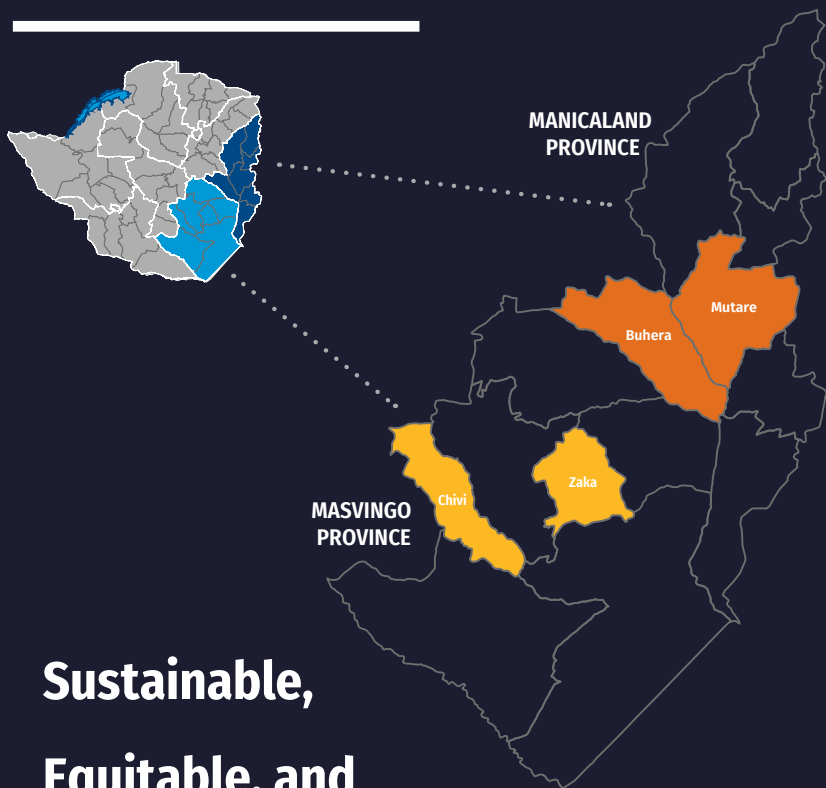
they saw me doing dishes and fetching water; to them, it was a joke." Now they are used to it. **Dorothy** had this to say about her household vision "I want us to succeed as a family through Takunda and for my family to remain united."

Christopher has gone on to encourage **Dorothy** to attend community meetings. His support led to her joining a village savings and loans association in her village and provided her with the initial capital.

This has boosted her confidence to participate in public spaces, where she is now a lead mother mentoring pregnant and lactating young women from her village in a care group.

Written by: Tariro Tshuma

RESILIENCE FOOD SECURITY ACTIVITY



Sustainable, Equitable, and Resilient Food, Nutrition, and Income Security in Manicaland and Masvingo.

301 636 Participants



PURPOSE 1

Increased gender equitable income among extremely poor and chronically vulnerable households, women, and youth.



PURPOSE 2

Improved nutritional status among children under 5 years, adolescent girls, and women of reproductive age.



PURPOSE 3

Reduced impact of shocks and stresses for extremely poor and chronically vulnerable households, women, and youth.

173 000
YOUTH (AGE 15-35)

114 000
WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE

57 980
ADOLESCENT GIRLS (AGE 10-15)

TAKUNDA, meaning “we have overcome” in Shona, is a \$55M five-year (October 2020 to September 2025) USAID/BHA-funded Resilience Food Security Activity in Zimbabwe. The program is being led by CARE

Interwoven between the purpose areas, and embedded in all program activities, are the following cross-cutting themes:

- Gender, Youth & Social Dynamics
- Social Behavior Change
- Environmental Safeguarding
- Collaboration, Learning and Adaptation
- Community Visioning
- Governance & Accountability

Guiding principles

- Engaging communities through the Community visioning process to influence activity selection.

- Ensuring effective integration, layering, and sequencing of approaches and interventions to increase positive outcomes for participants and enhance sustainability

- Adaptive management
- Local systems strengthening and sustainability

Beneficiary targeting

Inclusive: targets areas with higher concentrations of extremely poor and chronically vulnerable households (HHs). HHs will be scored, ranked, and selected based on vulnerability indicators:

- (1) poverty prevalence,
- (2) stunting,
- (3) mean hazard index,
- (4) population food insecurity, (5) access to safe drinking water, and
- (6) agro-ecological zone

Intervention specific: tailored targeting approaches for primary participant groups including extremely poor HHs (23,163); chronically vulnerable HHs (46,327); HHs with adolescents, children, and women at risk of chronic malnutrition (74,508); and whole communities (for some WASH interventions) (282,925).

STUDIES

- Agriculture Value Chain Analysis Report
- Care Group, Water Point, Ward Food and Nutrition Security Committee and Ward Water and Sanitation Sub-Committee Inventory Report
- Community Visioning Culmination Report
- COVID-19 Socio-Economic Analysis Report
- Gender Analysis Report
- Off-Farm Opportunities Capacities Financial and Labor Market Assessment Report
- Social Behavior Change Formative Research Report
- Village Savings and Loans Association Functionality Review Report

SCAN the QR Code to download all formative studies listed above:



IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS



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