**1. OBJECTIVE AND RELEVANCE (THE WORLD AROUND US)**

1.1. What is the main purpose with the intervention, including challenges that need to be addressed?

The fragile Zimbabwean context has deteriorated into perpetual political and socio-economic crises, further intensified by the COVID-19 pandemic and severe drought causing food insecurity. The multi-dimensional crisis has consequences for children who become increasingly vulnerable to abuse, violence, and exploitation, when authorities, institutions, and caregivers are weakened and overwhelmed by crisis.

Therefore, the main purpose of the intervention is to protect children from abuse and exploitation, in a context where children are particularly vulnerable. Specifically, the overall goal is to *Reduce abuse and exploitation of 50.000 children at risk/or victims of exploitation in two vulnerable communities in Harare, Zimbabwe (Epworth and Hatcliffe).* To achieve the overall goal, the partners (Viva Denmark (VD) and Viva Network Zimbabwe (VNZ)) have identified three main challenges:

1. *Challenge: High impunity rates for crimes against children, lack of legal identity for children, and non-child-friendly justice systems hinder access to justice for children and fulfilment of rights.*
2. *Challenge: Harmful norms and practices foster abuse, exploitation, and violence against children (sexual abuse, violence, early marriages, child labour, child prostitution etc.).*
3. *Challenge: Food insecurity and loss of livelihoods caused by severe drought and COVID-19 have increased vulnerability of at-risk families and thus fostered negative coping mechanisms lessening safety, well-being, and protection of children.*

The partners propose a three-dimensional strategy to reduce abuse and exploitation through countering the above challenges. Thus, the strategy aims to reduce abuse and exploitation of children by 1) improving access to justice for children through advocacy, 2) reducing harmful norms and practices exposing children through community-based approaches, and 3) strengthening resilience of vulnerable families through livelihood opportunities. The intervention works strategically with established alliances of key civil society actors, policy makers, and Justice Operators[[1]](#footnote-2) to promote children’s right to protection. To achieve this, the strategy has been operationalized into three immediate objectives (see LFA in section 3.5.).

1.1.1. If the intervention is an extension of a previous intervention, please describe:

a) What results have been achieved so far?

The intervention is possible due to foundations and learnings from a previous intervention ‘Access to Justice’ (19-2360-UI-mar) which created a framework of community protection, capacity-building, and systemic improvement of key Justice Operators (duty-bearers) to address deep-rooted injustices against children in Zimbabwe.

*Key achievements so far[[2]](#footnote-3):*

* Established a Child Justice Alliance consisting of 15 civil society organizations actively working together to improve access to justice for children.
* Policy proposals and position papers submitted together with Justice Operators and the Child Justice Alliance for amendment of the National Birth Registration Act, legal procedures of birth registration processes, and strengthening of Justice Operators.
* Advocated for Registrar General’s Office (duty-bearer) to establish two decentralized Birth Registration Help Desk in Epworth and Mbare (peri-urban settlements of Harare).
* Advocated change in legal procedures for reporting abuse and violence against children (crimes can now be reported to the local authorities where the crime is committed, as opposed to earlier, where crimes could only be reported in the area of residency, constituting a major barrier for investigation and prosecution).
* Supported 1143 children with birth registrations and 77 children with litigation services

b) What are (still) the major challenges?

*Challenge 1:* Lack of access to justice for children is (still) one of the major challenges leading to high levels of abuse and exploitation. Birth registration is the foundation for a child to be able to access most other rights in life including education, healthcare, protection, and other basic rights. With only 32% of children under 5 years registered in Zimbabwe, the lack of birth certificates continues to be a barrier to protection. The issue has increased due to the COVID-19 pandemic because mobility is lessened. Without birth certificates a child does not have a legal identity and thus justice cannot be achieved for victims of abuse and exploitation. Having a legal identity is a human right and a key priority under SDG 16.9. Another challenge for access to justice is inefficiency of key Justice Operators, who are unable to effectively prosecute perpetrators, sustain the rule of law, and ensure justice for child victims.

*Challenge 2:* Child sexual abuse and exploitation is caused by harmful norms and practices. Zimbabwe ranks among the five countries in the world with the highest child sexual abuse prevalence rate (Laccino 2014). The United Nations report that about 1 in 4 girls in Zimbabwe has experienced sexual violence by the age of 15. The Zimbabwe Republic Police estimates that 100 girls are abused every day (Nyamanhindi 2015). Harmful norms and negative coping mechanisms practiced in our target communities include child marriages, where daughters are married off to reduce a perceived economic burden with the bride price (lobola) used by families as a means of survival. Besides sexual abuse and child marriages, the number of children engaged in child labour continues to increase. Children are pushed into child labour due to poverty, though this deprivation from education perpetuates the poverty cycle[[3]](#footnote-4).

*Challenge 3:* Food insecurity caused by severe drought and COVID-19 related losses of livelihoods is increasingly becoming a major challenge with an estimated 7.5 million Zimbabweans in need of humanitarian assistance. In Hatcliffe and Epworth, unemployment rates are overwhelming and negative coping mechanisms like child labour and child prostitution are growing because of food insecurity. A dramatic increase in child prostitution has been reported with cases of 13-15 years old girls leaving school to engage in prostitution. One study points to an increase of 150% in 2019 of young girls to do prostitution and that children are trading sex for amounts equivalent to food portions[[4]](#footnote-5). In December 2019, the National AIDS Council reported that 70% of prostitutes in Zimbabwe is now young girls due to the current food shortage. Further, this tendency increases due to consequences of COVID-19[[5]](#footnote-6).

C) To what extent do this intervention include new objectives, a new strategic approach or new target groups?

*New objectives and strategies*

While the previous intervention aimed to improve access to justice for children, this intervention has a broader goal of reducing abuse and exploitation of children through applying a holistic strategic approach. The previous intervention can be viewed as a justice sector response applying a twofold strategy to 1) reduce barriers to justice for children and 2) empower civil society to advocate for Justice Operators to deliver effective and inclusive services. While the new intervention directly builds on the capacities, results, and experiences already achieved as a strategic foundation, it aims to broaden the strategy and objectives to also address other root causes of child abuse and exploitation.

The renewed approach is developed based on three strategic considerations. First, the new strategy and objectives reflect the increased fragility and vulnerability of the political, socio-economic, and climate-related context of Zimbabwe, which worsened during 2019-2020 due to continued severe drought, hyperinflation, political instability, and COVID-19 which together have further deteriorated food insecurity and loss of livelihoods. Second, the new approach reflects that a strategic foundation has been built through the previous intervention, upon which the next step for improving justice and protecting children can be built. This allows for integration of previous efforts into a more multi-dimensional approach also addressing other root causes of child injustices (harmful norms and food insecurity). Third, through a focused development intervention (19-2360-UI-mar), besides its organisational capacities and strong project management skills, Viva Network Zimbabwe has demonstrated ability to mobilize and empower civil society actors and authorities to achieve systemic changes through advocacy.

*New target group*

The new intervention will continue with one of the previous target areas, Epworth, and add a new target area, Hatcliffe. Epworth is maintained because of its high levels of vulnerability with a poverty rate of 68% and high prevalence of abuse and exploitation of children. In Epworth, approximately 30.000 people has been directly reached through awareness raising and 2.000 children have benefitted directly getting birth certificates and litigation services. Though this is a success, a small percentage of the people in Epworth has been reached with an official population of 176.000 (2012-numbers) and unofficial estimates of more than 500.000 people (2020-estimate). Therefore, the intervention will be implemented in new communities in Epworth, thus not targeting the same people. Hatcliffe is a new target area, chosen based on its extreme vulnerability status. Hatcliffe’s population, currently around 50.000 people, is continuously growing due to climate-related rural-urban migration, returning diasporas, and settlement expansion.

1.2. Describe the context of the intervention: Describe the conditions that apply in the area where the intervention will take place, and which are expected to influence the intervention + whether the intervention takes place in a stable or fragile context.

The intervention takes place in a fragile context in Epworth and Hatcliffe which are among the most impoverished unplanned peri-urban settlements of Harare. The Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Report 2020 places the two areas among the most affected areas in terms of child vulnerability, food insecurity, child exploitation and abuse. This is rooted in the multicultural, metropolitan nature of the areas as the population consist of returning deportees, boarder jumpers, climate and rural-urban migrants, and hiding criminals. The fragility rate has worsened across political, social, economic, climate, and environmental dimensions as described below.

*Political conditions*

The political situation in Zimbabwe has turned volatile and unpredictable, characterised by abductions of activists and members of opposition, arrests of media personnel, and torture of rights advocates. This has left vulnerable communities more exposed to abuse as authorities and institutions are overwhelmed and unable to provide adequate protection. Further, the COVID-19 pandemic worsened the situation with restrictions forcefully enforced by state agents. As institutions has enhanced

*Social and economic conditions*

As a result of the political environment, poverty, food insecurity, unemployment, and social vulnerability have suffered. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many Zimbabwean migrants searching for work in South Africa and other neighbouring countries have been forced back to Zimbabwe. Many returnees are homeless and left their families disintegrated, therefore, they resort to peri-urban areas like Epworth and Hatcliffe. In 2019, the Zimbabwean economy contracted by 6.5% because of exogenous shocks inclduing El-Nino, climate induced drought, and destruction caused by Cyclone Idai (Monetary Policy Statement 2020). Cash shortages continue to influence negatively on livelihoods in both rural and urban areas. The use of the three-tier pricing system contributed to distorted prices of goods and services, making life for low-income households very difficult. Poverty continues to be a major underlying cause of vulnerability of food insecurity and precarious livelihoods. According to Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency’s (ZIMSTAT) ‘Poverty, Income, Consumption and Expenditure Survey 2017 Report’, 70.5% of the population were poor and 29.3% were extremely poor. Extreme poverty has risen from 29% in 2018 to 34% in 2019, an increase from 4.7 to 5.7 million people. The increase stems from economic contraction and sharp price rises of food and basic commodities. Since October 2018, inflation has increased, driven by monetization of sizable fiscal deficits of the past, price distortions, and local currency depreciation. Annual inflation has reached 830% in July 2020 (compared to 230% in July 2019) and food prices rising by 940% in July 2020.

*Climate and environmental fragility*

Since 2008, Zimbabwe has not had sufficient rainfall, and the drought worsened with below average rainfall continuing in 2019 and 2020. Additionally, Cyclone Idai has worsened the situation damaging electricity and water sectors, causing rationing and tariff adjustments to manage costs. The long-termed drought brings about 7.5 million people in need of humanitarian assistance[[6]](#footnote-7). In Hatcliffe, only two functioning wells serve a population of over 50.000 people, resulting in queues of children and women at water points day and night.

*Increased risk of abuse and exploitation of children*

Because of the political, social, economic, COVID-19, and climate related conditions, an estimated 1.2 million children are in urgent need of protection according to Humanitarian Response Plan Zimbabwe (March 2020). Data from the Victim Friendly System show a 24% increase in reported child abuse cases and a 20% increase in reported child sexual abuse cases. The particularly vulnerable conditions in Epworth and Hatcliffe make the areas high-risk areas of child abuse and exploitation (see section 1.1.1.b for detailed description).

*Other project and activities being implemented in the area by other organisations*

VNZ will coordinate the intervention with the following organisations active in Epworth and Hatcliffe to ensure complementarity with other interventions being implemented in the area: 1. Plan International (educational assistance); 2. Oxfam (COVID-19 WASH program); 3. DanChurch Aid (cash grants for food); 4. Childline; 5. Government (cash relief).

1.3. Describe how this intervention will strengthen civil society organising to advance social justice (realisation of people’s rights, reducing inequality and fighting poverty, participation in decision-making processes, equal access to resources, and just institutions).

The intervention will strengthen civil society organizing in three ways:

*Strengthened civil society alliance*. The Child Justice Alliance, established by VNZ, comprising 15 civil society actors is instrumental for achieving advocacy results. Through the intervention, the relatively new alliance will consolidate its eligibility, legitimacy, and organizing through working together to achieve joint visions and goals. The alliance will strengthen its mandate and position through facilitating a National Birth Registration Conference, Child Protection Conference and Symposium, submitting joint position papers, and doing joint lobbying for amendment of the Births and Deaths Registration Act, amongst other advocacy goals.

*Strengthened relations between civil society and duty-bearers*. VNZ and the Child Justice Alliance will strengthen relations to key duty-bearers, and thus consolidate its voice and advocacy position. Relations to and acceptance by duty-bearers are key to be able to conduct advocacy in the Zimbabwean context where other advocacy approaches such as ‘shaming and blaming’ are counterproductive.

*Strengthened community structures and bottom-up linkage*. The link between community structures (Community Child Protection Committees, School Child Protection Committees, Community Leaders and Youth Ambassadors), civil society organizations, and duty-bearers will be strengthened through the intervention, through the conduct of joint workshops, meetings, conferences and awareness campaigns. This establishes a bottom-up linkage between right-holders and duty-bearers as children and families are given the opportunity to speak directly to authority officials through above mentioned events, as well as through community structures. By empowering community structures at-risk children and families are given a sustainable channel, through which they can approach authorities.

1.4. What climate- and environmental conditions do the partnership and/or the intervention need to respond to? And how have the partners responded to it? This could be in relation to the conditions of the target groups, the number of flights or the activities of the intervention, and how these affect the environment or climate in the area.

*Our starting point:* The goal for VD and VNZ is social justice for children, also in the future, through the balances illustrated in the sustainability model. In working for social justice, VD and VNZ value partner-visits both to advance the relationship and collaboration as well as to ensure learning and monitoring. Considering affects to the climate and environment, the number of visits is kept to a minimum. Additionally, Viva is in a process to develop a Climate Policy regarding the organizations climate considerations.

*Our intervention:* Immediate objective 3 responds to the worst drought in decades in Zimbabwe caused by climate change. There is need of sustainable solutions to drought and consequently hunger with 7.5 million Zimbabweans being food insecure and in need of humanitarian assistance[[7]](#footnote-8), since the conditions are not likely to change. According to the 2012 census, 167.000 people lived in Epworth alone, now the estimated number is over 500.000 people due to climate related migration. Thus, immediate objective three of the intervention is a direct response to climate change.

VNZ has experience responding to hunger crisis through Early Response to Food Insecurity in Epworth (DERF-20-559-EA). The target group are vulnerable families living in the densely populated areas Epworth and Hatcliffe.

Further, advocacy, which is a key method of the intervention, mostly relies on sustainable human resources limiting the climate footprint of the intervention.

*The world around us:* With 48 percent of Zimbabwe’s population being under 18, there is a need to focus on children and building a sustainable future *for* them and *with* them both through knowledge about rights and structural changes to ensure these rights. To focus on advocacy for children and change of structures is to build sustainable social justice.

2. THE PARTNERSHIP/COLLABORATORS (OUR STARTING POINT)

*2.1 Describe the experiences, capacities and resources of participant partners (including the Danish organisation) as well as other actors (e.g. their experiences with the subject matter concerned, knowledge of the context in which the intervention will take place, networks and relationships).*

“Reduce Abuse and Exploitation of Children in Zimbabwe” is implemented in a partnership between Viva Denmark (VD) and Viva Network Zimbabwe (VNZ).

**VIVA DENMARK (VD)**

VD is a development organization and the Danish branch of the international network Viva, working in 27 countries. Since 1994, VD is working to improve the lives of vulnerable children together with four of these Viva networks: Philippines, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Zimbabwe. The purpose is strengthening of civil society with a strategic focus on advocating for institutional change to improve conditions for socially, politically, and economically excluded children and youth.

The goal of VD’s Programme Policy is to ensure that “children at-risk or victims of abuse and exploitation are safeguarded, rescued, and restored to safe, loving families in child-friendly societies”. Strategically the Programme Policy is founded upon SDG 16. To this end, VD has managed several DANIDA-funded interventions with the aim of strengthening our partners’ capacity and positioning them as advocates for children’s right to justice, particularly regarding violence and sexual abuse.

VD’s track record in the past 5 years (through interventions with South partners funded by DANIDA and EU):

*Successfully advocated for systems’ strengthening and policy reform*

* Advocated for the establishment and strengthening of Local Council’s for the Protection of Children in the Philippines and Child Protection Committees in Nicaragua.
* Contributed to development of Foster Care Guidelines in partnership with the Honduran Ministry of Family and the Philippine Department of Social Welfare and Development.

*Registered and reported child exploitation cases and human rights violations*

* Contributed to the rescue and restoration of 53 child victims of online sexual exploitation in 2018 alone in the Philippines.
* Supported children in their human right to legal identity through obtaining birth certificates, in Zimbabwe, which further strengthen the children if they are exploited in any way.

*Challenged harmful norms and attitudes and empowered local changemakers*

* Empowered +500 Youth Advocates in partnering countries to become champions of children’s right to protection and participation.
* Reached +50.000 children and families in partnering countries through awareness raising campaigns in communities, online and in national media.

**Qualifications of staff and relevant board member**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Position | Qualifications | Function and professional competencies |
| Gritt Holm Hedehus | National Director | * MA in Spanish and International Studies * 19 years working with communication, volunteer programs, international development, and project management * 3 years in Ibis, 15 years in DanChurchAid, 1 year as global campaign coordinator in ACT Alliance | Overall responsible for VD’s commitment to the VD-VNZ partnership together with the Chairman of the board. |
| Thomas Krag Langvad | Program Manager | * MA in International Security and Law * BA in Emergency and Risk Management * 3,5 years as Disaster Management Assistant among other with Danish Red Cross in Denmark and abroad * 4 years as volunteer in Honduras and in DK through VD | Program management. Responsible for programmatic capacity building of VNZ, technical consultancy, and monitoring throughout the project period. |
| Svend Stokbæk | Finance & Admin Manager | * MA in Political Science from Aarhus University * 7 years as administrator at the NGO the Danish European Mission * 9 years as administrator for VD * 2015- internal financial auditor for CISU | Grant management, instruction on guidelines to partners, conducting workshops on financial management, financial and project monitoring, preparations for audit, book-keeping, budget forecasts, and management information.  Responsible for financial capacity building of VNZ. |
| Lisbeth Plougmann | Volunteer Coordinator | * MA in Educational Anthropology from Aarhus University * BA in Christianity, Culture & Communication from Aarhus VIA University * 6 years as volunteer coordinator with VD | Knowledge on volunteer programming. Responsible for Danish volunteer program in collaboration with VNZ staff. |
| Ole Brauer | Board Member | * MA in Political Science from Aarhus University, 1984 * 30 years working with international development in Africa, Asia, and Latin America the Middle East, mainly with DanChurchAid. | Extensive experience with NGO cooperation, project management, organisational development, partnership, and M&E |

**VIVA NETWORK ZIMBABWE (VNZ)**

VNZ is the Zimbabwean branch of the international Viva network. VNZ was founded in 1999 as a network of organizations and churches seeking effective collaboration to improve the situation for children at risk in the capital, Harare. VNZ consists of 54 organizations, 156 churches, and 15 associated partners in Harare, continuously with new members engaging in the network. The network is registered as a trust (MA822/2003).

The vision of VNZ is “to see all the children at risk living in safe, loving homes, and communities”. This is mirrored in the focus on child protection, family strengthening, and access to basic services, outlined in VNZ’s strategy (2019-2023). The network has an estimated direct reach of 35.000 children across Harare.

VNZ has strong implementation and project management skills, as well as solid relations to locals and authorities, which is seen in the fast implementation and results of Access to Justice 19-2360-UI-mar and Early Response to Food Insecurity DERF 20-559-EA (external evaluation can be send upon request). The firm local roots of VNZ ensures strong legitimacy towards the target group and key stakeholders and ensures the do-no-harm principle.

VNZ’s track record in the past 5 years:

* Assisted 1143 orphans and vulnerable children with birth registration and supported 77 abused children with litigation services through the project Access to Justice.
* Equipped 20 Junior Parliamentarians to advocate children’s rights.
* Established advocacy platforms to influence community and national policy makers on birth registration issues.
* Established a Child Justice Alliance with key civil society actors, public authorities and institutions. Key relationships were built with community stakeholders and community leaders.
* Supported particularly vulnerable families with livelihood opportunities to mitigate drought-imposed food insecurity.
* Provided catch-up learning to more than 1900 children in eight Learning Support Centres in four high density areas of Harare.
* Established comprehensive child safeguarding systems in 20 member organizations and 60 churches, as well as trained 18 organizations on Quality Improvement Systems (QIS).
* Provided counselling and trauma healing services to more than 2300 children through Pavement Project.
* Reached approximately 6000 families with COVID-19 awareness raising.

**Qualifications of relevant staff and board members**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Position | Qualifications | Function and professional competencies |
| Jonathan I. Chikumbu | Coordinator | * Bachelor of Honours Degree in Social Work * Master in Population Studies * 6 years as Humanitarian Relief and Development Manager for Evangelical Fellowship of Zimbabwe * Since 2013 coordinator for VNZ | Overall responsible for VNZ’s commitment to the VD-VNZ partnership together with the Chairman of the board. Oversees project implementation in Zimbabwe. |
| Oscar Bobo | Finance Officer | * Diploma in Accounting * Since 2013 Finance and Administration Officer for VNZ | Responsible for financial monitoring, preparations for audit, book-keeping, budget forecasts, and management information. |
| Widdlack Nyahwedegwe | Program Officer | * BSC Hons in Psychology * National Diploma in Information Technology * Executive certificate in Results Based Monitoring and Evaluation * Currently studying Master of Science in Counselling Psychology * Total Blessings Trust, a child welfare organization * Program officer for VNZ | Directly implements the project with support of field officer, stakeholders, and local authorities. |
| Rumbidzai Matanga | Field Officer | * BSC Hons in Psychology * Master of Science Degree in Applied Psychology * Executive certificate in Results Based Monitoring and Evaluation | Works directly with beneficiaries seeking birth certificates, litigation services, and livelihood support. |

*2.2. Describe any previous acquaintance or cooperation between the partners, and how these experiences have fed constructively into the development of the proposed intervention.*

*Partnership between VD and VNZ*

VD and VNZ are both part of the international Viva Network and collaboration has existed for several years. In July 2017, VD, VNZ, and Viva UK, developed a proposal for the DFID Girls’ Education Challenge – Leave No Girl Behind Window. Although the proposal was declined after pre-selection, the process confirmed partners in their joint interest and competency in working together to improve conditions for vulnerable children and youth. From 2018 to 2019, VD and VNZ implemented a citizen participation project that saw VNZ running a situational analysis of the children in Harare. During this intervention, VD visited VNZ and had a conference where a joint Theory of Change was developed. In 2019, VD hosted a partnership conference in Aarhus which the Coordinator for VNZ attended. Here, exchange of experience took place between Viva partners from Zimbabwe, the Philippines, Honduras, and Denmark, and a shared strategy for the partners was founded. Through the implementation of 19-2360-UI-mar and DERF-20-559-EA, VNZ has established a very strong legitimacy and coordination base in Harare. VNZ has proven capable of building alliances and achieving advocacy results as well as directly supporting vulnerable families with livelihood opportunities. These experiences have fed constructively into the development of the proposed intervention.

*Justice Operators*

Justice Operators are relevant duty-bearers with key responsible regarding justice for children and birth registration. The targeted Justice Operators include: Department of Child Welfare and Probation (and sub-office Department of Social Services (DSS)), Harare City Council, Ministry of Local Governance, Zimbabwe Republic Police Victim Friendly Unit (ZRP-VFU), Registrar General’s Office, Ministry of Youth, Sport, Arts and Recreation, Ministry of Health, Harare Provincial Magistrate Courts. VNZ has established strong relations to key Justice Operators through previous cooperation achieving the results described in section 1.1.1.b. These experiences have contributed to designing the intervention as the relations and experience is applied as strategic foundation for the proposed intervention.

*Justice for Children*

Justice for Children is a nongovernmental organisation established in December 2002 with great expertise working with children’s rights in Zimbabwe. Its specialized lawyers are registered both with the High Court of Zimbabwe and the Law Society of Zimbabwe. Justice for Children ensures access to justice and the enjoyment of human rights by children below the age of 18 years, through:

* The provision of legal aid to children in difficult circumstances or victims of abuse and exploitation
* Empowering the children and adults on child protection laws and child rights and responsibilities
* Research on issues affecting children and advocating for reform

*The Child Justice Alliance*

The Child Justice Alliance has been established on the initiative of VNZ. The alliance comprise 15 civil society organization, who have joint efforts to improve access to justice for children. Improving birth registration and efficiency of Justice Operators is a key goal of the alliance.

*2.3. Describe the contributions, roles and responsibilities of the partners and other actors.*

|  |
| --- |
| **Contributions, roles, and responsibilities of partners** |
| **Viva Denmark**  - Hold overall responsibility for the delivery of the intervention according to contractual agreement between VD-CISU and VD-VNZ  - Supervise implementation through programmatic and financial MEL system described in section 3.8.  - Ensure timely disbursements according to partnership agreement  - Be an intermediary between VNZ and CISU  - Compliance with the CISU guidelines, anti-corruption policy, child-safeguarding policy, and other policies  - Monitoring visits to Zimbabwe  - Sending four volunteers and two interns to Zimbabwe in 2022-2023. Volunteers constitute an added value to the project as they contribute actively to awareness raising and peer-to-peer activities in close collaboration with the selected VNZ Youth Ambassadors. |
| **Viva Network Zimbabwe**  - Implement project according to partnership agreement and CISU guidelines  - Ensure professional collaboration with all partners including the strategic partners such as the Child Justice Alliance and Justice Operators  - Ensure timely narrative and financial reports,  - Participate in monitoring visits  - Ensure community access and legitimacy through strong localized presence through network members.  - Maintain community access through operative authorization by Harare District Administrators and City Mayors Office to operate despite COVID-19 lockdown (already achieved)  - Ensure mobilisation and engagement of Youth Ambassadors  - Child protection expertise through experienced staff, many years organisational experience, and network members with strong experience and expertise on child protection |
| **Justice for Children**  - Technical and legal expertise  - Evidence-based research  - Lobbying and advocacy |
| **The Child Justice Alliance**  - Lobbying and advocacy  - Discussion of child protection issues  - Production of reports and papers to be submitted to government and authorities  - Improve cooperation between community stakeholders |
| **Justice Operators**  - Organizational awareness  - Conducive of cooperation and advocacy  - Take part in awareness campaigns, conferences, and submission of position papers |
| **Junior Parliament**  - Foster child participation  - Access to children in schools  - Advocacy in National Parliament |

*2.4. Describe how the intervention will contribute to developing the relationship and collaboration between the partners.*

Qua VNZ’s strong position and legitimacy in Epworth and Hatcliffe, the partnership has always had a strong focus on community-based approaches leading to high levels of participation and inclusion of vulnerable children. While this continues to be instrumental for all operations implemented by the partners, the new intervention seeks to further develop the potential of the partnership by strengthening focus on advocacy. Thus, the intervention contributes to develop collaboration of the partners by increasing advocacy efforts. This includes new ways of working together because networking and alliance building increasingly becomes important for both partners. For VNZ this means that much work must be put in the Child Justice Alliance and relationship building with Justice Operators. For VD this also means that networking and search for partners with potential of contributing or complementing advocacy efforts becomes a priority (for example related to national amendment of Births and Deaths Registration Act).

Establishing a network of 60 Youth Ambassadors is a new step for VNZ which will build on VD’s successful experiences building youth networks with other partners. Altogether, the intervention serves as a step in the direction of further strategic alignment with Viva Denmark’s global project portfolio and Program Policy. With clear thematic resemblance to current and previous interventions in other partner countries such as Honduras and the Philippines, this project contributes to the continued strategic specialization and expertise-building in the partnership. This is important to further strengthen expertise and joint knowhow of the partners.

*2.5. Describe how the intervention will contribute to strengthening the partners’ relations to other actors, e.g. authorities, other local, national, and international organisations, networks, alliances, private companies or other financial support.*

*The Child Justice Alliance*

Through the intervention VNZ will strengthen its relation to the Child Justice Alliance by implementing immediate objective 1 on close cooperation with the alliance. Through three years of working together to improve birth registration and performance of Justice Operators the alliance members are likely to further strengthen joint strategies and relations. The alliance currently comprising 15 civil society organization is expected to increase to 25-30 members during the intervention.

*Justice Operators*

The intervention will build strong relationships between the key Justice Operators, VNZ, and the Child Justice Alliance through capacity building activities and a variety of advocacy initiatives and lobby meetings.

3. TARGET GROUPS, OBJECTIVES, STRATEGY, AND EXPECTED RESULTS (OUR INTERVENTION)

3.1. Describe the composition of the target groups: specify approximate number of people in primary (the persons who will participate in the activities of the intervention) and secondary (persons who will be affected by the activities of the intervention without having participated in them) target groups disaggregated by e.g. gender, social groups or other relevant factors.

The primary target group of the intervention are children at risk of abuse and exploitation, duty bearers targeted for advocacy and capacity building, community leaders, resourceful youth engaged as Youth Ambassadors as well as particularly vulnerable families receiving livelihood support. Girls ratio is 2:3 as girls generally is particularly vulnerable in Zimbabwe also reflecting SDG 5. Amongst Community Leaders the men’s ratio is 2:3 reflecting that most men are in the target group of religious- and traditional leaders, and teachers. As the intervention also pursues high-level advocacy goals including submission of policy proposals and amendment of the Births And Deaths Registration Act, putting digitalization of the birth registration process on the political agenda nationally, as well as improving efficiency of Justice Operators at city-level, a considerable secondary target group will benefit from direct and long-term advocacy results. This group includes at-risk children and children without birth certificates.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Primary target groups | | | |
| Children, families, and community stakeholders directly targeted | | | |
| Description | **Male** | **Female** | **Target** |
| Children without birth certificates | 833 | 1.667 | 2.500 |
| Child-victims of abuse/exploitation | 60 | 120 | 180 |
| At-risk children (0-18 years) | 16.667 | 33.333 | 50.000 |
| Child and youth advocates from Junior Parliament | 10 | 10 | 20 |
| Youth Ambassadors | 20 | 40 | 60 |
| Family-members supported with livelihoods (550 families á 5 persons) | 1.375 | 1.375 | 2.750 |
| Community Leaders (religious and traditional leaders, teachers, midwifes etc.) | 20 | 10 | 30 |
| Civil society organizations who will participate in the Child Justice Alliance | - | - | 45 |
| Duty-bearers directly targeted[[8]](#footnote-9) |  |  |  |
| Department of Child Welfare and Probation Services | - | - | 30 |
| Harare City Council | - | - | 4 |
| Ministry of Local Governance | - | - | 6 |
| Zimbabwe Republic Police Victim Friendly Unit (ZRP-VFU) | - | - | 20 |
| Registrar General’s Office | - | - | 15 |
| Ministry of Youth, Sport, Arts and Recreation | - | - | 25 |
| Ministry of Health | - | - | 15 |
| Secondary target groups | | | |
| Policy makers in relevant parliamentary committees | - | - | 10 |
| Parents and guardians of children receiving birth registration and litigation | 893 | 1.786 | 2.680 |
| Other community members (reached with awareness through primary target group) | 6.000 | 12.000 | 18.000 |
| Children with similar litigation services in process at target courts | 800 | 900 | 1.700 |

3.2. Describe how the target groups will participate in- and benefit from the intervention.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Target group** | **Description of target group** | **Participation of target group** | **Target group’s benefits from the intervention** |
| **Children and families** | | | |
| Children without birth certificates | Children with one or no parents, street-connected children, children of unmarried teenagers, children of separated parents, children of rural-urban migration families, children of particularly vulnerable families affected by vicious cycle of poverty, food insecurity, and poor livelihood options. | Children without birth certificates will participate in the legal process of obtaining a birth certificate. The children will also have a potential role of reporting if they do not have a certificate. This is expected to follow from awareness activities done during the intervention through school visits, School Child Protection Committee, mobile clinics, distribution of IEC material, TV/Radio programs, etc. | These children will get birth certificates and may also benefit from the livelihood component. |
| Children who are victims of abuse/exploitation | Child victims of sexual abuse, violence, and other forms of exploitation. | Child victims will have a role to report abuse and exploitation using structures and systems strengthened/established during the intervention including decentralized Police Victim-Friendly Help Desks, Community Child Protection Committees, School Child Protection Committees, parents etc. Child victims will also participate in legal and rehabilitation processes if a case is prosecuted. | The children will get justice as their cases will be reported to competent authorities and they will receive litigation services if needed. Cases will by actively followed up by Child Protection Committees and the Child Justice Alliance. |
| At-risk children (0-18 years) | Children at risk of child sexual abuse, exploitation, violence, early marriage, child labor, child prostitution as well as orphans and street-connected children. | At-risk children will be reached with awareness campaigns conducted in schools and ‘road-shows’ as well as through Community Child Protection Committees and School Child Protection Committees. | At-risk children will be empowered to identify situations of risk and to be able to report these to relevant competent authorities via established channels. |
| Junior Parliament | Children in the age of 13-18 years elected for the Zimbabwean Junior Parliament. The group is elected every year on the Day of the African Child. These children are mainly from schools and thus will be taken at a 1:1 ration of girls to boys. | The junior parliamentarians will be empowered and equipped to participate in lobbying and advocacy to advocate for other children’s access to justice. Their direct role will be to be a link between children and risk and the duty-bearers for effective justice delivery. They will demand action from responsible authorities. 20 out of 60 Youth Ambassadors are recruited amongst Junior Parliamentarians. | The junior parliamentarians will be empowered through trainings together with Youth Ambassadors and receive direct support from the Child Justice Alliance. |
| Youth Ambassadors | Resourceful youth who are still in schools. They will act as role models to reach and connect with children at eye-level. | 60 Youth Ambassadors will be recruited and trained to participate in awareness raising towards at-risk children through peer-to-peer education. This will be done though a 1 youth to 3 strategy of influence. The youth will also participate in other community activities such as Child Protection Conference, Child Protection Symposium, Schools visits, and ‘road-shows’. | The Youth Ambassadors will be capacitated and empowered to reach children with human rights messages and protection messages. |
| Households supported with livelihoods | Parents and guardians of children assisted with livelihoods also become primary targets as they will be trained on running the projects and will receive direct input as seed grants to start up the projects. | Households will run livelihood projects to support children and reduce vulnerability that stems from food insecurity. The households will ensure that children are directly benefiting from the projects. The children will participate in reviews and appraisals. | Households will be trained on running livelihood projects as well as project management. They will also get seed grants to ensure improved food security and to reduce vulnerability. |
| **Duty-bearers (Six key Justice Operators)**  These are representatives from authorities dealing with and responsible for children’s access to justice. See below: | | These will have a role to deliver justice for children in their respective capacity. The intervention will motivate and capacitate these Justice Operators to effectively deliver justice. | The Justice Operators will benefit through training of staff members and updating of their systems for effective service delivery. |
| Department of Child Welfare and Probation Services | This is the wing of the government responsible for the welfare of children. VNZ and Justice for Children have been working so closely with this department that the department sent a representative to the VNZ 20th anniversary celebration held on the 1st of March 2019. | The Department will be a major player in birth registration and child exploitation issues. Their role will include training and sustaining the community-based volunteers, coordinating the Child Justice Alliance, as well as reporting and tracking of child abuse issues. They will also serve as an office of initial reporting of cases. | The department will have its probation officers capacitated and trained for better service delivery. More platforms will be created enabling the department to operate more effectively. |
| Harare City Council | These are the duty-bearers and major authorities when it comes to geographical government of the communities in Harare. They work directly with children and with any organization wishing to interact with or affect the lives of children in any community inside Harare. | These are the local authorities in the communities, and they will aid in identifying help desk locations. They will take custody and responsibility to support community structures established. The community leaders will also coordinate this with the City Council. | Every developmental activity in a community is a direct credit to the council. It will add to the development of their areas of operation. Better law and safety for children will result in an improved community. |
| Ministry of Local Governance | Harare’s suburbs are subdivided into districts and then into wards. The ministry of Local Governance through the District Administrator presides over the districts and has absolute power to authorize any organization to worth within their district. They also monitor all projects that run in the communities as well as submit reports and recommendations to the government. | This is the ministry responsible for coordination of stakeholders in the communities. Their role will include mobilizing the Child Justice Alliance to meetings, running the Community Development Committees and District Development Committees. They will give authorization, support, and protection of organizations when implementing in communities. They will also do check and balances for project efficiency and effectiveness. | The ministry of local governance will find better ground for coordination by being part of the coordinators of the alliance. This will also become a sustainable platform that the ministry can further utilize even after intervention terminates. |
| Zimbabwe Republic Police Victim Friendly Unit (ZRP-VFU) | This is the department of the Zimbabwe Republic Police responsible for handling child protection issues. They are a special department set up on every police station for immediate and effective support of child-cases. The department works in synchronization with the Department of Child Welfare and Probation Services as well as other child protection organizations. | The VFU will be responsible for handing reporting of cases, filing, and processing also through the courts. The VFU’s role is specifically to assist vulnerable children and women. They will be responsible for receiving community based and station based cases of child abuse. They will also play a major role in ensuring that there is child friendliness both at police stations as well as in the process of justice for children. | The police VFU officers will be capacitated and a community based help desk for reporting of cases will be established. This will directly improve the effectiveness of the police in fulfilling their duty and mandate. |
| Registrar General’s Office | The Registrar General’s Office is responsible for the national registrations of births and deaths. | The Registrar General’s Office will be responsible for registering birth certification and other legal identities needed for birth certificates to be obtained. They will also run the mobile birth registrations. | The Registrar General’s Office currently has a huge backlog in registering of children due to the COVID-19 lockdown. The mobile clinics and help desks will be instrumental in allowing the office to deliver its duties. |
| Ministry of Youth, Sport, Arts, and Recreation | This is the ministry responsible for youth participation. They run active child justice groups and initiatives such as the Junior Parliament and Junior Council. They also coordinate youth community activities and monitor such activities done by the youth. | They will be coordinating the Junior Parliamentarians and providing guidance in operations, advocacy activities as well as elections of the youth forming the parliament. | The junior parliamentarians change every year, thus there will be a need for training every year. The incoming group will benefit from the intervention’s training, which will help build a more effective team of junior parliamentarians for the ministry. |
| Ministry of Health and Child Care | They are responsible for childcare in terms of health and nutrition as well as safety. They are creators and custodians of children’s birth records necessary for birth registration. | The ministry of health will assist through supply of birth records for children to enable birth registration. They will also do age-estimations, a requirement for a child without a direct record of birth to be registered or to obtain justice. | The advocacy for digitalization of the birth registration process as well and the lobbying platforms will improve the ministries support and systems for birth registration and child support. |
| Civil society organizations who will participate in the Child Justice Alliance | These include Community Based Organizations, churches, NGOs like Caritas, Mavambo, Madanhaashe, Childline, SOS, Mathew Rusike and many more as may be available in the communities. | The civil society will be engaged in collaborating for child justice. Their specific role will be in identification of, reporting, tracking, following up on child abuse and exploitation. Further, they will have responsibility to support as and according to their different focal areas, the process of justice for the children. | The organization will be well positioned for influence at city and nation-wide level. There will also be a collaborative benefit of having goals achieved faster and more effective with organizations joining efforts to support vulnerable children. |
| **Secondary Target Group** | |  |  |
| Policy makers in relevant parliamentary committees | These include main ministries that are custodians and implementers of ACTS of parliament. They include the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare, The Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Local Governance, The Magistrate’s Courts, The Registrar General, The Zimbabwe Republic Police among others. | Policy makers will be called in for identification of areas needing changes in the legislative pieces affecting children’s justice. They will partake in identifying inconsistences and in the alignment of these polices to the nation’s constitution and other international documents promoting child protection. | A more child-friendly environment will be achieved. Policy makers will be assisted in producing and updating legislation. |
| Parents and guardians of children | These are caregivers of the children benefiting from this intervention. They could be parents, guardians, distant relatives, foster parents, adopting parents or church leaders taking care of vulnerable children. | Parents and guardians will have a role to stand up for vulnerable children in the process of justice for children. This includes reporting, filing, following up, and ensuring that child justice cases will be resolved effectively. Children are sometimes not empowered to stand for themselves, then this automatically will become the role of the guardian or parent. | Parents and guardians of children being assisted will benefit indirectly through strengthening of systems and awareness programs. They will also benefit directly from the livelihood components of the project. |

3.3. Describe how the target groups and relevant actors have been involved in the development of the intervention as well as the partners’ legitimacy to act as champions of the target groups’ cause.

*Involvement of Justice Operators (duty-bearers) and the Child Justice Alliance (civil society)*

Through many years’ experience working on the issues of child sexual abuse and child justice, Viva Network Zimbabwe (VNZ) has established relations with key duty-bearers in Harare and target suburbs as well as key civil society actors. Since 2019 VNZ together with the Child Justice Alliance has participated in monthly coordination meetings with Justice Operators chaired by the Harare Provincial Magistrate Courts. These meetings have given VNZ and the Child Justice Alliance a unique position for lobbying, dialogue, and cooperative advocacy. Thus, the strategy of this intervention has been developed in dialogue with key Justice Operators as well as the Child Justice Alliance.

*Involvement of at-risk children and families*

Through its localized network members located in Epworth and Hatcliffe and through many years of operating in these communities, VNZ has strong familiarity and relations to local stakeholders and target groups. Therefore, the development of the intervention is based on ongoing inputs from families and children living in target communities. In August 2020, the final evaluation of DERF-20-559-EA was carried out, providing inputs for continued needs assessment and context analysis of Epworth a long with specific learnings on implementation of livelihood interventions. This has also fed into the design of the intervention.

*Legitimacy of VNZ to act as champions of the target groups’ cause*

VNZ has built strong legitimacy with the target groups in the peri-urban settlements of Epworth and Hatcliffe through many years localized presence through its network of community-based organizations. Through its work VNZ has established direct interpersonal relations and well-developed coordination with local duty-bearers. As a recognized humanitarian and development actor VNZ is certified to operate despite of COVID-19 related lockdown and quarantine. Through engagement with members in various networking platforms, VNZ has built and maintained strong presence in Epworth and Hatcliffe through implementing a variety of interventions on education, sexual and reproductive health, child protection, counselling and trauma care, birth registration, and capacity building for its network members. In 2018, VNZ and its network members conducted a comprehensive situational analysis study in one high-density urban settlement which informed its 5-year strategy focusing on child protection programming in peri-urban settlements of Harare.

3.4. Describe the strategy of the intervention – how and with what methods will the intervention be implemented so that it leads to the objectives, including how the intervention balances between the elements of the Development Triangle.

As already mentioned, the intervention applies a three-dimensional strategy (see section 1.1.) to reduce abuse and exploitation of children through a framework of community-based protection, advocacy towards duty-bearers, and resilience strengthening of families.

*Nexus*

The intervention will apply a nexus approach due to the politically, socially, economic, climate and economic fragile context (described in section 1.2.). The nexus approach reflects the food crisis in Zimbabwe caused by climate induced drought and COVID-19 related loss of livelihoods. Through the context analysis, the partners have acknowledged that the severe food insecurity impacting vulnerable families must be addressed in order to make room to be able to address access to justice and harmful norms. Thus, addressing the food crisis is integrated into the intervention, because the food crisis has become another root cause of child abuse and exploitation. In this fragile context, it is critical to strengthen resilience towards food insecurity. Therefore, the intervention will contribute to building resilience of vulnerable families by providing livelihood opportunities through trainings, cash grants, and development of sustainable household business plans (see detailed description below in ‘Methods and modus operandi of immediate objective 3’).

Another dimension of the nexus-approach that will be applied regards protection. The Humanitarian Response Plan Zimbabwe states that child protection is needed, particularly provision of child sensitive justice services, legal assistance, child friendly reporting, provision of access to birth registration, and training of community-based child protection mechanisms. All these areas will be included in the intervention. The protection framework of the intervention is building on long-term development approaches while also responding to more acute protection issues as highlighted by the Humanitarian Response Plan. Reflecting nexus and the politically fragile context the intervention applies a ‘cooperative advocacy’ approach as other activistic approaches are not possible. This approach is further described in section 3.6.b

***Methods and modus operandi of immediate objective 1:***

The purpose of immediate objective 1 is to reduce abuse and exploitation of children by improving access to justice for children. This is to counter high impunity rates for crimes against children, a non-child-friendly justice system, and few children having a legal identity constituting a barrier to justice and basic rights.

Improved child-friendly justice system and authorities ability to process cases (output 1.1.)

*Advocate for establishment of decentralized Police Victim-Friendly Unit*

The decentralized Help Desks make reporting and counselling in cases of abuse more accessible to community-members including children, as by experience, physical distance to the centralized police unit is a barrier for reporting. The Help Desks are established through cooperative advocacy, meaning that VNZ will support ZRP-VFU in establishing the Help Desks, and ZRP-VFU will run and own the decentralized Help Desks.

*Improved child protection and child-friendly spaces within ZRP-VFU and Harare Provincial Magistrate Courts*

VNZ will improve the ZRP-VFU officers’ ability to protect children in the justice process. This will happen through capacity building of officers with tools on child protection, children’s rights, and child friendly approaches in the justice process. Harare Provincial Magistrate Courts will be supported with equipment to establish child-friendly spaces.

*Specialized litigation services*

300 child victims of abuse and exploitation will be assisted in the justice process with specialized individual litigation services to ensure that justice is achieved. Besides directly benefitting 300 children, the specialized litigation services are key to identify failures in the system and build precedence for evidence-based advocacy.

Improved process of birth registration (output 1.2.)

*Specialized birth registration support to children without birth certificates*

Direct legal support will be given to 3.000 children to support the process of obtaining birth certificates. A complicated birth registration process due to inexpedient legislation, legal procedures, and outdated systems overwhelms children, caregivers, and authorities who then fail to accomplish registration. 3.000 children will directly benefit from the support, and at the same time, the support will be key to building precedence for evidence-based advocacy to advocate for systemic improvements of the system. In agreement with Registrar General’s Office (duty-bearer responsible for birth registration), VNZ is welcomed to monitor birth registration process and performance of the office.

*Training of Birth Registration Champions (Community Child Protection Committees)*

Existing Community Child Protection Communities (volunteers of Department of Social Services) will be trained to assist children and families in birth registration.

*Advocate for establishment for decentralized Birth Registration Help Desks and ‘Mobile Birth Registration’*

The goal is to support establishment of decentralized Birth Registration Help Desks by Registrar General’s Office to improve community access and counselling of registration process. The Help Desks are established through cooperative advocacy, meaning that VNZ will support the authority in establishing the Help Desks, and Registrar General’s Office will run and own the decentralized Help Desks. New Help Desks will only be established in Hatcliffe, will VNZ will continue monitoring of Help Desks already established in Epworth. VNZ will also conduct cooperative advocacy to restart the Registrar General’s Offices ‘Mobile Birth Registration’ which per law are supposed to facilitate massive birth registration events through community-outreach once a year.

*Advocacy towards duty-bearers for systemic improvement of birth registration*

VNZ and the Child Justice Alliance will advocate for improvement of birth registration based on learnings and precedence from specialized birth registration support. Advocacy goals include:

* Improved coordination and synchronization between Hospitals and Registrar’s Office (key challenge to the process)
* National digitalization of birth registration (a key challenges is physical distance between offices, hospitals, place of birth etc.).
* Amendment of the Births and Deaths Registration Act to improve birth registration (national legislation constitute a key barrier for birth registration). Partners consider this realistic as the cause is supported by key Justice Operators and Child Justice Alliance. Policy proposal has already been submitted, but massive follow-up advocacy is needed to achieve approval and adoption in parliament.
* Other procedural and legal changes identified through specialised birth registration support.

Advocacy will be carried out through ongoing lobbying and dialogue with duty-bearers. Further, a National Conference on Birth Registration will be held in cooperation with the Child Justice Alliance, other key civil society actors, relevant duty-bearers and policy makers to facilitate dialogues, discussions, and joint position papers to improve the birth registration process nationwide and achieve above goals.

Improved performance of Justice Operators (output 1.3.)

*Strategic litigation services and production of directory (roadmap)*

Through strategic litigation of emblematic abuse cases with potential to affecting legal precedence and future cases. As these are high profile cases of principled nature, this will affect both public perceptions of the rule of law, public trust in the justice system, and outcomes of future cases. Litigation will also contribute to build precedence for evidence-based advocacy. VNZ will also produce a directory of the referral and justice process as well as Justice Operators responsibility and involvement in abuse cases.

*Advocacy for improved performance of Justice Operators*

Advocacy initiatives targeted towards Justice Operators (duty-bearers) includes lobbying and dialogue for improved child rescue procedure in abuse cases, lobbying and dialogue with Ministry of Health to improve coordination with Justice Operators, as well as coordination with Pre-Trial Diversion Program for better support towards child offenders prosecuted of petty crimes who remain unprotected in the justice system. The goal is to get Justice Operators to adopt a minimum of six recommendations (e.g. change in legal procedures, improved coordination, and operative procedures etc.)

***Methods and modus operandi of immediate objective 2:***

The purpose of immediate objective 2 is to counter harmful norms and practices in communities leading to abuse and exploitation of children. This will be implemented through strengthening community-based protection and mobilization of Community Leaders as well as Youth Ambassadors as agents of change.

School Child Protection Committees (output 2.1)

School Child Protection Committees (SCPC) will be established in cooperation with schools, duty-bearers, and existing Community Child Protection Committees. SCPC comprising children and teachers will foster child-driven initiatives to child protection by involving children in the work of the committees. The SCPC’s will become focal points of child protection to counter harmful norms and practices in schools as well as amongst parents. SCPC’s will also have a key role in awareness raising campaigns on child protection, children’s rights and birth registration conducted in schools.

Strengthened community awareness (output 2.2.)

A series of community awareness campaigns will be conducted to counter harmful norms and increase awareness on birth registration and reporting of abuse. The methods applied includes essay- and quiz competitions in schools, Child Protection Symposiums facilitated at community level engaging civil society actors, community stakeholders, the Child Justice Alliance, local duty-bearers, and community members to facilitate dialogue and awareness to identify joint solutions to child protection issues. Child Protection Conferences will also be facilitated at community level as follow-up on Symposiums. The Conference has an advocacy focus and will invite duty-bearers to joint dialogue and production of position papers for submission towards policy makers and city-level duty-bearers (e.g. Harare City Council, Mayor’s Office). Community awareness events (‘Road Shows’) will be facilitated in cooperation with duty-bearers, community stakeholders, local civil society actors and Youth Ambassadors to disseminate awareness on birth registration, child protection and address harmful norms. These messages will also be brought via digital platforms including TV and radio programs and social media platforms. A comprehensive baseline study to map attitudes towards harmful norms and practices will be carried out in target communities at the beginning of the intervention and will be followed by an end line study to measure the changes in attitude and behavior. The studies will also contribute to inform future interventions and data will be shared with relevant duty-bearers and civil society actors.

Community Leaders and Youth Ambassadors as agents of change (output 2.3)

30 Community Leaders (including religious leaders, teachers, traditional leaders etc.) will be mobilized and trained through a series of workshops with the goal of changing their attitude and behaviour towards harmful norms and practices affecting children (examples include early marriages, child labor, violence against children and non-reporting/denouncement culture of abuse and violence against children). Community Leaders are instrumental for countering negative cultural behaviour as they have influential voices in communities and enjoys legitimacy as informal leaders and culture carriers. 60 Youth Ambassadors will be recruited and trained to act as agents of change. The Youth Ambassadors plays a decisive role in reaching children at eye-level through peer-to-peer approaches. The youth-approach will be applied on different awareness raising platforms used during the intervention including school awareness campaigns (in cooperation with SCPC), road-show campaigns, Child Protection Symposium and Conferences. The Youth Ambassadors will form a Youth Network. 20 out of 60 Youth Ambassadors will be recruited amongst Junior Parliamentarians.

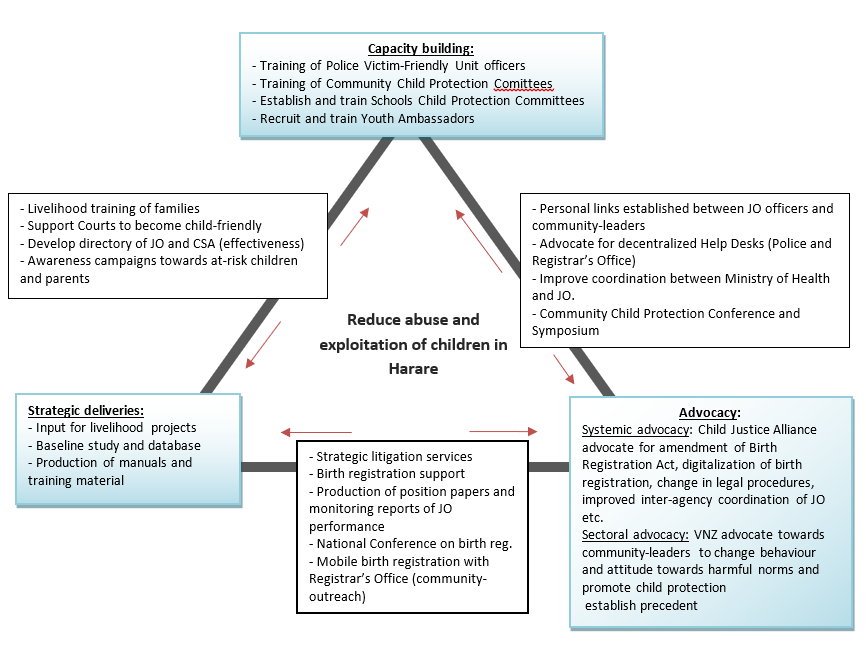
***Methods and modus operandi of immediate objective 3:***

The purpose of immediate objective 3 is to reduce abuse and exploitation of children by strengthening resilience of particularly vulnerable families through improved livelihood options.

Strengthened resilience through improved food security and livelihood options (output 3.1., 3.2. and 3.3.)

A nexus approach is applied to strengthen resilience of 600 particularly vulnerable and food insecure families prone to child abuse and exploitation. Target families will be selected in cooperation with Department of Social Services and CCPD and comprise families of children receiving birth registration support and litigation services, and families living in extreme poverty and vulnerability due to loss of livelihoods and food insecurity. These families will be supported to strengthen resilience and break endemic cycles of vulnerability towards child exploitation and abuse caused by food insecurity, disintegration of families and negative coping mechanisms putting children at risk. The households will be trained on income generating activities, livelihood projects and long-term business plans. Households will receive a conditional and restricted cash grant to initiate livelihood-projects after completing trainings and developing sustainable business plans. During the first three months of the livelihood-projects, the households will be assisted, and regular monitoring visits will be conducted. Livelihood options include vegetable gardens, livestock and poultry projects and opportunities for reestablishing lost livelihoods such as small business, hand craft, tailoring, carpentry etc. As a part of strengthening resilience of families, special cases where a family reunification process is needed in relation to litigation/justice process (example could include child prostitutes who need to be reintegrated into the family and is in need of restoration support) specialized support will be given.

*Balance of the Development Triangle*



*Strategic Services:* Strategic service deliveries include direct support of 2.500 birth registration cases and direct litigation services to 180 child victims of abuse. While being direct services, birth registration and litigation support has a pivotal strategic purpose establishing precedence for evidence-based advocacy. Know-how obtained through bottom-up experiences with birth registration and child justice processes are decisive for the partners to be able to conduct legitimate and strong advocacy. Strategic services are also delivered in the form of livelihood assistance to strengthen resilience of particularly vulnerable families as a strategy to reduce risk of abuse and exploitation of children.

*Capacity Building:* Capacity building is targeted duty-bearers and community actors and will strategically contribute to systemic strengthening of the Justice Operators coordination, effectiveness and child-friendliness as well as contribute to strengthening of community actors’ (CCPC, SCPC, and Community Leaders) capacity to protect and support children. At duty-bearer level officers from the Police Victim-Friendly Unit will be trained on child protection, while the Harare Provincial Magistrate Court will be supported to become more child-friendly through establishment of child friendly spaces.

*Advocacy:* Advocacy is at the heart of the intervention because systemic improvements are key to deliver sustainable impact. Advocacy is conducted at two levels. At systemic level, advocacy is targeted key duty-bearers aiming to achieve systemic and legal changes improving birth registration and access to justice. At sectoral (community level), advocacy is targeting community leaders to change their attitude towards harmful norms and practices. Targeting community leaders is a key strategy to change harmful norms and practices affecting children, as community leaders are influencing normative and cultural behaviour.

3.5. Describe the objectives, activities, expected results and indicators (or similar ways of formulating criteria of success) of the intervention.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Development objective:** Reduce abuse and exploitation of 50.000 children at risk/or victims of exploitation in two vulnerable communities in Harare, Zimbabwe (Epworth and Hatcliffe) | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | |
| * Main barriers**:** High impunity rates, lack of legal identity, and non-child-friendly justice system hinder access to justice for children * Strategy: Systemic and evidence-based advocacy to improve access to justice for children through systemic improvements of key Justice Operators * **Immediate objective 1: Improved access to justice for children in Epworth and Hatcliffe** | | | | | | |
| I**ndicators** *(Y1=2022, Y2=2023, target=2024)* | | **Means of verification** | | **Risks, assumptions** | | |
| 1.1. Cases of child exploitation processed by competent authorities (Police VFU, DSS, Courts)  *(Y1: 200, Y2: 200, Target: 600)* | | Database of cases processed by competent authorities  Success stories | | Increase in number of cases reported to competent authorities | | |
| 1.2. Number of children assisted to getting birth certificates  *(Y1: 900. Y2: 2000, target: 2500)* | | Database of children assisted to get birth certificates | | Caregivers of children without birth certificates are cooperative | | |
| 1.3. Proposals for policy changes submitted  *(Y1: 2, Y2: 4, target: 6)* | | Database of children assisted with litigation services | | Child Justice Alliance is committed and effective in proposing policy changes | | |
| 1.4. Policy changes approved and adopted  (Y1: 0, Y2: 1, target: 2) | | Copy of policy change proposals submitted | | Parliament is ready to receive submitted and tabled for consideration | | |
| **Results** | I**ndicators** *(Y1=2022, Y2=2023, target=2024)* | **Activities** | | **MoV** | | **Risks, assumptions** |
| 1.1. Competent authorities effectively processing cases of child exploitation (Police VFU, DSS, Courts) | 1.1.1. No. of databases of frontline Justice Operators functioning *(Y1: 1, Y2: 2, target: 2)*  1.1.2. No. of Police VFU community help desks established by authorities as a result of advocacy.  *(Y1: 1, Y2: 2, target 2)*  1.1.3. No. of ZRP-VFU officers trained  *(Y1: 20, Y2: 20, target: 20)*  1.1.4. No. of DSS officers trained on birth registration and litigation services *(Y1: 20, Y: 20, target: 20)*  1.1.5. No. of child-friendly improvements in the Harare Provincial Magistrate Court to increase safety and protection of child victims *(Y1: 2, Y2: 2, target: 2)*  1.1.6. No. of children assisted with litigation services *(Y1: 60, Y2: 120, target: 180)* | 1.1.1. Stakeholder mapping to identify and categorize active stakeholders in Hatcliffe  1.1.2. Building of database of multi-stakeholder frontline workers  1.1.3. Advocate towards Police for establishment of decentralized Police VFU registration help desk (one in Hatcliffce and one in Epworth)  1.1.4. Training of Police VFU officers on child protection  1.1.5 Feedback meetings with VFU officers  1.1.6. Advocate towards Department of Social Services to capacity build Community Child Care workers (DSS volunteers) on handling child abuse cases  1.1.7 Training of DSS officers on birth registration and litigation processes  1.1.8. Support the Harare Provincial Magistrate Court to become more child-friendly through increased safety and protection of child victims  1.1.9 Specialized litigation services for child victims to establish presidency for advocacy | | Stakeholder mapping matrix  Databases of frontline workers  Copy of reports  Delivery notes | | Data on child exploitation is accessible through liaison with government officials and VNZ members  Liaison with Justice Operators is effective |
| 1.2. Improved efficiency of the Registrar’s Office (Birth Registration Office) has resulted in increased level of birth registrations issued | 1.2.1. No. of birth registration support help desks running  *(Y1: 2, Y2: 2, target: 2)*  1.2.2. No. of changes in operating relations between Registrar’s Office and DSS  *(Y1: 1, Y2: 2, target: 3)*  1.2.3. No. of children assisted to get birth certificates  *(Y1: 900, Y2: 2000, target: 2500)*  1.2.4. Proposals for policy changes submitted  *(Y1: 1, Y2: 2, target: 3)*  1.2.5. No. of mobile birth registrations conducted  *(Y1: 1, Y2: 2, target: 2)* | 1.2.1. Advocate towards Registrar’s Office for establishment of decentralized birth registration help desks (One in Hatcliffe and one in Epworth). 1.2.2. Coordination with civil society actors willing to provide facilities to support birth registration advocacy activities  1.2.3. Monitoring of effectiveness of decentralized procedures  1.2.4. Training of Community Child Protection Committees to aid in the process of birth registration (Hatcliffe)  1.2.5 Feedback meetings with Birth Registration Champions  1.2.6 Specialized birth registration support for children without birth certificates to establish precedence for advocacy  1.2.7 Monitoring of birth registration process and performance of Registrar’s Office  1.2.8. National Conference on birth registration to advocate for amendment of Births and Deaths Registration Act  1.2.9. Submission of policy proposal for amendment of Birth Registration Act  1.2.10. Lobbying and dialogue for digitalization of birth registration process  1.2.11. Other advocacy initiatives based on monitoring of Registrar’s Office and birth registration precedence conducted by the Child Justice Alliance for the improvement of birth registration process  1.2.12 Mobile birth registration with Registrar’s Office | | Site visits  Reports of activities on help desks  Database of people assisted at help desks | | Liaison and lobbying for establishment prove effective  Cooperation from Registrar General’s office, DSS, and other government departments |
| 1.3. The Child Justice Alliance has ensured that Justice Operators have capacity and coordination with civil society to deliver protection, rescue, and restoration services | 1.3.1. No. of verifiable changes in legal documents or procedures *(Y1: 1, Y2: 2, target: 2)*  1.3.2. Number of Justice Operators (JO) that adopt and implement recommendations from the Child Justice Alliance *(Y1: 2, Y2: 4, target: 6)*  1.3.3 No. of improvements in child rescue procedures *(Y1: 1, Y2: 3, target: 4)*  1.3.4. No. of directories of JO and child sexual abuse produced *(Y1: 2, Y2: 2, target: 2)*  1.3.5. Number of strategic litigation cases pursued  *(Y1: 1, Y2: 2, target: 2)*  1.3.6. No. of improvements in support by MoH  *(Y1: 1, Y2: 1, target: 1)*  1.3.7. No. of child offenders assisted through pre-trial diversion program *(Y1: 5, Y2: 10, target: 15)*    1.3.8. Proportion of commitment of the Child Protection Alliance *(Y1: 40%, Y2: 60%, target: 80%)* | 1.3.1. Lobbying and dialogue with justice operators to improve child rescue procedures 1.3.2. Production of a directory of Justice Operators and child sexual abuse for effective referral and coordination  1.3.3. Strategic litigation cases to establish precedence for advocacy  1.3.4. Liaison with Justice Operators to present and advocate for recommendations  1.3.5. Lobbying and dialogue with Ministry of Health to improve coordination with Justice Operators  1.3.6. Coordination with pre-trial diversion program to support child offenders in target areas  1.3.7 Feedback meetings with the Child Protection Alliance to foster commitment | | Legal documents  Opinion Letters  Agendas and Registers  Reports of meetings | | Liaison and lobbying for establishment prove effective |
| * Main barriers**:** Harmful norms and practices in communities violate children’s rights * Strategy: Sectoral advocacy towards community leaders (schools, churches etc.) to address and change harmful norms (examples include early marriage, child labor, violence against children, and non-reporting/denouncement culture of abuse/violence against children etc.) * **Immediate objective 2:** Reduced harmful norms and practices exposing children to abuse and exploitation through mobilization of community leaders and Youth Ambassadors | | | | | | |
| I**ndicators** *(Y1=2022, Y2=2023, target=2024)* | | **Means of verification** | **Risks, assumptions** | | | |
| 2.1. Number of children able to identify situation of risk and report abuse or exploitation  *(Y1: 15000, Y2: 25000, target: 30000)* | | Interviews with Child Protection Committee members and community cadres. Follow up survey with children | Children are participating in surveys  Child protection Committees are reaching out to children effectively | | | |
| 2.2 Proportion of target population have changed knowledge and beliefs regarding harmful norms  *(Y1: 0%, Y2: 30%, target: 60%)* | | Baseline survey report  End line survey report | Baseline studies are able to measure change in knowledge and beliefs | | | |
| 2.3 Number of capacitated and organized Youth Ambassadors promoting children’s rights through peer-to-peer approaches  *(Y1: 20, Y2: 40, target: 60)* | | Registers of training meetings  Database of youth ambassadors  Reports of Feedback meetings | Youth are actively reaching out to other youth  More children are reachable by trained youth ambassadors | | | |
| 2.4. Number of community leaders (religious- and traditional leaders, teachers, midwives etc.) involved in attitude change towards harmful norms and practices and promote child protection  *(Y1: 10, Y2: 20, target: 30)* | | Database of community leaders involved  Registers of training meetings  Statistics of reach from social media accounts | Community leaders buy into the vision of child protection  Followers of community leaders spread information further in the communities | | | |
| **Results** | I**ndicators** *(Y1=2022, Y2=2023, target=2024)* | **Activities** | **Means of verification** | | **Risks, assumptions** | |
| 2.1. School Child Protection Committees established and promoting safe environments for children | 2.1.1. Number of schools having a functioning School Child Protection Committee  *(Y1: 2, Y2: 4, target: 6)*  2.1.2. Number of children reached through child sexual abuse school awareness campaigns  *(Y1: 600, Y2: 1500, target: 2500)* | 2.1.1. Supporting schools to establish School Child Protection Committees  2.1.2. Capacity building of School Child Protection Committees  2.1.3. Follow-up on functioning of School Child Protection Committees  2.1.4. Child sexual abuse and birth registration awareness campaigns in schools in collaboration with School Child Protection Committees, the Child Justice Alliance and Justice Operators  2.1.5. Child Protection Quiz Competitions in schools | Registers and agendas of meetings  Copy of position papers signed by relevant authorities  Reports of activities | | Willingness of members to participate in advocacy and awareness programs | |
| 2.2. Community members and leaders better informed and coordinated to fight harmful norms | 2.2.1. Number of conferences and symposiums  (Y1: 0, Y2: 2, target: 3)  2.2.2. Number of position papers presented during Child Protection Conferences  (Y1: 0, Y2: 2, target: 3)  2.2.3. Number of studies done (baseline + endline)  (Y1: 1, target: 2)  2.2.4. Number of ‘Road-show campaigns’ held with participation of the Child Justice Alliance, CCPC and JO (Y1: 2, Y2: 4, target: 6)  2.2.5. Number of people reached through road-show awareness campaigns  (Y1: 2000, Y2: 4000, target: 5000) | 2.2.1 Child Protection Conferences (advocacy)  2.2.2. Child Protection Symposiums (awareness)  2.2.3. Child protection essay competition in schools  2.2.4. Baseline study to map attitudes towards harmful norms and practices in target communities  2.2.5. End line study to map attitudes towards harmful norms and practices in target communities  2.2.6. ‘Road show’ awareness campaign with the Child Justice Alliance and Justice Operators  2.2.7. Social media platforms for online awareness raising (online polls, debate, reporting, awareness) | Registers and agendas of meetings  Reports of activities  Baseline and end line reports  Photographic material  Analytics of statistics of persons reached via social media | | Community leaders are ready to spread information against harmful norms  There is no resistance within the communities | |
| 2.3. Community leaders (religious- and traditional leaders, teachers, midwives etc.) have changed attitude towards harmful norms and practices and promote child protection | *2.3.1. Number of Youth Ambassadors trained*  *(Y1: 20, Y2: 40, target: 60)*  2.3.2. Number of community leaders involved  *(Y1: 10, Y2: 20, target: 30)*  2.3.3. Number of workshops/training facilitated by schools/churches *(Y1: 2, Y2: 5, target: 8)* | 2.3.1. Recruitment of Youth Ambassadors  2.3.2. Training of Youth Ambassadors  2.3.3. Feedback meetings with Youth Ambassadors  2.3.4. Envisioning of community leaders  2.3.5. Training of community leaders | Registers of training meetings  Database of Youth Ambassadors  Reports from feedback meetings  Database of community leaders involved  Registers of training meetings  Statistics of reach from social media | | Community is ready to listen to the voice of the youth  The youth are motivated to do peer to peer education  Community leaders willing and available to champion attitude change in the community | |
|  | | | | | | |
| * Main barriers**:** Severe food insecurity caused by heavy drought and deterioration of livelihoods due to the COVID-19 pandemic have increased vulnerability and negative coping mechanisms of families and thus deteriorated safety, well-being, and protection of children * Strategy: In response to the fragile context of Zimbabwe considering drought, food insecurity, and COVID-19, a nexus approach to strengthen resilience of vulnerable families through improved livelihood opportunities will be implemented * **Immediate objective 3:** Improved livelihoods has strengthened resilience of vulnerable families and reduced negative coping mechanisms exposing children to abuse and exploitation | | | | | | |
| I**ndicators** *(Y1=2022, Y2=2023, target=2024)* | | **Means of verification** | **Risks, assumptions** | | | |
| 3.1. Number of well-functioning livelihood projects  *(Y1: 150, Y2: 300, target: 450)* | | Number of functional livelihood projects | Supported families are committed and honest to run livelihood projects | | | |
| 3.2. Number of children benefiting from livelihood projects  *(Y1: 600, Y2: 1200, target: 1800)* | | Database of children benefiting from livelihoods activities | Supported families prioritise children as beneficiaries of the projects | | | |
| 3.3. Number of children reunited with their families  *(Y1: 3, Y2: 5, target: 10)* | | Database of children reunited with their families | Family reunion processes are welcomed by beneficiaries | | | |
| **Results** | I**ndicators** *(Y1=2022, Y2=2023, target=2024)* | **Activities** | **Means of verification** | | **Risks, assumptions** | |
| 3.1. Households have improved livelihoods and food security | 3.1.1. Number of households identified and trained on livelihoods *(Y1: 200, Y2: 300, target: 550)*  3.1.2. Number of livelihood projects running  *(Y1: 200, Y2: 350, target: 550)*  3.1.3. Number of families generating income from livelihood projects *(Y1: 150, Y2: 200, target: 350)* | 3.1.1. Database of target households established  3.1.2. Beneficiary recruitment and grouping  3.1.3. Production of manuals 3.1.4. Training on income generating activities (livelihood projects)  3.1.5. Training on livelihood project management and business plans  3.1.6. Disbursement of conditional and restricted cash grants for livelihood input  3.1.7. Distribution of manuals  3.1.8. Local monitoring visits | Database of beneficiaries  Register of trainings  Report of meetings  Database of proposed livelihoods projects  Financial statements  Delivery notes | | Willingness of benefiting households to form/join livelihood groups  Willingness of benefiting households to be trained  Commitment of members/beneficiaries | |
| 3.2. Benefiting households are ensuring that children benefit from livelihoods project | 3.3.1. Number of children benefiting from livelihood projects *(Y1: 600, Y2: 1200, target: 1800)* | 3.3.1. Feedback/review meetings  3.3.2. Survey or appraisal with children of beneficiary households | Success stories of child beneficiaries  Pre- & post evaluation survey  Reports and agendas of feedback meetings  Registers of meetings | | A supportive environment for child nutrition  Willingness of households to ensure children are benefiting | |
| 3.3. Number of children reunited with their families | 3.4.1. Number of family reunification channels/procedures developed *(Y1: 2, Y2: 3, target: 3)*  3.4.2 Number of children reunited with their families  *(Y1: 3, Y2: 7, target: 10)* | 3.4.1. Production of family reunification strategy  3.4.2. Development of reunification programs  3.4.3. Recruitment and training of family reunification cadres  3.4.4. Support for reunification processes | Copy of reunification strategy  Attendance registers  Reunification programs handbook  Database of reunited children | | Community mobilization is not rendered impossible by the political context (or alternative strategies are available) | |
|  | | | | | | |

3.6. Describe how the intervention contributes to establishing sustainable and lasting improvements for poor, marginalised and vulnerable target groups and strengthening the partners’ capacities after the intervention period.

The intervention contributes to sustainable and lasting improvement by building on existing systems and structures to reduce abuse and exploitation of children through a framework of strengthened community structures, systemic improvement of key duty-bearers, and strengthened resilience of vulnerable families. Through an advocacy approach the partners ensure that results obtained during the intervention are not founded upon VNZ, but instead on community structures, the Child Justice Alliance, and responsible duty-bearers. Therefore, improvements are sustainable as they will become an integral part of the social support systems, community structures, and duty-bearers including government line ministries, and Justice Operators.

Specifically, the intervention will contribute to establish lasting improvements for children at risk of abuse and exploitation:

1) Through leaving behind a justice sector with consolidated interagency coordination, improved legal and operative procedures, decentralized presence of key Justice Operators in Epworth and Hatcliffe, as well as improved child-friendly capacities in the justice process benefitting current and future child victims of abuse and exploitation. 2) Through systemic changes of the birth registration process including better efficiency and coordination of relevant authorities as well as amendment of the Births and Deaths Registrations Act, resulting in more Zimbabwean children getting birth certificates in the future. 3) Through mobilizing community leaders and Youth Ambassadors as agents of change to counter harmful norms and practices in communities as well as strengthening of protective community structures including Community Child Protection Committees and School Child Protection Committees. 4) Through strengthened livelihoods of vulnerable families to be resilient towards food insecurity and avoid negative coping mechanism and thus able to protect children.

At the same time as improved structures and systems contribute to lasting improvement for at-risk children living in Epworth and Hatcliffe, the intervention has directly benefited at least 50.000 children reached through awareness campaigns, 3000 children supported in gaining a legal identity, 300 children provided with litigation services, and 450 households supported to start livelihood projects. All these deliverables have a direct and sustainable impact on the beneficiaries.

a) If the intervention is an extension of a previous intervention, there needs to be an additional description of how relations with other actors, advocacy, and long-term sustainability will be strengthened.

Since advocacy is difficult in the fragile context of Zimbabwe, the intervention applies a cooperative advocacy approach to join and support duty-bearers while prompting them to implement changes. In context of a dictatorship and a civic space under pressure, cooperative advocacy integrated with capacity building approaches is an efficient way of minimizing resistance while working towards systemic change. A catalyst approach is ensured through a strong advocacy framework which leaves responsibility of maintenance and continuation of achievements on duty-bearers and community-structures. The Child Justice Alliance will consolidate its existence and mandate as child protection champion. Through close collaboration with duty-bearers, civil society actors, community actors, and beneficiaries, VNZ will strengthen its legitimacy, capability, experience, and expertise being a champion of children’s rights. During the intervention VNZ will strengthen its relation to key duty-bearers and civil society actors, which create a firmer position and ability for future interventions. Advocacy is also strengthened through consolidation of the Child Justice Alliance and strengthened, strengthened relations to duty-bearers together with new and ambitious advocacy objectives.

Regarding financial sustainability, most support is to create and enable a conducive environment for advocacy, awareness raising, service delivery, and staging child justice initiatives. Except a few direct service delivery activities (direct litigation services, birth registration support and livelihood support), the end of the intervention is likely not to affect the continuation of established systems and achievements.

3.7. Describe possible conditions (risks) that can hinder or delay fulfilment of the objectives and what possible solutions are available to mitigate these risks.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Risk Management Matrix | | | |
| Risk Factor | Likelihood | Impact | Description & Mitigating actions |
| Resistance from community members to change attitude and practices regarding harmful norms and contribute with reliable information in base/endline studies | Rare  Unlikely  Likely  Certain | Insignificant  Minor  Major  Significant | To work with harmful norms is very complex in Zimbabwe because these norms are interwoven with religious and cultural values and expectations. Respondents may have very limited understanding of why something is harmful and thus give limited information or not know which information to give. There will be a possibility of resistance towards change as they might be perceived as counter cultural values. To mitigate a sensitive approach towards community leaders are applied. Multiple research tools will be employed to counter challenge of valid data collection in research studies. |
| Logistics and communication disruptions due to COVID-19 pandemic | Rare  Unlikely  Likely  Certain | Insignificant  Minor  Major  Significant | Movement and communication channels are directly affected by COVID-19. As the progress of COVID-19 is uncertain, it is not possible to know how this will affect the implementation of the intervention. To mitigate this risk, VNZ will ensure alternative communication channels, as well as secure authorization from the authorities to work during lockdown and other steps. VNZ has already achieved this authorization. |
| Unpredictable economy making financial transactions difficult | Rare  Unlikely  Likely  Certain | Insignificant  Minor  Major  Significant | During the past years, the Zimbabwean economy has been characterized by high inflation and is now faced with unstable fiscal policy changes which directly affect budgeting, implementation, and financial reporting. Thus, this intervention is budgeted in USD $ which is relatively stable across changes in the local currency. Where necessity arises, some withdrawals may be made well in advance before the events or activities to ensure availability of money. |
| Volatile political environment interrupting activities | Rare  Unlikely  Likely  Certain | Insignificant  Minor  Major  Significant | The intervention will take place in a period when Zimbabwe is heading towards national and presidential elections, which is associated with interruption of activities by law enforcement agents. VNZ will ensure that the Zimbabwe Republic Police and relevant government ministries and local authorities are informed of and actively support the activities. |
| Resistance of stakeholders and duty-bearers | Rare  Unlikely  Likely  Certain | Insignificant  Minor  Major  Significant | It is likely that some stakeholders will be in fear or uncertainty due to the socio-political environment. This may make some stakeholders and participants resist or avoid being involved in activities. However, VNZ will ensure to utilize transparency and informative approaches to guarantee buy in by stakeholders and participants. |
| Political interference | Rare  Unlikely  Likely  Certain | Insignificant  Minor  Major  Significant | Politicians have an interest in being honored for development happening in communities, especially with food security. This may affect the processes of beneficiary selection and recruitment. However, VNZ will ensure to work with the Department of Social Services whose mandate is to assist the vulnerable. This will reduce risks of political interference. |

3.8. Describe the plans to monitor, collect and use experiences along the way and at the end of the intervention. If an external evaluation has been planned (obligatory for interventions above DKK 2 million), this should be described.

VD and VNZ apply VD’s Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) system constructed around the DAC Principles for Evaluation of Development Assistance. In addition to ensuring regular review of the interventions Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact, and Sustainability, the system allows partners to adjust strategies or objectives to contextual changes, threats, and opportunities while providing a framework for systematizing and institutionalizing experiences along the way and at the end of the intervention. The VD MEL system (forwarded upon request) comprises of the following elements:

**Monitoring visits.** During the intervention period, VD will conduct two monitoring visits. VD follows the travel recommendations of the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Should the situation in Zimbabwe render monitoring visits impossible, adjustments will be made in accordance with VD’s Safety Policy. VD has strong experience working in fragile contexts, including monitoring per distance and via local external consultants. Activities during monitoring visits will be carried out in accordance with CISU monitoring guidelines.

**Progress reports.** Reports will be submitted by VNZ to VD on a quarterly basis and subsequent follow-up meetings will be held with participation of program and finance staff from both partners. VD uses the same Progress Report format across its various interventions to ensure systematic monitoring of all interventions. Therefore, VNZ is familiar with the format. The format is a self-evaluation tool to allow the local partner to reflect on progress on achieving targets and give space to propose adjustments of the intervention based on contextual changes. The progress report format includes LFA progress statement, measuring progress via LFA indicators, output and activities, financial progress including summary of accounts and expenses, as well as considerations on delays, challenges, changes, and lessons learned. A comprehensive baseline and end-line study will be carried out to be able to measure results.

**Local monitoring.** VNZ will be responsible for implementing the MEL system locally. Monitoring will be done regularly by the Program Officer and the Assistant Program Officer and will involve continuous tracking of progress of performance indicators, outputs and activities according to LFA and financial reports. Monthly report templates will be developed and compiled into quarterly reports submitted to VD. Based on this, VD will convene quarterly review meetings with VNZ to receive and provide feedback about the project and identify bottlenecks. A mid-term review including stakeholder meetings will be conducted to identify if the intervention is on track, possibly adjustments will be made. The project staff, partners, and other stakeholders will be involved in gathering data.

**External evaluation.** An external evaluation will be conducted to ensure transparency towards external stakeholders and systematizing learnings internally. A tendering process will be undertaken and a local external consultant selected. Representatives from all target groups will be interviewed as part of the evaluation, and learnings will be documented for future interventions. VD will participate in the evaluation to ensure that learnings are systematized and institutionalized. Conclusions and recommendations will be collected in a Final Evaluation Report which will be shared with CISU.

4. Intervention-related information work in Denmark

The purpose of the information work

The information work related “Reduce Abuse and Exploitation of Children in Zimbabwe” will be embedded in VD’s general work seeking to engage the Danish public in a joint response to global transboundary issues of child abuse and exploitation. Materials that create awareness of opportunities to become involved in the presentation of and fight for child justice will be produced. The purpose of the information work is to mobilize popular support among Danes to reduce abuse and exploitation of children in Zimbabwe by: 1) providing quality information about the nature and root causes of the problem; 2) demonstrating results-oriented and effective solutions to the problem; and 3) providing ways to engage and participate in the fight for justice for children.

The target groups of the information work and means of communication to be used

A) Danish public, primarily Danish youth at schools, associations, churches, etc.

B) 1. Social Media sites, primarily Facebook and Instagram, 2. Video and photo material produced locally, 3. Presentations at schools, associations, organizations etc.

5. Supplementary financing

If the intervention has supplementary financing, the following must be taken into account.

5.1. If the supplementary financing underpins concrete activities in the intervention, these must be specified in the application and budget.

The volunteers will mainly be enrolled in activities related to objective 2. Specifically, volunteers will support activities related to Youth Ambassadors, School Child Protection Committees, awareness campaigns, school visits and social media campaigns (this includes output 2.1., 2.2., and 2.3.). The two interns recruited have master’s level profiles in anthropology, international relations, development, or other relevant areas within the social sciences. The focus of the interns will be to join the program officer and assistant program officer in technical work related to program implementation and monitoring. The two interns will also take part in objective 2 related activities along with volunteers.

VD has a very strong track record when it comes to placement of volunteers (including in fragile contexts). Since 1995, Viva Denmark have trained more than 1.000 young Danish volunteers, interns and professionals through the sustainable volunteer programme “Impact”. During the previous intervention “19-2360-UI-mar”, four volunteers has successfully joined the intervention.

5.2. Has the supplementary financing been secured at the time of submitting the application?

* + If not, explain why it is considered realistic to raise the funds.

Supplementary financing constitutes 3.2 percent of the budget equivalent DKK 94.279. Costs related to coordination in Denmark and placement and training of four Danish volunteers and two interns in Zimbabwe. Coordination costs have already been secured, while costs in Zimbabwe are contingent upon the recruitment of four volunteers and two interns within the intervention period. This number is calculated based on a very conservative estimate of expected volunteers to Zimbabwe in the coming three years. Due to COVID-19, VD do not expect to send volunteers and interns to Zimbabwe in 2021. Therefore, volunteers and interns will participate in in the two final years of the intervention.

5.3. Is the supplementary financing a prerequisite for implementing the activities?

* + If not, describe how the intervention can be implemented without the supplementary financing.

The supplementary financing is not a prerequisite for implementation of any activities. In the unlikely event that COVID-19 or political unrest will hinder travelling in 2022 and 2023, the local Youth Ambassadors in Zimbabwe will take a stronger lead in implementation of activities. Concerning information activities in Denmark, VD Programme Manager will be responsible for serving as liaison to other Danish volunteers returned from placements in other partner countries and engage them in an awareness raising campaign that covers abuse and exploitation of children in Zimbabwe.

1. Justice Operators: Department of Child Welfare and Probation, Department of Social Services (DSS), Harare City Council, Ministry of Local Governance, Zimbabwe Republic Police Victim Friendly Unit (ZRP-VFU), Registrar General’s Office, Ministry of Youth, Sport, Arts and Recreation, Ministry of Health, Harare Provincial Magistrate Courts. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Access to Justice (19-2360-UI-mar) is still being implemented. However, partners expect to have reached all objectives by beginning of 2021, thus ending the intervention earlier than planned. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Based on newest data available for the areas. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Study by Spring of Life, Zimbabwe [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. Plan International (2020). https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Under%20Siege-Impact%20of%20COVID-19%20on%20Girls%20in%20Africa.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Zimbabwe\_Revised\_2020\_HRP\_with\_COVID19\_Addendum.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Zimbabwe\_Revised\_2020\_HRP\_with\_COVID19\_Addendum.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. Counted by number of officers directly involved in activities [↑](#footnote-ref-9)