

AN EVALUATION OF CARITAS MASVINGO IN CREATING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES IN MASVINGO BIKITA DISTRICT WARD 12.

BY

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"An evaluation of Caritas Masvingo in creating resilient communities in Masvingo Bikita District ward 12."

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Dedication

My dedication goes first to the Almighty God for guiding me to the completion of this research study. I also dedicate this project to my parents Mr. and Mrs Mbedzi, my sister Taurai Mbedzi and my friends Perfect Pawandiwa, Blessing Juma, Courage Mukwenya and Tinashe Nyatondo.

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Although my name and only my name happens to appear on the cover page, several people assisted a lot and I feel indebted to them. Like the old saying; one man cannot rule the whole world alone. The study could not have been possible without the help of my supervisor Dr.J.Matunhu who equipped me with the necessary information, the Caritas Masvingo staff for their assistance and the people of Bikita ward 12 for their co-operation, thank you. Thanks once again to my fellow colleagues Perfect Pawandiwa, Courage Mukwenya and Blessing Juma for their support. I also thank my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for the spiritual guidance throughout my research study. Lastly, I am grateful to my parents for everything, thank you so much mum and dad. At least I feel better to complete one of the challenging degree programmes requirement but better is not good enough the best is yet to come.

Acronyms

MDG Millennium Development Goals

SLDRP Sustainable Livelihoods Diversity and Resilience Programme

LPD Livestock Production Department

NGOs Non-Governmental Organisations

GDP Gross Domestic Product

CA Conservation Agriculture

KIs Key Informants

ISAL Internal Savings and Lending

DA District Administrator

EMA Environmental Management Agency

HH House Holds

AIDS Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

Abstract

The study seeks to find out if Caritas Masvingo is creating resilient communities in Bikita ward 12 that is if Caritas is providing communities with resources such that communities would be able to sustain themselves in terms of food, income generation, living a good standard of life. The study looks at the challenges faced by Bikita ward 12 communities even before Caritas Masvingo intervened in ward 12 which include shortages of water, food insecurity, and lack of income generation activities, livestock diseases, unemployment and droughts. The study looks at the impacts these challenges has had on the communities in ward 12. The study goes on to look at the various programmes such as dam construction, Isal and the goat project Caritas is putting in place in ward 12 to address these challenges, the measures put in place to ensure sustainability of these programmes and how Caritas is working with government departments such as VET,LPD and Agritex in ward 12. A conclusion with the final assessment and some recommendations was done by the researcher basing on the findings of the research study.

KEY TERMS

Evaluation, Creating and Resilient

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Chapter one

THE PROBLEM AND ITS SETTING

1.0Introduction

In recent years, there has been quite an interest in the ability of donor agencies to work along with the government and the rural poor in third world countries so as to improve their quality of life and economic status by providing skills training, credit and other inputs for income generation programmes. Donor agencies are an imperative aspect to a country s' development and according to Tvedt (1998), their emergence is from a desire to complement government efforts in achieving sustainable development. The ZimAsset blue print clearly shows the government of Zimbabwe s' plans in empowering poor rural communities through programmes which ensure that communities become self-sustaining. Caritas Masvingo has the same vision of creating resilient communities in Masvingo which includes Bikita district ward 12 communities hence the study is on the evaluation of Caritas Masvingo in creating resilient communities in Bikita ward 12.In this Chapter, the researcher looked at the background to the study, highlights the statement of the problem; stated the objectives of the study; outlined research questions; gave the limitations and delimitations of the study; outlined significance of the study and defined key terms.

1.1Background of the study

Due to political developments, Zimbabwe was enwrapped into a two part economy which it inherited from the colonial era. This aspect of dual economy consists of a relatively more or well developed modern sector and a rural sector which is largely under developed. The Zimbabwean government has actually adopted a number of measures with the aim to achieve sustainable rural development and address this development disparity between urban and rural areas. These methods, according to Manyanhaire et al (2009) include the Integrated Rural Development Plan of 1978, the rural policy which was covered by the land reform and resettlement programme

(LRRP) which began in 1980. The indigenisation policy of 2010 according to ZimStat report of 2012 also came as a measure to empower the marginalized rural communities to move themselves away from poverty.

It is important however to note that, despite all these government efforts, there still exists a large gap between the urban areas and the rural areas levels in terms of development. The ZimStat multiple indicator cluster survey (2014) notes that, poverty in Zimbabwe is predominantly rural basing on that 66, 7% of Zimbabwe's population lives there and 33, 3% in urban areas. Despite the government's efforts to empower rural communities with resources to sustain themselves, the country has failed to meet the MDG number 1 which aimed at halving of extreme poverty by 2015. Rural development entails the process by which the government efforts are united with the efforts of the people and other development oriented agencies particularly the donor community to empower rural communities with resources so that they become resilient, that is, lively, vibrant and self-sustaining hence the importance of donor agencies such as Caritas Masvingo to come and complement government efforts in creating resilient communities in Bikita ward 12.

The rise of donor agencies on the international stage is a very important phenomenon as it has implications for the development of marginalized poor rural communities and households according to Edwards (1998). Sahley (1997) is of the view that, donor agencies play a huge role in complementing the efforts of the poor rural communities and the government to tackle the effects and causes of poverty hence creating resilient rural communities. The government according to Alix (1998), formulates very soundly development policies in developing countries but lacks the resources to put them into practice, therefore, the government should work hand in hand with donor agencies or monitor their activities in order to ensure that sustainable development in rural areas is achieved.

In Zimbabwe, according to Zinhumwe (2014), donor agencies play a pivotal role in capacitating communities to be resilient. Donor agencies empower communities across rural Zimbabwe through research and funding of projects. In line with the ZimAsset according to Zinhumwe (2014), donor agencies are committed to helping improve incomes and living standards especially amongst the poor in order to accelerate economic growth hence the study seeks to make an analysis of Caritas Masvingo interventions in Bikita ward 12 if they are actually

succeeding in creating vibrant communities which can sustain themselves without much dependence on external aid.

Most rural communities in Zimbabwe face quite a number of challenges and according to the ZimVac report of 2012, in rural Zimbabwe, most communities face challenges such as water shortages, food insecurity, lack of income generation activities and droughts with the report stating that 75,6% of rural population in Zimbabwe face the challenge of water shortages. The ZimStat report of 2012 states that, Masvingo as a province has a 63,7% of poverty with 73,8% poor people. In Masvingo rural as well, the ZimStat states that there is an overall percentage of 68,9% of poor households with 15,5% extremely poor households.

The ZimVac report (2012) states that, Masvingo province was one of the highest in terms of food insecurity with 28% of households being food insecure with Bikita District with 21,2% and the ZimVac report (2013) also indicates that in terms of household dietary diversity, Masvingo has the highest percentage of poor households with 17%. In Bikita ward 12 communities face challenges such as droughts, water shortages and lack of adequate income generation activities. The 2008 drought coupled by the crippling state of the Zimbabwean economy which triggered the outbreak of diseases such as cholera even worsened the situation of the communities. It can be noted that, the 2nd crop and livestock report of 24 April 2008 reports that Masvingo as a province contributed only 7% of the maize production 2007/8 season nationally with the highest being Mashonaland central with 24% hence clearly showing that this was not so convincing for Masvingo as a province. Although these statistics encompass the whole of Masvingo province, it also gives an understanding of the nature of communities in Bikita district which calls for intervention of donor agencies such as Caritas Masvingo.

1.2 Statement of the problem

Bikita ward 12 communities have continued to face challenges which threaten their livelihoods. Households in ward 12 are characterised by high levels of poverty which has made them more vulnerable when it comes to issues of sustaining themselves in terms of food security, income generation and clean water accessibility. There was also an outbreak of lump skin disease in 2014 which led to loss of livestock which is also a key source of income in rural communities. Droughts, poor distribution and poor management of water sources within the ward have caused shortages of water, food and income generation because they rely on their agricultural produces

for them to acquire income. If this livelihood is affected, it definitely means that the resilience of these communities is compromised hence the intensification of poverty. This has led to the intervention of Caritas Masvingo with the Sustainable livelihoods diversity and resilience programme (SLDRP) in ward 12 of Bikita. Therefore, the focus of this study is an evaluation of whether Caritas has been able to create resilient communities in Bikita district ward 12 through its sustainable livelihoods diversity and resilience programme (SLDRP).

1.3 Objectives of the study

- ➤ To examine the challenges being faced by the Bikita ward 12 communities.
- ➤ To make an analysis of the various measures Caritas is putting in place in Bikita district ward 12 in order to ensure sustainable access and management of water, improve food security and household income.
- To check if Caritas Masvingo is working closely with government departments such as Agritex, VET and LPD.

1.4Research questions

- ➤ What are the challenges being faced by Bikita ward 12 communities?
- ➤ What measures is Caritas Masvingo putting in place in Bikita district ward 12 in order to ensure sustainable access and management of water, improve food security and household income?
- ➤ Is Caritas Masvingo working hand in hand with government departments such as Agritex, VET and LPD?

1.5 Theoretical framework

Whilst there are quite a number of theories of development, this study goes just hand in hand with the human development approach because it's actually the same tenets of this approach which Caritas Masvingo operates in line with. Unlike the human welfare approach which looks at human beings as beneficiaries rather than participants in the development process or the basic needs approach which concentrates on the bundle of goods and services that deprived population groups need that is food, shelter and clothing and focusing on the provision of these goods and services rather than their implications on human choices, the human development approach focuses on the ends rather than the means of development and progress. In relation to the human

development approach, the real objective of development should be to create an enabling environment for people to enjoy long, healthy and creative lives just like what Caritas Masvingo seeks to do in Bikita because human development actually denotes both the process of widening people s choices and improving their wellbeing.

The human development theory is based mainly on three principles and it can be noted that these principles are to some extent pointing the same direction with what Caritas Masvingo aims to achieve in Bikita District ward 12 and the theory has three basic dimensions of human development and these are a long and healthy life, access to knowledge and a descent standard of living. Caritas also seeks the same In Bikita because it aims at water provision, food security and income security and if these can be achieved then there would be access to health facilities and education in Bikita because there would be income security in communities hence with income, food and water there is a descent standard of living. Caritas looks at working with the community in their development activities, for example, in dam construction activities, Caritas seeks to employ that particular community members rather than finding manpower somewhere outside the area of operation and the human development approach actually supports this action because the concept of human development is actually a holistic one putting people at the centre of all aspects of development processes and activities.

1.6 Limitations of the study

The researcher is aware that there are some factors that may hinder against the progress of the study. These include:

> Permission

It was not easy for the researcher to get permission from the local leadership such as the village heads. The researcher had to get permission from the councilor and the village heads in order to be able to get information from the people.

> Financial Constraints

The researcher is a student and not employed hence has a limited supply of financial resources to cater for expenses such as printing of questionnaires and using the internet. The researcher had to

use public transport using personal money from Gweru to Masvingo and then from Masvingo to Bikita Nyika hence the researcher was financially constrained. Printing of over 50 questionnaires was also a challenge as the money was not readily available.

> Time

There was also the challenge of the study being carried out in time when people in Bikita were preparing their land for the upcoming farming season hence the accessibility of respondents was very difficult.

➤ Vulnerable Community

The researcher had difficulties as he had to interpret the questions on the questionnaire in Shona to the respondents as they responded to the questions. Some of the respondents were illiterate hence faced difficulties in responding to the questionnaire.

1.7 Delimitations of the study

The study will take place in Bikita district ward 12 which has an estimated population of 4 180 people according to the 2012 census report with 1 923 males and 2 257 females. Bikita district is located in Masvingo province. Conceptually the study will focus at the impact of Caritas Masvingo in the development of Bikita ward 12, focusing on assessing whether Caritas Masvingo is progressing in its goal of creating resilient communities in Bikita district ward 12.

1.8 Significance of the study To Caritas Masvingo

When NGOs and other donor agencies such as Caritas Masvingo intervene in poor communities such as Bikita ward 12 communities, there is no doubt that their aim at the end of their operation in the area would be to leave behind a much better community than the one before intervention. It is by the above mentioned notion that the researcher feels this study might act as an attempt to shed light on the best practices by donor agencies in general and to Caritas in particular such that future interventions can be perfected and challenges eliminated.

The study might also act to highlight if Caritas Masvingo solutions to challenges faced by Bikita ward 12 communities will meet the needs of the people and also assessing whether these solutions or initiatives rather are involving the community enough so as to ensure the sustainability of these programmes even long after Caritas pulls out of the area.

The study may also be of a benefit to the communities in Bikita ward 12 by knowing the main goals of Caritas Masvingo which is helping them in various community empowerment programmes and activities hence this can improve the relationship between Caritas Masvingo and the community. The research might also help other NGOs, community based organisations, head men and the district staff who might use the information in this study for effective and efficient rural planning.

To the Researcher

The study provides a sense of ownership to the researched material while at the same time equipping the student with necessary research skills which are important in the field of development studies.

To MSU

The research might be purposeful to the institution because it might be very useful to other students who might want to undertake their research study in the field of donor agencies and rural development. The research can act as a starting point for future researchers since it provides the necessary information and relevant scholarly acknowledgement.

1.9 Conceptualisation of major terms

Evaluation-Roddwell (2001), evaluation can be seen as a way to determine whether an initiative has been worthwhile in terms of delivering what was intended. Evaluation according to the oxford English dictionary, can be seen as an act of ascertaining that is to check, finding out or determining rather whether Caritas Masvingo through its activities in Bikita ward 12 has actually succeeded in creating communities which are lively and can stand on their own and recover from depressions on their own without relying heavily on external aid.

Resilient-Entails to something that is lively or bouncy. A community that is resilient according to Thomas (2007), is a community that does not depend on external aid but can stand on its own and recover from depressions on its own.

Chapter summary

The background of this study justified the reason why there was need to carry out the study. There are a various number of issues that have been highlighted in this chapter, for example, the background of the study highlighted the situation in Bikita district ward 12, the challenges communities in ward 12 face hence the intervention by Caritas Masvingo and the problem statement prompted the need to evaluate the projects and activities by Caritas Masvingo in ward 12 in trying to address the challenges the communities in the area face. The purpose of conducting the research there for were shared as an evaluation of Caritas Masvingo in creating resilient communities in Bikita ward 12 and by resilient is meant that these communities will become self-sustaining even when Caritas stops assisting them. The chapter also exposed some of the major benefits that might be realized after carrying out the research. The chapter two that then followed explored the views and analysis from various scholars and authors on the importance of interventions and sustainability of Donor agencies projects and programmes in poor communities.

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

1.0Introduction

Literature review according to Tsveru (2008), is a description, evaluation and critical analysis of what other scholars and researchers have written or researched on the topic. It can be seen as a body of text with the aim to review critical points on current knowledge through substantive findings on the topic. The purpose of literature review is for gap analysis for the researcher with the main aim being to differ from earlier scholars hence avoiding the repetition of information that already exist. Through literature review, the researcher s' mental horizon is also broadened hence it is very important that it is carried out. In this chapter, the researcher discusses and evaluates information from other scholars on the importance and intervention of donor agencies in poor rural communities not only in Zimbabwe but in Africa as a whole.

2.1 NGOs working hand in hand with the government in rural development

The participation of NGOs in development in Africa has played a significant role which is supplementing the role of the government according to Mwansa (1995). Klugman (2000) is of the view that, most governments in third world countries find it difficult to deliver due to lack of adequate resources hence NGOs strive to fulfill the gaps left by government service departments. Alix (1998) is of the view that, in most developing countries, governments have formulated very soundly development policies but they lack the resources to put these policies in practice. The government should therefore work hand in hand with donor agencies since these agencies have the capacity and resources to undertake development practices hence ensuring that sustainable development in rural areas is achieved.

Newman Chintuwa Enyioko (2009) is of the view that NGOs are prominent in effective implementation of government programmes towards sustainable rural development through the third party activities in education, health, agriculture, community development, moral upbringing, youth empowerment and poverty alleviation. Caritas Masvingo should work with various government departments such as VET, LPD and Agritex. This then links the scholar Newman s' view with one of the research questions of this study which is to check if Check if Caritas is working very closely with such government departments. The ZimAsset document

talks about the issue of improved efforts to achieving sustainable rural development which is also the same goal which Caritas Masvingo seeks to achieve in Bikita ward 12. De Janvry et al (1989), it has been realised that, agricultural and rural development strategies would benefit from increased collaboration between the government and non-governmental organisations.

2.2 Importance of donor intervention in poor rural communities

The intervention of donor agencies have been applauded by Anderton(2014), in Chokwe district, Mozambique, Caritas Australia through its integrated rural development programme has dramatically improved access to clean water and safe sanctuary fascilities. Martha Nussbaum in her book, "creating capabilities: The human development approach" (pages 413-415), she formulated her Capabilities Approach as a counter theory to the shortcomings of the Economic Growth model theory in development which only focused on the GDP as an indicator of development. Nussbaum identified several problems with such GDP approaches for example the issue that it does not look at individual development hence the issue of human development according to Nussbaum is on the sense of identifying people s' capabilities hence on these capabilities that's where they would be able to develop their functionings. It can be noted that, what Naussbaum is saying on the aspect of identifying people s' capabilities and through these capabilities people would develop their functionings is also the same with what Caritas Masvingo seeks to do in poor communities. The goal is to create resilient communities, communities who do not entirely depend on external aid, communities which are lively in terms of production, be it food and income hence being able to sustain themselves even if Caritas Masvingo stops supporting them. Naussbaum s' theory, "Human development: Capabilities Approach", advocates for the identification of such possibilities hence donor agencies such as Caritas are there to help communities identify their capabilities.

According to JC Aker (2010), donor agencies should ensure that they provide the resources and space needed for development to the people and give the freedom to the people to develop themselves rather than these donor agencies taking the responsibility of developing these communities, in other words this only means that communities are poor because they do not have the resources/ingredients to development.

2.3 Resilient communities

John Robb (2013) is of the view that, a resilient community is a community which is prosperous and very much vibrant in terms of sustaining itself in food security, education, health, income generation and basically a good standard of living. Anderton (2014), also notes that a resilient community is a community that is lively, a community that does not depend on external aid but can stand on its own and recover from depressions on its own. It is the vision of Caritas Masvingo to create communities such as the ones defined by the above mentioned scholars, through its projects in Bikita ward 12, Caritas Masvingo seeks to create communities which will be very much less dependent on external aid.

2.4 Chapter summary

This chapter took a look at the various views by other authors and scholars on the importance of donor agencies in intervening in poor communities and empowering such communities with the provision of resources that are of a long life not only benefitting the current but the future generations as well. The chapter also looked at what other scholars say on the issue of NGOs or donor agencies such as Caritas Masvingo working hand in hand with the government in order to archieve the goal of poverty alleviation hence promoting sustainable development in poor rural communities and also the chapter shed light on what is meant when a community is dubbed to be resilient.

Chapter 3

RESEARCH METHOD

3.0Introduction

Chapter 3 looks at research method. It looks and talks about the practical things in other words, how the researcher gathered data about the study and it presents the research design and justifies it, population and sampling procedures, research instruments which the researcher used in gathering data, data collection procedure, data analysis plan and ethical considerations. The chapter also outlines steps taken to ensure validity and reliability of data.

3.1Research design

Mouton (2001) views research design as a plan of how a researcher intends to conduct a research. Nachmias (1996) states that a research design is a tool that enables the investigator to come up with solutions to the problem and as a guide in the various stages of research as well. A research design is suitable depending on the type of study and the information/ data to be collected. Two main research designs have been acknowledged by Creswell (2003) that is the qualitative and quantitative research. The researcher made use of mixed method research in collecting information. This is because the researcher needed as much information as he could get from the various respondents were the data was gathered, their opinions on how they thought about Caritas Masvingo s' activities in their area hence qualitative research was important. The researcher also needed statistical data especially on the collection of data pertaining to the goat project were the researcher wanted to know the amount of goats a certain beneficiary had before Caritas intervention and how much he/she had now after Caritas s' goat project also getting to know if there are some who died or who actually have multiplied.

3.2Sampling strategies

De Vos et al (2009) is of the view that, a sample is a subset of measurements drawn from a population the researcher is interested in, the sample is then studied so as to understand the population it was taken or drawn from rather. A sample is much easy in managing and economic in terms of resources and time as well. According to De Vos et al (2009), population can be seen as individuals in the universe who possess characteristics which are of the researcher s' interest. The population in this study is made up of people in Bikita district ward 12, Masvingo province.

Leedy and Ormrod (2010) describe non-probability sampling as a sampling approach that restricts chances of being selected into a sample; the researcher is the one who chooses respondents. A sub group of the population that is judged to be the representatives of the whole population is selected. The purposive sampling technique has its own merits, it consumes less time because the population already would have been selected and all others have been eliminated hence also enhancing the quality of the results and costs significantly reduced. Nonprobability sampling entails that selection is based on the purpose of research or study. The researcher made use of purposive sampling in selecting the 50 respondents from different communities that are in ward 12. In this study, the researcher acquired information from those 50 community members selected and those individuals who are in leadership of the programmes and activities being carried out by Caritas Masvingo in Bikita ward 12. Purposive sampling was also done for Key Informants (KIs) and in this case these included the Programme Officer from Caritas Masvingo, the Field Officer from Caritas Masvingo, the Councilor for ward 12 and a male and female member of the Caritas committee in Bikita ward 12. There for, the sample size is made up of 55 people with the 50 respondents from the communities in ward 12 being 25 males and 25 females.

3.3 Research instruments

Research instruments are defined by Arnold (1982) as tools which the researcher uses to generate or gather information from respondents. These are tools which are used to obtain data. This study used questionnaires and interviews. The chosen instruments are examined in detail below.

3.4Ouestionnaires

Fouche and Delport (2009) define a questionnaire as a set of questions used to gather facts and opinions about a phenomenon from the people who have been asked about the issue. This research mainly used these questionnaires as the method of gathering data because they were easy to give to respondents and also they are cheap. Questionnaires differ in accordance to the type of survey and information to be collected according to Maree (2001). It should be noted that, there are quite a number of considerations to be kept in mind when coming up or constructing a questionnaire: appearance, question sequence and the wording of the questions as well as the response categories. The questionnaire for this study was open ended as the researcher looked to gather as much information as possible from the respondents. The questions structured for the fifty community members were drafted in Shona as the researcher is aware of

the English language barrier within the area. The questionnaire had questions split into three sets of questions linking with the three research objectives. According to Maree (2011), if questions are kept on the same topic/concept, analysis becomes easier and logical. The researcher randomly gave the 50 community members from ward 12 the questionnaires which they quickly answered and collection of the questionnaires was done there and there.

3.5 Interviews

An interview is a purposeful interaction in which the researcher asks prepared questions and the respondent would be answering them. Interviews help in gathering information about a particular area to be researched. Interviews, according to De Vos (2009), is a process of trying to view the world from the respondent s' point of view and to uncover his/her experiences. Interviews extract in-depth information and they can be structured, semi structured or unstructured.

In this study, the researcher interviewed the five key informants and used unstructured interviews and unlike questionnaires, these interviews actually provided more in-depth information because they gave room for the respondents and the researcher to ask for clarification hence it increased the chances of securing valid information from the respondents. The researcher chose unstructured interviews because they gave room for probing further into the respondents s' opinions and feelings hence covering much ground. The researcher also opted to use interviews to complement the questionnaire because actually if you look at questionnaires, they are not that much effective in rural areas characterised by high levels of illiteracy like Bikita ward 12 were most respondents do not understand English hence interviews were very important in gathering data.

3.6Data analysis

For the purpose of analysing data collected the researcher used tables and graphs.

3.7Ethical issues

There will be strict adherence to ethics before, during and after data collection. De Vos et al (2005) notes that ethics are a set of moral principles that are suggested by a group or an individual. Ethics offer rules and behavior expectations on the most acceptable conduct towards subjects that are experimental, respondents, employers, other researchers and students before carrying out the research.

In this study the researcher asked for permission from Caritas Masvingo and from the other participants such as community members to carry out the research. The researcher there for will let the participants know about research hence making participants decide on their own and voluntarily participate in the study. According to Maree (2012), the researcher needs to ensure that there is no harm that will come to the participants from the study and this involves revealing of information that would embarrass the participants or endanger their households and jobs. The researcher is aware that the information gathered should be confidential and no judgement should be done to the view of the respondents.

3.8Chapter summary

This chapter is all about practical things with the researcher talking about the research methods and the sampling procedures used in gathering data. The researcher needed descriptional and statistical data hence the study used mixed method research which entails the use of both the qualitative and quantitative research methods. The chapter also talked about the tools which the researcher used in gathering data that is the questionnaire and interviews and also the researcher considered the most expected behavior and conducts towards the respondents hence the consideration of ethical issues.

CHAPTER 4

DISCUSSION, DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

4.0Introduction

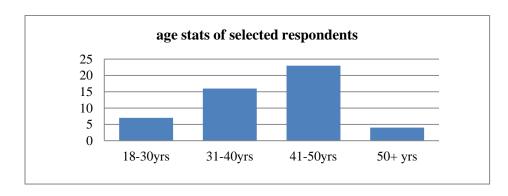
In this chapter, data collected was presented on tables and graphs. The data gathered from the questionnaires and interviews was analysed in line with the objectives of this study. Thus, the ideas and information were grouped under the three objectives of the study hence being very much clear and useful showing if the objectives of the study have been met. Quantifiable data was also analysed there for, the chapter presents collected data and its analysis and interpretation.

4.1 Questionnaire response rate

Fifty questionnaires in total were distributed to the sampled community members of Bikita ward 12. The response rate for the questionnaire was 100% as 50 questionnaires were administered by the researcher and all of these questionnaires were fully responded to. The researcher there for managed to acquire a 100% response rate considering it as a representation of the whole of Bikita ward 12 communities and an analysis there for was conducted basing on the results acquired in the field during data collection.

4.2 Presentation and analysis of data acquired through questionnaires.

The data presentation was done question by question. The various responses were combined together to arrive at a positive answer. The questionnaires were given to the selected respondents from various communities of ward 12 and the age stats of the various respondents are shown in **Fig 1** below:

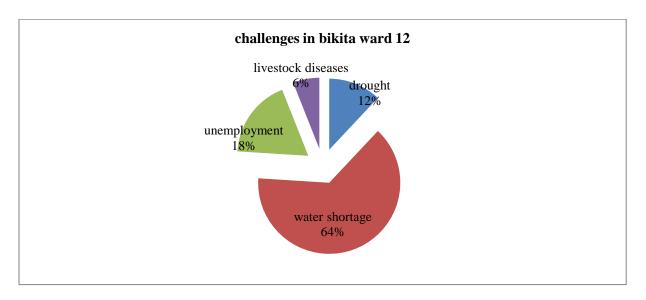


Source: Field work

The researcher was aware that, in order to effectively or clearly see the contribution of Caritas Masvingo in creating resilient communities in Bikita ward 12, there was first need to understand the problems or challenges rather which ward 12 communities have faced and continue to face hence hindering their development.

Question number1: the challenges which ward 12 communities face.

Of the 50 questionnaires answered by the community members of ward 12, there were mainly four challenges which were brought out by the people of ward 12 as shown by **fig 2**:



Source: field work

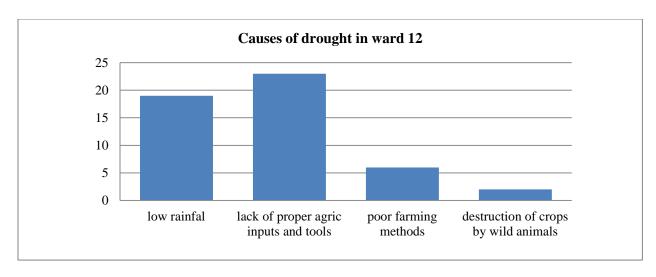
The challenge which was mostly brought out is the problem of water shortage. The questionnaire was open ended hence it gave room to the respondents to give reasons as to why water was such a huge challenge in their communities. The information provided by this question pointed out that, the area of ward 12 has 53 villages in total but there are only 2 dams in the area, one complete and the other at its late stages of construction and because of this some villages couldn't even access any one of these dams because of the distance barrier between them. The second dam is part of ward 32 although some ward 12 communities have access to the water. Respondent D also added on that, there were more dams in ward 12 but the problem is that, these dams silted and they needed more attention for instance continuous dam scooping but that hasn't been done leading to these dams drying up quickly causing water shortages in the area. The

questionnaire response also showed that there are quite a number of boreholes within ward 12 but they were wrongly distributed as some areas are left with no water.

The other challenge which also came out is the issue of unemployment with 18% of the sampled population in support of this. The responses acquired through the questionnaire pointed to the fact that this has mostly affected the youths in ward 12 as there are many of them with nothing to do. This has also affected the various households in the area because they need money for various aspects of their day to day livelihoods for example school fees, to access health fascilities, agricultural inputs and food only to mention but a few.

Drought also came out amongst the challenges faced in the area and something interesting was brought out by the responses in the questionnaires. Instead of poor rainfalls being the biggest cause of drought, ward 12 community members brought out lack of proper agricultural inputs and tools as the leading cause to food shortages within the area. The responses showed that in 2013/14 farming season there were good rains in the area but most households still could not produce enough food because most of them are poor to the extent that they do not have their own farming equipment such as the cattle and ploughs hence they sometimes have to wait for those who have to finish but this is costly because the rains sometimes would be long gone. Some responses also showed that the people had not enough knowledge on best farming methods hence most households in the area for example continued to produce very low yields despite the rains being there. Poor rains however came out as a cause of drought with most responses pointing out on the 2014/15 farming season and according to Respondent E, the rains came but they were quickly gone leaving the crops in the fields to wilt and dry and also that the rains were very much un predictable in that farming season hence catching most of the people on the wrong foot.

The researcher analysed the various responses given on the causes of drought in ward 12 and came out with the following information as shown in **fig 3** below:



Source: field work

The issue of loss of livestock came out from a few responses from the questionnaires. The information revealed gathered through the questionnaire on the issue of livestock diseases revealed that, in as recent as 2014, there was an outbreak of a devastating lump skin disease in Bikita district which led to a decline in livestock production in ward 12. The area has been also affected by diseases such as foot and mouth and also heart water diseases which affects mostly their goats and cattle. Respondents brought out that, their crops were also affected by wild animals such as baboons which would eat their crops such as maize and ground nuts hence also affecting their harvests.

Question 2: Impacts these challenges have had on Bikita ward 12 communities.

The questionnaire gave the respondents the chance to bring out the impacts of the various challenges they have faced in their day to day livelihoods.

Middleton (2009) is of the view that, community gardens have been started in many rural communities in Zimbabwe and their very persistence is a symbol of their intrinsic economic and nutritional advantage. Community gardens also empower communities to take much more control on their food production according to Local harvest (2009). The challenge of water shortages has brought quite a negative impact on ward 12 communities. A.D Jones (2009) is of the view that, water is important in each and every aspect of living and from the responses gathered from the questionnaire, the respondents seemed to be affected by the issue that, shortage of water has barred them in carrying out some income and nutritional generating

activities such as fishing for nutritional and income needs. 39 responses were based on that most ward 12 communities could not have community gardens were they would grow crops like tomatoes, onions and vegetables for sale like what other wards like ward 32 were doing. There is no doubt that community gardens have been instrumental in the fight against poverty in Zimbabwe rural communities in the global problem of climate change. The respondents also brought out the issue of their nutrition also being compromised because of shortage of water since they could not have their own nutritional gardens hence also jeopardizing their health. 46 respondents also talked about the challenge of water having a negative impact on their livestock as well,

Respondents from villages such as chikerema, mandizvidza, Jefta, huragu, gwazhimbi and chivhuno village expressed consent on the issue that water shortage has also had a negative impact on their livestock. Their areas are really hit by shortages of water and their livestock have to walk quite long distances in search of water. The community respondents also talked about their sanitation also being jeopardised as they brought out cases of them having difficulties in accessing water for household use such as washing clothes, bathing and even drinking hence making them prone to diseases such as cholera.

The impacts that drought has had on ward 12 communities were also brought out by the respondents. The major issues that the people were that, most if not all of ward 12 communities depend on agriculture for food and also for income as they usually sale crops such as ground nuts hence drought has led to them in terms of food since now they can't afford to produce enough from their fields. Communities have depended on Buhera and Zaka in times of drought and in 2008 for example, they would walk from Bikita to Buhera in search of food. There is no much grazing land in their area which affects their livestock in times of drought especially cattle which would depend on what is left of the fields after harvesting and now because of drought they suffer more because there would be virtually nothing left on the fields which have led to loss of livestock. Drought also means low rainfall usually in ward 12 for example 2008 and as recent as 2014, this means that there would be no enough water to fill the water points and dams such that they would sustain them to the next rain season and they quickly dry up meaning that both people and livestock become very much vulnerable.

Unemployment and livestock diseases have also had effects on the ward 12 communities. The responses received through the questionnaires showed that, I ward 12 it seems unemployment has mostly hit the youths. The impacts being that the youths will have nothing to do hence they engage in harmful activities such as theft, drug abuse and high risk of being infected by HIV and AIDS. The respondents brought out concern that crime might be on the rise in their communities as the unemployment rate is too high. Livestock diseases have also led to loss of cattle, goats and sheep which are so important for their livelihoods.

Question3: what the communities themselves have done to try and address these challenges.

The researcher is aware that it's also important to know if communities themselves without the intervention of external aid have tried on their own to address the challenges they have faced. This would be important in the assessment of the survival of Caritas projects to see if the people have that much will and commitment to the projects.

The responses from the questionnaire showed that in some villages such as Muchenga village, community members on their own have come together to construct a dam whilst other responses suggested that communities had done nothing because they lack the resources. Community members have tried to deal with the challenge of water shortage as they have come together in the digging of community water wells for example in Chikerema and Chimwango villages. The communities had also selected committees amongst themselves who have the duty to protect the community water points, cater for their community livestock dipping and other various important activities within the community.

Some respondents also brought out that communities have formed strong relations with the various VET, L.P.D, Agritex and Caritas staff working in their area so that they get enough knowledge farming, livestock production and income management and accumulation which will also enhance their standards of living.

There were some responses however which showed that some villages in ward 12 have actually done nothing because the responses were that, lack of resources to sustain themselves on their own have left communities with nothing to do in addressing their challenges for example dam construction, irrigation scheme set ups and community gardens as well. High poverty levels

within the communities have also jeopardised co-operation within the villages hence in most cases the community members preferre to address their challenges at household level rather than community level. Respondents also raised arguments that some challenges they have faced are beyond their control and could not do anything to prevent them for example droughts, livestock diseases and borehole drilling.

Question 4: has Caritas Masvingo s' intervention addressed ward 12 challenges?

The researcher saw the importance of this question of giving a glimpse of were Caritas Masvingo stand in ward 12 before deeply analysing their activities in the questions to follow. It's just a rough sketch rather to see their contribution in addressing the challenges that ward 12 communities face.

All the respondents responded to this question in the questionnaire and overally the responses on whether Caritas interventions had addressed ward 12 challenges came out showing that twelve percent of the sampled population disagreed that Caritas Masvingo intervention in ward 12 had addressed their challenges while eighty-eight percent agreed that indeed Caritas intervention in ward 12 had solved their problems which they were facing.

Of the 44 respondents who agreed that Caritas Masvingo intervention had addressed the challenges the face in ward 12, they all gave the reasons as to why they say so. Respondents from Chikukutu and Dungu village expressed delight on the construction of Musvanhi dam by Caritas Masvingo which they say has really brought relief to their communities. The respondents said they were happy because now they would be able to start their own community gardens as Caritas has already informed them that it had purchased the fencing material and seeds for these gardens. This according to the respondents have actually opened doors for other very important activities such as fishing, water for building and most importantly water for their livestock.

Respondents from Biriviri, Chitiga, Dungu, Jefta, Chivhuno, Gwizhimbi, Zvidzai and many other villages also applauded the intervention of Caritas Masvingo in their area. The recent lump skin disease that had hit their area had left various households with no livestock coupled also with the issue of low grazing land which also led to massive loss of livestock especially in 2008. Caritas Masvingo s' intervention with the goat project breathed new life in the communities as now they own more goats since every beneficiary was given five goats. Goats also unlike cattle

need only a small area to graze hence they won't be that much affected by the challenge of less grazing land. Respondent also brought out that, this goat project not only has it enhanced their nutrition, it has also boosted other important aspects such as income as well as status within their communities as now they can be able to sell their goats and send their children to school as well as accessing health fascilities. The respondents generally agreed that Caritas goat project has really improved their standards of living.

The ISAL programme was also brought out by the respondents. "fushai" like they wrote it, was important to them because they saw it as a bank were their money would be accumulating and safe. The programme has also equipped the community members with the knowledge on the proper management of money and according to the responses from the questionnaire, most people had no cattle and even ploughs for farming but because of ISAL, they now own cattle and ploughs and can send their children to school, access health fascilities, buy food for their families and also live a decent standard of life.

The Caritas sees programme was also brought out were Caritas has been teaching them on Conservation Agriculture (CA) and also the growing of crops which are resilient to drought and which mature early so as to fight the drought challenge in ward 12 and community members have been given seed and fertilizer from Caritas Masvingo in recent farming seasons.

There were however some responses which were of the view that Caritas Masvingo interventions in ward 12 had not addressed their challenges. A total of six respondents disagreed basing on the arguments that in their areas they still had no water and are far away from the dam constructed by Caritas hence as far, they haven't benefitted anything from Caritas dam construction activities. There are some respondents as well who argued that they haven't yet received the goats which other villages have received and also they expressed an element of a doubt on the pass on idea were the goats are given to the first beneficiary and after five years, they are passed to the next one with the first beneficiary having to keep the offspring.

An interesting line of argument also came out from two responses from the questionnaire. These respondents agreed that they had received goats from Caritas but then they had no money for vaccines for these goats as some times VET would not be able to provide these hence most of the goats they received died. They also argued that Caritas had bought these goats from outside ward

12 and even outside Bikita district hence most of them struggled to cope with environmental change and they died. Caritas should have bought the goats for the project within the district such that they won't need any adaptation and also the money used for purchasing the goats would have benefitted Bikita communities which would mean that they benefit twice, rather the money benefitted outside communities were the goats were purchased.

4.3 Analysis of measures put across by Caritas Masvingo in ward 12 to ensure sustainable access and management of water, improve food security and enhance household income.

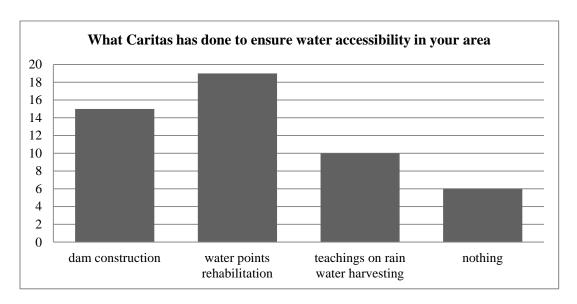
Now that the challenges faced by ward 12 communities and their impacts have been brought out, the researcher is aware of the need now to find out from the respondents if the measures put across by Caritas in their area have actually improved their livelihoods in terms of water provision, food security and income generation. Caritas Masvingo intervened in Bikita ward 12 with the Sustainable livelihoods Diversity and Resilience programme so as to improve livelihoods diversity and resilience for targeted vulnerable women, men, boys and girls in ward 12. The main components of this programme focus mainly on water provision, food security and income security as these are the challenges that the ward 12 community members themselves brought out in their community development ward plan hence now the researcher will present the data gathered from the questionnaire on analysing the Caritas projects in ward 12. The data will be presented firstly on water provision, then food security and lastly income security.

a) Water access and management

question1: what Caritas has done to ensure water accessibility in your area.

The respondents showed that Caritas has and is actually assisting the ward 12 communities in order to ensure that they have access to water. Of the 50 responses gathered by the questionnaire, most respondents were actually in agreement that Caritas has done something in their villages hence they now have access to water. The responses were as follows:

Fig 5:



Source: field work

15 responses from the questionnaire talked about Caritas Masvingo dam construction activity within their villages. These were mostly people from Chikukutu and Dungu villages who are very near to Musvanhi dam which was constructed by Caritas Masvingo. There were also 19 responses who talked about Caritas Masvingo helping them in the rehabilitation of their water sources such as community wells and community small dams which had silted and no longer kept much water for example in villages such as Mademo, Panganayi, Tamai, Kwangwa 2, Huragu and Dzimbanhete villages.

The respondents also brought out an un expected but very important issue of rain water harvesting. 10 respondents brought out that, Caritas Masvingo had come in their areas and opened their eyes on something they did not know through carrying out workshops in Musakaruka village, Njerere and Mushuku villages only to mention but a few teaching them on rain water harvesting which according to the respondents it really helped them because most of them now have small dams on their homes for their livestock and other important household uses and before Caritas had taught them, the water used to be just a surface runoff but because of Caritas they are now making a better use of it. Respondents also noted that, most of them were now motivated by Caritas teachings to build houses with roofs that can capture water such that during and after the rain season water would be available to them. There were however, 6 respondents who argued that Caritas had done nothing in their areas to ensure water accessibility

since they are still struggling to access water. They are far away from the dams hence they move long distances in search of the precious liquid.

Question2: what communities would benefit from Caritas Masvingo activities of water provision in ward 12.

The various measures that Caritas Masvingo has put in place to ensure that water is available to ward 12 communities have now been brought out by the respondents through the questionnaire hence now the following question was asking on the various benefits that communities have had on the water accessibility measures by Caritas in ward 12.

The researcher will look at the activities brought out by the questionnaire respondents and the benefits they have brought to the community and the data gathered on this question will be presented and shown by the table below:

Table 4.3.1

Caritas Masvingo activities in ward 12 to ensure water accessibility	for example	Water points rehabilitation for example in Panganayi and Tamai villages	training on Rain
Benefits these activities have had to the communities	useactivities such as fishing hence enhancing nutrition and income.	very long distances in search of water like beforewater for domestic uses now available which enhances	accessing watercan be easily done on household level hence

Source: field work

Question 3: measures put in place to ensure proper management of water sources.

The responses from the questionnaire showed that, Caritas Masvingo had actually asked the people to select the committee which will be in charge of the proper management of Musvanhi dam. The committee is made up of ten people five women and five males. This committee according to the response had been selected even before the construction of the dam and they had attended various workshops on dam management and also the Project Implementation Team training workshop hence they have been on board all the way since before and after construction. The committee s' role is to look after the dam ensuring that the water remains in shape and the committee will continue to be in charge even when Caritas pulls out of ward 12 hence creating a strong sense of sustainability of this project.

b)Food security

Question 1: what Caritas has done to ensure food security in your area.

There were quite a number of responses gathered from this question and all the responses were in support that Caritas Masvingo had done something in their community in the bid to enhance food security. The respondents had different views on what Caritas had done to improve food security in their area. Through analysis of these responses, the researcher found out that, the various responses all linked with the main aims of the SLDRP programme which are water provision, food security and income generation and through the responses, the benefits from water provision also came back on food security hence showing that they are intertwined. The responses which came out were that:

Caritas have engaged in the provision of farming inputs such as seed and fertiliser to those vulnerable households who can't access them on their own. Most households in ward 12 are really affected by high levels of poverty hence they find it difficult to purchase agricultural inputs which means that even if the rains are enough in that particular farming season, those households are still likely to face shortages of food quickly because they usually grow very small areas because they would not have the seed and fertiliser. In villages such as Chimwango village, Mamutse village, Payarira and Tabhariko villages, Caritas Masvingo has provided farming inputs to selected vulnerable households each and every farming season for example maize seed and cow peas.

Responses also revealed that, Caritas has been engaged in teaching on best practices of farming such as Conservation Agriculture (CA) which aims at conserving, improving and making more efficient use of natural resources through integrated management of the available soil, water and biological resources. The respondents also said they have been taught by Caritas Masvingo on the use of organic manure in place if chemical fertilizers. The majority of the populations in Masvingo province depend on subsistence farming and because of this, in the recent years they have not done that well in terms of harvests . Agriculture becomes the largest employer as households depend on agricultural production to earn a living. Sustainable agriculture seeks to maximize the welfare of targeted beneficiaries and their land at the same time minimizing the use of synthetic fertilizers. The approach is that land and people are an interconnected system. Caritas Masvingo strives to increase the food security of poor farming families through ecologically sound natural resource management.

An interesting idea was also brought out by the questionnaire. There are respondents who talked about Caritas Masvingo working hand in hand with government departments such as Agritex and how this working relationship has been of a huge advantage to them. Caritas personnel together with Agritex field personnel have been walking around ward 12 communities visiting various households from preparation stage of the farming season up to harvesting stage and some areas such as Kwangwa 1, 2 and 3 usually are affected by Locusts and birds towards harvesting time and Caritas together with Agritex have provided with knowledge on how to deals with such problems and now the situation has actually improved since they put those ideas in place.

Caritas has also started small community gardens within villages in ward 12. The respondents actually applauded this saying they usually would struggle to make a meal for their families since some of them did not even own a chicken hence they had resorted to eating wild plants such as the black jack leaves as stew. Respondents brought out that in villages such as Mushirivindi, the small community garden by Caritas has left them with a wider margin of choice in terms of food as they now get beans, vegetables like covo and rape, tomatoes and onions and also other varieties. The respondents also brought out the importance of Musvanhi dam constructed by Caritas as well as they say it will improve their food security. They argued that, there will be more community gardens in ward 12 because the water would now be readily available throughout the year hence people never run out of food. This will also benefit those who are far away from Musvanhi dam as well because even if you can't start a garden because of the distance, you can be rest assured that your family does not die of hunger because unlike walking to Buhera in search of food, you can now come at the gardens at Musvanhi and get assistance. The activity of fishing also came out as the respondents felt that they were really empowered in terms of nutrition variety hence they would be secure in terms of food.

The Caritas goat project has also improved food security in ward 12. The respondents argued that, goats were given to those beneficiaries who had one goat and above already and if a household had one goat before Caritas came, obviously they would not eat or sell it because you wouldn't want to be left with none hence when Caritas provided five more goats, it meant that at least there were now options available because you could even sell the goat you had and buy food. There are also responses which argued that they had engaged in Caritas Isal programme

and now they know better on income generation and management hence they now managed their small income effectively that they can now afford to buy enough food for their families.

Question 2: what communities have benefited from Caritas CA farming trainings.

The views and information gathered from this question show that there has been improvements in terms of agricultural produce since the people stated to practice CA agriculture. **Fig 6** below is a CA agricultural garden by Caritas Masvingo in Bikita.



Source: field work

The respondents said they had benefitted quite a lot from the trainings on CA by Caritas Masvingo and these benefit includes knowledge on that unlike conventional farming where the soil quickly loses moisture, CA enables plants to live on even without much rainfall because those holes keep up moisture and do not quickly loose it hence those crops under CA will not wilt as quickly as those under conventional farming. The communities in ward 12 were greatly affected by drought and low rainfall because the soil quickly lost moisture through the farming methods they used but now this has improved thanks to CA. Community members were trained in dry-land and low external input agriculture techniques, soil and water conservation measures. There is deliberate promotion of open pollinated drought tolerant crops. These were promoted to improve crop yields and food availability at household level to promote good health, human dignity and income. This CA farming hence acts as a mitigatory measure against the effects of

climate change. Respondents also said they had benefitted from CA training from Caritas on that this type of farming is that it is cheap and requires less labour than conventional farming because you only dig were you want to place your seed hence also saving your cattle which sometimes would not be ready to be used for the farming season.

Question 3: Has your food production/nutrition improved since Caritas intervention in ward 12?

All the respondents agreed that Caritas intervention in ward 12 had improved their food security and what they applauded most is the fact that Caritas had only provided them with resources such that they would work for themselves using these resources rather than Caritas only giving them food aid. The data gathered will be shown in:

Table 4.3.2

Caritas activity	Dam Construction and water points rehabilitation	ISAL	CA farming training and agric inputs provision	Small livestock project
Contribution to Food security.	-water available hence nutritional gardens can be startedFishing activities can now be donetheir livestock now have enough drinking water which also facilitate their multiplication hence enhancing nutrition.	-trained on better management of money hence can now afford to buy foodaccumulation of money quickly and easily now ensures they can buy food and agric inputs on their own.	families hence they have foodCaritas helps with	-they now have more goats hence their nutrition enhancedcan sell goats to buy other food items such as cooking oil etc.

Source: field work

c) Income Security

Question 1: beneficiaries of Caritas Masvingo goat project in ward 12.

All the respondents answered the question which asked if they were beneficiaries of Caritas s' goat programme. The question was asking if the researcher s' sampled population had already received the five goats and the responses from the questionnaire showed that forty four respondents agreed that they had received goats from Caritas while six other respondents said they were yet to receive any. Of those respondents who responded No to the question, six of them said they were beneficiaries but waiting to benefit from the pass on principle were they

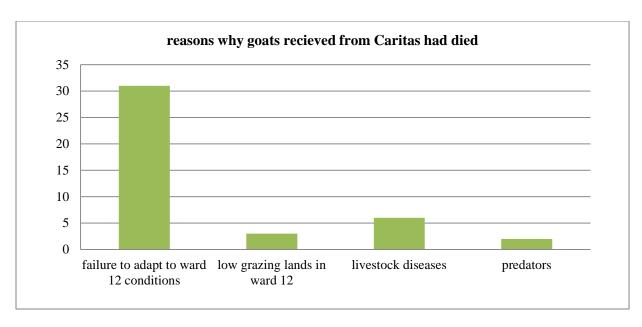
would receive the same goats from the first beneficiaries after a five year period. Two other respondents said they were not going to receive any goats from the Caritas as they were totally not beneficiaries. The reason which they gave was that they as two households do not even own one goat hence when Caritas selected the beneficiaries, they chose those with at least one goat which they own on their own as Caritas felt such people had an idea on how to take care of the goats than those who totally do not own even one.

The forty-two other respondents agreed that they had received five goats each from Caritas, which means that the sampled population in total had two hundred and ten (210) goats. The questionnaire asked further to know more about how many of these goats they had now that is, how many had now if there were any dead and any they had sold. The responses gathered showed that there were no goats which were sold yet since the beneficiaries had recently received them. However, there was quite a bit shocking outcome from the statistics given by respondents on the number of goats which had died upon arrival in Bikita ward 12.

The statistics from the questionnaire showed that from a sample size of 50 respondents chosen by the researcher, 42 agreed that they had received five goats each from Caritas Masvingo and from this 42, 19 stated that there are goats they received from Caritas which had died. The statistics showed that out of 210 total combined number of goats received by selected respondents, 34 of these had died and 176 are left which shows that there was quite a loss which also affects the project.

Question 2: reasons for the deaths of goats.

The respondents brought out quite a number of reasons as to why some of the goats they received from Caritas had died. There were mainly four reasons that respondents brought out and these are as shown in **Fig 7** below.



Source: field work

The reason most pointed out by the respondents is that of failure to adapt to the conditions in Bikita ward 12. The goats were purchased from Buhera were the conditions in that area are quite different to those in Bikita in terms of temperature, drinking water and type of vegetation which goats in Buhera graze on. The respondents mainly talked about change of diet as they said the goats were used to eating thorny twigs which are very much plenty in Buhera and relatively scarce in Bikita district. There for, most of the goats were really affected that some of them could not even graze the first day they arrived in Bikita hence most could not recover from such a setback and they died.

Temperature also played its part as Buhera is not as hot as Bikita and the goats were finding it difficult to cope with the heat as signaled by some of them spending long hours of the day under tree shades. Most villages in ward 12 also has no access to water hence the livestock has to travel quite long distances in search of drinking water and after these goats had been transported by a lorry from Buhera which was really so much of a stress to them as they were crowded, they were already fatigued upon arrival in Bikita. This then coupled by the need to walk for long distances in search of water, some of the goats really failed to cope with this situation hence they died. Two Respondents brought out that predators such as hyenas had also contributed to the deaths of these goats.

The issue of livestock diseases in ward 12 also came out as a reason to why the Caritas goats had been dying. The respondents showed concern on that, Caritas simply gave them goats at a time when most of them did not have any money to purchase various vaccines needed to ensure that those goats are safe from the diseases such as heart water which affects goats in ward 12. VET sometimes do not have the vaccines hence it becomes the owner s' duty to actually buy these vaccines hence failure to do this like most beneficiaries did, it leads to loss of livestock. The other cause that came out is that of lack of enough grazing land. The grazing spaces in ward 12 are largely becoming low and low hence the grass in the area is very few which affected the goats as were they came from they fed on thorn twigs which are so plenty in Buhera but when they arrived in Bikita were grazing land is scarce, they were really affected hence they died.

Question 3: benefits from the Isal and Goat projects by Caritas Masvingo in Bikita ward 12.

Out of the fifty sampled population, forty-eight respondents agreed that they were part of the Isal programme by Caritas Masvingo and they really brought out that they had benefitted quite a lot as the programme has been a life changer to them. The benefits which were brought out by the respondents on the benefits of the Isal and goat project are shown in **Table 4.3.5**

Benefits of the Isal Programme

-their social status has improved as they now own	-most households in ward 12 cannot access banks
something.	hence because of the Isal programme, their money
-nutrition has improved as they now have a source	is now safe.
of protein which enhances their health as well as	-Isal has also enabled them to make better use or
their families'wellbeing.	better management of their money and they have
-income improves as they can sell and send their	bought cattle, ploughs, food and agricultural inputs.
children to school as well as access health	-those in Isal can now afford to send their children
fascilities.	to school as they now have access to money.
-goats unlike cattle do not need large areas to graze	-they can now afford to access health facilities
hence they are easier to keep compared to cattle.	hence living a better standard of life.

Source: field work

Benefits of the Goat project

Question 4: Caritas working with the government.

Donor agencies have played a significant role in the efforts to achieve sustainable development in rural Africa according to Mwansa (1995). Most governments in Africa according to Enyioko

(2009), face challenges when it comes to provision of resources to rural communities hence the importance of donor agencies to come and complement the government efforts which enhances the chances of success in terms of achieving poverty eradication and sustainable development in rural communities.

The questionnaire asked the respondents if Caritas Masvingo was working together with various governments departments in their areas and the responses showed that 12% of respondents did not agree that Caritas Masvingo was working together with government departments in their areas while 88% totally agreed that Caritas had a good working relationship with various government departments operating in their area.

The respondents who agreed that Caritas Masvingo is working hand in hand with the government departments in their area pointed out that, in times of the farming season, Caritas staff together with Agritex extension officers have continuously paid visits to their fields and teaching them on various farming methods as well as providing information on how best to deal with various crop diseases they have encountered. Respondents from Chikukutu area also gave their opinions on that, Caritas worked hand in hand with the local chiefs, ministry of women affairs, village heads, EMA, the DA s' office and the mechanization department from the ground breaking of Musyanhi dam, through its construction up to its completion. This shows that Caritas Masyingo realises the importance of all these government departments hence their engagement and also Caritas s' compliance to following the procedures that has been put in place by the government for example when it comes to dam construction, EMA has to be engaged to ensure maximum protection of the environment, the local authority as well has to be aware as well since they are the traditional owners of the land and also the mechanization department which specializes in the construction of structures such as dams hence showing that Caritas Masvingo indeed works hand in hand with the government of Zimbabwe in the development of ward 12. Caritas Masvingo also engaged the government in coming out with the development ward plan for Bikita ward 12 and the government departments which were present include the irrigation department, Agritex, the DA, local governance, ministry of women affairs and LPD hence this shows that Caritas is complementing government efforts In terms of planning to end rural poverty and achieving sustainable development in Bikita ward 12.

The respondents who did not agree that Caritas is working hand in hand with the government pointed out that in their areas, when Caritas gave them goats for example, it was up to the community themselves to buy vaccines for the goats and if caritas was working with the government departments such as VET and LPD, then there would have been efforts to provide the community with the vaccines hence the need for improved working relations between Caritas and the government.

Question 5: what ward 12 communities have benefitted from the working relationship between Caritas and the government.

If Caritas Masvingo and the government work closely together in ward 12, there is no doubt that it enhances the chances of success that both parties are after which is the eradication of poverty and achievement of sustainable development in Bikita ward 12 which in turn comes with benefits to the communities within the area. The questionnaire asked the respondents of the benefits they have had through the working relationship of Caritas and the government departments operating within their area.

The respondents stressed that, Caritas has worked closely with Agritex in their areas and this has brought quite a number of benefits to them which include a wide range of information on best agricultural practices. Caritas field officers have taught them on the best farming techniques which suits their areas and Agritex extension officers have also visited their areas teaching them of the same thing hence they now have enough knowledge needed on farming hence improving their harvests in the fields. Caritas officers together with those from Agritex have also visited their fields during preparation of the farming season, during planting of crops and during harvesting assisting and teaching them on how all these are properly done. Respondents from Chikukutu, Tabhariko and Kwangwa 2 villages also pointed out that they have attended several workshops facilitated by Caritas and Agritex on the issue of use of organic manure rather than chemical fertilisers and they have put this in practice hence their agricultural output have significantly improved.

Caritas has also been carrying out dam construction activities in Bikita ward 12 for example Musvanhi dam and they have engaged the mechanisation department in the process. The respondents pointed out that they have benefitted from such a working relationship on that they

are comfortable in terms of consultation since they are used to working with the Caritas and Mechanisation staff working on the dam. The respondents also brought out that, they are the ones benefiting from the dam and there for Caritas working with the mechanisation department ensures production of strong and long lasting dams hence sustainability since Caritas has the resources while the mechanisation department has the knowledge.

Respondents mostly female pointed out the benefits they have had from Caritas working with the Ministry of Women affairs in ward 12. This has ensured fair representation between men and women in terms of benefitting from Caritas activities in ward 12. The analysis of the data provided by the respondents, it shows that during the construction of Musvanhi dam, Caritas needed to employ 100 community members to work at the dam and according to the respondents, the Min of Women Affairs ensured that there would be fair representation that is 50 males and 50 females hence also benefitting.

There are some respondents however who brought out that, they had not benefitted anything since the working relationship between Caritas and government departments such as VET and LPD have not been that clear. The respondents argued that, VET and LPD departments had not made any noticeable efforts to follow up on the goats provided by Caritas to check and see if there were any problems with regards to their health and well-being as they the community are the ones who buy vaccines on their own instead of accessing them from VET. This shows that, Caritas despite working well with some of the government departments, there is need for improved engagement with VET and LPD in ward 12 as this would improve livestock production and also the fight against livestock diseases

4.3 Presentation and analysis of data acquired through interviewing of key informants.

The researcher carried out interviews on five Key Informants that is two from Caritas Masvingo, the councilor of ward 12 and two members of the Caritas committee working on Musvanhi dam. The data presentation was done question by question. The interviews were done to the KIs selected by the researcher.

a)Caritas personnel

Question 1: how Bikita ward 12 became one of Caritas targeted areas.

The researcher was aware of the need to gather some knowledge from the Caritas personnel themselves on how Bikita ward 12 became one of their targeted areas. What were the drivers behind?

The responses gathered by interviewing the Caritas personnel were that, Caritas s' mandate is to intervene in communities hard hit by poverty, communities who find it hard to sustain themselves because of the various challenges they face hence Caritas intervenes in such areas such that it empowers them through provision of resources that enables such communities to fend for themselves even when Caritas is long gone. Respondent 1 is of the view that, an analysis of the area was made through engagement with some of the government offices such as the DA and the councilor and village heads and the results showed that the area of ward 12 had difficulties in accessing water hence this meant that all other activities which form the backbone of livelihoods in rural Zimbabwe such as community gardens and irrigation schemes were compromised leading to shortages in food and income because if ward 12 communities could have such resources, they would grow crops such as tomatoes, beans and vegetables for food and for sale as well.

Respondent 2 also echoed the same ideas as well as he said that, most if not all of households and communities in ward 12 depended only on their fields for food hence in times of natural disasters such as the 2008 drought, the communities were left completely vulnerable as they yielded next to nothing in their fields while their livestock were also dying which led to the poverty levels in the area rising to an alarming position which then called for external intervention. Caritas there for intervened in Bikita ward 12 to increase the number in terms of options to which people would rely on in times of disasters such that they will not be completely affected by the various setbacks they face.

Question 2: measures Caritas is putting in place to ensure water accessibility, income and food security.

Respondent 1 is of the view that, Caritas s' SLDRP is the best measure put across by Caritas to address challenges of water; food and income in Bikita ward 12. The programme consists of activities such as dam construction, the goat project and ISAL.

The dam construction activity will enhance the livelihoods of the ward 12 communities as it will come with more options for them. Caritas was aware that, when water becomes available, the various activities which enhance rural livelihoods such as community gardens, irrigation schemes, fishing, drinking water for their livestock and building may now be carried out easily and Caritas Masvingo has this in plan hence the fencing material and the seeds for the community gardens have already been purchased. Respondent 2 added that, if all these come in place, Caritas Masvingo also have the view of linking ward 12 communities with the markets were they could sell their produce from the gardens.

Caritas also has the goat project as a measure to address the challenges faced by ward 12 communities. Respondent 2 is of the view that, Caritas chose goats because of their small statue and because of this they need a small space to graze unlike cattle which require larger areas. Caritas provided these goats with the view that the beneficiaries would be able to sell and eat these goats which will enhance their income and nutrition as they will be able to send children to school and for them also to access health facilities hence through the goats, the ward 12 communities would be able to live an improved standard of life.

The Isal programme is also meant to ensure proper accumulation and use of money by the ward 12 community members. Respondent 1 pointed out that, with the training of Isal, the community members would have somewhere were their money would be safe while at the same time accumulating hence they would be able to do something worthwhile with their money. The analysis on the data provided shows that actually most households who are participating in Isal now can be able to buy agricultural inputs, cattle, access health facilities and send their children to school on their own.

Question 3: what Caritas does to ensure sustainability of their projects.

The most important aspect when it comes to donor agencies activities in poor rural communities is the sustainability of their activities or projects. This sustainability entails that the projects have a long life not only benefitting the current but future generations as well. Donor agencies should ensure that they leave behind projects which will continue even when they withdraw their assistance in a particular area hence creating resilient communities, communities which will be able to live and sustain themselves without much dependence on external aid and this is exactly what Caritas intends to achieve in ward 12 hence its important to look at the strategies they have put in place to ensure sustainability of their activities.

Respondent 1 when asked by the researcher responded that, one of the key strategies that Caritas Masvingo uses in ward 12 to ensure sustainability of their projects is the aspect of community engagement in each and every activity. The community is involved such that a bond is formed between the community and the project, their inclusion according to respondent 2 ensures that they get the feeling of ownership of the project hence they will do anything to ensure its success. The construction of Musvanhi dam in Chikukutu area saw Caritas Masvingo employing the same people who are to be the beneficiaries of the activity to work at the dam. A total of one hundred community members, fifty women and fifty men were employed to work at Musvanhi dam construction receiving a salary of \$25 per month as they were the same people to benefit from the water from the dam. It should be noted that, this no doubt creates a feeling of ownership within the people of ward 12 as they would feel that they are the ones who built the dam hence its protection would be their number one priority. Caritas has also given the people the right to choose within themselves ten committee members who would lead them in the proper use of the dam and its mentainance hence this community is the one which will continue to look after the resource even when Caritas withdraws from ward 12. Respondent 1 also stated out that, Caritas also employed qualified builders from the community hence by so doing, the community feels that they are the ones who constructed the dam instead of Caritas which to a larger extent increases the sustainability of such projects.

To ensure the sustainability of the goat project, Caritas Masvingo firstly carried out various workshops in partnership with the LPD and engaged the community teaching them on the various diseases in their areas which affects goats and also on the best goat penny, proper

handling of the animals and the various vaccines and dipping periods which needs to be done so that the goats stay healthy. Caritas also ensured that every beneficiary has a standard penny approved by LPD and this really was useful because the community prepared thoroughly for the goats hence when they arrived they now had enough knowledge on the best handling of the animals hence increasing sustainability of the project.

Question 4: Caritas engaging government in its activities in ward 12.

Donor agencies are there to complement government efforts and in Zimbabwe, just like any other organisation, Caritas Masvingo works in line with the government of Zimbabwe s' ZimAsset blue prints which calls for empowerment of poor communities with resources and knowledge such that they would be able to lift themselves from poverty. Caritas Masvingo according to respondent 2 also has the same vision of poor community empowerment as it seeks to enter such communities and leave behind lively and vibrant communities when it withdraws from these communities. Caritas however, recognizes the importance of working together with the government departments if the vision of creating resilient communities is to be realised.

Caritas engages the DA of ward 12 in each and every activity it seeks to undertake in ward 12 together with the chief, traditional leaders and the councilor. The construction of Musvanhi dam was officially opened by the chief himself during the ground breaking ceremony and other guests who were present include the traditional leaders, the DA, EMA, mechanisation department and women affairs ministry amongst others and this shows that Caritas indeed recognizes the importance of the government if its activities are to be a success. Caritas also works with government offices such as the Agritex, VET and LPD for example during the goat project inception, Caritas together with VET and LPD carried out workshops about the proper care that goats need all around ward 12.

b)The Councilor

Question 1: how often the councilor of ward 12 has been engaged by Caritas Masvingo in its activities.

The researcher is well aware that the councilor is the person who is really near to the people in the area he/she represents hence the importance of engaging the councilor in the various activities one wishes to undertake in a particular area. The researcher there for interviewed the councilor of ward 12 to find out how often he has been engaged and consulted by Caritas Masvingo in its activities in ward 12.

Respondent 3 brought out that, Caritas Masvingo has engaged the councilor in almost every activity they have done in ward 12 since he came into office. The councilor was present and invited at the making of the development ward plan of ward 12 held at Chaka lodge and at Chikukutu Primary school and he was very instrumental in the mobilization of the community to attend the exercise. The councilor responded that he was also aware of the Musvanhi dam construction, the goat project and the Isal programmes as he has been consulted by Caritas Masvingo and given all the plans with which Caritas aims at doing in his area hence he was up to date with all Caritas movements in ward 12.

c)Committee members

Question 1: what committee members intend to do to ensure maximum protection of Musyanhi dam.

Ten committee members have been selected by the community members to lead them as they worked during the construction of the dam and also to look after the dam after construction. Ward 12 community water sources have often been affected by problems such as silting and also running out of water quickly because of overuse of the resource. The committee members interviewed responded that, they have been selected before the start of the construction of the dam and they have attended various workshops by Caritas Masvingo for example the PIT training workshop. Their roles are to ensure co-ordination amongst the community members who were going to work in the construction of the dam, to oversee safety issues at work and mentainance of the tools as well as to protect the dam.

The respondents said that, the dam would be affected by siltation, some people might overuse the water which might lead to the water running out quickly and also since there is going to be fish thrown in the dam once its full of water, it is also their duty to protect the fish as well through prevention of the use of fishing methods such as the use of nets and water poisoning. In terms of siltation, the committee members said that they had already engaged Caritas Masvingo as they want to be provided with wire gauzes which they would put stones inside and put them up the

stream which supplies Musvanhi dam with water so that sand would not enter the dam rapidly hence avoiding siltation. The information provided show that indeed if the committee works like they said they would, then Musvanhi dam would really enhance ward 12 livelihoods as it seems that the dam might live for quite a long time.

4.4 Chapter Summary

This chapter was all about the presentation and analysis of data which the researcher gathered in a field research in ward 12 through the questionnaires and the interviews. The data presented in the chapter is going to be very instrumental on the evaluation of Caritas Masvingo in creating resilient communities in ward 12 of Bikita district. The data presented in this chapter will also be important on the generation of recommendations which might be given to Caritas such that their future interventions might be perfected and challenges eliminated. The chapter five that follows now gives a summary of the data presented in chapter four and draws recommendations based on these findings as well giving the conclusion which will bring out if Caritas has succeeded in creating resilient communities in Bikita ward 12.

CHAPTER 5

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter looks at the summary of the findings from the field research carried out in ward 12. The same chapter will make recommendations which are based on the findings of the study and will finally draw conclusions were the researcher, based on the findings from the study will give his assessment on whether Caritas Masvingo is creating resilient communities in Bikita district ward 12 or not. The chapter will give the findings from the research, the recommendations and the conclusion.

5.2 Findings from the research

The findings of the research show that, Bikita ward 12 communities have faced various challenges such as water shortages which has also triggered other challenges such as community gardens and irrigations in most ward 12 communities which in turn compromises their food security and income generation. They said lack of enough dams and poor borehole distribution has led to the challenge of water shortage in the area hence affecting both people and their livestock. This has also hindered them from starting their own community gardens as well and whilst other villages were making a living through community gardens and irrigations were they would grow crops for food and income through selling crops such as vegetables, tomatoes and onions, in ward 12, most communities cannot afford to do this because of lack of the water resource. This then makes them vulnerable in terms of food especially after facing droughts such as in 2008 and the not so good harvests of 2014 as well hence income is also compromised which has left the communities without the capacities to access health facilities, send their children to school and purchase agricultural inputs hence poverty had actually reached alarming levels in the area leading to the intervention of Caritas Masvingo.

The findings of the research show that, Caritas Masvingo intervenes in poor communities to empower them with resources which would enable the communities to work on their own in their fight against poverty. When Caritas leaves, it would leave behind communities which are lively and vibrant and Bikita ward 12 is one of its targeted areas. The findings show that Caritas intervenes in Bikita ward 12 with the SLDRP programme meant to ensure water accessibility, food security and income generation to try and address the challenges in Bikita ward 12. The key

respondents brought out that, Caritas is already undertaking projects such as dam construction, the goat project, ISAL and the supply of agricultural inputs as well as trainings on CA farming in ward 12. The SLDRP according to respondent 1 was designed in accordance to the challenges found in ward 12 hence it should be seen as the best way to ensure that poverty is reduced in the area and communities would be able to sustain themselves. The study also found out that there are some areas where Caritas need to improve to ensure their success in creating resilient communities in Bikita ward 12.

5.3 Recommendations

The researcher through the data gathered in the field research exercise came up with some recommendations to Caritas Masvingo which might be important to ensure Caritas s' success in creating resilient communities and that their future interventions might be perfected and challenges eliminated.

In the selection of the beneficiaries to benefit from the goat project, Caritas Masvingo left out those who did not even own one goat basing on that such people did not have an idea on how to take good care of the goats. Instead, those who benefitted are those with one goat or more. The recommendation to Caritas there for is that, those who did not own even a single goat whom Caritas left out in the project might just be the most vulnerable group in society since they don't have the capacity to own any livestock. Those included in the project show that at least they have a potential, a hope of sustaining themselves hence Caritas Masvingo next time should prioritise those with no goats at all as they are the ones in need of help and what Caritas might do is to first engage such people in training workshops in how to keep the animals and assist them in building proper goat pennies for the goats.

Caritas Masvingo grouped the beneficiaries of the goat project into groups were there are first beneficiaries who received five goats each directly from Caritas Masvingo. There is the principle of "pass on" put in place that after five years, the first beneficiary will pass on the goats to the next and having to keep the offspring. The responses by KIs from Caritas showed that the pass on will be facilitated by the rural district council as in five years Caritas would be out of Bikita ward 12. The recommendation to Caritas Masvingo there for is that, they could actually wait so that they facilitate the very first pass on process before they leave ward 12, such that they at least

set an example of how the process should be done that in future, the RDC would now be able to follow the procedures which Caritas would have set in the first process.

Villages such as Chikukutu no doubt will extremely benefit from the construction of Musvanhi dam by Caritas Masvingo. This will see the starting of important activities such as community gardens, irrigation, fishing and water for livestock as Chikukutu village is were the dam is located. It should be noted however that, despite construction of Musvanhi dam, there are villages which can't access the water resource because they are too far away from it hence continue to face water challenges.

The recommendation to Caritas Masvingo there for is that, since the data from the field show that there are water sources such as boreholes and small dams in ward 12 which are no longer functional because of siltation and faults, the money Caritas used in the construction of Musvanhi dam might have been used to rehabilitate quite a number of water sources within the whole ward hence relieving much more people than those Musvanhi dam will relieve.

5.4 Conclusion

The study sought to evaluate if Caritas Masvingo is creating resilient communities in Bikita ward 12, that is, if Caritas is succeeding in providing communities with resources which would enable them to improve their standards of living and sustain themselves on their own without much dependence on external aid. The researcher used a sample of 50 people, 25 males and 25 females in gathering data. The researcher made use of tools such as questionnaires and interviews to gather the views of the respondents. The study has found out that, indeed Caritas Masvingo has improved the livelihoods of ward 12 communities. The study found out that, ward 12 communities have faced challenges like water shortages, lack of income generation activities and resources and food insecurity due to droughts and lack of enough crucial activities such as community gardens and irrigations. The study found out that, Caritas Masvingo through its SLDRP programme has empowered ward 12 communities with resources such as Musvanhi dam which will open opportunities for other very important activities such as fishing, nutritional gardens and irrigation and also water for livestock drinking and home use. Caritas has also provided goats so as to enhance nutrition and income hence HH would be able to send their children to school, access health facilities and improve their standards of living. The ISAL programme also ensures effective management of funds by the communities and HH hence they

can now be able to achieve something like buying agricultural inputs on their own, buying cattle, food, access health facilities and education.

The study also showed that Caritas has a very good working relationship with the government. Caritas and Agritex have worked hand in hand, visiting communities teaching them on best farming practices hence ensuring sustainability of Caritas programmes of CA farming since even if Caritas pulls out of ward 12, Agritex will continue with the work. The study shows that Caritas ensures sustainability of its projects and activities through the technique of community participation/engagement throughout its activities. This ensures that its programmes live on even if Caritas pulls out of ward 12 because the community will feel full ownership of the project since they have been totally included or involved in them at the same time empowering the community with knowledge on how to work on their own without external aid. Overally, the study found out that, Caritas Masvingo is actually on the right path in terms of creating resilient communities in Bikita ward 12.

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Appendix A- QUESTIONNAIRE

My name is **Gibson Mbedzi**, a student at Midlands State University and I am studying for an honours degree in Development studies. I am conducting a research on the evaluation of Caritas Masvingo in creating resilient communities in Bikita district ward 12 and I would like to collect data through the use of this questionnaires. I kindly ask you to respond to the questions in this questionnaire and your responses would be used for academic purposes only and would be treated with confidentiality. If you need any further details about the researcher, you can contact the chairperson of the Development studies department, Dr Matunhu.

PERSONAL INFORMATION.
AGE
SEX FEMALE MALE
OBJECTIVE 1: TO EXAMINE CHALLENGES FACED BY BIKITA WARD 12 COMMUNITIES.
Question 1: what are the challenges faced in Bikita ward 12?
Question 2: what impacts have these challenges had on the communities?

Question 3: what has the communities themselves done to try and address these?

Question 4: has Caritas s' intervention addressed these challenges?
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•••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••
OBJECTIVE 2: ANALYSIS OF MEASURES PUT ACROSS BY CARITAS MASVINGO
IN WARD 12 TO ENSURE SUSTAINABLE ACCESS AND MANAGEMENT OF
WATER, IMPROVE FOOD SECURITY AND HOUSEHOLD INCOME.
a)Water Access and Management
Question 1: what has Caritas done to ensure water accessibility in your area?
Question 2: what would your community benefit from Caritas activity of water provision?
Question 2. what would your community benefit from Caritas activity of water provision:
Question 3: are there any measures put in place to ensure proper management of water
sources?

b)Food Security
question 1: what has Caritas done to ensure food security in your area?
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Question 2: what have you benefitted from Caritas CA training?
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Question 3: has your nutrition and food production improved since Caritas intervention in ward 12?
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•••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••
c) Income Security
question 1: Are you a beneficiary of Caritas Goat Project?
YES NO
Question 2: how many goats have you received, how many have died and how many have you sold?
RECEIVED DIED SOLD
Question 3: if some have died, what were the reasons?

Question 4: what have you benefited from the goat project?
Question 5: Are you part of Caritas Isal programme? If yes what have you benefitted?
CARITAS WORKING WITH THE GOVERNMENT
Question 1: is Caritas working with other government departments in your area?
Question 2: as communities of ward 12, what have you benefitted from such a working relationship?

Appendix B- INTERVIEW GUIDE

- 1. How did Bikita ward 12 become one of Caritas Masvingo s' targeted areas? What were the drivers behind?
- 2. What measures is Caritas Masvingo putting in place to ensure water accessibility, income and food security?
- 3. What does Caritas Masvingo do to ensure sustainability of its programmes?
- 4. Is Caritas Masvingo engaging the government in its activities in Bikita ward 12?
- 5. Does Caritas Masvingo oftenly engage the local leadership in its activities in ward 12?
- 6. What does the community intend to do to ensure maximum protection of Musvanhi dam?