

**ECO-COMMUNITY TRAINING PROGRAMME REPORT  
21 OCTOBER – 4 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Summary**

**16 participants from Murehwa**  
**5 staff members**  
**2 weeks training programme in the Chimanimani District**  
**Cost: \$12,765.50**

**Objectives**

1. To bring a community from elsewhere in Zimbabwe to learn from the experiences in Chikukwa and the wider Chimanimani district.
2. To hone the skills of the local trainers.
3. To deliver the training in the locations around Chimanimani that can best present the successes of the last 20 plus years.
4. To improve networking of organizations and individuals on ecological land-use management

**Process**

Following the training of the trainers workshop in October 2012, we ran a 14-day workshop for 16 participants from Murehwa, which is located in Mashonaland East. Funding for this program was made available through crowd-sourcing. The idea was that we bring a community to Chikukwa and its surrounding areas to demonstrate how ecological land-use can be practiced for the benefit of those living in the area. Trainers were selected from each of the demonstration sites. Participants stayed at a variety of locations. These training sites illustrated how permaculture practices can be implemented.

At each site visited, community members joined the training, e.g in Chikukwa, we had 20 people joining the introductory part of the training including culture group. At Hodhera (Tsuru) in Rusitu, we had 13 farmers coming to support Mr Hodhera as he was training the Murehwa group. During the days at the PORET location, local farmers also joined throughout the training days. The training was spread to the villagers too. We achieved our expectations.

Subsequently, 120 trees were planted in Chikukwa to honour those who contributed to the project.

**Outline of the programme:**

Day	Location	What	Local trainer
1	CELUCT – Permaculture Design Centre – its surrounds.	Arrival of participants, introductions, survey of centre, intro to centre design, mapping	Chief Chikukwa A Muchakubvura
2		Chikukwa land and people, maps presentation by participants – helping participants to see the context of their visit. The three circles of knowledge.	S. Chimbarara T. Chikukwa
3		Problems faced in Murehwa, Chikukwa Project history, land degradation, healthy land and soil, soil improving techniques, holistic land, water and livestock management. Visit to secret forest in Chitekete village.	Mai Chibharo P Chikukwa
4		Visit to Kwaedza catchment. Practicals. Visit to Ndamuka homestead. Gully reclamation.	Mr Mhleza Mrs Ndamuka
5		Plant succession & species observation. Visit to National	Mr Chemudondo

		Park	
6		Visit to Masangoni Secret Forest. Cultural activities. Organic production and standards. Mazoyo Homestead – diverse food production.	Mr Mukwee Mrs Mandega Mr Mazoyo
7		Seed saving & selection Traditional Knowledge systems	Mbuya Rupiya
8	Tsuru office in Chimanimani Village	Tropical permaculture design, background on Tsuru, banana management, practicals.	A Mlambo Mr Sithole
9		Mareni homestead, Chikwizi Ward 12.	
10		Murau Homestead Bande Homestead	Mr Masherini Mr Bande
11	PORET	Chaseyama Permaculture Club Water harvesting scheme	Noel Piti Mr Jarawani Mr Mwakupuka Kumbirai Dube
12		Watershed management	Mr Gezani
13	CELUCT – Permaculture Design Centre	Wrapping up of the programme. Presentations of maps. planting. Evaluation.	Julious Piti
14	CELUCT	Participants leave	

### Outcomes

20 farmers have received training

36 farmer trainers through the Chimanimani District were involved in the training of Murehwa participants and got income.

The Murehwa trainees had a lot of enthusiasm and designed a plan of their field on a paper for implantation. This is a clear monitoring tool for our follow up visits to Murehwa.

Exchange visits were also enabled through the movement from farm to farm. There was space to allow people along the way to join the programme. This did not have an impact on spending but further increased the beneficiaries of the training.

### Next steps

Follow up visit to Murehwa to see how the learnings of the programme have been incorporated.

Developing a series of similar programmes to be rolled out to other communities.

### Financial Report

Item	Cost (US\$)
Training (preparation, full board at CELUCT, TSURO & PORET, materials, site developmt)	8,662.50
Coordination & financial management	1,800.00
Transport (Murehwa to Chimanimani & from)	960.00
Transport within Chimanimani and Trees seed bought	1,343.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>12,765.50</b>

Of the \$13,000 raised for the program, \$234.50 was remaining after the completion of the training.