



HOPE FOR MISANJO

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ANNUAL ACTIVITIES REPORT JANUARY - DECEMBER, 2019



SUBMITTED TO: FRIENDS OF MALAWI ORPHANS – GERMANY

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1.0 Executive Summary

This annual report covers all development and project activities implemented within the period of January - December 2019; the activities carried out in the area of Misanjo in T/A Mabuka in Mulanje District.

2.0 Background

Hope for Misanjo (HFM) in partnership with Friends Of Malawi Orphans, FROMO, in Germany, have carried on with early childhood development programme (kindergartens) as well as organic farming in 2019. Apart from these we have also implemented livestock farming and failed to progress in chicken farming that we started. We are also continuing paying school fees to orphaned and vulnerable students to different schools in secondary, primary and college. Aside developmental activities we also conducted Christmas celebration for our vulnerable children in all our three centres. The projects are aimed at increasing the effectiveness of education to the children and community involvement in all projects carried out in Misanjo area, in Mulanje district.

3.0 Activities conducted in the whole of 2019 (January – December)

The following are the key project activities carried out in the year 2019:

3.1 Early child care development

Hope for Misanjo (HFM) with support from FROMO continued to give free education, food, clothes and other needs to the orphans as well as vulnerable children, in all its three kindergarten centres namely Ekhamunu, Misanjo and Wasi. In 2019/20 academic year HFM enrolled 265 children both boys and girls in all its centres.

The activities principally designed at ensuring that children have the rights to attend pre-school and promoting children growth and good health

A total of 265 children (136 females and 129 males) are accommodated in 2019-2020 academic year as per the chart below:

	Name of the centre	Name of Villages	Number of Females	Number of Males	Total Number of children
1	Ekhamunu centre	Ekhamunu, Majawa, Bokosi	43	36	79
2	Misanjo centre	Misanjo, Kang'oma, Mamele, Bwanali	52	56	108
3	Wasi centre	Wasi, Salamba, Sembezi	41	37	78
	TOTAL IN ALL CENTRES		136	129	265



3.2 Organic Farming

In 2019 HFM grew soya beans and small amounts of maize crop organically in its farm land situated between Salamba and Kang'oma village. In our small land in Ekhamunu we planted bananas. In Kang'oma where is our borehole we planted also vegetables and medicinal plants that the director brought from Egypt. All of these cultures, with the exception of medicinal cultures, were used in all HFM centers to feed kindergarten children. The soya we planted reduced the cost of HFM when buying food for kindergarten from July to November. Less shopping had to be done in December. Since we grow organically grown food. We have not produced enough food to feed the children all year round. However, we are very confident that we will produce more in this growing season as we have to feed and improve the soil in the early years of organic farming.



The above pictures are the parts where the growing of vegetables, bananas, soya beans and maize has taken place. As you can see from the images, the community is fully involved in taking care of the farm through land preparation, application of organic manure, planting, weeding and all other activities in farming.

Despite the fact that most local farmers used to grow crops using chemical fertilizers this has given them the opportunity to learn principles and practices of sustainable organic agriculture. It has been so wonderful from land preparation, seed sowing, weeding and now we are waiting for the crops maturity stage to harvest all the process where we have worked hand in hand with the community because they are so appreciative for the support FROMO has been giving to the needy children over 10 years.

The farming activities also emphasized on the main key benefits of organic agriculture as follows:

- Sustained improvement of soil fertility. This involves the soil and not the plant, soil fed with compost and keep moisture than before whereby we used to have a dry land.
- Cheap farming since all farm inputs are mobilized locally except the seeds which were bought using donor funds.
- Families learnt that the growing of soya beans can also help to improve soil since soya beans roots have nodules which helps to fix nitrogen in the soil.
- Active participation by parents and guardians of kindergarten children in all the villages especially the female ones who are always having problems to feed their children
- Food produced is healthy in that it has natural tests since no chemicals are used

3.3 MEDICINAL PLANTS

HFM got different types of medicinal plants after the trainings of Amos Chikaonda in medicinal and bio-dynamic technics in SEKEM, Egypt. The training was for one month. The main purpose of the training was to acquire knowledge in bio-dynamic farming and the production of medicinal plants from planting, cultivation drying and to find the possibility market of HFM ginger which was tested in Heliopolis university under SEKEM.

The photos above show Amos removing unwanted plants in Origamum Syriacum garden brought from Egypt and the to the right shows the ginger plants that we planted as plants multiplication garden.



3.4 LIVESTOCK FARMING

HFM is continuing keeping the two crossed breed friesian cows at our farmland in Kangoma. It`s now three years since we bought these cows while they were very young. After keeping them for almost for two years we hired an expert from veterinary to inseminate them artificially but we did succeed until the manager used the knowledge from Angela in Egypt to use a bull.

After hiring the bull there are positive signs in both two cows. They are growing healthy and strong. We asked an expert and we are told that they are pregnant and this means if everything goes well. HFM would start feeding the children with milk and generating income through milk selling.



The problems we are facing in keeping these cows are feeding problems. This time around since Malawi is affected by hunger we only feed them with green grass. The maize husks we used to buy they are now eaten by people and we cannot find a place to buy these husks in our area anymore until maybe the harvest time. As for someone to look after the cows HFM workers decided to employ somebody to cut grasses to feed the cows and this person is paid by all HFM workers themselves. We deduct Mk 2000 from each eleven workers to pay as salaries for this employee.

3.4 The rearing of chicken

The rearing of chicken has not been successful due to thieves who broke through the windows and stole our chickens and diseases. At first we suffered with thieves who came during the day when everybody knock off from the duties. The remaining hens when they had just started producing eggs something strange happened to the hens because they stopped dropping eggs just after three month of laying eggs. When a veterinary officer came and examined we were told that the hens were attacked by Newcastle disease and instructed us to get rid of them but we managed to sell some healthy chickens in order to buy the new ones.



Apart from the problem we encountered in this chicken farming, HFM is planning to buy new chicks to continue with the farming. We are also advised to buy new chicks which are resistant to diseases. We are to do this with money from the sales we did after selling the healthy hens before they were all attacked by the disease.

3.5 CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

HFM organised Christmas celebration with support from Mr and Mrs Kaemmler through FROMO. The celebration was aimed at bringing joy to the orphans and vulnerable children in all our three kindergarten centres namely Ekhamunu, Misanjo and Wasi.

The activities that carried out during the event were dancing, singing, luncheon as well as donation of clothes. Below are pictures who give an impression of the Christmas celebrations.



4.0 Recommendations

1. HFM needs to be promoted in the areas of generating income to stand on its own legs.
2. FROMO needs to increase project resources towards provision of playing materials for children participating in Children's Corners in order to attract more children and facilitate a child's right to play.
3. There is need for more labour force to assist in poultry and livestock issues.
4. There is also need for a day guard to watch over the chickens once the keeping of chickens resumed.
5. Need for more capacity building trainings targeting the entire child protection committees as opposed to only targeting a few selected members of the committees with capacity strengthening initiatives.
6. HFM needs to work with other stake holders in searching for local markets of ginger.
7. There is a need to redesign the youth club, which has played an important role in spreading sexually transmitted disease prevention messages and in other activities to combat the spread of HIV and AIDS among young people, as well as messages on early marriage and forced marriage to get the overpopulation problem under control.

5.0 Conclusion

Overall, the activities implemented within January – December were very successful, despite the challenges we faced in chicken farming. Although, our needs are many, but HFM feels blessed because FROMO supported almost all activities we planned for 2019 and HFM does not take this for granted regarding the world economic crisis.

HFM promises to continue using donor aid for its intended purposes to keep up donor's trust

Many thanks to all FROMO members and well-wishers for opening up their hearts and pockets to the benefit of orphans and the most under privileged communities. HFM believes that together we can make the world a better place.

Appendix: pictures from Christmas celebration



Children celebrating after receiving clothes



Christmas celebration dancing time



Children eating porridge made from soya beans