

COVER PAGE (1 page)

[The cover page of your national annual report must include the following information. Apart from this, please feel free to design the cover page as you like (e.g. add the member association's logo, insert a photo or drawing, etc.)]

Member association:	Zambia
National director:	Adern Nkandela
Reporting period:	2022
Date & MEDIABOX-ID of most recent child rights situation analysis:	Click or tap to enter a date. Click or tap here to enter text.
Report compiled by:	Dongo Yezi
Date of report:	01.03.2023



JOINING FORCES
For All Children

Zambian Children NOW have a LAW Children's Code Act #12 of 2022

What does this mean?

- Child abuse such as child marriage is now absolutely punishable by law.
- It provides for parental responsibilities, custody, maintenance, foster care and protection of children.
- It provides for age-appropriate discipline for children who break the law.
- It bans corporal punishment in all settings.
- It outlines how foster care, adoption, care, and protection will be provided for children who require it.

#Children'sCodeAct#12of2022 #AZambiaFit4Children



Save the Children



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (2 pages)

[An executive summary is a short overview of the information that is written in the rest of the report. Complete the summary after you have written the rest of the report to offer a very brief insight into the highlights of the MA annual report.]

1. National context and stakeholders (½ page)

[Provide a summary of major changes in the national context and key partners]

In the reporting period, the government has shown political will towards alleviating the lives of underserved populations, women, children and rural areas and communities. The free education policy has made a significant contribution towards the implementation of the National Social Protection Policy. In addition, the increase and decentralisation of the Constituency Development Fund is a pragmatic step towards poverty alleviation, especially in underserved communities. The government has further increased the number of beneficiaries under the Social Cash Transfer (SCT) and increased the amount from ZMW 180 to ZMW 400 per beneficiary. More recipients have been added to the Farmer Input Support Programme (FISP) in order to improve the food security situation in the country.

The macro-economic factors were still waging against the supposed gains of the social security sector. The increased and unstable fuel prices led to increased prices of essential commodities, negatively impacting on vulnerable families. The Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflections (JCTR, December, 2022), reports that the Basic Needs Basket (BNB) for a family of six people increased from ZMW 6,700 to ZMW9, 000.

On the legal front, the government, through an act of Parliament passed the Children's Code Bill into an act - Children's Code Act number 12 of 2022. The roll-out and implementation of the Children's Code Act will lead to improving quality of child care across the various sectors in the country.

There has been an increase in pupil enrolment by about 105% at Grade One and an increase at primary school completion rate where the national examination is not used as a criterion to progress to secondary school. The downside has been the increase in teacher-pupil ratio because of high enrolment. The government employed 11,200 against a vacancy of 65,000 teachers nationwide (Education Bulletin, 2021). The results at Grade Nine recorded a drop in the pass rate and a drop in the completion rate at Grade Twelve.

It is against this background that the MA responded to some of the challenges within its programmes. The MA worked with government and community partners to link families to social protection packages.

2. Member association analysis (1 page)

[Concisely summarise 2-4 main findings per topic below]

Strategy implementation status *[see 2.1]*

Achievements

- **Finalised the National Strategy 2023 -2027**
 - Conducted 126 family assessments towards reintegration of 157 children in 2023
 - 198 families exited from the FSP against the planned 255 for 2022.
 - Reduction of Child Safeguarding incidences from 7 to 3 in comparison to 2021.
 - Secured 4,000 Euros for Nakasaka Youth Club under the SPARK Funds
 - Active participation in networks with government and other CSOs (the MA participates on 4 technical working groups under the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services).
 - Completed organization and policy reviews
 - Exceeded the revenue target for local income by 7% and secured new grants from three corporate entities

Challenges

- Scale down of activities in the FS, which led to postponement or stopping of various activities. In view of the programme coming to an end by 2024, the programme has recorded some delays in areas such as exiting of families from the programme.
- Donor confidence in the MA was affected by the fraud leading to some funds being withheld
- Unstable fuel prices which are affecting the prices of essential commodities. The local currency has not been competing favourably against major currencies.

Lessons learned [see 2.2]

- Implementation of other forms of care leads to reaching more with less funds
- There is need to actively participate in the capacity assessment processes of potential community partners and not rely on government recommendations
- Selection of programme/project partners should be done after thorough due diligence of the potential partners.
- For sustainability, there is need for community-led interventions

Cross-cutting topics [see 2.3]

- Gender mainstreaming during project design and implementation
- Cross-functional implementation of safeguarding
- HIV and disability inclusion in order to include the most marginalised groups

Sustainability actions [see 2.4]

- Partnership with the government, community and other stakeholders has contributed towards sustainability (linking beneficiaries to FISP and other social protection programmes).
- Capacity building of community partners to assure community ownership

3. Overview of programme(s) (¼ page)

[Briefly describe major results and learnings from the programmes]

The MA was at 95% capacity of the Alternative Care programme (ACP) with 694 children and young people against the planned 730. The ACP continued to align to government recommendations of ensuring children grow up with their families. Hence, reintegration and assessment of families of origin for further reunifications, were some of the main activities of the MA. The Alternative Care implemented six out of seven planned care options, which included, Small Group Homes (SGH), Supervised Independent Living (SIL), kinship care, community Integrated Family-Like Care (FLC) and the traditional Children's Villages comprising family houses and Youth Facilities.

The Family Strengthening Programme (FSP) reach was at 105% with 8,047 children and young people against the planned 7,600. The MA assessed 255 families for exit from a target of 397 and exited 198 from the FSP. Of the 198 families that were exited, 89% were self-reliant, indicating a success in the interventions. The families showed that they could sustain themselves and support children in their care.

The ReCLAIM Project reached 23,074 (11,312 female and 9,463 male) against a planned target of 72,000, thus representing 32% reach. The Project recorded success in Chipata, where four young people's mental health was restored through the counselling services of the core teams that had been trained to support communities with mental health services.

Tubombele Pamo Project (CBM-funded) supported 800 persons with disabilities in Ndola. 300 caregivers and 300 young people were supported with livelihood improvement interventions.

In partnership with Joining Forces Alliance, Ministry of Community Development and Social Services and other like-minded organisations, the MA took part in several national and international advocacy activities.

The MA continued to support children and young people with access to education, youth empowerment and employability. The MA implemented activities to support youths to prepare for independent living. The organisation rolled out the Prepare for Leaving Care Project (PL4C) in all its programme locations targeting caregivers, children and young people.

The safeguarding environment in the MA and the project communities was stable. The MA's compliance to the Child Protection Policy (CPP) and the reporting and responding procedures was at 91% as per 2022 CPP Survey.

In terms of Human Resources, the MA was at 95% capacity on average throughout the year 2022. In the year 2022, the MA executed a number of HR activities, including organisation review, policy review and learning and development activities.

MA Zambia has over 8000 sponsorships, contributing a significant percentage of about 35 % to the MA's income for running costs. 2022 international sponsorship feedback of the MA's performance in 2021 was at 93%. The MA raised a total amount ZMW 6,352,878.43 through IPD, corporates and individuals.

In 2022 the MA's expenditure was at 79% with a variance of 21% due to non-implementation of activities following a realignment of the annual plan.

Overall, the organisation made steady progress in meeting its annual targets. Leveraging on partnerships with the Government and other like-minded organisations, the MA enhanced its visibility to the extent that the Government considers the organisation as a dependable partner on matters relating to child welfare. However, the incident of fraud in the MA impacted negatively on some programme activities, especially in the FSP.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. NATIONAL CONTEXT AND STAKEHOLDERS (2 pages)	5
1.1 General description of national context (1 page)	5
1.2 Key partners at national level (1 page)	6
2. MEMBER ASSOCIATION ANALYSIS (5-7 pages)	8
2.1 Strategy implementation status (2-3 pages)	8
2.1.1 Alternative care	8
2.1.2 Family strengthening	8
2.1.3 Youth care and employability	9
2.1.4 Advocacy	9
2.1.5 Human resources	10
2.1.6 Internal processes and digitalisation	10
2.1.7 Fund development	10
2.1.8 Internal Audit	11
2.1.9 Finance	11
2.2 Lessons learned (1 page)	12
2.3 Cross-cutting topics ($\frac{3}{4}$ page)	12
2.4 Sustainability actions ($\frac{3}{4}$ page)	13
3. OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMME(S) ($\frac{1}{2}$ -1 page per programme)	14
3.1 Programme location: Chipata	14
3.2 Programme location: Livingstone	14
3.3 Programme location: Lusaka	15
3.4 Programme location: Kitwe	16
ANNEX 1: Hyperlinks to related materials	18
ANNEX 2: Summary of major activities of the MEMBER Association	19

1. NATIONAL CONTEXT AND STAKEHOLDERS (2 PAGES)

1.1 General description of national context (1 page)

[Summarise significant changes that occurred in the context since the most recent Child Rights Situation Analysis and mid-term plan analysis, the effect these had on the MA, and how the MA staff responded]

According to the World Bank, Zambia is experiencing a sharp demographic shift and is one of the world's youngest countries by median age. Its population is estimated at about 18.9 million (2021), and is growing rapidly at 2.9% per year, resulting in the likelihood of it doubling close to every 25 years. This trend is expected to continue as its large population of youth enters reproductive age, putting even more pressure on the demand for jobs, health care, and other social services.

Economic Outlook

The Zambian economy rebounded in 2021, with GDP growing at 4.6%, from a contraction of 2.8% during the pandemic in 2020. Its recovery was driven by high copper prices, post-election market confidence, and continued recovery in agriculture. Economic activity remained positive in the first half of 2022. GDP grew by 2.4% in 2022 supported by a pick-up in services that offset declines in agriculture, mining, and industry.

GDP is projected to grow by 3.8% over 2022–24, buoyed by an improved macroeconomic environment; a positive copper price outlook, stable and predictable mining policy environment and improved electricity supply.

The Eighth National Development Plan (2022 to 2026)

The 8th NDP is built on the pillars of:

- Economic transformation and Job creation
- Human and social development
- Environmental sustainability
- Good governance

In 2022, the economy of the country was affected by the increasing prices of oil and petroleum products on the international market. The measures on social protection could not be felt in full as external forces pushed the prices of imported fuel upwards which had a spiral effect on food and other commodities. Inflation was at 14.2% in January and reduced to 9.7% in June before reaching 9.9% in December.

In the recent past, Zambia has experienced increased incidences of extreme weather conditions, including low rainfall and drought due to climate change. This has increased poverty levels among the citizens and affected agricultural production levels, especially in the Southern Province of the country..

The number of children growing up without appropriate parental care kept on rising in Zambia due to various reasons and ended up in institutional care. Research has revealed various reasons for the increase in the number of children growing under institutional care and without parents. Some of the factors are poverty leading to child abandonment, death of parents, abuse and maltreatment, and imprisonment of guardians, etc. Literature suggests that there is an increase in vulnerability of families and children.

There is considerable effort from the Government to address the situation through adequate policy and legal framework and general support to existing childcare focused networks that are doing a great job to address the plight of children in Zambia. To this effect, the Government has developed Minimum Standards of Care for Child Care Facilities and Reintegration and Alternative Care guidelines based on United Nations Guidelines on Alternative Care (UNGAC). Through the child care reforms, the government is championing the process of deinstitutionalization. Currently the government laws do not allow a child below 3 years to be kept in an institution unless there are completely no other options. In addition, the laws clearly stipulate that a child should be in a child care facility for a maximum number of 5 years. Beyond that a child should be in other forms of care. More emphasis is being placed on other forms of care especially kinship. In 2022, the government enacted the Children's Code Act No. 12 of 2022.

Despite the government and other stakeholders' effort to address the vulnerability of children in the target group, there is still a big gap around mental health issues, quality education and health care,

quality nutrition, unemployment and climate change issues. In 2022 the MA strived to respond to the identified gaps.

1.2 Key partners at national level (1 page)

[In **Table 1.2**, analyse key partners at the national level, particularly the effectiveness of the partnership]

Table 1.2 Key partners

Name of partner	Description <i>(purpose of partnership)</i>	Progress in last year <i>(key actions taken)</i>	Effectiveness of partnership <i>(contribution to results)</i>	Formal agreement signed
Ministry of General Education	Primary and secondary school service provider	Operating former sos schools and providing free education	Contributes to the development goals of children and young people and supports growth into independent living	No
Ministry of Community Development and Social Services	Main duty bearer in child care and family empowerment	Regulates child care facilities, supports child care services. implementation partner in social protection and gate-keeping a	Contributes towards the continuum of care for children aand community nod supports family development	No
Planned Parenthood Association of Zambia (PPAZ)	Technical support in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Peer to Peer education	Awareness raising sessions for # youths in sexual and reproductive health; Social Awareness training for youths	Prevention of HIV/AIDS and teen pregnancies; and positive behavioural change	Yes
Churches Health Association of Zambia (CHAZ)	Technical support to SOSCV in implementation of HIV/AIDS/TB programme; provision of drugs.	Project funder; provision of ARVs and TB drugs	96% of clients on ART had viral suppression and reduced chances of spreading HIV; they are also made contributing members of society and their families.	Yes
Ministry of Health	Technical support in preventive health and health promotion. Technical support in preventive health and health promotion, including Sexual Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR).	Provided staff at the MC to provide primary health care & ART/HIV care on the CHAZ project. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical support on SRHR and provision of SRHR services, WASH, nutrition • Providing IEC materials • Tracking results of SRHR activities/ data collection • VCT services 	Improved knowledge on food preparations in the communities. Improved health among HIV and TB patients. Improved collaboration and access to SRHR services for adolescents.	yes

SANDVIK Mining	Household support	Provisions of monthly food pack for one family house	Contribution to programme budget	No
Zambia Association for Persons with Disabilities	Implementation of the Christian Blind Mission (CBM) funded project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Technical Support in Disability Inclusion •Policy guidance on Disability •Identification of Persons with Disability to participate on the programme/projects •Coordinating the Partner Organisations for Persons with Disabilities (OPDs). •Support Monitoring of Disability Inclusive Activities 	Improved awareness among financial institutions in financial inclusion.	Yes

2. MEMBER ASSOCIATION ANALYSIS (5-7 PAGES)

2.1 Strategy implementation status (2-3 pages)

[Briefly explain the achievements and challenges that the MA experienced during the reporting period. Please refer explicitly to the mid-term objectives that you included in your mid-term strategy. Include relevant information about progress of actions for federation, achievement of desired results, changes in key performance indicator values, and implementation of planned actions.]

2.1.1 Alternative care

(a) Achievements

The Alternative Care (AC) provided care and support to 694 children and young people (female 351, male 343). Of this number, 116 were young people while 34 children were supported under kinship care. The MA began the process of family assessments in November for possible integration of children. 158 families were assessed across the 4 locations and by the end of the quarter, 13 children were reintegrated after recommendations were verified by the Department of Social Welfare Officers. The process of family assessments and reintegration will continue in 2023 to meet the target of 157 children and young people. The MA recorded a total of 33 children that progressed from Primary to secondary level while 48 progressed from junior secondary to senior secondary level of education. The MA recorded 33 young people who completed secondary level of education from which 22 got full school certificate while 11 got General Certificate of Education (GCE). At tertiary level, 7 young people completed various vocational trainings.

All the children enjoyed good health with minor cases of illness that were easily treated. The MA recorded two deaths as a result of medical conditions: a youth with a chronic liver condition, who had been reunified with his family, and a two months old baby who was already ill on admission to the CV.

(b) Challenges

The main challenges for the Alternative Care in 2022 was the external economic factors affecting the cost of essential commodities for children in all forms of Alternative Care. The unstable local currency against major currencies and the unstable fuel prices led to increase in the prices of basic commodities such as food, electricity and clothing. The household budget of a house of 10 children fell short of the national Basic Needs Basket which was pegged at K9, 000 for a family of six. Water provision was a challenge for Lusaka and Kitwe as the boreholes run dry. In Chipata there was shortage of reliable vehicle for programme activities.

2.1.2 Family strengthening

(a) Achievements

The Family Strengthening Programme continued to ensure families were able to provide care and protection to 8,047 children and young people (males 4064, females 3,983) across all locations. This was against the planned target of 7,600. The rise in the target number is due to addition of Green project participants on PDB.

The major activities implemented in the year included conducting home visits to track the status of families in line with the indicators for the four outcomes, reviewing the core assessments for the programme participating families, assessing families for exit, tracking results of activities implemented previously and updating the programme database.

The core assessments revealed that households showed some resilience and progress in terms of livelihood as they maintained and slightly increased their income levels using their own initiatives. Some of the initiatives included engagement in agriculture to grow seasonal crops, gardening and keeping livestock (goats and chickens) and participating in Village Savings and Loan Associations (VLSAs) where they were able to accumulate their capital through savings and borrowing money that helped them buy agricultural, gardening inputs and livestock. With this, they have been able to provide for their children's basic needs, including educational support and having at least 2 decent meals per day. From the family development plan review exercise conducted in the Norad funded Family Strengthening Program, 198 families were exited from the program in 2023. In addition, some caregivers had been linked to government Social Protection packages. In Chombela, 36 caregivers had been linked to FISP, which was aimed at improving food security. In the same area, beneficiaries had been supported to form cooperatives in order for them to apply for the Constituency Development Fund (CDF). 40 caregivers benefited from the CDF.

(b) Challenges

For some families, the disruption of programme implementation of activities had a negative impact on them, such that they fell back into vulnerability bracket. The monitoring visits revealed that there were some caregivers who struggled to meet the basic needs of their children as their entrepreneurship ventures did not thrive because of the limited financial capacity to grow or diversify their businesses to make meaningful profits.

2.1.3 Youth care and employability

(a) Achievements

The MA continued to expose youths to platforms that contributed to their empowerment and employability. One such platform was the “Change Makers to Nurture Young People for Greatness”. Participants were from across the SOS Southern Region. With advantage of hosting, MA Zambia had nine youths and two community Based Organisations participating in the conference.

Two youths (one male and one female) participated in the YOUTH POWER summit that focused on preparing young people for the SPARK funds that will be disbursed in 2023 to support the already existing youth led initiatives. Nakasaka Youth project supported by the Lusaka Family Strengthening Programme in Mumbwa district will be supported with Euros 4,000. Nakasaka Youth Club runs a youth hub that currently has seventeen (17) (male 10 female 7) young people participating in training in tailoring, cutting and designing.

Fourteen (14) youths who graduated with various vocational skills (7 from Kitwe FS and 3 from Kitwe FLC and 4 from Lusaka FLC) were being supported with finding formal or informal employment opportunities. Twenty (20) teenage mothers under the BayWa project were supported with startup capital and equipment to enable them start businesses. The teenage mothers are doing fairly well with their businesses. The chances of survival of the new businesses after one to two years are over 80% for the positive and focused groups. The youths undergoing a pilot skills training aimed at building the youth’s employability skills in hotel management at Minor hotels in Livingstone were in the last phase of the 6 months intensive training. Through the partnership the hotel is contemplating getting on another intake for another six months period.

(b) Challenges

The main challenges with youth empowerment and employability interventions are the dependance syndrome that tends to stifle their capabilities of excelling. The high levels of poverty among the youths is also contributing to the poor performance and lack of focus amongst them. They mostly look for a quick fix solution to address their immediate needs instead of growing their businesses before enjoying the benefits of it.

2.1.4 Advocacy

(a) Achievements

In the course of the year, the MA implemented a number of activities for partnership creation, visibility and policy reviews. Through a partnership with the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services, UNICEF and other stakeholders including Catholic Medical Missions Board, Save the Children, and other CIF (Children in Families) organizations, SOS Zambia provided technical and financial support towards a successful orientation seminar for 33 members of the Parliamentary Caucus on Children on family based alternative care of children. The outcome of the seminar was a Call to Action by the policy makers to create a conducive environment and provide financial and human resources for the provision of other forms of alternative care, specifically kinship care. In addition, the organisation worked with other CSO networks to prepare children for the African Child Parliament hosted by Zambia as a side event during the AU Summit

As part of Joining Forces Alliance, the MA contributed to the drafting and submission of the Universal Periodic Review report. The nation was reviewed and recommendations were given. These will be used to improve the environment for child welfare. Further, SOS Children’s Villages drafted and shared key messages on the newly enacted Children’s Code Act No. 12 of 2022 ACT on our various social media platforms. SOS Children’s Villages also joined the rest of the country in the national commemoration of world children’s day under the theme “A Better Future for Every Child” where the children challenged the National leaders present to empower them and live up to the promise made 33 years ago to protect and respect child rights.

(b) Challenges

The main challenge in implementing advocacy activities was the scale down in operations arising from the reduction in funding.

2.1.5 Human resources

(a) Achievements

In the year 2022, a number of milestones were achieved in relation to human resource.

Some of the notable achievements included the following:

- **Policy Reviews:** The MA conducted a review of policies that had been in effect from as far back as 2010 including the Human Resource Manual, Procurement and Stores Manual, Level of Effort Policy and Sexual Misconduct Policy (PSHEA Regulation). The review processes of these policies encompassed different stakeholders before the final review and approval by the Board. Induction sessions for these policies were conducted and are anticipated to spill over into 2023. The policy frameworks are very critical for the MA as they embody guidance and points of reference for staff in different areas as they execute their day to day work.
- **Learning and Development:** The MA implemented a number of learning and development activities including peer-to-peer visits by different departments and units to other MAs i.e Human Resource, Fund Development, Finance, Programs, Sponsorship, etc. These encompassed a number of streamlined and focussed trainings that relate to the departments. Additionally, the MA recorded online trainings in digital applications and platforms including ProDIGI, Teams, Teams Group, Sharepoint, DSapp, IG-DAM, etc. These trainings follow our commitment to digitalization.
- **Organization Review:** The MA, working with IOR, implemented an organization review process that involved the adoption of a new grading system, review of the organogram and streamlining reporting lines to enhance clarity of roles and accountability and position benchmarking against the labour market through a salary survey. The process was completed and rolled out to all staff. In accordance to our strategic plan of 2023 – 2027, the MA will work to implement a phased approach to benchmark each staff member in line with the labour market as the report reviewed a number of staff that are remunerated below the market.

(b) Challenges

- One of the major challenges encountered, that prevented the full implementation of the annual plan, emanating from the scale down of operations. This resulted in limited resources to implement activities hence a refocus of the most critical activities was done. The MA eagerly anticipates that 2023 would be better than 2022 with a view to achieving more impact.
- Change of programming in Alternative Care was one of the area that resulted in anxiety among staff especially caregivers. The change in Alternative Care prescribes that children in the CV were supposed to be reintegrated with their families of origin which in turn affects the human resource specifically the caregivers that take care of the children. This was however managed through clear communication channels and sharing what this entailed and what procedures would be followed.

2.1.6 Internal processes and digitalisation

(a) Achievements

As assessed by the ICT cockpit, the MA is now at 50% digital maturity after ensuring that all locations have minimum Cisco Meraki devices installed, thus improving bandwidth management. During the course of the year a training in basic IT was held for Mothers and Aunts in Kitwe. The first of its kind in terms of taking digitalisation to co-workers. The Mothers are now supporting the children with ICT learning outcomes. The MA successfully deployed Sentinel One antivirus and is now monitoring threats. These are quickly resolved.

(b) Challenges

ICT investment was not implemented owing to limited financial resources. This greatly affected the organisation's Business Continuity Plan.

2.1.7 Fund development

(a) Achievements

During the year, the NA submitted 8 grant applications to various institutional donors (80% of the annual target) and three applications to corporate donors. The three applications to corporate donors were approved for funding, but there were no positive responses received from the institutional donors as at December, 2022.

The NA received various contributions towards the rebuilding of the burnt house in the Lusaka CV totalling to ZMW145, 930. Bank of Zambia donated ZMW110, 93, while ZMW15, 000 was receipted from Bayport and ZMW20, 000 was contributed by an individual. In addition, the Dubai based High Net worth individuals contributed ZMW210, 206 towards the general Alternative Care program in Lusaka

The NA engaged with Africa GreenTec, which indicated commitment to fund a solar-powered project in Masaiti in 2023. The corporate visited Masaiti District for a meeting with the community and indicated their readiness to partner with SOS Children's Villages.

The engagements with SOS Austria produced the result of commitment by the PSA to leverage resources for a photovoltaic system in Chipata Location. Once the system is installed, the location will have a reliable and cheaper alternative source of energy.

As regards Sponsorship funds, MA Zambia has over 8000 sponsorships, contributing a significant percentage of about 35 % to the MA's income for running costs. The overall quality of Sponsorship services in MA Zambia, has steadily improved over the last few years. Indicated in the annual quality feedback by the International Office team, sponsorship services have improved from 63% in 2018 to 93% in 2021. The improvement of sponsorship delivery was largely attributed to staff capacity building, both at local and regional level. The MA has established at the location level to coordinate and oversee sponsorship matters, a position which has eased up the delivery of sponsorship outputs.

In light of the program shift to grow FS, the MA is preparing itself on how to adapt sponsorship into the communities

In 2022, 2500 photos and 63 videos were successfully uploaded to the Individual Giving Digital Asset Management System (IG-Dam) to be published for existing sponsors. Over 16,000 letters were mailed to sponsors in June and December. In addition, child safeguarding and consent renewals were done timely all year round. A significant number of outstanding CMG payments, (additional funds found on the children's accounts) were made by December.

(b) Challenges

The PSAs were not willing to enter into partnership with the MA in grant acquisition because of the risk attached to the fraud incident. The fraud risk also affected the acquisition of new grants from institutional donors. The scale down of operations affected the implementation of some of the sponsorship activities.

The large numbers of planned re-integrations currently underway, has a huge effect, as many sponsorships may be lost. However, with the support of International office, the sponsorship systems will be adapted to better respond to the changes.

2.1.8 Internal Audit

The MA conducted both internal and external audits as per statutory and federation requirement. The external audit was recorded as unqualified audit. Action plans responding to the recommendations were developed and implementation of the recommendations commenced. This will continue in 2023.

2.1.9 Finance

In 2022, the approved budget was K91.64 million out of which K85.72 million was international funds and local income was K5.92 million. At end of December 2022, a total of K90.56 million had been spent representing a 98.8 % burn rate. After adjusting for pension provision (K8.3m), IPD expenditure (K1.5m), construction expenditure (K799, 744) and Federation membership fee (K7.4m) total expenditure for the year was ZMW72.59m representing 79% burn rate. The variance was mainly due to none implementation of activities.

2.2 Lessons learned (1 page)

[In **Table 2.2**, insert the main lessons learned from the reporting period and the actions taken to overcome challenges, capitalise on good practices, or use observations to improve programmes. If desired, briefly explain how you elicited and managed lessons learned during the reporting period.]

Table 2.2 Lessons learned

Type	Lesson learned	Action(s) to be taken	Status of action
[challenge / good practice / observation]			
As a main duty bearer, the government has predisposed resources and opportunities that have significantly contributed towards the programmes in the areas of efficiency, cost-effectiveness and sustainability	Making government a key partner in programme planning, monitoring and evaluation	Scale up partnership with the government to take up more responsibilities in child welfare and family and community empowerment.	Action in progress
There are existing Community Based Organisations in the communities where the MA works which the organisation can work with.	Working with Community Based Organisations	Build the capacity of the CBOs and sub-grant for some activities.	Sub-granting manual under review to be implemented in the upcoming year.
In the period of the fund freeze, a number of advocacy programme still continued due to the MA belonging to networks	In advocacy activities, working with partners and in networks are key to successful to program implementation	Strengthen the MA's presence in the networks, including budgeting for financial contributions to network activities.	2023 budget reflects funding for network activities.
Loss of assets due to fire which led to a house in the CV being gutted.	Non insurance of assets increases the risk of loss in case of an accident.	MA to insure all the assets	2023 budget reflects funding for insurance of ICT equipment.

2.3 Cross-cutting topics (¾ page)

[Outline national initiatives, actions, and/or main changes noticed in cross-cutting topics, such as child safeguarding, gender equality, HIV/Aids, environment, human rights, disabilities, etc.]

MA Zambia maintained a safe and stable environment for children in the AC and further supported children in the FS with child protection by training caregivers. In each district, the FS programme belonged to government led District Child Protection Committees. Through community awareness, violations to child rights were responded, for example child marriage where 23 girls were retrieved from marriages and taken back to school. Internally the MA successfully responded to three safeguarding incidents.

To promote gender mainstreaming, members of staff were made aware of gender programmes. In addition, the MA took part in national programmes such as '16 Days of activism.

The MA through Kitwe Program, has an MoU with the Zambia Agency for Persons with Disabilities (ZAPD), as a key partner of implementing programmes that are inclusive of disability. In this project 800 caregivers with disabilities were supported with livelihood improvement interventions.

In partnership with the Churches Association of Zambia (CHAZ), the organisation conducted awareness, registered and provided curative responses in HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis. The project reached 827 clients.

2.4 Sustainability actions (¾ page)

[Describe measures taken to ensure the sustainability of the member association. Relate the response to the type(s) of sustainability that the MA is striving for: e.g. social, political, financial, etc.]

In order to promote sustainability across all programme areas, the MA ensured key partnerships at community and national levels. The main services for beneficiaries were provided by the government, especially under the free education policy. At community level, the involvement of government and community partners in programmes provided a sustainable path for exiting of families. Families that were exited were linked to government social protection services in order to ensure that they continued to receive government support. Families linked to the FISP as a way of ensuring food security will remain on the programme for the next three to five years, being supported by the government with farming inputs. Other families were linked to the Social Cash Transfer, where they will receive cash which is aimed at improving the household income and creating disposable income for families to support vulnerable children. The FS also trained community leaders in governance, leadership and resource mobilisation in order for them to continue supporting vulnerable families. To this effect some of the caregivers accessed loans through the cooperatives where they belong. Through skills and vocational training, young people obtained employability skills which they will be able to use to support themselves.

3. OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMME(S) (½-1 PAGE PER PROGRAMME)

[Provide a **brief overview** of each programme location. If a Progress Report is available for the programme, simply paste the executive summary below. If a Progress Report is not available, summarise the programme learnings from the reporting period including achievements, lessons learned, risks, and sustainability actions.]

3.1 Programme location: Chipata

In Alternative Care the programme supported 100 (54 female, 46 male) children and young people in the family houses and 25 more under kinship care. By the end of 2022, 26 families were assessed for possible reintegration of children into their families of origin.

Children participated in various knowledge building activities that included mental health, harmful traditional Practices, Sexual Reproduction Health, menstrual hygiene, behavioural change interventions, building self-esteem and preparation for leaving Care. The program held learning and development activities for staff in the location covering areas of communication skills, data analysis, report writing and PDB2.

In the FSP, the programme is in four geographical areas. The program provided care, protection and empowerment to 615 children and young people.

The Program implemented 3 IPD projects, namely Promoting Village Own Savings Associations (RUFEP funded), ReCLAIM (Comic Relief funded) and Thandidzani Atsikana (TFG funded). The RUFEP funded project closed in June 2022 after conducting the endline evaluation while the other two continue in 2023.

The RUFEP funded project managed to link 24 savings groups to a formal service provider in order to enhance inclusion for vulnerable groups. Thandidzani Atsikana project empowered 339 girls with knowledge on menstrual hygiene management and sexual and reproductive health rights.

The CS Team continued raising awareness on issues concerning the welfare of children resulting in zero CS incident in the location. Seven (7) awareness meetings were held on Child participation in Child Rights, Harmful Traditional Practices and Mental Health.

Fund Development

A total of ZMW199, 800 was raised from the rentals of infrastructure. The funds contributed to the operational budget of the Program.

Partnerships

The Program continues to leverage on existing partnerships with the Departments of Social Welfare and Community Development, Young Women Christian Association, Child protection wing of Zambia Police, Various CBOs in FS catchment areas.

Digitalization

As part of the digitalisation process, the Program has maintained the computer lab which is accessed by Care givers and children. The Mothers are able to use the computers to research and assist the children with their homework.

3.2 Programme location: Livingstone

The programme undertook actions toward quality care of children and young people. The FLC provided care and protection to 142 (71female; 71male) children and young people. All children in the village accessed health services from local clinics as and when needed. The Program facilitated psycho-social engagement meetings for teens to enable them freely express concerns on various aspects such as sexual and reproductive health, self-esteem and confidence among others. The programme conducted assessments of 14 families of origin in Siavonga & Namwala resulting in 12 children being earmarked for integration with families of origin in Q1 of 2023.

All children in exam classes successfully sat for national examinations with 100% for grades 7 and 9 and 97% pass rate for grade 12. Nine young adults were resettled upon successful completion of their tertiary education. The young adults were adequately prepared for independent leaving and had their Child Money Gift paid to enable them engage in various desired income generation activities. Further, the programme partnered with Minor hotels under a youth employability programme where young adults from the FSP community areas were enrolled to undergo a hands-on skills development in hospitality management with possibility of placements upon completion.

The pronouncement and implementation of free education by Government allowed the programme to realign resources that were initially targeted toward payment of school fees to other aspects of the programme. Similarly, with increased CDF, community based partners of Nyawa in Kazungula were able to tap into the resources for community projects, such as one CBO in Nyawa community accessed ZMW 25,000 from CDF.

Partnership with local organizations and government improved visibility for the organisation. In addition, Livingstone programme tapped into a number of technical services of child care, family and community empowerment provided by the government. The partnerships facilitated smooth transition at the point of exiting families that had reached self-reliance.

Advocacy interventions included establishment of anti-early marriage task teams in Nyawa and Choma chiefdoms. 92 cases of child marriage were recorded through the anti-early marriage task teams. Out of this, 23 girls were withdrawn from child marriage and taken back to school. 32 girls were reported pregnant but with intervention from the task force they went back to school. 6 defilement cases were reported to police whilst 17 cases were handed over at the traditional leader's palace and are waiting for action. The chiefdom also successfully drafted by-laws to help curb the evil vices of early the chiefdom.

Further, the programme exited 61 families from the FSP program. Of these, 57 exited based on self-reliance. Engagement meetings by the CBOs with the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services resulted in 8 caregivers accessing social protection services from the SCT and FISP.

In the course of the year, the Program successfully conducted an end line evaluation of the RUFEP funded project which met all its outcomes except male participation which remained low. The project managed to link 85 savings groups to a financial service provider (ZANACO bank) in order to enhance inclusion for vulnerable groups. An end line evaluation was conducted for the Pilot Green project which demonstrated that the project was successful in facilitating for the increase in knowledge of growing organic vegetables for the participants and reduction of dependence on rain fed agriculture. In addition there is a reported reduction in water borne diseases among children owing to access to clean and safe water from the sunk boreholes. Following the positive outcomes of the pilot Green Project which was building climate resilience for the community members, the programme successfully pitched a proposal to upscale the project, and received funding of €50,000 to implement the scaled up project targeting 100 households.

Challenges

The costs of goods and services constantly rose in the review period. To mitigate the rising costs of food and also enhance nutrition, family houses continued maintaining their backyard gardens growing a variety of vegetables.

The scale down of program operations affected the implementation of program activities. This resulted in some families falling back into vulnerable status and putting children at risk of losing parental care.

3.3 Programme location: Lusaka

The Program undertook various actions towards quality care of children and young people. The FLC provided care and protection to 147 (61 female; 86 male) children and young people. All children in the village accessed health services from local clinics as and when needed. The Program facilitated psycho-social engagement meetings for young people to enable them freely express concerns on

various aspects such as sexual and reproductive health, self-esteem and confidence among others. The programme conducted assessments of 40 families of origin in Lusaka & Kabwe resulting in 10 children being reintegrated with families. The reintegration process will continue in 2023 with a possible reintegration of 54 children. The Program enhanced security in the CV by installing solar lights

All children in exam classes successfully sat for national examinations with 100% for grade 7, 46% for grade 9 and 14% pass rate for grade 12. Eight young people (6 females and 2 males) were enrolled in colleges. Five young people, (1 male and 4 females), graduated in General Hospitality.

13 young people were resettled upon successful completion of their tertiary education. The young adults were adequately prepared for independent leaving and had their Child Money Gift paid. The programme worked with Radisson Blue Hotels for youth skills training in hospitality management.

The Program conducted activities to improve children's knowledge on drug and substance abuse. 40 children attended the workshop. Further 120 children participated in age appropriate child safeguarding, rights and responsibilities awareness meetings. This enhanced their understanding of children's rights and responsibilities.

In the FSP, the program supported 2,505 children and young people (1286 males and 1219 female) from 478 families. Following the scale down of operations, FS activities were focused on monitoring and preparing families for exit. The FSP conducted 137 family assessments for exit, from which 134 families were exited. 114 out of 134 families exited the programme based on self-reliance representing 85%.

The number of caregivers benefitting from government social protection programme increased from 62 in 2020 to 129 in 2022. This is attributed to dialogue meetings on social protection with officers from the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services in 2020 and 2021.

For advocacy, the Lusaka Program participated in several activities national and network activities that contributed to the increase of visibility of the organization. Under the theme "**A Better Future for Every Child**" a national Children's Symposium provided an opportunity and platform for the children to reflect and deliberate on the country's Eighth National Development Plan. One of the FLC children read a communique with the national leaders on how the 8th NDP can meaningfully respond to the children's needs and aspirations. Our children now have a better understanding of how they fit into national development and how they can get involved. In addition, children participated in the Africa Child Parliament which was hosted by Zambia during the AU Summit.

The program held learning and development activities for staff in the location covering areas of youth care work, knowledge management, research and PDB2.

Challenges

Lusaka program experienced Water shortages in the village during the dry season due to low water table levels. The monthly fuel price reviews negatively impacted the cost of transport and subsequently affecting the price of goods and services. High prices of commodities affected the acquisition of household essentials. Being the oldest village, Lusaka CV has most of the infrastructure is dilapidated. Fund freeze resulted in non-implementation of planned programme activities. This will affect the attainment of set targets.

3.4 Programme location: Kitwe

During the year 2022, the Kitwe location had two main programme units: AC and FS which ran a number of interventions in Kitwe, Ndola and Masaiti districts. The FLC had a target of 160 children, but closed with 153 children (73 boys, 80 girls) representing 96% capacity utilisation. Eight children (6 boys, 2 girls) were supported from their relatives whilst 146 (67 boys, 78 girls) lived in the village

Youth Care was at 100% capacity with 60 young people (25 boys, 35 girls). Of these, 9 youths (6 girls; 3 boys) were in Supervised Independent Living (SIL), whilst 28 others (9 boys, 19 girls) were living with their biological families; and 23 (13 boys, 10 girls) were in boarding houses.

The programme assessed 46 households in Solwezi for purposes of reintegrating 70 children back into their families of origin from where they would be supported from. A total of eighteen young people were resettled from YC by the end of the year.

20 young people (16 girls and 4 boys) underwent training on SRHR by Planned Parenthood Association of Zambia. The awareness which they also shared with their peers led to no incidences of pregnancies among the children and youths in the CV.

In Family Strengthening, the Norad project had 2,500 children and young people (1,237 girls and 1,263 boys) from 500 families in 5 communities. 51 families with 327 children and young people (135 female and 129 male) benefited from the provision of start-up capital for IGAs, so far, from the start of the project in 2020. 50 families (49 female headed and 1 male headed), reached self-reliance and will be exited from the programme. 61 families had sufficient household income to meet basic needs. Of these 59 families stable income.

The Tubombele Pamo (Christian Blind Mission funded) project supported 800 persons with disabilities (300 caregivers, 300 young people and 200 children).

The CHAZ (Churches Health Association of Zambia) project was implemented by SOS in conjunction with the Ministry of Health. The project closed with 827 clients on ART against a target of 1,161 (71%). In the period under review, supported children and young people had improved learning outcomes including other learners in supported educational institutions. Of the 81 programme participating children and young people who wrote the grade nine exams, 35 made it to grade ten representing 43.2% as compared to 56% in 2021. The successes are mainly attributed to the provision of 5,415 study kits and 6756 text books to target learners which improved access to learning materials.

During 2022, the young people continued to have access to sexual reproductive health and rights. As a result, a total of 1,765 young people (1178 female and 582 male) aged 10 to 24 tested for HIV and other STIs in the course of the year. It is expected that with this intervention, the young people will keep themselves safe and healthy.

The programme worked in partnership with the Department of National Registrations, Passport, and Citizenship to conduct the mobile birth registration. The programme has supported 1,455 children and young people (707 males, 748 females) with birth registration. This achievement meant that at least one legal identity document was available from each of the registered children. The children and young people with birth certificates now have more opportunities of accessing social protection services such as education scholarships. Protection from age related abuses is also enhanced.

4 youths (3 male, 1 female) completed their education at University Degree level. The four youth are expected to enter the labour market 2023. 3 male youths completed their vocational skills training.

Challenges

Limited employment opportunities in the country continue to affect the youth. Secondly, the effects of climate change led to floods in the Province leading to some FS programme participants having their houses destroyed by heavy rains.

ANNEX

ANNEX 1: HYPERLINKS TO RELATED MATERIALS

Topic	Person responsible	Source of information	MA file should be saved to:	Hyperlink
Actual statistics of the MA	N.a.	Compass report accessed via the following path: Compass -> Federation Steering -> Statistical Key figures -> SKF Beneficiaries / SKF staff -> filter for MA and year	No longer required	Statistical Key Figures - Power BI
List of board members	National director	MA fills in template list of board members	Federation planning & steering: MA annual reports	C:\Users\YeziD\OneDrive - SOSCV\Desktop\Board Meeting\VITAL STATISTICS 2023 BOARD MEMBERS.pdf
MA mid-term plan	National director	MA fills in template for mid-term planning	Federation planning & steering: Mid-term & annual plans	<i>Insert hyperlink of the mid-term plan</i>
MA annual plan	National director	MA fills in template for annual planning	Federation planning & steering: Mid-term & annual plans	<i>Insert hyperlink of the annual plan</i>
MA website	National director	Member association website	Not applicable: provide link only	<i>Insert hyperlink of the MA website</i>
Online directory page for MA	National director	SOS Online Directory	Not applicable: provide link only	<i>Insert hyperlink of specific page for the MA</i>

ANNEX 2: SUMMARY OF MAJOR ACTIVITIES OF THE MEMBER ASSOCIATION

[Provide an overview of major activities that occurred at the national level for the reporting period (e.g. audits, trainings/workshops, visits, etc.). Please mention which mid-term objective these activities support and what the results of the activity were.]

Major activities of the MA	Date	Corresponding national mid-term objective	Results
Internal Audit for Lusaka program location	22 nd – 27 th June	Simplify SOS	Recommendations from the audit were presented to the Location management and an action plan was drawn to resolve the issues from the audit findings.
Quarterly NMT meetings	Every quarter	Simplify SOS/Empower People and MA	Shared updates on policies, program implementation and fund acquisition resulting in improved management of the MA
Statutory Annual Audit for the MA	Q1	Simplify SOS	Unqualified report
Quarterly Board meetings	Every quarter	Simplify SOS/Empower People and MA	Governance decisions made to improve the MA performance