



Newsletter

April 2026



**SOS CHILDREN'S
VILLAGES**

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Strategy 2030



Message from the National Programmes Manager



Chriss Muntanga
National Programmes Manager

As we close the first quarter of 2026, we reflect on a period of meaningful progress for SOS Children's Villages Zambia. Across the country, our work continues to strengthen families and create a favourable condition for children and young people without parental care or at risk of losing it to grow up with the support they need to become their strongest selves.

In the just ended quarter, the launch of a three years, "Strengthening Child-Centred Climate Resilience Project" in Kazungula and Katete marks a significant step forward in expanding our programme reach. This is in addition to the 2026 – 2028 Zambia National Results Framework focused on reducing Family Like Care and Expanding on Community and Family Strengthening Programme. These initiatives are enabling communities and families move towards greater stability by improving care for children, access to resources, strengthening livelihoods, and building resilience against future shocks.

Through savings groups, mentoring, and peer learning, families will not only gain practical skills but also build confidence and support systems within their communities.

At the same time, access to productive assets such as solar irrigation installations, pest detection tools, and training in climate smart agriculture, will translate into increased food production and new income-generating opportunities at both community and household levels. These are tangible changes that contribute directly to more secure and supportive environments for children.

Our efforts last quarter reinforced the critical role of advocacy in advancing children's well-being. By working alongside partners and stakeholders, we continue to push for stronger systems that protect children's rights and respond to the realities families face.

The progress achieved so far demonstrates what is possible when we work together. Families are becoming more resilient, communities are strengthening, and children are better supported to grow, learn, and thrive.

As we move into the next quarter, we remain focused on deepening this impact. We thank our partners, supporters, and communities for their continued collaboration in driving sustainable change.

A shared vision for Zambia's children and young people

SOS Children's Villages in Zambia brought together government, business leaders, and partners for an Executive Partnership Brunch in Kitwe, marking a meaningful moment of alignment and renewed commitment to the well-being of children and young people.

Held on 22 January 2025, the event was honoured by the presence of the Honourable Elisha Matambo, Minister of the Copperbelt Province, who attended as Guest of Honour. His address underscored a powerful message: that true development must be measured not only by economic growth but by the well-being of people—especially children and young people, who represent the future of the nation.

The event created space for dialogue and collaboration, reinforcing the importance of collective action in strengthening systems that support children and families. It also highlighted the Government of the Republic of Zambia's continued commitment to child protection, family strengthening, and social welfare under the leadership of His Excellency President Hakainde Hichilema. Initiatives such as the enhanced Constituency Development Fund (CDF) and Zambia National Service (ZNS) skills training programmes were recognised as key drivers in building resilient communities and expanding opportunities for young people.

SOS Children's Villages in Zambia reaffirmed its role in complementing government efforts through programmes focused on education, youth empowerment, and community development—helping translate policy into tangible change for children and families.

Reflecting on the significance of the gathering, Trustee Bruce Sikombe emphasised the power of partnership: “This was more than a gathering; it was a strong affirmation that when the public sector, private sector, and civil society align around the well-being of children, transformative change becomes possible. The commitment shown by the Minister and our business leaders here in the Copperbelt sends a clear signal that investing in children is not just an act of compassion—it is an investment in Zambia's future stability and prosperity.”



Strengthening partnerships to support children and families in Zambia



SOS Children's Villages in Zambia recently held a strategic briefing with the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services (MCDSS), reinforcing a shared commitment to improving the lives of children and young people across the country.

The meeting provided an important platform to share updates on the organisation's ongoing global transformation, aimed at strengthening how SOS Children's Villages supports children and young people without parental care or at risk of losing it. Discussions also highlighted key programme achievements in 2025 and ongoing collaboration in critical areas such as child protection, family strengthening, youth empowerment, and community development.

Government representatives and SOS Children's Villages leadership reaffirmed the importance of strong partnerships in building effective systems that respond to the needs of children and families.

"We appreciate the continued partnership with SOS Children's Villages and remain committed to working together to strengthen systems that protect and support children and young people across Zambia," said Mrs. Angela Kawandami, Permanent Secretary at MCDSS.

Dr. Paul Kapotwe, National Director of SOS Children's Villages in Zambia, emphasised the value of this collaboration: "Our collaboration with government is essential to ensuring that children and young people grow up with the care, relationships, and support they need to become their strongest selves."

SOS Children's Villages in Zambia continues to work closely with government and partners to strengthen national child protection systems and expand its impact. Through this collaboration, the organisation aims to ensure that more children and families receive the support they need to build stable, caring, and resilient environments.

Building climate resilience for children and families in Zambia

Communities in Kazungula and Katete districts are taking an important step towards a more resilient future following the successful launch of two climate-focused projects led by SOS Children's Villages Zambia.

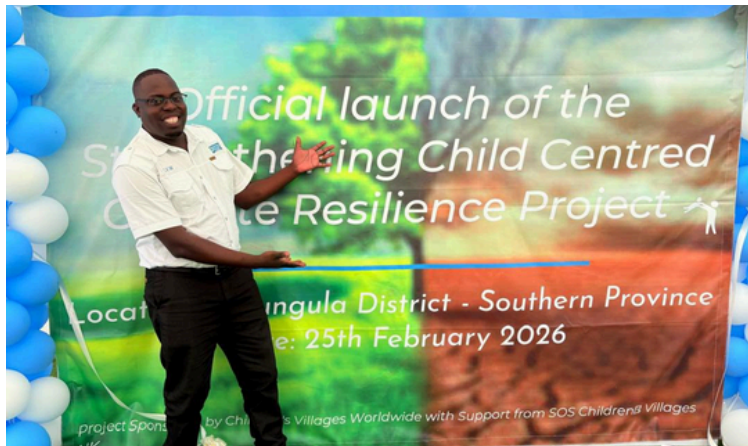
These initiatives aim to strengthen child-centred climate resilience, supporting children and young people without parental care or at risk of losing it, alongside their families and communities. Over the next three years, the projects will work closely with local stakeholders to address the growing impact of climate change on children's well-being and family stability.

Climate-related challenges such as droughts, floods, and food insecurity continue to place pressure on families, increasing the risk of separation and limiting opportunities for children to grow in safe and supportive environments. Through this new intervention, SOS Children's Villages in Zambia is reinforcing its commitment to ensuring that children and young people grow up with the bonds they need to become their strongest selves.



The projects will focus on empowering families with sustainable livelihood skills, strengthening community-based protection systems, and promoting climate-smart practices.

By working hand in hand with communities, local authorities, and partners, the initiative seeks to build long-term resilience while ensuring that children remain at the centre of all efforts.



Speaking at the launch events, community representatives and stakeholders highlighted the importance of investing in local solutions that protect children and support families to adapt to changing environmental conditions. The projects also create opportunities for young people to actively participate in shaping climate responses in their communities, ensuring their voices are heard and valued.

With implementation now underway, Kazungula and Katete are set to become examples of how community-driven action can strengthen resilience, protect children, and create sustainable change.



Celebrating the strength and leadership of women in communities



SOS Children's Villages proudly joined communities around the world in celebrating International Women's Day 2026, recognising the vital role women play in shaping safe, supportive environments for children and young people.

Across programme locations, staff, partners, caregivers, and young people came together to honour the achievements and leadership of women, while also reflecting on the challenges that remain.

The celebrations highlighted the importance of empowering women and strengthening families to ensure that children and young people without parental care or at risk of losing it can grow up with the support they need.

Through community events, dialogues, and awareness activities, SOS Children's Villages reinforced its commitment to gender equality and the protection of children in situations of vulnerability. Women in communities—including caregivers, mothers, and youth leaders—shared their experiences, demonstrating how strong support systems and opportunities can help families stay together and thrive.



"The empowerment of women is the only way to ensure the sustainable development of society." – Nelson Mandela

The Inspiring Journey of Victoria

Victoria's earliest memories are from SOS Children's Village Kitwe. Abandoned as a baby, she grew up in SOS Children's Villages dreaming of a life beyond its walls. Despite the hardships, Victoria was determined to create a better future for herself.

From a young age, Victoria understood the value of education. She poured herself into her studies, finding solace and strength in books. Her Favorite quote, "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams," by Eleanor Roosevelt, became her mantra. It was a reminder that despite her circumstances, she could shape her destiny.

Growing up in SOS Children's Villages, Victoria created bonds with her care giver and siblings, her experience while leaving them has made her very resilient. She took on leadership roles among the children, helping them with their homework and organizing small events to lift their spirits.

When she turned eighteen, Victoria aged out of SOS Children's Village, she faced a daunting new chapter. Yet, she was undeterred. She studied Hotel management to a local college. To support herself, she worked part-time jobs, often late into the night, juggling her responsibilities with dedication.

After graduating, Victoria landed an internship at a local Hotel in Kitwe. She worked tirelessly, always willing to go the extra mile. Her efforts paid off when she was offered a full-time position.



Mission

"We build families for children in need, we help them shape their own futures and we share in the development of their communities

Vision

Every child belongs to a family and grows with love, respect and security

Core values

Courage- We take action

Commitment- We keep our promises

Trust- We believe in each other

Accountability-We are reliable partners

Empowering a Husband to Care for His Family

They say “a good father is one of the most unsung, unpraised, unnoticed, and yet one of the most valuable assets in our society.”

In one of the busy neighbourhoods in Chadiza District in Eastern Province lives 37 years old Paul Tembo, despite the struggles of daily life, he is working hard and ensuring that his wife and four children have access to basic needs.

Paul previously struggled to get by and provide for his family, until SOS Children’s Villages through its Family Strengthening programme in Chipata Visited his community.

“Before SOS Children’s Villages intervention, I struggled to provide for my family, I relied on farming but with the change in weather patterns this became very hard , my children were out of school, my family was at the verge of breaking up due to poverty,” said Paul.



Amidst the desire to provide better for his beloved family, Paul underwent training in tailoring and SOS Children’s Villages provided him with a sewing machine and start-up capital to buy materials and other items needed to start up his business.

With determination, Paul embarked on a journey of learning and perfecting his tailoring skills. He soon discovered a sense of fulfilment and purpose in his tailoring business.

In no time, he managed to raise enough income to put his children back in school and was able to provide basic needs for his family.

His wife, Lillian could not hide her joy, “our family bond is strong now, I had lost hope of my children ever returning to school,” she said.

Apart from providing basic needs for his family, Paul is further contributing to the his community by providing them with affordable clothing’s and uniforms for school going children.



WAYS TO HELP



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Be a FRIEND of SOS Children's Villages in Zambia

SOS Children's Villages Zambia relies on the generous support of charitable individuals and organizations to run its programmes.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

1. Direct Deposit

Make cash deposit, cheque deposit or cash transfer into the SOS Children's Villages bank account below:

Account name: SOS – Fundraising

Bank name: Absa Bank Zambia Plc

Branch name: Lusaka Business Centre

Account number: 1624586

Sort code: 020016

Swift code: BARCZMLX

Currency: ZMW

DONATION IN-KIND

food parcels, school materials, hygiene kits, clothing

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https://www.instagram.com/sos_cv_zambia



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