SOLIDARITY FUND IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS REPORT: AUGUST 2022

Mahlathini development Foundation and the Institute of Natural Resources

HCRF Project No: 049739

1 Implementation process

1.1 Choice and packaging of climate resilient agriculture (CRA) practices

From previous experience in working with climate change adaptation and livelihoods, the team jointly decided on the following intervention activities for households. The understanding is also that these activities need to be reasonably easy and quick to implement at household level, lead to an immediate increase in production and food and provide a kick start for those who want to build income generation activities onto these CRA practices.

Activities are:

1. Tower gardens:1-2 built up intensive garden structures for use of greywater, including mixed cropping
2. Poultry: 10 multipurpose chickens at 4 weeks old (Boschveld, mix of hens and roosters), with a cage and 25kg of pullet finisher mash – to grow these chickens to maturity and use for eggs, meat and breeding.
3. Micro-tunnels and trench beds: 3x 5m by 1m deep beds filled with organic matter, inside a small tunnel structure, with drip kits, including also mixed cropping, multipurpose plants, mulching and natural pest and disease control, for intensive and ongoing production of organic vegetables for food and sale. * It is understood that due to intensive nature of this activity that not all participants will undertake tunnels. In addition, training for construction of these tunnels is intensive and time consuming.

1.2 Materials for garden components

The key materials required for the different components being introduced to project households are described below.

1.2.1 Tower gardens

The tower gardens are constructed from Y-standards and shade-cloth and are filled with a mixture of soil, ash and compost/manure, before being planted. A central column of gravel and small stoned provides a filter for the greywater being added to this vertical bed.

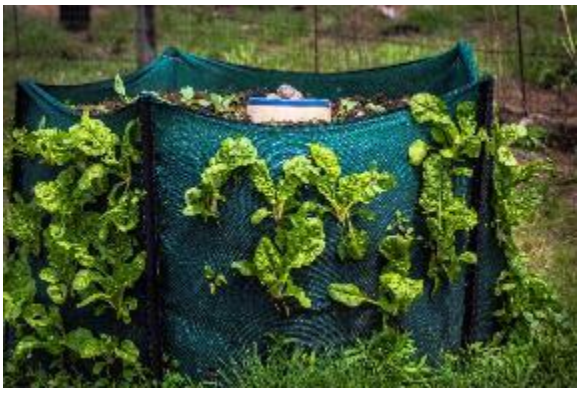

FIGURE 1: EXAMPLE OF A TOWER GARDEN CONSTRUCTED FROM STANDARDS AND SHADE-CLOTH.

Materials:	Amount
80% shadecloth, 3m wide: 1,5m/ participant	16 participants/roll =30 rolls
1,8m Y standards:5 per participant (NGW fencing)	5 per roll x 480 participants
Black twine – thatching 2,5m/ participant	12 x 1kg rolls of twine
Binding wire – 10 m per participants (1,25mm x 250g)	1 roll per participant x 240
Gravel 15DM	1 per tower x 480
Needles	3 per village x 15= 45
Scissors, long nose pliers, knives	3 per village = 45 ea x 2
TOTAL	

1.2.2 Poultry cages

The poultry cages are being manufactured by a small business in Indaleni, Richmond (Prince Jama – AuptoZ Builders). They are being supplied to the project unassembled and local artisans will be appointed at each site to assemble the cages to facilitate delivery of the cages to the project sites.

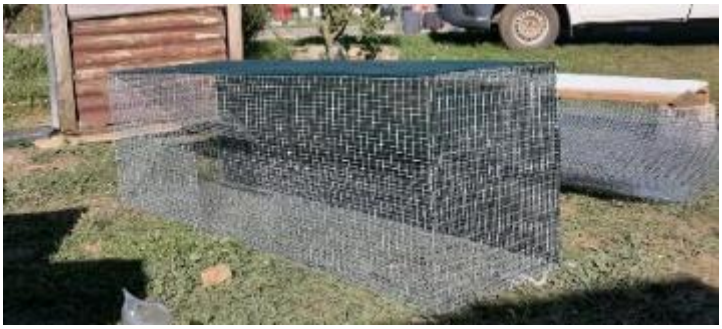

FIGURE 2:CAGE DESIGN BEING FINALIZED BEFORE INITIATING MANUFACTURING PROCESS.

Materials	Amount
PW/mesh 1,8m 25 x13 1.6mm 30m	33
J Clip pliers B	30
J Clip heavy duty	90
Sliding hammers	15
TOTAL	

1.2.3 Micro-tunnels

The micro-tunnels are being sourced from a service provider (Sociotechnical Interfacing) that supplies them in a kit form to be assembled in the community at the selected households.

Materials	Amount	Price (Socio Technical Interfacing)
Micro tunnel kits (netting, poles, wire, etc) 5mx6m white shade cloth, with 3 drip kits per tunnel delivered from Pretoria	255	~R1 442 500
Jigs for bending of the poles	10	~R15 000

1.2.4 Consumables

Various inputs are required for the gardens and the poultry component. This includes growing medium, planting material.

Materials	Amount
Tower garden seedlings: spinach (70), mustard (20), spring onion (20), kale (20), Chinese cabbage (20) parsley (2), coriander (10), lettuce (8)	200/pp @R0,80
Trench bed seedlings: spinach (20), mustard (20), spring onion (20), kale (20), Chinese cabbage (20) parsley (5), coriander (10), lettuce (10), cauliflower (10), broccoli (10)	150 /pp @R
Veg seed for participants: garden packets of 14 varieties (McDonalds Seed) ***(NOTE: for trench beds and tunnels or as exit strategy)***	~R200/ participant
Boschveld chickens (4-week-old, 10 per households)	~R400/ participant
Poultry feed (TWK Agri) 50kg/pp	~R350/pp
Compost: 50 kg bags@ R50/bag; 4bags/ tower and per trench. Thus 16bags/participant x 240 Compost for towers only :4 bags/tower	3744 bags of compost X R50 4x240=960
TOTAL	

2 Implementation process plan

A joint process has been designed by MDF&INR with well-defined implementation steps. Training of the implementation teams has been tackled jointly as well. The table below summarizes the process

as introduced to the implementation teams. Each of the activities is described in more detail below the table.

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENTATION	TIMING
1. Project introduction and planning	*Introduce HCRF *Talk to present issues and vulnerabilities *Discuss impact of CC and adaptation strategies *Outline solidarity actions – thoughts from community ***NOTE: Beneficiaries must have some experience in farming:*** ***NOTE 2: Lost employment/unemployed, women headed households, single mothers, missing middle (no grants), vulnerable youth***	*Introduction Report *Attendance register – signed with choice of activities *Photographs	April – mid May
2. Baselines	*Fill in baseline form for each participant, linked to a home visit to ensure farming, labour, fencing, water, vulnerability	*Fill in baseline forms, take a photo of each beneficiary	Early to Mid May
3. Preparation for tunnels and poultry	*Order and deliver tower garden materials *Manure/ compost and tools *Wire for poultry cages and feed	*Delivery forms signed *Timesheets and contracts local support people	Early to mid May
4. Greywater and poultry cage construction training	*Introduce use of greywater and intensive organic gardening (including mixed cropping, herbs, multipurpose plants, fertility, types of greywater, function of ash) * Introduce tower gardens *Construct a demonstration tower garden and plant to a variety of seedlings; Spinach, spring onions, mustard spinach, chinses cabbage, parsley, kale, lettuce, leeks, coriander *Hand out tower garden materials for each participant and arrange for delivery to households *Demonstrate building of cages – outline process for building and delivery of all	*Attendance register *Delivery form signed * Participant handouts copied up and distributed	Mid May-Mid June
5. Poultry management	*Discuss multipurpose chickens and partial free-range options *Feed and poultry health management *Delivery of feed and chickens (once cages are ready	*Attendance register *Delivery form signed * Participant handouts copied up and distributed	Mid June- Mid Aug
6. Trench beds and tunnels ***(NOTE: trench beds should be introduced early to give participants time to dig and fill them before tunnels are constructed)***	*Introduce trench beds and tunnels and reasons for doing both 8talk to mixed cropping, mulching, Nat pest and disease control * Demonstrate digging and filling of trench beds * Plant trenches to mixed cropping, with mulching, show watering * Demonstrate construction of tunnels *Plan tunnel construction, with team in each village	*Attendance register *Delivery form signed * Participant handouts copied up and distributed	July-mid Aug
7. Monitoring	*Interview 3-5 participants in each village – write narrative report and take photos	*Narrative Report *Monitoring forms completed Photographs	End July-end Aug

2.1 Project introduction and planning

The process of introducing the project and jointly planning roll-out is described below.

2.1.1 Establishment of teams

- Onboard and contracting of necessary staff (April 2022)
- Design forms required: attendance registers, baseline forms, training and implementation outlines, learning materials, input delivery forms, monitoring forms (April 2022)
- Joint introduction and staff training sessions (9-11 May 2022)

Organisation	Staff (Full and part time)	Contracted staff	Interns	Community based / Local facilitators	Village youth support
MDF	5 -Tema Matehbula -Mazwi Dlamini, -Ayanda Madlala -Michael Malinga -Erna Kruger	1 -Senzo Mkhize: kwaMpande, Trustfeeds, Swayimane, Maqongqo (grp with disability)	2 -Lungelo Buthelezi: all areas -Ngiphile Ngcobo: Mayizekanye, Gobizembe, Ozwathini	6 -Martina Xulu and Mr Ngcobo: Ozwathini -Rita Ngobese: Gobizembe -Mrs Nxusa: MayizeKanye -B Dlamini: Spring Valley -M Mkhize: Ngongonini -S Dlamini: Centocow	8 -NT Zondi:kwaMpande -N Mchunu: kwaMpande -SM Ngcobo:Swayimane -LP Khanyile:Trustfeeds -N Shezi: Trustfeeds -N Ngobese: Gobizembe -S Masango:Ozawhtini -S Mnguni: Ozwathini
INR	3 Staff (Full and part-time (Brigid Letty, Zinhle Ntombela, Mthobisi Gwala)	6 (Senzo Mkhize, Mlungisi Gwala, Bonokwakhe Cwazibe, Mzokhona Mndali, Sibuleluzuko Kula, Menzi Zondi, Thabo Makhubedu)	0	7 Lindiliwe Mdluli, Nonhlanhla Bhengu, Mr Ngubane, Mr Vidima, Mandisi Mgoza, Sizwe Mtshali, Sthembiso Makhaye	4 Zama Ndlovu, Phumelela Shezi, Thembelihle Nxele, Xoliswa Tozini,

2.1.2 Introductory workshop at INR

A workshop was held at the INR offices in Scottsville with the full team (permanent and contracted staff as well as local facilitators and village youth support) on 10 May 2022 to introduce the project and its different components and establish administrative systems as well as to provide training in the technical aspects. The strong links between the interventions and the context of climate change and the need for adaptation strategies were discussed. Views were drawn from the group in designing the programme for introducing and rolling out the project at the different sites. This has built ownership of the project as well as sense of being part of a team.

FIGURE 3: ABOVE LEFT: STAFF PARTICIPANTS AT THE HCRF INTRODUCTION TRAINING AT THE INR AND ABOVE RIGHT: THABO DEMONSTRATES THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE POULTRY CAGES

2.1.3 Introductory workshops at project sites

The respective field teams introduced the project in the targeted villages. MDF introduced the programme in 13 villages across 4 LMs, of which 6 groups were extensions of existing Climate resilient Agriculture learning groups, focusing on present issues and vulnerabilities, impact of CC and adaptation strategies and outline of the Solidarity Fund actions as well as criteria for participation. New groups were formed in Umsunduzi, Umshwathi and Dr Nkosanzana-Dlamini Zuma LMS. One group in Maqongqo (Umzunduzi) is a group of 13 persons with physical and developmental disabilities.

INR's teams have introduced the project to 14 villages across 7 LMs. The INR built on its existing footprint in terms of villages where it is currently working or has worked in the past, and through local champions with whom it has a relationship. Many of the facilitators were part of a previous food security food project funded by UNDP-SA and are familiar with the project approach.

FIGURE 4: ABOVE LEFT: INTRODUCTION MEETING AT CENTOCOW, SHOWING THE POWER POINT PRESENTATION OF POTENTIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE PARTICIPANTS AND ABOVE RIGHT: MAZWI DLAMINI (MDF) SHOWS A SMALL GROUP OF PARTICIPANTS FROM PLAINHILL HOW TO LAY OUT AND START DIGGING THEIR TRENCH BEDS, DURING THE HCRF INTRODUCTION SESSION.

FIGURE 5: ABOVE LEFT: INTRODUCTION TO PARTICIPANTS AT EMAZABEKWENI AT IXOPO AND ABOVE RIGHT: INTRODUCTION MEETING AT INHLAZUKA, RICHMOND.

At the introductory meetings, arrangements were made for the demonstrations of the tower gardens.

2.2 Preparation for tunnels, towers and poultry

A large amount of planning and preparation has been required ahead of project implementation.

2.2.1 Procurement

Materials, tools and equipment have been purchased from various suppliers using the MDF and INR's standard procedures. A need was identified for storage for materials, and a storage facility has been rented for the duration of the project at Mkondeni, Pietermaritzburg.

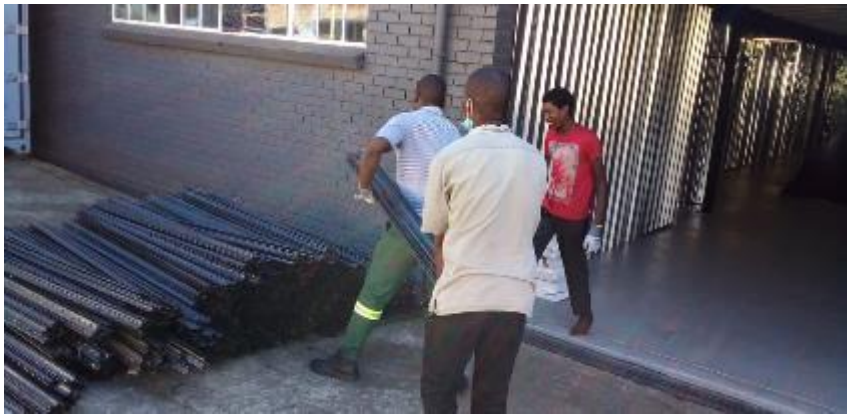

FIGURE 6: IRON STANDARDS BEING PACKED AWAY INTO THE STORAGE FACILITY AT MKONDENI, PIETERMARAITZBURG.

In addition, a community-based storage facility for the tunnels has been arranged.

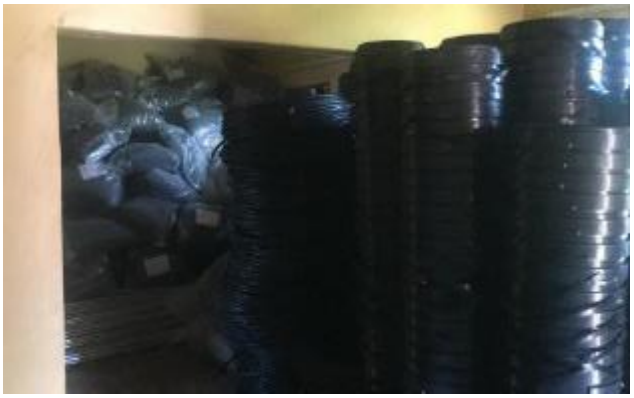

FIGURE 7: ABOVE LEFT: PACKING OF TUNNEL AND DRIP IRRIGATION KITS IN GAUTENG FOR TRANSPORT AND DELIVERY. ABOVE RIGHT: STORAGE OF THESE KITS LOCALLY IN MPOLWENI (UMSHWATHI).

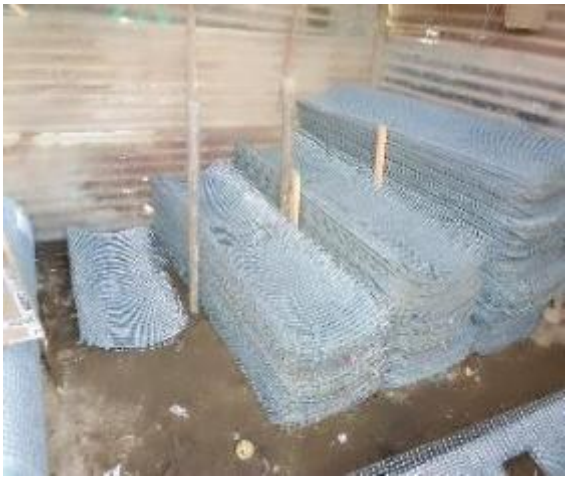

FIGURE 8: ABOVE LEFT: UNASSEMBLED CAGE COMPONENTS PREPARED AND AWAITING COLLECTION AT INDALENI, RICHMOND, ABOVE RIGHT: BAGGED COMPOST BEING DELIVERED TO A HOUSEHOLD FOR A DEMONSTRATION.

2.2.2 Distribution of materials

The unassembled cages and the kits for the tower gardens are currently being distributed to the project sites to allow for roll-out of the implementation phase once the demonstrations have been completed.

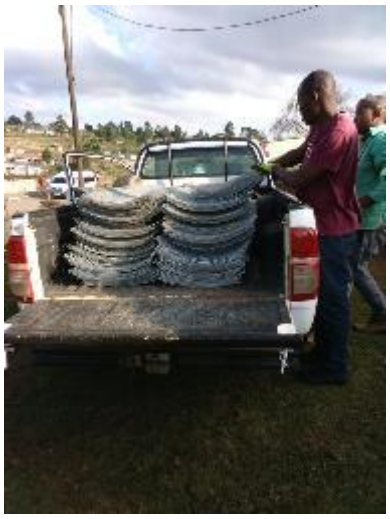

FIGURE 9: ABOVE LEFT: SHADECLOTH PIECES CUT TO SIZE AND PACKED FOR DISTRIBUTION; ABOVE RIGHT: UNASSEMBLED CAGES BEING LOADED FOR DISTRIBUTION.

2.3 Greywater and poultry cage demonstrations

Prior to supply of the chickens and establishment of the gardens, training is required for the support team regarding the safe use of greywater, construction and management of the tower gardens as well as the management and feeding of the chickens. Training has been done at INR and the field staff then train the community-based / local facilitators. Thus, a series of demonstrations have been provided.

2.3.1 Facilitator training and demonstration

Besides the introduction for construction of tower gardens that took place at the meeting on 10 May 2022 at INR, a demonstration of cage making also took place for all project staff. The following day, a tower garden demonstration was held at Sweetwaters, outside Pietermaritzburg for the staff and facilitators working with INR. This ensures that the methods used are constant across the project sites. The demonstration covered construction, planting of a variety of seedlings and management of the garden.

FIGURE 10: TOWER GARDEN DEMONSTRATION UNDERWAY AT SWEETWATERS ON 11 MAY 2022

2.3.2 Tower garden demonstrations and implementation

The field teams responsible for each of the project sites brought the participants together to demonstrate how to construct and plant the tower garden. Participants have been enthusiastic and excited about the project.

This training consisted of greywater management, including hygiene, filtration, sources, etc, mixed cropping for good nutrition and a demonstration of construction of the towers. In addition, materials for towers were provided to all participants present, and a schedule for delivery to each person's household, plus construction of tunnels with support from youth members was made for each area.

Once towers are constructed, facilitation team brings the seedlings for distribution to all participants. This is a mixture of 15 each of the following: leeks, swiss chard, mustard spinach/Chinese cabbage, kale, parsley, thyme, beetroot and broccoli/cauliflower.

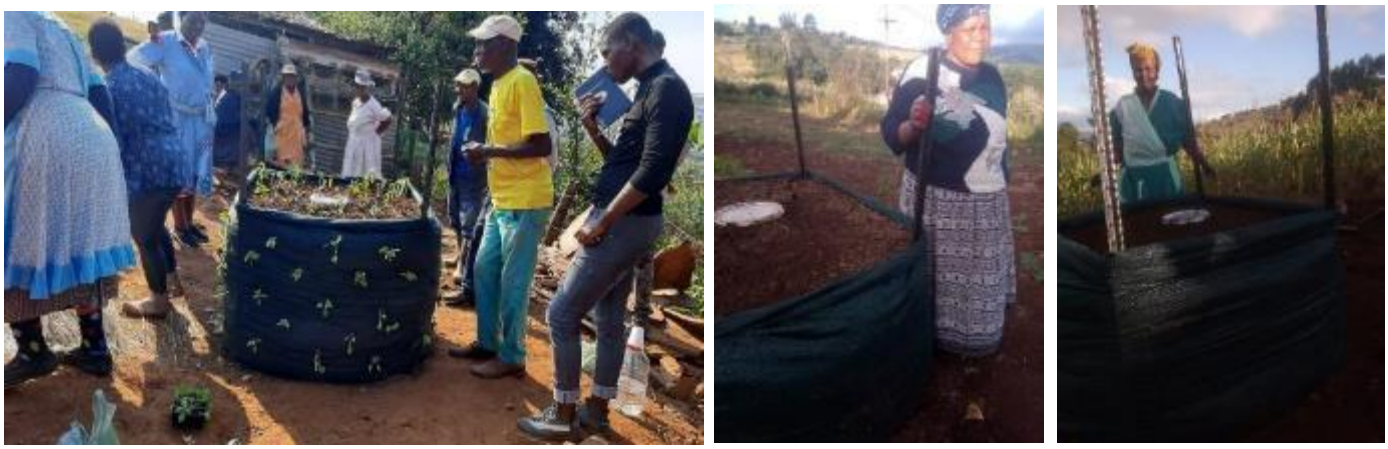

FIGURE 11: ABOVE LEFT: TOWER GARDEN DEMONSTRATION IN GOBIZEMBE (UMSHWAHTI LM) AND CENTRE AND RIGHT: SUBSEQUENT CONSTRUCTION OF TOWER GARDEN BY HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS

FIGURE 12: DEMO TOWER GARDEN BUILT AT EMAZABEKWENI (UBUHLEBEZWE LM)

After the demonstration workshops processes were put in place to continue construction in all villages. This included working with local facilitators and the groups themselves. Slightly different arranagments were used in different areas. Msotly batches of towers were constructed before delivery of seedlings and a mini planting, mulching, and greywater management workshop.


FIGURE 13: ABOVE LEFT: FINALISATION OF ONE OF THE GROUP BUILT TOWERS IN NOKWEJA (UBUHLEBEZWE LM) AND RIGHT: NEWLY PLANTED AND MULCHED TOWER AT INHLAZUKA (RICHMOND LM), BEING WATERED.

Towers have been planted in stages, as mentioned. For most of the participants the towers are now growing well and already providing a range of food.

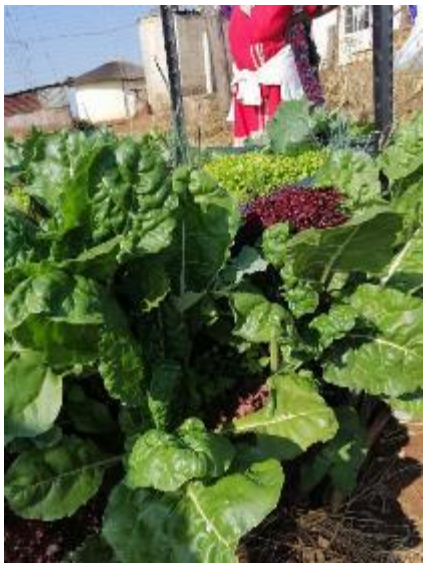
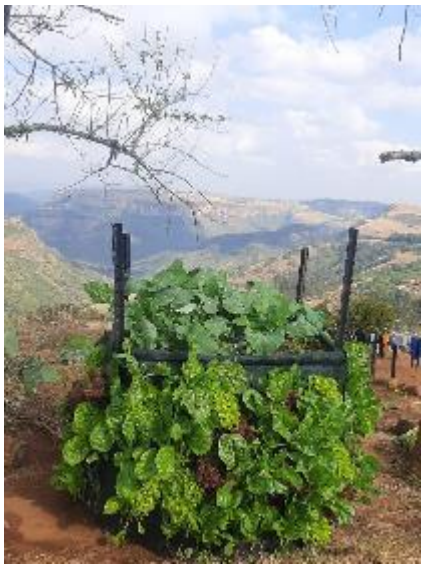


FIGURE 14: ABOVE LEFT TO RIGHT: EXAMPLES OF PRODUCTIVE TOWER GARDENS IN GOBIZEMBE, MAYIZEKANYE AND OZWATHINI (UMSHWATHI LM).

For the groups supported by the INR, a 2nd tower garden is to be constructed for each participant. Given the problems of unfenced gardens a decision was also made to support recipients with fences.

The first step with fencing was to come up with a suitable design and then to train people from local communities to install the fences around the participants' gardens. The design made use of iron standards, wooden poles and mesh to keep livestock out.

FIGURE 15: RIGHT: A DEMONSTRATION AND TRAINING SESSION ON FENCE CONSTRUCTION FOR THE TOWERS IN INHLAZUKA (RICHMOND LM).

After the demos, the process of installing fences at all households where it was needed was rolled out.

FIGURE 16:ABOVE LEFT TO RIGHT: FENCES INSTALLED IN AMANGWANENI, MAFAKATHINI AND NGANGEZWE (IMPLENDLE LM).

2.3.3 Micro-tunnel demonstrations and implementation

For this theme, participants needed to start by digging and packing 3 trench beds 1m wide and 5 m long, so that the tunnels can be constructed over these beds. Micro-tunnels have been implemented with MDF beneficiaries only, as the INR and groups continued with building a 2nd tower garden for each participant and providing fencing.

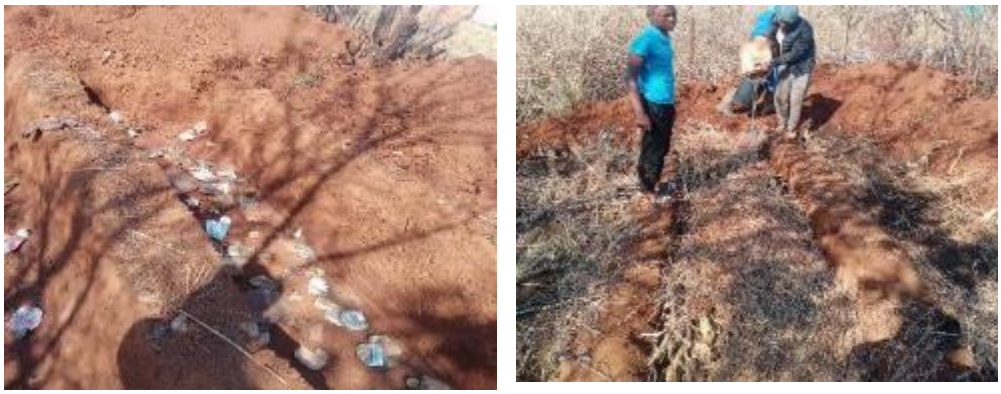

FIGURE 17: EXAMPLE OF DIGGING AND PACKING OF TRENCH-BEDS IN CENTOCOW (DR NKOSAZANA DLAMINI-ZUMA LM)

FIGURE 18 : ABOVE LEFT: BENDING OF PIPES, CUTTING AND SEWING OF NETTING ONTO THE ARCHES FOR ABOVE RIGHT: CONSTRUCTION OF A DEMONSTRATION TUNNEL IN CENTOCOW

FIGURE 19: ABOVE LEFT TO RIGHT: DIGGING TRENCH BEDS, CUTTING AND SEWING NETTING AND A COMPLETED TUNNEL. THE GROUP CONSISTS OF THE BENEFICIARY, LEARNING GROUP MEMBERS, YOUTH VOLUNTEERS AND THE LOCAL FACILITATOR. OZWATHINI (UMSHWATHI LM).

Tunnel construction is a reasonably intensive process, both labour and time consuming. Thus, youth volunteers were brought on board to assist, as well as local facilitators. For the groups that were extensions of existing CRA learning groups, group members also assisted. In this way over 100 tunnels were completed in around 6 weeks. The reminder of the tunnels with the three bucket drip kits are to be finalised during the no cost extension of the process in September and October

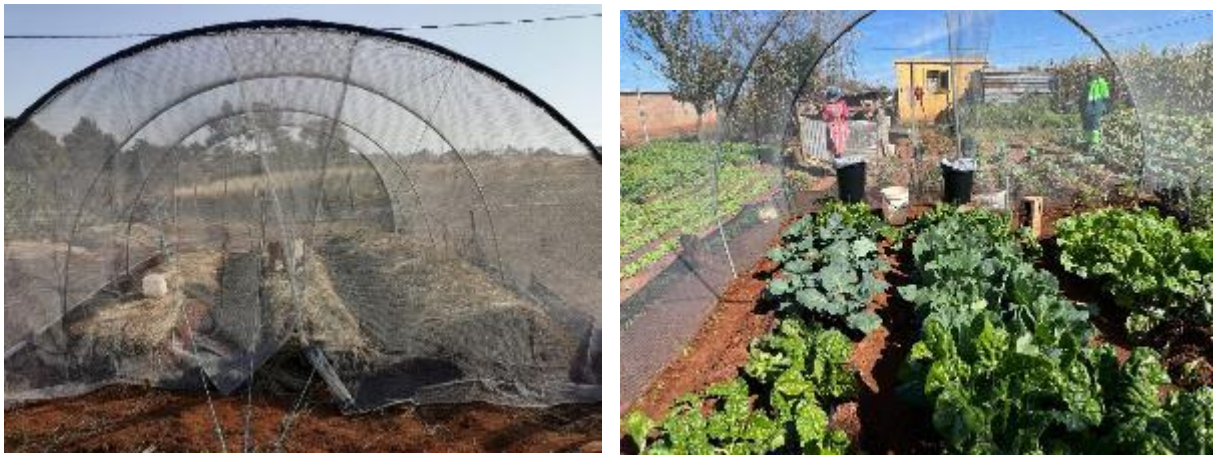

FIGURE 20: ABOVE LEFT: A TUNNEL FINALIZED AND MULCHED READY FOR PLANTING AND ABOVE RIGHT: A TUNNEL FULLY PLANTED WITH THE BUCKET DRIP KITS IN PLACE IN OZWATHINI.

2.3.4 Multipurpose poultry

The chickens that were supplied to the households are called Boschveld chickens. They are an improved indigenous breed that do well as free range birds that can supplement their diets by scavenging around people's homesteads. The majority are being supplied by the breeder in Bela Bela (Mike Bosch), while the chickens to be supplied to two of INR sites will be hatched from eggs supplied by Mike Bosch and reared by a community member with the necessary experience. This provides an additional opportunity to support local business.

The cage sides were prepared by an SMME at Indaleni, outside Richmond, and then assembled on site. Each household received a wire cage equipped with a feeder and a drinker, 10 Boschveld chicks (approx. 4 weeks old) and two half bags of pullet finisher feed (50 kg in total per household). Antibiotics were also supplied to treat chickens that had been stressed from the long travel by road from Bela Bela were the breeder is located. The chicks were delivered to Pietermaritzburg monthly in batches of 1000-1600 and the boxes were then delivered by the logistics teams to the different sites.

FIGURE 21: AN EXAMPLE OF FULLY GROWN BOSCHVELD CHICKENS.

Cages were transported in pieces to each site and constructed there, usually by a local volunteer or in combination with the facilitator. Once ready, chicks were provided. As some of the chicks provided were still too young for the cages, a few local farmers were commandeered to brood them until they were ready.

FIGURE 22: ABOVE LEFT TO RIGHT: TRANSPORT OF CONSTRUCTED CAGES LOCALLY TO DIFFERENT BENEFICIARIES. PUTTING THE SHADE NETTING AND FINAL TOUCHES ON THE CAGES AND A BROODING ARRANGEMENT FOR CHICKS WHICH ARRIVED TOO YOUNG

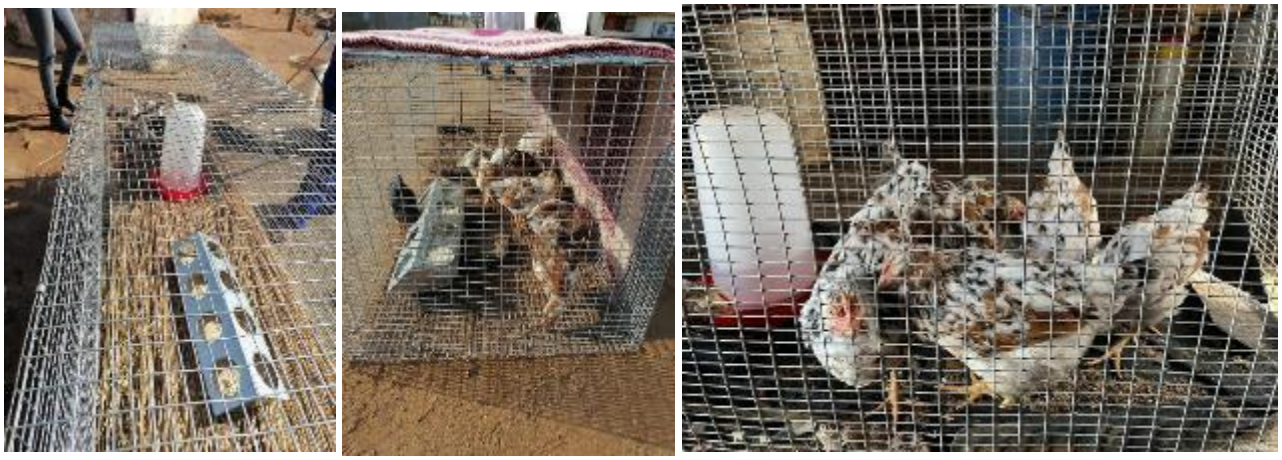

FIGURE 23: ABOVE LEFT TO RIGHT: EXAMPLES OF FARMERS WHO HAVE RECEIVED THE BOSCHVELD CHICKENS AND ONE WHERE THE BIRDS ARE ALREADY SOMEWHAT OLDER (RIGHT) FROM MAYIZEKANYE AND GOBIZEMBE (UMSHWATHI LM)

2.4 Monitoring

Monitoring of project implementation is important to ensure that project activities have taken place according to the project schedule. The tables below provide and overview of implementation at the INR and MDF project sites.

TABLE 1: INR IMPLEMENTATION MONITORING OF PARTICIPANT NUMBERS AND ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

Village name	Households	Intro workshop	First tower done	Chickens received	Houseolds with chickens	Gardens needing fences	Gardens fenced	Second gardens	Farmers day M&E forms	Farmers day M&E forms
Gcumisa	30	13/05/2022	30	300	30	30	29	30	19 August 2022	
Madiba	16	18/05/2022	16	160	16	13	13	16	20 August 2022	1
Sweetwaters	20	31/05/2022	20	180	18	20	4	15	17 August 2022	1
Mafundze/Elandskop	10	5/05/2022	10	100	10	10	8	10	17 August 2022	1
Mafakathini/Elandskop	20	01/06/2022	20	200	20	12	9	15	18 August 2022	1
Ngangezwe	15	20/05/2022	15	150	15	20	11	14	17 August 2022	FGDs
Nguga/Qutshini	20	18/05/2022	20	200	20	8	8	20	done	1
Indaleni	10	14/05/2022	10	100	10	7	6	14	22 August 2019	1
Smozomeni	10	18/05/2022	10	100	10	8	8	14	done	1
Inhlazuka	20	12/05/2022	20	200	20	20	20	5	16 August 2022	1
Mgxobeleni	20	13/05/2022	20	200	20	18	15	26	17 August 2022	1
Emazabekweni	12	19/05/2022	12	120	12	8	6	10	18 August 2022	1
Nokweja	9	20/05/2022	9	90	9	9	9	17	19 August 2022	1
Amangwaneni	30	19/05/2022	30	300	30	20	6	30	Done (5 short)	FGDs
	242		**242**	**2400**	**240**	**203**	**152**	**236**		

INR has successfully implemented in all 242 households across 14 villages. All participants have received at least 1 tower garden, and most have received 2. 240 Beneficiaries now have their multipurpose poultry and cages, and 203 participants are to receive fencing and will be assisted to erect these by the end of September 2022.

TABLE 2: MDF IMPLEMENTATION MONITORING OF PARTICIPANT NUMBERS AND ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

Site	No. of beneficiaries confirmed	Introductory meeting held	Demonstration done	Tower gardens initiated; incl delivery of materials	Poultry cages	Poultry feed and 4week olds	Training w/s trenches, tunnels	Tunnels completed	Seedlings	Seed
Ozwathini	42	35	35	41	40	10	35	20	19	32
Mayizekanye	27	22	27	27	27	12	22	14	14	16
Gobizembe	17	18	20	22	22	22	18	15	9	22
Trustfeeds	20	21	12	12	20	20	12	7	7	7
Swayimane	12	8	11	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
KwaMpande	26	20	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
MaQongqo	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Ngongonini	23	23	15	5	16	10	13	16	9	15
Nkoneni	20	20	9	12	12	6	14	19	12	19
Mariathal (ixopo)	17	18	13	6	15	15	14	10	6	10
Plainhill	15	15	15	6	15	15	12	3	6	6
Spring Valley	19	19	8	9	10	15	10	2	9	5
Centocow	23	23	12	10	10	12	12	10	10	10
	273	**254**	**207**	**193**	**230**	**180**	**205**	**159**	**135**	**163**

MDF has successfully implemented at all 273 households, where participants have received a combination of tower gardens, multipurpose chickens and cages and micro tunnels with a selection of seedlings and/or seed. Participants chose the combination of practices themselves. Some of the micro tunnels will be completed, with the bucket drip irrigation systems during September and October.

Monitoring also consisted of doing a household survey for as many of the participants as possible. The form is presented in Appendix 1 below. All participants were asked to confirm which activities they were involved in and inputs that they received. In addition, they ranked a number of indicators on a scale of 1-5. The results are summarized below.

TABLE 3: MONITORING RESULTS FROM SURVEY (N=312)

Indicators (n=312) 8. Percentage	5 very good/ a lot	4 good/ reasonable amount	3 average	2 bad/little	1 very bad/none
Level of food access: amount and diversity	52,7	18,5	20,0	8,4	0,4
Conflict resolution, peace building, cooperation	72,8	19,1	6,2	2,0	
Training and advice: awareness, information, skills	89,1	6,2	4,0	0,7	
Level of household income change	22,4	20,2	21,5	6,8	29,2

A total of 312 participants were interviewed (MD F72, INR 240) and rated their level of food access, conflict resolution, training and advice and level of household income change.

The following can be seen from the table:

1. **71% of participants rated access to food, both in amount as good to very good, and 20 % rated access as average.** A proportion of participants have experienced losses due to bad weather conditions and livestock invasions. For some, a proportion of their chickens have died.
2. **92% of participants rated conflict resolution, peace building and cooperation as good to very good.**
3. **95% rated the awareness raising, provision of information and improvement of skills as good to very good**
4. **43% of participants rated their level of household income change as good to very good**, 21% rated this as average and 36% rated this are little to none. Not all participants have started harvesting form their gardens yet and the multipurpose chickens are still being reared. The fact that so many participants are selling produce form their tower gardens and more recently from micro tunnels is in fact surprising as these interventions were quite small and meant primarily for food production in this initiation phase.

As part of the monitoring and evaluation process, farmers days or focus group discussions were held at each of the sites. These allowed participants to reflect collectively on the project and then there were one-on-one interviews with participants to fill in the monitoring and evaluation forms. The meetings were useful because they allowed for discussions about using some of the vegetables that people did not know, as well as how to deal with some problems such as aphids infesting crops, for example.

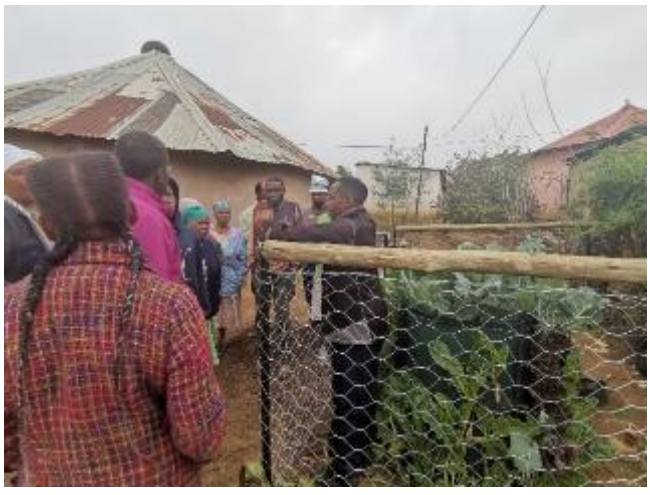

FIGURE 24: IMAGES OF THE FARMERS DAY HELD AT MXHOBELENI IN AUGUST 2022.

Appendix1: Monitoring form

Date			Area	
Village			Age	
Surname			First name	
Gender			Household head (Y/N)	
No of Adults in household				
No of children				
Farming activities supported (Tick whichever has been provided)	Tower garden: Seedlings: Fencing:	Poultry: Cage: Feeder and drinker: 10 Boschvelders: Feed:	Trench beds: Compost:	Tunnel: Seed
No of people in HH accessing food through the project				
Level of food access (amount and diversity): Scale 1-5				
Conflict resolution, peace building, cooperation: Scale 1-5				
Training and advice: Scale 1-5 (Awareness, information, skills)				
Level of HH income change through project: Scale 1-5				
Outcomes of support received: (Successes, challenges) – describe	• .. • … • … • … • …			
SCALE: 1= very bad/none 2= bad/little 3=average 4= good/ reasonable amount 5= very good/ a lot	SIGNED:_____			