

WARD COMMUNITY HEALTH CLUBS



CITY OF MASVINGO
ZIMBABWE

1.Starting point:

- Problem of littering and illegal solid waste dumps on roadsides within the communities following indiscriminate littering and illegal dumping by the community.
- The whole community across gender, sex and age, including children, were affected by smells and rodents.
- All the community's roles and needs is relevant for the challenge, including men, women, and vulnerable people



2. Institutional Setting:

i. Legal – The following legal provisions applied in the execution of the project;

Environmental Management Act,

Public Health Act,

Masvingo Refuse Removal By-Laws and

Council Resolutions.

ii. Reform approach- to instil a sense of behavioural change where we advocate for the removal of undesirable and indiscriminate littering and strong sense of community ownership.

iii. Actors – The project involved the Council, Management, staff and the community in their groupings as Wards of the City.

3. Approach:

- Teaching manuals, cleaning materials and tools, cleanup campaigns, competitions, health education training, participatory health and hygiene education (PHHE).
- Waste management through recycling, reduction, rethinking, reusing and refusing model.



4.Outputs:

- Cleared illegal dumps.
- Reclamation of dumping areas
- Some income generation from waste recycling.
- Income generating activities to sustain the practice.
- Community Health education to reduce littering.



5. Lessons:

- Community engagement is a powerful intervention in solving community problems.
- The question of marketing strategies needs to be addressed. Value addition on recycled/recovered waste remains a challenge.
- Women are more keen to participate in the community issues than men. Women formed a greater percentage of the clubs members.



6.Transfer:

- Community leadership mobilization and their support.
- Community problem identification and the identification of the communities' role towards the problem.
- Mobilisation of the community leaders, stakeholders and the local authority.
- The youth have not been participating in the Health Clubs activities.
- Generation gaps and attitude may need to be addressed.

