

RESULTS SUMMARY

The Transformational Journey of Young People in Peri-urban Harare

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PROJECT	<i>Title:</i>	Safe and Inclusive Cities
	<i>Partner:</i>	Youth Ensemble and Plan International Zimbabwe
	<i>Country:</i>	Zimbabwe
	<i>Period:</i>	2022-2026

CHANGE	The interventions have lifted people out of poverty, from subsistence living to sustainable and substantially increased income as entrepreneurs. People have acquired technical skills to manage their finances, running their business, and accessing additional finance to grow their business. People have acquired knowledge on how to green their business resulting in investments in solar panels. This change has impacted their families and communities in various ways from sharing electricity from solar panels, to children attending school.
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CONTEXT	Interventions took place in the slum areas of Harare and peri-urban areas in the outskirts of Harare. The settlements are characterized by high levels of poverty, unemployment, and limited access to basic services such as water, electricity and healthcare. Many are living in informal housing. It also works as a refuge for marginalized groups. There is a growing crisis of drug abuse exacerbated by the lack of economic opportunities and schooling. Gender-based violence is a significant concern, as are high rates of crime.
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CONTRIBUTION	The partners provided a holistic intervention that combined technical training, financial access and mentorship, while focusing on reducing gender barriers. The revolving fund was instrumental in enabling the people to acquire modern equipment, while training sessions equipped them with knowledge to manage and scale their businesses effectively. By creating a supportive ecosystem, the project not only addressed immediate needs but also laid the foundation for long-term sustainability and benefits to the families and communities.
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IMAGES	 Alice Bongomwe, business owner of a solar panel powered tuck shop. Photo by: Youth Ensemble.	 Tinshe Raurai, business owner of a solar panel powered fashion company. Photo by: Youth Ensemble.
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[See next page for more details](#) →

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACTIVITIES

Intensive business and entrepreneurship training. Technical training programmes on eg. sowing machines or solar panels. Greening your business trainings. Establishment, membership of and access to revolving funds. Mentorship arrangements. Trainings on digital tools for marketing. Culturally sensitive and women-focused interventions to increase number of female entrepreneurs and break gender barriers/roles. All collectively leading to consolidation of business ideas with access to investments that kick-started a growth journey that was successfully managed due to the acquired business skills through the programme.

LESSONS

1) Youth Ensemble integrated life skills coaching and psychosocial support into the business training curriculum. This helped participants like Alice overcome fear and develop a mindset conducive to risk-taking and growth. 2) Youth Ensemble redesigned its climate action modules to include peer examples, practical demonstrations, and site visits. Seeing solar work in real businesses helped shift attitudes and reduce resistance to green practices. 3) Training youths to use digital platforms can enhance their market reach and competitiveness. 4) Interventions in slum areas and peri-urban settlements must consider broader systemic issues such as infrastructure and social vulnerabilities. 5) Holistic interventions combining skills training with financial access and mentorship create a robust foundation for youth entrepreneurship. 6) Empowering young men to engage in traditionally female-dominated trades can also break gender barriers and foster inclusive development.

EVIDENCE

1) For Alice Bongomwe, she transitioned from a road side, small-scale vendor to the owner of a registered solar-panel powered tuck shop, leading to financial independence. Her business is now registered, and she is making a lot more money. She has gained the skills to manage her finances and as a result has been able to buy her own house and consistently pay school fees for her childrens' school, breaking the generational cycle of poverty. 2) For Tinshe Raurai, he has lifted his monthly and himself out of extreme poverty by increasing his income from \$30 to \$400 per month after having taken part in the programme. Training in technical sewing, business management and digital marketing enhanced his entrepreneurship. He successfully challenged societal gender norms by doing a 'woman's job', inspiring other young men in his community to explore non-traditional trades. His acquisition of solar-powered machines ensures energy efficiency and operational savings.

DOMAINS

Development strategy priorities:

Insert strategy priority

Changes in the lives of people facing poverty, marginalisation or vulnerability

YES

Changes in laws, policies and practices that affect people's rights

NO

Changes in the capacity of organisations and communities to support rights

NO

Changes in partnerships and collaborations that support people's rights

NO

Changes in participation of groups facing poverty, marginalisation or vulnerability

YES

Changes in local leadership of development and humanitarian work

NO

GUIDANCE NOTE

This format consists of two overall sections: on page one, the results summary communicates results to an external audience using a brief summary of what has been achieved; while page two provides an opportunity to explain the background and evidence behind the claims made as part of the summary.

Page 1: Results summary

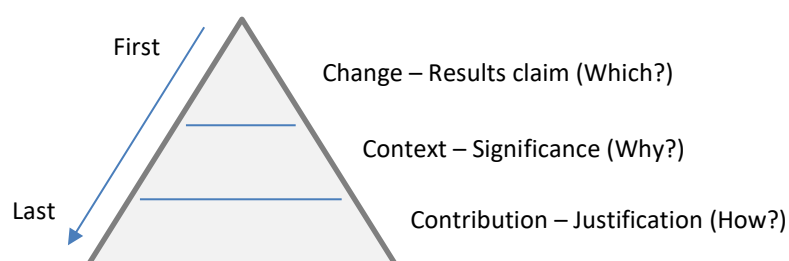
The results summary should outline of the overall change. This should be phrased in a clear and concise manner, focusing on the benefits for target groups or communities, and preferably start out by stating the overall key message as a one-line statement. It is thus important to prioritise what the key message should be and not attempt to describe every possible change that may have occurred.

Note that case studies should not describe all of the activities carried out during the implementation. Instead, it should focus on one or two key messages to be highlighted – which may also span several projects – and only outline activities to backup contributions to the highlighted change.

This can be illustrated as a “reverse funnel.” First, the “change” section introduces the overall results claim, which answers the “which.” Note that this is done before any details have been provided. Second, the “context” section outlines the problem being addressed by the project and the significance of the change. For example, by explaining “why” it benefits target groups or communities.

Finally, and lastly, the “contribution” section should provide examples to justify for “how” the intervention contributed to realising change. Note that this should focus on the plausible linkage between the change and intervention rather than describing details from activities. It is often useful to think of this as a reverse theory-of-change, i.e. “After we did X, then Y occurred, because of Z.”

Figure 1:
Reverse funnel for communication



Page 2: Additional information

The second page should provide background and evidence for project’s contribution to change. It can also address technical issues that do not fit in the results summary. The section consists of the following sections:

- **Activities:** Whereas the “contribution” section on page one provides a brief summary of the project contributions to change, the “activities” section allows for more detail on the project design, organisation and underlying activities in support of the contributions made.
- **Lessons:** Describes lessons learned through the implementation. These should relate to the results claim or alternatively the project(s) as a whole. Please consider (1) novelty – i.e. whether the change represents something new – and (2) the potential to scale and/or build on lessons going ahead.
- **Evidence:** A narrative comparison between results claims and the underlying evidence. It should answer “X led to Y, because of Z,” although it does not need to be phrased this way. It is useful to include references to a few selected documents for further details. Please see guidelines for more.
- **Domains and development strategy:** Describes contributions to defined domains and the Danish development strategy. Please consider limiting the number of domains to a few selected ones.