



Ubunthu Enablers Limited

Annual Report 2023

Ubunthu Enablers Limited

Mbabala, Southern Province, Zambia

Directors: Benedikt Ayrlé, Jonsen Habachimba, Christine Klepacz, Manfred Klepacz, Joe Mapiki, Chippoh Mweemba

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Acronyms

AAZ	Action Aid Zambia
ACC	Anti Corruption Commission
CDF	Constituency Development Fund
CMC	Choma Municipal Council
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CSPR	Civil Society for Poverty Reduction
EnACT	Enabling Access to Justice, Civil Society Participation and Transparency
EU	European Commission
GIZ	German Agency for International Cooperation (Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit)
GYM	Global Youth Mobilization
TIZ	Transparency International Zambia
YDO	Youth Development Organization
ZCEA	Zambian Civic Education Association
Ubunthu	Ubunthu Enablers Limited

Acknowledgements

Ubunthu is particularly grateful for the support received from the community members and institutions; state and non-state partners in Southern Province and the country at large. Ubunthu is also indebted to Government Departments we have collaborated with in our work such as the Zambia Police, Social Welfare & Community Development, Ministry of Education and the Anti-Corruption Commission to mention but a few. Others are Municipal Council, The District Commissioner's Office and CSOs such as EU, GIZ, C SPR, TIZ, YDO, among others.

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Chairman's Statement



*"It is better to light a small light
than to curse the darkness."
Confucius*

2023 only marked Ubunthu's second year of operation. The whole team is proud about the achievements and recognition the organization is already receiving.

Last year Ubunthu was chosen by GIZ / EU under the EnACT program and started an anti-corruption project at schools in Choma district. Before Ubunthu was actually chosen GIZ staff performed a thorough audit in Ubunthu offices. Particular emphasis was given to governance, policies, processes and transparency. Having paid particular attention to setting up best practices at the inception of Ubunthu has proven important to work with large international aid organizations. The whole team is delighted about GIZ's decision to entrust Ubunthu with this important project, which may also give us the opportunity to work with other large international aid organization in future.

Less than twelve months after launch of the Kazungula Goat Breeding project a major milestone was reached in August: Representatives of 18 women cooperatives received the first goats to start their own breeding activities. Approximately 350 ladies were full of joy as this project brings them hope for a better future for them and their families.

Rocky and Beddah Katongo made amazing upgrades to their shoe manufacturing business. With the support of Ubunthu a new workshop was built and an industrial sewing machine was purchased. Ubunthu is very much engaged in capacity building in the areas of financial, marketing and sales skills.

Supporting Super Valley Organic Foods has become another main area of focus for Ubunthu. The company makes a variety of products from baobab and tamarind and sells them throughout Zambia. Through their activities SVOF supports about 600 families in Lake Kariba area. As the families now generate income from the forest, they no longer cut down trees to make and sell charcoal.

Ubunthu's projects and work focuses on sustainable impact. Both the Kazungula Goat Breeding project and Super Valley Organic Fruits provide new income opportunities to about 1,000 local families and have a great impact on protecting the environment.

Last but not least Ubunthu welcomed Alice and Brenda as new team members. In addition, we have also welcomed two senior industry experts from Germany who have visited Zambia in August and now support some of Ubunthu's projects.

While Ubunthu still remains a small organization the dedication, passion and hard work of its employees already make a notable difference.

Manfred Klepacz
Chairman

Introduction

Ubunthu Enablers Limited

Mbabala, Southern Province, Zambia

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Ubunthu Enablers Limited (Ubunthu) is a not-for-profit organization registered on December 21, 2021 under PACRA, in line with the Companies Act of 2017 with certificate number: No. 120210025460.

In addition, Ubunthu Enablers Limited has been registered as a Non-Governmental Organization with the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services in line with the Zambian NGO Act of 2009 under Registrar of NGOs Certificate Number: RNGO 101/1931/2022.

The founders are a unique group of German and Zambian entrepreneurs, governance and human rights experts who, among other things, wanted to respond to high levels of unemployment and the observed human rights violations, high poverty levels and other social injustices happening in the communities of Zambia where women and the youths were seen to be the main victims.

Ubunthu uses interventions that seek to reduce poverty and improve the respect of human rights, democratic governance, and accountability through a well-researched, evidence-based and people-centered economic development approach that guarantees productivity, sustainability and dignity. This is done by strengthening the capacity of local communities to withstand social, economic and climatic emergencies through economic empowerment and sustainable livelihoods responses.

Currently, the organization has two Project Divisions namely Community Projects and Business Projects.

Ubunthu's Core Values

- Integrity
- Transparency
- Inclusiveness
- Accountability
- Timeliness
- Reliability
- Resourcefulness
- Gender equality
- Professionalism and commitment to cause of duty

Vision Statement

Ubunthu Enablers Limited

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Ubunthu Supports Progress in Zambia

To support progress in order to achieve a Zambia where every community has the resources and support to thrive and build sustainable livelihoods.

Organizational Aspiration

Ubunthu aspires to be a leading, transparent and sustainable organization championing progress through sustainable development in Zambia.

Mission Statement

To empower start-ups and SME's to succeed, creating local job opportunities and designing and implementing projects that help communities withstand social, economic, and climatic emergencies through economic empowerment and sustainable livelihood responses.

In many countries, small and medium sized enterprises are considered drivers for innovation and creation of employment. These will make a country's economy more innovative and resilient against economic slowdown.

The creation of new jobs will generate stable incomes for more families and allow them to send their children to school and get better healthcare, as well as further positive spill-over effects. The country's workforce will benefit from new opportunities and improved skills.

Ubunthu pursues the following key objectives:

- Poverty reduction through a well-researched, evidence-based and people-centered economic development approach that guarantees productivity, sustainability and dignity.

The company will support entrepreneurs of start-up businesses as well as small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to enable entities to grow and increase employment opportunities.

- Strengthen the capacity of local communities to withstand social, economic and climatic emergencies through economic empowerment and sustainable livelihoods responses.

To achieve these key objectives, the company will support partners through vocational training. Depending on individual needs, management know how will be shared to develop robust business strategies and marketing plans, to advise on organizational development or provide leadership training.

Ubunthu supports its business partners and communities at no cost to them.

Ownership always remains with the company's partners who are ultimately responsible and free in their decisions regarding their projects.

Management Team

Ubunthu Enablers Limited

Mbabala, Southern Province, Zambia

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Manfred Klepacz
Chief Executive Officer



Manfred is a chemical engineer by training. As CEO he has had an international career managing small, medium and large companies in emerging as well as developed economies. He has worked in various industries like chemicals, manufacturing, food, machine building and services. Manfred has in depth experience in general management, HR / organizational development, corporate and business strategy, marketing, sales, finance and supply chain.

Christine Klepacz
Chief Financial Officer



Christine has graduated as a civil engineer and worked in the industry for many years. She also had responsibility for the finances of a small organization. Christine has actively supported various community projects and supports different organizations as a volunteer.

Joe Mapiki
Manager Community Projects



Joe is a lawyer, journalist and development specialist with years of experience working with both CSOs and government institutions on various projects in the community development sector. He is a self-motivated, and confident young person with a wide understanding and experience of working with youth and communities on social development issues. Specific areas of expertise include designing and implementation of programs, capacity building, networking and partnerships, managing people and performance. Joe has worked in the fields of Policy Engagement, Governance, Democracy, Social Accountability, Rural Development and Civic Participation, and has very strong project coordination and monitoring skills.

Chippoh Mweemba
Manager Business Projects



Chippoh is a qualified Agribusiness Management expert. He is passionate about SME led economic growth and development and has specialist skills in business strategy, marketing, business mentorship and coaching, project design and management, monitoring and evaluation, managing and conducting due diligence, process mapping and facilitation.

He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agribusiness Management. He has a vast experience having worked with different international and local NGOs.

Ubunthu Team

In August Brenda Michelo and Alice Kalenga joined Ubunthu.



Left to right: Brenda Michelo, Chippoh Mweemba, Manfred Klepacz, Alice Kalenga, Christine Klepacz, Joe Mapiki

Brenda Michelo is a Communications Graduate with a Diploma in Journalism and highly motivated Public Relations Officer with 10 years' experience in broadcast journalism. She is passionate with humanitarian work, project research and organizing radio production, a self-starter individual who believes in continuous professional self-improvement.

She possesses vast community outreach experience gained from interacting, organizing and facilitating broadcast production meetings, outreach engagements as well as monitoring

community projects. Brenda will be instrumental in amplifying Ubunthu's impact across the community and beyond. Armed with a creative flair and a deep understanding of media engagement, Brenda will be instrumental in amplifying Ubunthu's impact across the community and beyond. She is a quick learner and is already making significant contributions to Ubunthu work.

Alice Kalenga has joined the Ubunthu team to support activities linked to the EnACT project sponsored by GIZ / EU. She is a keen young community development worker with a passion for creating sustainable solutions. Alice brings a wealth of experience in initiating and managing community-based projects. Her love for community work and dedication will undoubtedly enhance Ubunthu's capacity to implement effective programs that uplift the livelihoods of those in need.

In addition, Bernhard Balle and Sigi Gillich have joined the Ubunthu team last year. In August they visited Zambia to learn about country, people and their culture. Both have met their project partners and have started supporting different projects.

Their experience in organizational development, people training, management and starting up own businesses complement the team's skill set very well.

Partnership and Networking

Celebrating Partnerships for Change

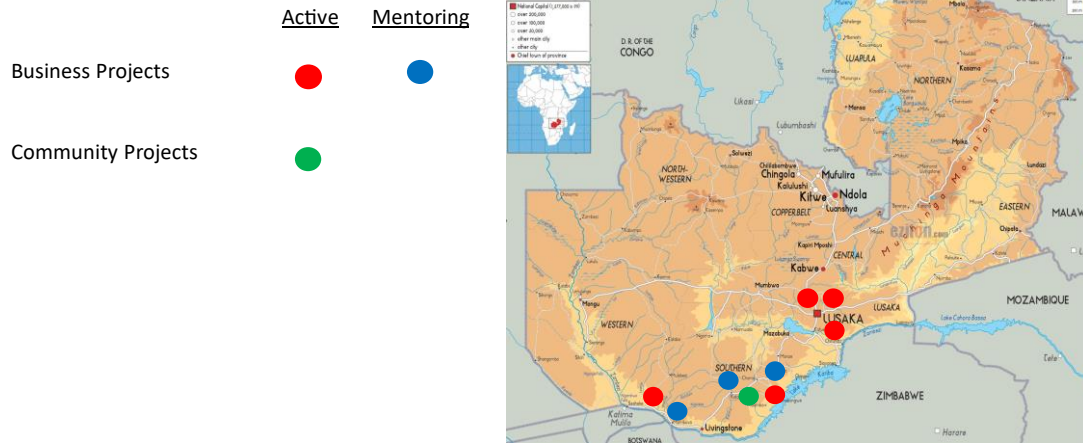
In a dynamic gathering of minds, Ubunthu met with local partners to introduce the "Activating Citizen Voices for Education" project, implemented with support from GIZ / EU.

The meetings were held with the Regional Anti-Corruption Commission Office, The Choma Municipal Council and the District Education Office.

Representatives from Ubunthu, the Anti-Corruption Commission, Choma Municipal Council, and District Education Board engaged in fruitful discussions aimed at fostering collaboration, sharing insights, and charting a path forward for the "Activating Citizen Voices for Education" project.

The discussions also centered around the synergies between the project's goals and the ongoing efforts of each institution. There was unanimous agreement that a collaborative approach, combining the strengths of all stakeholders, would yield the most effective results. The project's focus on capacity-building and community engagement resonated with all parties, emphasizing the potential for sustainable change.

Performed and Ongoing Activities



Mentoring: After the initial support Ubuntu provides mentoring to the partner and reengages if requested.

Business Projects

Activity: **Goat Breeding**
Location: **Kazungula**
Partner: Youth Development Organization and 18 women cooperatives
Ubunthu: As of year end the Kazungula goat project had exceeded its expectations. After a long and comprehensive training period for participating women and breeding activity continuing in the breeding centre the project reached a major milestone in August. Less than 12 months after launch the participating 18 women co-operatives were handed over the first batch of kicking goats. Project goal is the financial empowerment of women to help their communities divert from practices of deforestation by cutting down trees for charcoal production. The Goat Breeding Project in Kazungula is not just about handing over goats; it's about handing over hope, opportunity, and a brighter future to the women who are the heart and soul of this community. This project reminds everyone that when communities, organizations, and individuals come together, they can achieve remarkable things and create a future filled with possibilities. This significant milestone marked a year of dedicated effort, collaboration, and shared vision between the Youth Development Organisation (YDO) and Ubunthu Enablers. The goat handover ceremony was a momentous occasion that left the women filled with hope and anticipation for a brighter future.

Status: Active, several years project

Activity: **Shoe Making**
Location: **Lusaka**
Partner: Beddah Leather
Ubunthu: Beddah Leather is a shoe manufacturing startup company based in Lusaka. The company produces different types of shoes from dress shoes, school shoes, casual shoes to boots. During 2023, Beddah leather received financial support from Ubunthu Enablers for them to upgrade and construct a workshop and procure an electrical high quality industrial leather sewing machine that will allow them to expand and create new jobs. Ubunthu Enablers continues to support Beddah Leather on good business management practices with a focus on financial training as well as marketing and sales, esp. in new markets outside Lusaka and opening of new sales channels.

Status: Active

Activity: **Wild Forest Fruit Products**
Location: **Sinazongwe (Southern Province)**
Partner: Super Valley Organic Foods
Ubunthu: Supper Valley is a start-up business located about 130 km from the provincial capital Choma in Southern Province. Their vision is based on poverty reduction through sustainable business activities, protection of natural forests by allowing local communities benefit from the collection of wild fruit and offering people a healthier choice for food and beverages. Super Valley is already in production processing indigenous wild fruits from Baobab, Tamarind and Masuku into different products including fruit juices, sauces and flakes. Super Valley aim is to use all parts of the fruits, from fibre to seeds. In addition Super Valley is also filling and distributing high quality drinking water to local communities in this remote area.

Super Valley uses state of the art blockchain technology to trace product back to its harvesting area. This allows the company to select fruits with specific properties and customers to exactly understand where the products are coming from.

Ubunthu Enablers supports Super Valley varies areas, ranging from financial management, business and cash flow planning to corporate governance.

Status: Active

Activity: **Plastic Recycling**

Location: **Kafue**

Partner: Plastpave

Ubunthu: For most of the year Ubunthu activities have been on a reduced level as our project partner is significantly upgrading manufacturing facilities. The new equipment will allow Plastpave to expand product offering and significantly improve quality.

While discussions were mostly focused on commercial issues it is planned to step up support on technical matters once the equipment is fully operational.

Status: Active

Activity: **Piggery**

Location: **Batoka**

Partner: Paul Mesheke

Ubunthu: Paul Mesheke presented to Ubunthu a strong vision of setting up a piggery and build a feed mill to reduce cost of input. Ubunthu team developed the business plan and made an investment calculation. While the piggery presents a strong business case the mill did not. After some reluctance Paul followed Ubunthu proposals.

Today the place has several houses for up to 30 lively pigs. Paul is working with neighbouring piggeries and has started an initiative to increase product quality and reduce costs by pooling demands.

Status: Mentoring

Activity: **Shin Guards for Soccer Players from Renewable Resources**

Location: **Simonga**

Partner: ZamBam

Ubunthu: The start-up team is a group of Zambian and German students.

Ubunthu team provided legal advice on setting up the company and establishing a sound governance structure.

Status: Mentoring

Activity: **Shopping Platform**

Location: **Lusaka**

Partner: Tender

Ubunthu: Tender has developed an online platform that allows restaurants and individuals to buy fresh meats and related products.

Due to unforeseeable circumstances Ubunthu support had to be paused for the time being. It is planned to reengage in the near future.

Status: Paused

Activity: **Dairy Products**
 Location: **Choma**
 Partner: **Vamina General Agencies**
 Ubunthu: **Vamina General Agencies has started production of yoghurt from milk produced locally. It offers various flavors and pack sizes. Our business partner has decided to stop activities and focus on other priorities. Ubunthu will reengage in due time.**
 Status: **On hold**



Representatives of the 18 women cooperatives receive their goats from Tatila Mbozi, Kazungula Council Chair, and Manfred



Rocky Katongo with the new sewing machine in the upgraded workshop

Super Valley Organic Food
 From left: Brenda, Emmanuel, Manfred, Christine



Chippoh visiting Paul Mesheke and his son at their piggery

Community Projects

Project: **Anti-Corruption Project under EnACT Initiative**

Location: **Southern Province**

Partner: GIZ / EU

Ubunthu: In a significant step towards fostering transparency and accountability, Ubunthu in September 2023 officially launched the “Activating Citizen Voices for Education Project” in Choma. The project, which is supported by the Federal Republic of Germany and co-financed by the European Union under the “Enabling Access to Justice, Civil Society Participation, and Transparency (EnACT) Program, seeks to enhance the participation of citizens in governance and the fight against corruption for effective public finance management in the education sector. The launch event, held at a Mana Nest Lodge in Choma, saw a diverse array of stakeholders in attendance, underscoring the importance of this initiative. Representing the Ministry of Education, the Choma District Education Office joined forces with Choma Municipal Council, The Anti-Corruption Commission, various Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), members of the media, and civic leaders. Further, Ubunthu conducted trainings for community members in 8 Wards of Choma District namely Batoka, Mbabala, Chilalantambo, Mang’unza, Sikalongo, Simamvwa, Singani and Siamaambo. The training meetings which drew participants from the Parent Teacher Committees, Ward Development Committees and ordinary citizens were also attended by representatives from the Choma Municipal Council and Choma District Education Office. The Activating Citizen Voices for Education Project aims to address critical challenges in Zambia’s education sector by promoting active citizen engagement and oversight. It seeks to equip communities with skills and knowledge on how to monitor public resources and participate in monitoring the utilization of public resources specifically CDF funds allocated to the education sector using the anti-corruption lens. Ubunthu’s collective goal under this project is to empower citizens to become strong advocates for transparency, accountability, and good governance in education. Throughout the implementation of Project Activities, there has been a sense of optimism and determination, as participants and stakeholders recognized the potential of the project to transform accountability and transparency in the educational landscape in Choma and beyond.

Status: Active



Project launch in Choma



Community training in Siachidinta



Awareness campaign in Mabala

Other Activities

Constitutional Advocacy Workshop

In July 2023 Uburnthu had the privilege of participating in the Constitutional Advocacy Workshop, a collaborative effort organized by GIZ. The workshop served as a dynamic platform for various stakeholders to converge, share insights, and collectively advance the cause of transparency and accountability. Participants included representatives from the Ministry of Justice, the Office of the Public Protector, civil society organizations, media and human rights and development experts. The primary goal was to undertake a research study on Zambia's constitutional provisions related to transparency and accountability and develop a user-friendly toolkit to empower civil society in demanding transparency and accountability from the state. This toolkit serves as a practical guide, distilling complex constitutional concepts into accessible and actionable information. It equips individuals and organizations with the knowledge and tools needed to engage with government entities, advocate for transparency and hold public officials accountable. The outcomes of the Constitutional Advocacy Workshop are invaluable. They provide a roadmap for civil society in Zambia, offering guidance on how to navigate the legal framework, engage with government institutions and champion the cause of transparency. Empowering civil society is a significant step towards building a future where transparency and accountability are not just ideas but lived realities. Uburnthu is committed to utilizing this toolkit and sharing it with community members and partners. Uburnthu believes that a transparent and accountable government is essential for sustainable development and citizen's well-being.

Uburnthu Participates In Public Integrity Assessment Session

In the month of September, Uburnthu Zambia actively participated in the Transparency International Zambia (TIZ) information sharing meeting, where the primary objective was to disseminate the results of the 2023 public integrity assessment.

The pivotal gathering which was hosted at Leon's Hotel in Choma, served as a platform for stakeholders to exchange valuable insights into anti-corruption strategies and establish standardized guidelines for combating bribery within the public sector.

Uburnthu Zambia, a committed advocate for transparency and ethical governance, was represented at this event by our Business Projects Manager, Mr. Chippoh Mweemba.

Our participation in this meeting underscores our dedication to fostering integrity and accountability in our nation's public institutions.

Uburnthu Advocates for Transparency and Accountability in Cyber Security Legislation

In June 2023 Uburnthu was invited to the Stakeholders Review of the Cyber Security and Cyber Crimes Act No. 2 of 2021 and the review of the Proposed 2023 Amendment Bill. Among other submissions, Uburnthu submitted that the provision that the minister responsible for transport and communications could appoint any other person as a law enforcement officer should be removed.

More details on the various projects and activities and regular updates can be found at Uburnthu website or in Uburnthu Newsletters issued twice a year.

Media

Ubunthu has a good working relation with media. This opportunity has enabled Ubunthu maximally use media in publicity and highlighting some of its work areas. The organization has featured several radio programs organized by both government and NGOs. It has also made so many appearances on radios, few on national and countless on private.



Joe at Bayta FM, Choma

Regularly in every month, Ubunthu had been invited to feature on Byta FM Radio program to speak about their work and also on other topics ranging from Governance, Education, Democracy, Public Finance Management and Human Rights.

Under the EnACT supported Activating Citizen Voices for Education project, activities included use of media to raise awareness of activities.



Brenda moderating the goat handover event

Organizational Governance

Ubunthu activities are controlled by a Management Board (Board) consisting of executive as well as independent directors.

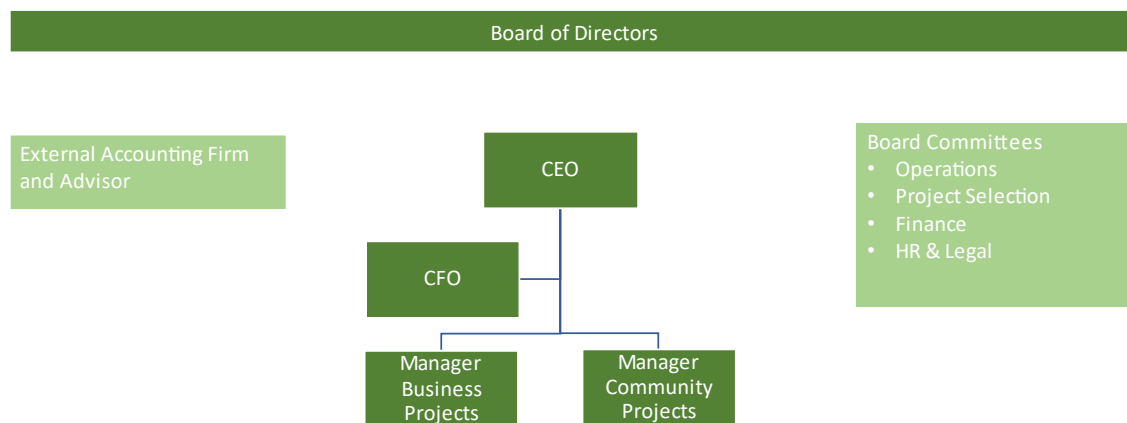
Several Board Committees have been installed to address important areas of management.

The Board is regularly reviewing important activities, including updates on projects, performance of loan repayments and alignment of actual spent against budget. It has approved Ubunthu policies and policy updates, including on financial management Human Resources and communication.

The Board has appointed REV Business Solutions as independent accountants to prepare Ubunthu's financial statements for 2023.



Governance



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