



# COMMUNITY SCORECARD IN SMIHLE PROJECT IN MALAWI

ARUSHA, TANZANIA 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2013.

#### **SMIHLE**

- The Supporting and Mitigating the Impact of HIV/AIDs for Livelihood Enhancement (SMIHLE) was implemented from July 2004 to November 2010, with funding from Aus AID through Care Australia.
- It was part of the APAC (Australian Partnership with African Communities) program.

### SMIHLE PROJECT PURPOSE

To develop and promote operational models and practices that strengthen the delivery of services that mainstream HIV/AIDs and gender.

### MODELS BEING PROMOTED

- Community Institutions
- Seed Banking
- Village Savings and Loans
- Marketing

### PROGRAM FOCUS

The SMIHLE (APAC) Program focused on three main areas:

- Improving knowledge and understanding of the relationship between HIV/AIDs and food security among the rural communities.
- Strengthening CBOs to manage food security activities that mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDs.
- Strengthening linkages between CSOs, CBOs, Government and the private sector to facilitate responsive service delivery.

# COMMUNITY SCORECARD AND SMIHLE

The community scorecard was implemented from 2006.

- SMIHLE implemented the approach in order to share the responsibility of monitoring project interventions with communities and increase participation of project beneficiaries, and accountability, transparency and inclusion by duty bearers.
- The project facilitated trainings for project staff, Area Executive Committee members and District Executive Committee members.

# SOME OF THE AREAS OF CSC ASSESSMENT

- Performance of CARE project staff, community volunteers, local leaders, government extension officers, etc.
- Quantities of agricultural inputs issued by the project.
- The timing of the trainings the project provided to the communities.

#### POSITIVE OUTCOMES OF THE CSC

- Communal orchard and fish farming established with funding from DC
- Rural road rehabilitation through Cash for Work program
- Support to people living with HIV/AIDs through local NGOs and support groups
- Timely response to some development requests from DC

#### DZOOLE CSC COMMITTEE

- Project facilitated CSC trainings of 10 community members from each T/A.
- CSC committee was given the responsibility of implementing the tool as the project was phasing out.

# ISSUES ASSESSED BY DZOOLE CSC COMMITTEE

- Performance of the school committee.
- Implementation of the Farm Input Subsidy program by the local leaders
- Usage of the constituency development fund by the elected member of parliament of the area.
- Performance of community volunteers
- Performance of the CSC committee

## OUTCOMES OF DZOOLE CSC SESSIONS

- School management committee dissolved and women included in the new committee
- Local leaders recognizing local structures like VUCs, VDCs in beneficiary selection
- Bridge constructed with constituency development fund
- Community Volunteer performance improved.

### CHALLENGES IN CSC IMPLEMENTATION BY DZOOLE COMMITTEE

- Interface meetings may cause tension between CSC committee and duty bearers due to poor understanding of the purpose of the scorecard.
- The process requires a lot of time to be completed.
- Well-trained members of the CSC committee may leave the area before they deliver.
- Difficulty in assessing culturally influenced areas such as selection of a chief.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMUNITY ON THE CSC PROCESS

- The CSC training must start with local leaders followed by the committee.
- The tool must be introduced at the beginning of the project.