

NON- GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: THE CASE OF ACTION FAIM COMMUNITY GARDEN IN GUTU, WARD 10, ZIMBABWE

Cephas Chimire & Leonard Chitongo

Department of Rural and Urban Development, Great Zimbabwe University,
P.O. BOX 1235 Masvingo Zimbabwe
Corresponding author: vachitongo@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Gutu rural area is hard hit by food insecurity that is partly caused by erratic rainfall received in the area. Thus adopting livelihood diversification strategies as either adaptive or coping mechanisms. The area has attracted humanitarian intervention in the form of Action Faim community garden in order to cushion the problem. The paper identifies the livelihoods brought by Action Faim. Data were obtained through the use of questionnaires, interviews, focus group discussions and observation. A sample of 30 respondents were randomly selected. Key informants were drawn from Gutu Rural District Council, Agritex Gutu and Action Faim. The researcher concluded that the community garden in Gutu Ward 10 has managed to reduce vulnerability and improved livelihood outcomes of beneficiaries. Despite the challenges of wild animal invasion, pest and diseases, poor markets, theft and financing. Therefore the researcher recommends increased capitalisation in research and extension services.

Keywords: Non-Governmental Organisations, Sustainability, Development.