



2019 | **ANNUAL**
REPORT

PEACE CORPS ZAMBIA ANNUAL REPORT

October 2018 through - September 2019



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Message from the **Country Director**



Brad Favor

It is with great pleasure that Peace Corps Zambia releases its 2019 Annual Report. 2019 marked an important milestone for Peace Corps Zambia as this was the 25th anniversary of the arrival of the first Peace Corps Volunteers in the country.

Throughout the year, 247 Volunteers made significant contributions to their communities in the areas of environment, agriculture, health, and education. This annual report highlights some of the activities that Volunteers, in close collaboration with counterparts and communities, have been involved in.

Peace Corps' contributions would not be possible without the active participation and support to Volunteers and staff from the Government of Zambia, donors, local counterparts, host families and communities. The entire Peace Corps community is grateful for these partnerships and looks forward to many more years of working together to address key development needs throughout Zambia. I also want to thank the Peace Corps Volunteers and staff, past and present, for your tireless dedication to achieving this challenging mission.



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About Peace Corps

The Peace Corps is an independent Agency in the executive branch of the U.S. Government. It was established in 1961 by President John F. Kennedy and formally authorized by Congress through the Peace Corps Act. Peace Corps Volunteers serve in over 60 countries, working hand-in-hand with host country governments, local organizations, and communities to achieve critical development goals in 2019.

Zambia hosted the largest number of Volunteers of all Peace Corps countries worldwide, with 247 Volunteers serving in Central, Copperbelt, Eastern, Luapula, Lusaka, Muchinga, Northern, Northwestern, and Southern Provinces. Peace Corps works in collaboration with key ministries in Zambia, and Volunteers continue to achieve impressive results in cross-sector initiatives including food security, gender equality, nutrition, HIV/AIDS and malaria prevention.

The Peace Corps Mission

The Peace Corps mission is to promote world peace and friendship by fulfilling three goals:

1

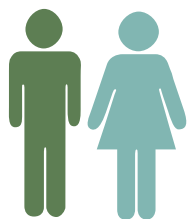
To help the people of interested countries in meeting their need for trained men and women

2

To help promote a better understanding of Americans on the part of the peoples served

3

To help promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of Americans



Number of Volunteers
serving in Zambia in 2019

Volunteers are our resources

Peace Corps Volunteers are Americans aged between the ages of 19 - 90 who represent the rich diversity of the U.S. Each Volunteer devotes 27 months of service to learn local languages, live in local communities, and share in the cultural heritage of Zambia. Volunteers assist in fostering long-term capacity building in their communities and serve as a catalyst for collaborative development among our network of partners.

71
Agriculture

9
Youth
Development

46
Health

58
Education

63
Environment

{ Peace Corps in a glimpse 2019 }



55,341

Trees Planted



1,624

Farmers trained on improved
agricultural practices



365

New Nurseries Created



412

Farmers trained on
business skills



103,985

Populations reached with HIV-prevention intervention(s)



7,647

Number of individuals that completed gender norms interventions



2,418

Population reached on essential maternal and newborn care services



1,681

Students that attended extracurricular English clubs and tutoring sessions



689

People living with HIV receiving care that promotes positive living and treatment adherence

Peace Corps Zambia Project Achievements

Environment

Forests cover more than two-thirds of Zambia's land area, measuring over forty million hectares. Small-scale farming systems and shifting cultivation are the major causes of forest cover loss in Zambia. Smallholder farmers cultivate two hectares of land, or less, and are faced with livelihood and food security challenges that must be addressed in order to limit further expansion at the expense of forests.

Working together with Zambia's Forest Department, the Linking Income Food and Environment (LIFE) Project Volunteers focus on building the capacity of rural community members to increase food security without damaging forest resources. Environment related activities help protect wildlife, and diversify livelihoods while sustaining and improving food security for rural communities.

Key Results



1,634

Community members trained to plant and care for trees until maturity



690

Farmers trained on improved small animal husbandry management practices and technologies



1,106

Farmers trained on improved sustainable soil and water conservation and management practices and technologies



1,500

Key household decision makers trained on the importance of consuming a diverse diet that includes nutrient-rich foods



Education



Since English is the official language of Zambia, English language and literacy are key in building the next generation of Zambian leaders. Currently, many students in rural areas never achieve fluency in English, making this a priority for the Ministry of Education and Peace Corps.

The Rural Education Development (RED) Project places Peace Corps Volunteers in upper primary schools as English teachers. Their goal is to support teachers and students to transition from local language learning to English learning.

Key Results

**5,408**

Students taught English
in a school setting

**1,098**

Students who demonstrate
mastery of content in an
English course

**346**

Teachers participating in
communities of practice

**195**

Teachers guided in the
use of techniques to
promote gender equity in
the classroom

**856**

Members that participate in school/community
activities focused on student learning, support and
school improvement



Agriculture

The Rural Aquaculture Promotion (RAP) Project promotes improved and integrated aquaculture and agriculture skills to rural communities. Together with the Ministry of Fisheries, and other relevant partners, Volunteers strive to maximize local resources while ensuring sustainable behavior change.

Volunteers assist smallholder farming households to adopt business skills that improve the management of, and increase income from, a variety of income-generating opportunities. Additionally, Volunteers educate communities about how these opportunities can improve their family's health and nutrition standards by diversifying diets and growing more nutrient rich foods.

19,919m²

Ponds under improved aquaculture management practices and technologies

1,624

Farmers trained on improved aquaculture-agricultural management practices

410

Farmers who participated in farmer-led demonstrations of improved aquaculture-agricultural management practices

320

Farmers trained on improved practices to conserve, store and transform agricultural products



Health

HIV/AIDS, youth sexual and reproductive health, maternal and child health and nutrition are national health priorities for Zambia and the Peace Corps. In Zambia, illness and high mortality rates are interconnected with social-economic status. This is especially relevant in rural communities where access to health services and comprehensive health education is limited.

Volunteers in the Community Health Empowerment Project (CHEP) support community-based volunteers and community-based organisations by building capacity so as to promote behaviors that improve maternal and child health as well as mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS.



Key Results



427

Number of long lasting insecticide treated nets delivered



5,403

Population reached with standardized HIV prevention interventions



3,080

Population educated on how to keep children under 5 healthy



206

Community health workers that demonstrated ability to use two non-formal education strategies to promote behaviour change

Cross Sector Initiative

The Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS free, Mentored, And Safe (DREAMS) program is an ambitious initiative aimed at reducing new HIV infections among adolescent girls and young women across 10 countries in sub-Saharan Africa. The DREAMS program was developed to deliver a multi-layered response that enables adolescent girls and young women to have access to a comprehensive package of information, resources, and services that reduce their vulnerability to HIV infections.

Peace Corps Volunteers also work with communities to address gender equality and empower women and girls by raising awareness of women's rights and contributions to their communities. Volunteers implement Camps to help girls develop self-esteem and leadership skills. Recognizing that men and boys must be equal partners in achieving gender equality, Volunteers also teach leadership and life skills to boys through camps.

 **93,083**

Total reached by DREAMS
Volunteers

 **1,178**

Teachers trained in
Comprehensive Sexuality
Education integrated lessons





Cross Sector Programming Priorities

The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) funds Peace Corps Zambia Volunteers to ensure that HIV prevention is incorporated across all project sectors. All Volunteers are trained to serve as HIV/AIDS prevention resource people for their communities using a wide range of approaches including training youth, incorporating messaging into sports with Grassroots Soccer, and partnering with other organizations to broaden existing messaging.

Peace Corps Zambia also supports the President's Malaria Initiative to end malaria by promoting evidence-based malaria prevention strategies which include the use of long lasting insecticide treated bed nets and the importance of seeking early diagnosis and treatment. Volunteers debunk myths about malaria and encourage pregnant women to take intermittent preventative treatment as well as conduct several activities that involve; bed net care and repair demonstrations, creating murals

to provide creative and consistent reminders of effective malaria prevention strategies, participating in large scale bed net distribution campaigns, and innovative awareness raising campaigns.

 **10,092**

Total reached with HIV prevention
education by all non-Dreams
Volunteers

Small Grants Program

Peace Corps Zambia Volunteers implemented a total of 123 grants in 2019. Key activities using small grant funds include:

- Reusable pad making and menstrual hygiene workshops
- Construction and furnishing of mothers shelters
- HIV/AIDS and malaria prevention camps and workshops
- Neighborhood health committee training workshops
- Chicken rearing business trainings
- Bee keeping workshops
- Combating climate change workshops
- Gender empowerment and education trainings
- Reforestation workshops
- Agriculture and aquaculture training workshops
- Repairing furrows and construction of dams in communities
- Borehole maintenance and rehabilitation training workshops
- Construction of classroom blocks and libraries
- Construction of school computer labs
- Developing school playgrounds and garden sheds

Volunteer Grant Feature

CHEP Volunteer Lindsay worked with her community to identify access to improved water sources as a priority area to focus on. With her grant, the community collaborated with experts from the local Water Council to train community members to take care of existing boreholes and pumps. By ensuring regular pump maintenance, the community is benefitting from more consistent clean water and resulting health benefits.



Key Results

32,350

Community members trained and supported with HIV prevention

30,000

Community members that received agricultural productivity and food

15,000

Girls and women trained on how to make reusable menstrual pads

Success Story

Improving Bee keeping and business practices in Kalenga Village

Farmers have been keeping bees in Kalenga Village of North-Western province for many years using traditional bark hives. Bark hives promote deforestation and produce lower quality honey, but were the only bee keeping option until recently. Farmers in Kalenga Village expressed interest in learning about new practices, including the Kenyan top bar hive method. Peace Corps Volunteer Melinda found a local honey company, Nature's Nectar, which agreed to train her community to produce sustainable and fair trade honey using improved practices. Together they also included a day of malaria training in addition to bee keeping skills for local farmers. The community ensured equal participation of men and women from different families to allow for maximum community participation, and Nature's Nectar agreed to provide

continuing training to the community and to purchase the honey that it produced.

After the training, the farmers baited 180 modern Kenyan Top Bar hives, out of which 70 have been occupied, the first harvest is expected in November with an estimated yield of 60 buckets averaging a yield of 25kgs per bucket generating income of a total of ZMW15,000 from comb honey after just one harvest at ZMW10.00 per kg.

Grant funds provided the necessary materials to assemble the hives. This monetary contribution, in collaboration with the technical assistance and community entrepreneurship, are improving bee keeping and business practices in Kalenga Village.









Peace Corps
ZAMBIA

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