

Voices OF HOPE

Zimbabwe

At the height of the pandemic, Zimbabwe was in the middle of a perfect storm: decreased rainfall, poor harvests, COVID-19 restrictions and high food prices added up to acute food insecurity in 35% of the population.

Working with DanChurchAid Zimbabwe (DCA), PWRDF supported an emergency food relief project, from January 25, 2021 until the end of March 2021.

PWRDF leveraged \$161,554 from its equity in the Canadian Foodgrains Bank to receive a match from the Government of Canada. These funds provided emergency food assistance to 3,600 food insecure households, (or 18,000 individuals), targeting the worst affected people. The most vulnerable households received priority for food assistance including those headed by children, the elderly and women, and families with special needs.

A one-time distribution of fast-maturing sorghum and cowpea seed helped re-establish crop production in 1,450 households, and ensured access to food staples once the assistance had ended. The program also trained 140 lead farmers, who then shared their knowledge and skills with other farmers in their neighbourhoods.




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