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STORIES OF Change

Hear the lives transformed through your support



All images: Maritha finishes off a basket in Binga, a remote region in north-western Zimbabwe.

Tendai Marima / All We Can

Every
Person's
Potential
Fulfilled

Maritha

ZUBO TRUST, ZIMBABWE

Maritha is a basket weaver and member of the Buniswa Women's Co-operative in Binga, Zimbabwe. Binga is a hot, dry region in north-western Zimbabwe. Most livelihoods depend on agriculture and fishing, but the region has one of the highest levels of poverty and hunger in the country. All We Can's local partner, Zubo Trust, support the palm leaf basket making project which aims to give women an alternative income that can provide them with more financial stability. Maritha shares her experience of being a member of the co-operative:

'I started working with the women's group and this project has helped me earn more money. Through this work I was able to pay school fees for my children and buy some goats. I keep some of the goats and from time to time I sell them so the family can get a little extra money. I helped my husband in building the house, whilst he was doing the building I bought some bags of cement to build the extension, right now we are building a kitchen and we're helping each other to buy bricks and other things. This project has opened many doors for me and I hope that we will get a big market that will keep us busy for a long time because this will mean more money for us. I hope that Zubo will continue to work with us so we make a positive impact in our homes and to those around us.'



'As a woman, there will always be challenges, there are some who travel and sell their wares like fish or goats in different towns and they face problems out there. I'm a woman who stays at home, but I also face problems here. The one thing I can say is that this project has given financial independence, I can hold my own money and decide what to do with it, it just depends on the amount money I get. In our group we're also able to help each if one of us faces a challenge or there's a family emergency, it's our duty to help each other. Working with other women helps to ease the burden and to overcome hurdles because when you're in a difficult position and you don't know which way to weave yourself out, another person can help you to figure it out. Working on your own is fine for some people, but I've found the group to be really helpful and even I've been able to teach others to weave.'



Thanks to your support, All We Can's local partners, like the Zubo Trust, have been able to empower women to make the most of naturally available resources to become financially secure, realise their potential and work towards their vision of a gender-just society.

All We Can is the operating name of The Methodist Relief and Development Fund, a charity registered in England and Wales, number 291691

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