

RIPPLE AFRICA INTERIM REPORT 1 – NOVEMBER 2021

Organization Name	Ripple Africa, Inc.
Project Title	Changu Changu Moto Project
Amount of Grant	\$75,000 over three years
Contact Name	Kay Yoder
Contact Address	6979 74 th Street Circle East, Bradenton, FL 34203

Project Aims

Building of 6,000 fuel-efficient cookstoves in Malawi to supplement existing tree planting projects. The ultimate goal of RIPPLE Africa's Changu Changu Moto project is to provide sustainable, low-tech cookstoves to rural households located in Northern Malawi as a viable solution to combat deforestation and gender-related issues faced by those who are responsible for cooking. A \$75,000 grant from Together Women Rise enables RIPPLE Africa to provide 5,743 cookstoves to the people residing in the Nkhotakota and Mzimba Districts over the next three years, with the remaining 257 cookstoves funded by a corporate donor.

Funding for the Together Women Rise project area

The above-mentioned corporate donor who funded the additional 257 cookstoves for the Together Women Rise project, has now agreed to finance an additional 1,500 cookstoves in the original Together Women Rise project area in the suburbs of Mzuzu.

Furthermore, new donors have made it possible for us to expand our reach in the Together Women Rise project areas of Nkhotakota and Mzimba Districts through the funding of an additional 669 cookstoves.

Changes to organization or project situation

Due to the overall success of our cookstove project, a group of Australian investors who have interest in funding carbon offsetting projects, have plans to make a significant investment in the Changu Changu Moto project over the next 21 years. This funding will allow us to expand the project area considerably, equating to construction of 350,000+ cookstoves in the Nkhotakota, Mzimba, and Salima Districts, as well as in the national park area of the Mangochi District.

Number of beneficiaries

There have been no changes to the beneficiary numbers stated in our original grant proposal based on Together Women Rise funding.

Challenges

Upon introduction of the cookstove project in the Chamalaza Village of the Mzimba District, we discovered that another cookstove was already in use by some of the householders, resulting in some initial resistance. Although this stove was an improvement over the 3-stone fire, it had one large opening for the firewood and heated the entire stove regardless of how many pots were in use. Subsequently, it required much more firewood than our Changu Changu design and did not cook as quickly.

Mercy and her team performed demonstrations to show householders the differences of the two cookstoves by cooking the same meal side-by-side on each of the designs. The women were amazed at the speed and efficiency of the Changu Changu Moto and, after seeing how much less wood it required, everyone was sold on the CCM and eager to have one of their own.

Have you revised your original objectives since the project began?

No

What progress have you made toward achieving your objectives?

OBJECTIVE	ACHIEVEMENTS YEAR TWO	
	Mzimba District	Nkhotakota District
Introduce the project to the Chiefs and their communities receiving the cookstoves in the two areas at the start of each year.	Completed for all the households in Year Two, and we have now started the process for those scheduled for Year Three.	
Mobilize the households to make the bricks from locally available materials – this will happen approximately one month before the cookstoves are built	Ongoing	
The CVs will assist the householders in constructing the CCM Cookstoves and give initial training and education on how to use and maintain the cookstoves.	All 1,000 cookstoves planned for Year Two of the project have now been constructed in the new project area. We are on target to construct the planned number of Together Women Rise Changus for Year Three	All 1,000 cookstoves planned for Year Two of the project have now been constructed in the project area. We are on target to construct the planned number of Together Women Rise Changus for Year Three
The CVs will conduct two follow-up checks with each household to ensure consistent and proper usage and maintenance of stoves.	Ongoing	
Ongoing monitoring and evaluation - conducted by the Coordinators and Managers performing random checks.	Ongoing	

Do you anticipate any difficulties in completing your project in the timeframe outlined in your proposal?

No

Expenditure June 2020 – May 20201

Item	Budget	Actual
Salaries for managers, coordinators and Lead CVs	\$9,754.52	\$14,271.49
Allowances for travel and subsistence for managers, coordinators and Lead CVs	\$11,835.61	\$11,999.13
Other – equipment, meeting costs, forestry staff travel and subsistence, printing, phones, overheads	\$4,520.55	\$3,961.26
Total	\$26,110.68	\$30,231.88

Expenditure June 2021 – Oct 2021

Item	Budget	Actual
Salaries for managers, coordinators and Lead CVs	\$4,064.40	\$6,720.88
Allowances for travel and subsistence for managers, coordinators and Lead CVs	\$4,931.50	\$5,238.67
Other – equipment, meeting costs, forestry staff travel and subsistence, printing, phones, overheads	\$1,883.55	\$3,645.83
Total	\$10,879.45	\$15,605.38

**** Note that BUDGET figures represent projected costs for Together Women Rise-funded cookstoves. ACTUAL figures reflect total actual costs of Together Women Rise-funded cookstoves + additional stoves paid for by another donor.**

PHOTOS - Nkhotakota District Together Women Rise Sustaining Grant Project Area



Tina Chirwa (Project Manager – left) with Veronica Saka who has had her Changu for two months. Already she loves the fact that when she cooks for the seven members of her family, she can cook more quickly as she cooks two things at once



Chimwemwe Banda has had her Changu Changu Moto for three months and loves that it cooks faster. She now only has to collect two small bundles of wood each week



Vesta Temwa has had her cookstove for 5 months. She knows someone in her community who was scalded when a pot tipped over on a three stone fire so she loves that her Changu Changu Moto is more stable and therefore safer to use



Chikonde Nkhoma is 26 and is the mother of five children, the oldest of whom is 12. She has had her Changu for 3 months and loves that it uses less wood and cooks faster. She cooks for seven people each day so now has to spend much less time collecting wood



Kittering Nkhoma has 4 children and cooks for her extended family. She used to use an mbaula cookstove but prefers the Changu as it uses less wood and enables her to cook two things at once



Dollas Phiri likes to use her Changu Changu Moto as it cooks so much quicker and is safer. She is very grateful to Ripple Africa and Together Women Rise for helping her to build her Changu Changu Moto

PHOTOS - Mzimba District Together Women Rise Sustaining Grant Project Area



Mercy Khaula (right), Ripple Africa project manager in Mzimba District, works closely with the new District Forestry Officer, Agnes Ziwapo.



The now unused cookstove that was previously in use in Chamalaza village on the left and the new and more popular Changu Changu Moto.



Veronica Tembo with Mercy. She loves that she can now cook things much quicker for her 7 family members and uses less firewood. She has planted 500 trees to enable her to have wood in the future



Ruth Tembo is rebuilding her kitchen but has prioritized the construction of her Changu Changu Moto as being able to cook quickly is important!



Maasozi Chirwa getting ready to cook lunch on her Changu Changu Moto. She loves the fact that it produces less smoke than her three stone fire



Memory (left) was helping her mum Monica Ngona to cook lunch but was using a three stone fire so Mercy used this opportunity to teach her why cooking on a Changu will help her have wood for cooking in the future



Mercy talking to Gloria Nkhata. Gloria reported that her changu had cracked but she was able to repair it and keep it working well – she loves it!



Irene Theu cooks for 6 on her Changu Changu Moto – she is delighted that she only uses one bundle of wood per week now as wood is scarce in her area



Monica Nyirongo is very happy as her Changu Changu Moto uses less wood and she is able to cook very quickly. She has three children, one of whom is severely disabled, so this enables her to spend more time with them



We met a family who were cooking on a three stone fire as they were not in the project area, but Mercy quickly showed the householder how to construct a Changu and save wood. He is keen to build it quickly to save his wife time collecting wood!