

City of Bulawayo, World Vision Zimbabwe and Edge Church Australia partner to construct Pumula Vegetable Market

His Worship the Mayor of Bulawayo Councillor, Martin K Moyo has said that the City of Bulawayo appreciates partnerships with development organisations as these are key in developing the City.

He echoed these sentiments at the Commissioning ceremony of the Pumula Vegetable Market. The market commissioned on Monday, 4 September 2017 was constructed in a partnership between the City of Bulawayo, World Vision Zimbabwe and the Edge Church Australia.

“Today we are commissioning a one hundred and ten thousand dollar (US\$ 110 000) project that would not have been possible if we did not work together,” said Cllr Moyo.

He highlighted that the City of Bulawayo contributed with the land and building of the market while World Vision Zimbabwe through the Drip Irrigation Grant for the Robert Sinyoka Area Development programme assisted with building materials.

He added that the project will not only benefit the small scale farmers in Pumula, Robert Sinyoka, St Peter’s and Methodist but other community gardens in surrounding areas.

Speaking at the same function, World Vision Zimbabwe Integrated Programs Director, Mr Khumbulani Ndlovu said the Vegetable Market will be of benefit to vulnerable groups as well as women. He added that the market sought to reduce the distance travelled to the Central Business District to purchase vegetables for resale. It also presented opportunities of exercise for the community by walking to and from the market.

He noted that the market also emphasised World Vision Zimbabwe mandate of ensuring attendance to vulnerable children and bettering their lives.

“Sustainable development especially in the peri-urban context is not achievable without focusing on economic development. The programme has been working with working communities in the establishment and training of farmers in poultry and vegetable production,” said Mr Ndlovu.

He also reiterated that as an organisation they were aware that they needed to engage in partnerships in order to achieve sustainable projects.

Pastor Gonathan Fontanarosa of Edge Church Australia expressed his pleasure at the progress that has been made in the area since his last visit in 2015.

“I had the privilege of visiting this particular area and seeing what this area was before, it is a great encouragement to see the progress that has been made here to date,” he said.

The Councillor for Ward 19, Clyton Zana urged the different shops located in Pumula and surrounding areas to utilise the market to procure vegetables at wholesale price for resale. He also encouraged the residents to utilise and protect the market from vandalism.

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