

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



ebenezer
Kazungula

NOTE FROM THE TEAM



2022 has been a tremendous, though not easy, year for Ebenezer Kazungula. It is interesting that despite all the challenges we faced, we are ending the year with a greater sense of achievement than when we started.

On November 25th, we held our first ever Advanced Course Graduation ceremony in which we graduated twelve second year apprentices who through the earn and learn program were rewarded for their hard work with graduation rewards. Similarly, eighteen first year apprentices graduated from the Foundation Course into the Intermediate Course. This was the doing of the Lord and it was marvellous in our eyes.

Many thanks goes to our team of dedicated Transformers (trainers), for

committing their time and energy to train and coach apprentices with an engaging, real and applicable style of learning. I equally salute every member of the production team for pushing the limits and maintaining high spirits even in the face of daunting challenges. They have helped apprentices navigate through these challenges whilst drawing valuable lessons out of each experience.

It has been an honour to be part of the Ebenezer Family in 2022 and to see the perseverance and passion with which so many guide, coach, train, counsel and pray for our apprentices! Thank you to all of you who have journeyed with us this year, both near and far. As we we enter this new year, we wish you all a super-exciting and productive 2023.

Moses Phiri, Team Lead

APPRENTICES

2022 brought a new apprentice environment to Ebenezer Kazungula as it was our first year to accommodate two year groups! In March we welcomed 19 new first years onsite. As well as bringing with them a wave of fresh enthusiasm, their arrival encouraged our second years into a new level of maturity and leadership as they became big “brothers” and “sisters”.

With our numbers doubled, there has been a lovely atmosphere among our apprentices as they work, play and learn together. Family Nights have been important times of getting to know each another and having fun together, as well as praying for one another and sharing our faith journeys in a real way.

In November, we had mixed emotions as we graduated our first ever advanced apprentices - those pioneers who were our first apprentices back in 2020. We are so proud of their achievements; at the same time it was hard for our first years to bid them farewell!

By the end of 2022 we were remaining with 15 apprentices on site who will be completing their first year in March 2023.

First Year Alimon says:

“2022 was an amazing year for me because it gave me an opportunity to meet new people, make amazing friends, learn, work and have fun with them. Ebenezer has taught me what it really means to live as community and I have grown in my ability to tolerate divergent views without creating enemies.”



TRAINING



There have been significant training developments throughout 2022 as we have worked to consolidate our training structure, especially in terms of consistently timetabled classroom lessons. The Ebenezer staff team has done an incredible job, throwing themselves wholeheartedly into the preparation, planning and delivery of material which is not only new to apprentices, but to the trainers too!

Bible lessons this year have evoked interesting discussions. At Ebenezer we aim to transform mindsets from knowledge about Jesus to relationship with Jesus, and we have seen this happening in our Bible lessons. Our second years especially appreciated a series focused on Faith Alive Beyond Ebenezer, where visiting speakers

came to share on very real challenges Ebenezer graduates face and how they might face them in light of what they have learnt at Ebenezer and with God's help. Topics included, "Honouring my family while following my faith" and "Building supportive community around me".

In Agriculture and Business, both 1st and 2nd years have been introduced to the Ebenezer "Five Pillars" curriculum which focus on the Five Pillars of Business (Production, Marketing, Records, Finance, People) and of Agriculture (Environment, Water, Food, Health, Records). Apprentices have enjoyed these modules, especially as they see their relevance to their plans beyond Ebenezer, and they have appreciated the input of visiting experts in various agricultural fields.

DISCIPLESHIP



The Ebenezer vision is to disciple young people to live fruitful and wholehearted lives for Christ - so of course, discipleship is at the heart of everything we do. Much discipleship happens in day-to-day interactions as we live together in community. At the same time, there are certain programmes we have found to be hugely beneficial in our discipleship

With the arrival of our new apprentices in March, we spent our Family Nights over the next couple of months doing the Youth Alpha course. The course is designed to encourage open discussion and exploration into faith as it goes

through the basics of the Christian faith. We had some fantastic sessions as we encouraged our apprentices to ask questions and encounter Jesus for themselves. One of the wonderful outcomes of the course was the decision of five apprentices to be baptised.

Other Family Night series have included a Bible study of the book of Philippians and a series called "Walking with Jesus Everyday" where visiting speakers shared from their own experience of walking with Jesus through the very real challenges life sends our way, such as grief, temptation, addiction and worry.

PRODUCTION



Broiler chickens have remained the main productive learning area for our apprentices throughout 2022. In total, our apprentices farmed 25 batches of birds. Between 2-3 apprentices farmed each batch of around 5,000 birds. We placed a total of 128,439 birds over the year and sent 113,176 to the abattoir - that is about 223,000 kg of meat!

While our apprentices have gained excellent hands on experience in farming broilers, we have faced a consistent challenge in reaching our production targets. Bird weights at time of slaughter have varied between 1.09 - 2.5 kg with an average of 1.97 kg. Mortality has also varied widely, from 4.1% - 25% with an average of 11.6%.

A positive production development this year has been the introduction of layers and apprentices have enjoyed the

opportunity to be involved in managing 7,200 birds which produced 1,683,438 eggs in 2022!

We have also been working to extend the opportunity available to our apprentices in cropping. For the majority of the year, this consisted of growing small experimental plots of tomato, maize and cabbage as well as a variety of vegetables in our Kitchen Garden. A particularly innovative group of 3 apprentices purchased their own green bean seed and fertiliser and did well to manage this crop alongside their broiler farming!

In December we extended our cropping area considerably with the planting of 1.7 ha of maize and 1.7 ha of sunflower. Four apprentices have been managing the crops diligently, by the end of the year the seed was beginning to germinate and we are anticipating good harvests in 2023!

GRADUATES



November 25th was a big day as we celebrated our first ever Advanced Graduation! We are so proud of our pioneer apprentices who joined us in November 2020. Throughout their time with us they showed resilience, innovation, creativity and character. We had a wonderful time celebrating their success, joined by family, and friends as well as supportive church and community leaders.

It has been rewarding to see the majority of our graduates secure employment within a matter of weeks of graduating! Of our 12 graduates, 7 have become trainee field officers working with out-grower farmers in broilers, layers or cropping. Another graduate is working towards becoming an out-grower chicken farmer herself. We are receiving positive reports on how our graduates are succeeding in their various roles and adjusting to life beyond Ebenezer.

Graduate, Chilongoshi Munsanje says:

“Life is going well and I am enjoying being a field officer. I have seen life easier as an Ebenezer graduate; the stage where I am now is far better than where I was before Ebenezer. When I compare my life to my friends who I completed secondary school with, I have grown more spiritually, mentally, physically, socially and even financially.

We learnt a lot at Ebenezer, lessons which seemed simple but which have helped me so far to live with different people, both old and young. The lessons I've learnt have helped me encourage others as well as myself. They have also been helping me as I explain the Word of God to others.

All that I can say is that Ebenezer has played a big role in my life. I have knowledge, experience and a job, and I look forward to spreading to others everything I have and what I have learnt. “



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