

# HANDS AT WORK IN AFRICA

## GOBOGOGO COMMUNITY

MOZAMBIQUE | CHIMOIO REGION

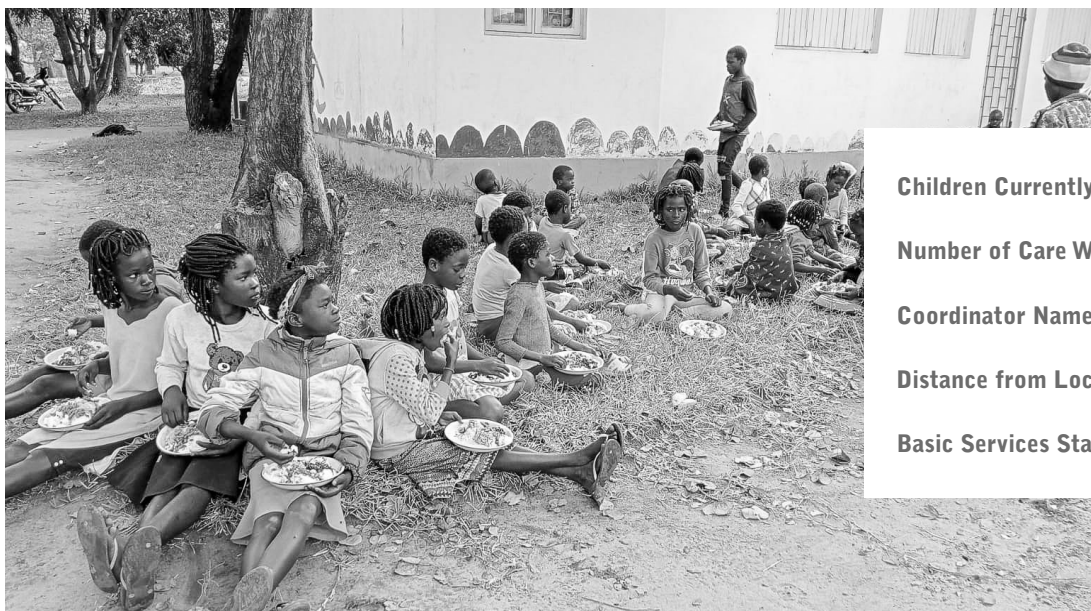
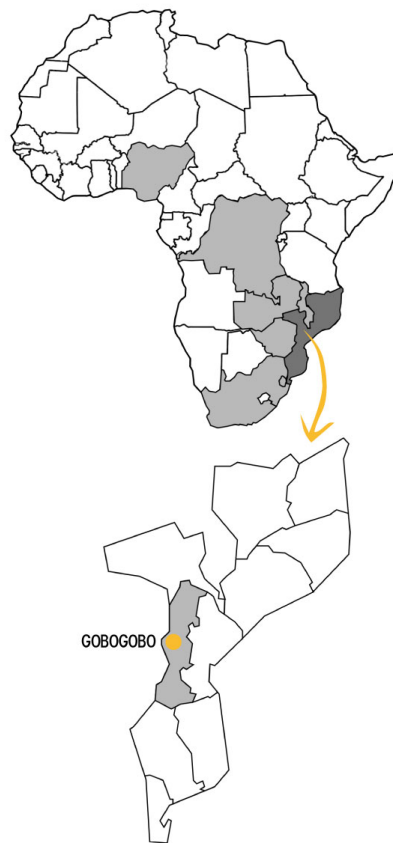
Within the rural community of Gobogobo, there are many challenges that make life extremely hard. There is a strong presence of witchcraft and a mix of belief in Jesus with ancestral worship. There are many early marriages and polygamy. Malnutrition and limited access to safe drinking water contribute to the overall decline in healthy living. Compounding all of these challenges is the lack of services like a clinic or higher education.

In October 2022, Farai Gunhe (African Volunteer, Zimbabwe) and the local Hands at Work team in Chimoio started walking in Gobogobo, discerning if it was the community God was calling them to. They connected with a church leader named Louis who then started introducing the team to other church leaders and community leaders. Initially, Farai and Audrey (the Chimoio team coordinator) felt discouraged: the homes were far apart and, from the outside, they weren't convinced that there were many children living in this community.

But on the third day of visiting the community, Farai felt God saying to him, "If you leave this community, who is going to care for the children? They didn't choose to have their community set up like this. Are you afraid of walking a long way?" At that moment Farai felt convicted and shared this with Audrey and the Chimoio team. As they continued walking and visiting families in their homes, it was clear that God was calling them to serve alongside the local church in Gobogobo. In one home, they met a young boy named Patrick\* who lives in a small shack with his grandmother, who is very sick, and his grandfather, who is blind. At another home, they met a girl named Precious\*, whose mother struggles with a mental disability and is often taken advantage of by men in the community – resulting in her having six children.

As they visited children and assessed the needs within the community, they continued meeting with the church and community leaders, sharing the fundamentals of who Hands at Work is and what God has called them to. As they continued connecting with churches, they met men and women who wanted to get involved as Care Workers.

In July 2023, with a newly-formed group of Care Workers, the Gobogobo Community Based Organisation (CBO) was formed and began officially serving 56 of the most vulnerable children at the Care Point.



Children Currently Supported **56**  
 Number of Care Workers **13**  
 Coordinator Name **Isaac**  
 Distance from Local Office **60km**  
 Basic Services Started In **2023**