# THE CHIKUNDA LANGAUAGE MALARIA CONTROL AUDIO BOOK

The Chikunda language Malaria Control Audio Book was conceptualized by ZAPIM in collaboration with Mbire District malaria stakeholders and the Ministry of Health and Child Care (MOHCC) team. ZAPIM developed the audio book as part of the support offered to the MOHCC National Malaria Control Program to provide malaria control and prevention information.

The informational audio book would encourage communities to adopt positive behavior changes such as higher uptake of treatment services including Intermittent Preventive Treatment in pregnancy (IPTp), higher usage of preventive interventions such as Long-Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLINs) and Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS) and other measures that lead to prevention and control of malaria.

The Chikunda speaking people are located at the border area of Kanyemba where Zimbabwe shares a border with Zambia and Mozambique. The language is transnational as people from the border areas of the mentioned countries use it. Moreover there is a minority group of Zimbabweans called the Doma people who use the language as their lingua franca. People who are mainly conversant in Chikunda language are not being reached by the malaria control messages that are crafted by health promotions in main languages like Shona and Ndebele. Minority and harder to reach groups such as the Doma people are mostly illiterate and cannot effectively access malaria information from flyers, posters and dialogues. Their livelihoods set up is such that they are not reached by most technology and cannot also access the radio broadcast messages easily, mainly on malaria. ZAPIM supported the NMCP through the MOHCC district and provincial teams to develop and record the final product of the malaria control audio book in Chikunda language.

The main objective was to enable Chikunda-speaking people to benefit in terms of messages and knowledge on the malaria epidemics that frequently occur in the area. Using local persons who included Village Health Workers (VHWs), artistes and writers and being guided by the district level health personnel,

ZAPIM facilitated the process for the development of the script for the audio book, implemented the recording plan and production of fifty (50) copies of the recorded the audio book.

A dissemination plan was developed and implemented in 5 villages in Chapoto ward of Mbire district.

Summary of key subjects covered by the audio book:

* What is malaria
* Symptoms of malaria
* How do we prevent malaria
* Where does one get help/malaria services ( testing and treatment)
* Consequences of not getting treated for malaria
* Encouraging building of improved temporary structures that can accommodate use of nets
* Importance of using LLINs
* Use of other protective measures such as repellents during the night / Outdoor activities
* Importance of IRS
* Use of nets during gatherings such as church and funeral wakes
* Pregnant mothers to take malaria tablets ( IPTP)
* Environmental hygiene
* Involvement of local leaders
* Closing windows by sunset
* Early hanging of LLINs
* Traditional methods of preventing malaria ( encourage some and discourage some know harmful ones )
* Highlight the best known conventional medical treatment of malaria (Coartem) in Chapoto