

## Income Generating Activities for Women and Girls

In the remote rural area of Katerere, in northeast Zimbabwe, 1,500 vulnerable women and girls are now building a brighter future for themselves, thanks to a partnership with Concern World Wide and ASAP Africa. The project will run from June 2007- May 2010 and during that time will provide skills that will improve the lives of women and girls aged 10- 49, who are negatively impacted by HIV/AIDS.



ASAP has been working to alleviate poverty and improve education in this arid subsistence farming region, which borders Mozambique, since 1997. In 2001 ASAP introduced the Kufusa Mari village savings and lending project to the area. With funding from the McKnight Foundation, ASAP helped 1,873 villagers to establish and manage internal savings and lending activities, enabling each one to improve her household security and personal income.

With the Concern World Wide project partnership, ASAP will work to further reduce the risky coping strategies commonly adopted by women and girls to survive. The goal is to mitigate the negative impact of HIV & AIDS through improved and increased safe and appropriate livelihood activities.

By providing business skills training, ASAP will work to enhance the entrepreneurial and income-generating ability of 1,500 women and girls. After conducting a needs assessment, advanced business skills training in selection, planning and management, as well as locally relevant vocational skills training will be offered. The program aims to empower beneficiaries to take ownership of their individual livelihood security, providing skills that will last a lifetime.

