

Clean Water Provision, Zambia



Background

As access to clean water is the number one priority in rural Africa, the High Five Club has made water provision in wildlife areas one of its core deliverables in Zambia. We are expanding our reach year by year to bring safe, clean water to thousands of people in villages across the Luangwa Valley. Villagers who normally would have no choice but to walk for hours each day to collect water from contaminated streams, dugouts and watercourses shared with wildlife.

In line with our self-help 'hand up' approach to development, we provide the funds to pay for the labour (all of our wells in Zambia are hand dug using specialist local well diggers), cement, metal chains, windresses (the winding mechanism), lids for the wells and buckets, and the villagers hand-



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make the bricks for lining the wells and collect the river sand needed to mix with the cement. In this way ownership of the wells by the community is assured.

Each recipient village also set up a Village Water Committee, with each household putting between 20p and 50p into the pot each month so that any repairs and maintenance can be carried out by the village moving forwards ensuring sustainability and no more defunct wells! The well's low-tech design and construction also ensures easy maintenance and a low construction cost. All water committees are monitored by our partner in the Luangwa Valley, the Mnkhanya Community Resources Board, who ensures that any maintenance work is carried out in a timely fashion, along with overseeing the construction of the wells.

From 2011 to 2018 High Five Club members have joined hands together to sink 25 wells, along with renovating 12 non-operating wells, bringing safe, clean drinking water to 18,500 villagers bordering the wildlife-rich South Luangwa National Park. Incidents of water-borne diseases in all of the villages has reduced significantly and the women report that they now have more time to do other chores aside from collecting water from far away streams and dugouts and have less conflict now with wildlife. School attendance levels have also increased with less diarrhoeal diseases amongst the children.





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High Five Club Support: During 2018 we funded 4 more wells in Mnkhanya Chiefdom (Chipazu

village in Chipako VAG 1, Liyonda village under Katemo VAG, Kakwiya village under Kumbukila VAG and Kabvyale village in Chipako VAG 2) at a cost of £505.54 per well. Each well serves 500 villagers. **That is just £1.01 per person for the provision of clean water for life!** Our total gift of £2022.15 has brought safe, clean water to 2,000 people in the Luangwa Valley.

We are very thankful to the on-going support of the Hope Trust who provided High Five Club with a grant towards our water projects again in 2018. It is amazing what an impact we can have when we come together to help those less fortunate than ourselves.



Liyonda village's new H5C well

High Five Club Water Programme in Luangwa Valley, Zambia	Total Number of Wells	Total Number of villagers Benefiting	Av. Cost/Villager (£)
New Wells Constructed	25	12,500	1.14
Existing Wells Renovated/Made Operational	12	6,000	0.50
TOTAL	37	18,500	0.93

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