

HIGH FIVE CLUB

changing lives in Africa, £5 at a time

Clean Water Provision, Zambia



1 in 8
PEOPLE
drink water
that could kill

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 for many years now. We are expanding our reach year by year to bring 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. This has led to increased conflict with wildlife during the dry season.

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-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.

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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.

High Five Club Support: Over the last year we have funded 4 more wells in Mnkhanya Chiefdom (Useful village in Masumba VAG, Mpomwa village in Chiutika VAG, Kaunye village in Chitempha VAG and Chiwawatala village in Chiwawatala VAG) at a cost of



just £396 per well (the exchange rate was very favourable). Each well serves ca. 500 villagers. **That is just 79p per person for the provision of clean water for life!** Our total gift of £1,583.97 has brought safe, clean water to 2,000 people in the Luangwa Valley.

From 2011 to 2020 High Five Club members have joined hands together to sink 29 wells, along with renovating 12 non-operating wells, bringing safe, clean drinking water to 20,500 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. School attendance levels have also increased with less diarrhoeal diseases amongst the children and conflict with wildlife in the dry season has reduced.



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High Five Club Water Programme in Luangwa Valley, Zambia	Total Number of Wells	Total Number of villagers Benefiting	Av. Cost/Villager (£)
New Wells Constructed	29	14,500	1.09
Existing Wells Renovated/Made Operational	12	6,000	0.50
TOTAL	41	20,500	0.92

For more information contact Cheryl@highfiveclub.co.uk