

Chingwe Village, Chief Nsefu, Mfuwe, Zambia
S13°7'59.15" E31°50'33.51" Sponsors – Schulprojekt Sambia 2020.

The Challenge – to bring clean, safe water to the villages and schools of the Luangwa Valley in a way that enables them to avoid human/wildlife conflict and ensures that the communities benefit from and engage with wildlife conservation as well as improving health, school attendance, productivity, all round well-being and quality of life.

Around 8000 people live in the villages of Nsefu Chiefdom and the population is growing. Nsefu is situated over the Lupande River from Kakumbi Chiefdom and whilst some people in Nsefu benefit from tourism in the form of employment and enterprise opportunities it is otherwise a marginal area where subsistence agriculture, upon which most Nsefu residents rely, is made extremely difficult by the lack of water and by the presence of wildlife. Nsefu Villages are particularly prone to elephant damage in their crops and houses. Water collection can be dangerous and often leads to human/wildlife conflict – a major obstacle to engaging communities in conservation.

Headman Chingwe - Isaac Banda has 25 households under his care and nearby Chimwala Village has a further 12 households meaning the new borehole will serve almost 300 people.



Collecting water in the Lupande river bed.

The villagers have made a small lined depression in the bottom of the scrape. It takes the women hours to collect enough for everyday use. Once the rains arrive water collection becomes much more hazardous as the river is prone to flood and crocodile attack is not an uncommon event.

When water collection from the river becomes impossible, the villagers either have to walk more than 3km each way to a far away well or rely on a private householder to use his tap. This householder has been very generous in helping the neighbours but with regular power cuts his water often runs out leaving everyone, including him and his family, without access to water.



The river bed 'well' is about half a kilometre from the Village.



UNICEF millennium development goal. 'In order for children and families to benefit from clean water and sanitation, water points and sanitation facilities must be accessible. Distance is critical because the shorter the distance to clean water, the more consistently it will be utilised. Furthermore, as fetching water is a task most commonly assigned to girls and women, shortening the distance between households and water supply is essential to reduce the time girls spend in fetching water, which in turn will provide them with more time to attend school.'



Makolekole drilling at Chingwe Chimwala



Our unique 'garden pond' design. Residents use the overspill water from the borehole run off for vegetable gardens, domestic stock – chickens, ducks, goats – rather than the water just going to waste.



Productive vegetable gardens give food security as well as improving nutrition and enterprise



“One of the most important aspects of wildlife conservation is to get the co-operation of the local community. It has been shown that this is not possible unless they can receive material benefit from their wildlife.”

Norman Carr 1958 Luangwa Valley.

Thank you.