

Malanda, Chief Nsefu, Mfuwe, Zambia **Sponsors – Schulprojekte Sambia – 2023**

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, especially for women and girls.

Around 15'000 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 homes. Water collection can be dangerous and often leads to human/wildlife conflict (HWC) – a major obstacle to engaging communities in conservation.

Malanda Village - S13.17805 E31.93449 – 40 households - approx. 320 residents.



Headman Malanda applied for a borehole for his village, explaining that for a long time, the residents have been collecting water from dirty shallow hand-dug wells that have been causing a lot of illness, especially in the young, elderly and vulnerable.



Please note - these are not the actual wells that Malanda residents are collecting from as I did not get a photo at Malanda, but these are typical of water points being resorted to. The residents were also walking to the Msandile River about 2 km away.



Riverbed water collection



Drilling underway at Malanda



Excitement as the first water flows during the pump test.



Headman and colleagues look on as the surrounds and garden pond are constructed.



The finished borehole with handpump, surround, pumping platform, run off and garden pond. It must not be used for a few days in order for the concrete to set – hence the thorny branches temporarily protecting the works.



Markus Wenger and Adrian Carr talking to Headman Malanda whilst happy residents collect water.



Malanda residents only have to carry water a few short yards home now – and it's clean, fresh, plentiful and safe!

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.'

Thank you!

