

HIGH FIVE CLUB

changing lives, £5 at a time

Clean Water Provision, Zambia

1 in 8
PEOPLE
drink water
that could kill



Background

Since we first started our water project in rural Zambia back in 2011 we have seen this initiative grow from strength to strength, and this success is based entirely on your kind support.

In 2011 we joined hands to sink our first two hand-dug wells, bringing safe, clean drinking water to 1,000 villagers bordering the wildlife-rich South Luangwa National Park.

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When these first wells were officially opened, there were celebratory moments of jubilation in the community. Singing and dancing ensued, even those with little or no rhythm, but it was worth risking the embarrassment they said to celebrate life-saving, clean water provision in their villages.

During **2012** we expanded our reach within this community still further, sinking another 5 wells in Matula, Kumbukila, Kabwalya, Chiwawatala and Katemo villages, supplying fresh clean water to 2,500 people.



Whilst in Zambia in **2013** we met with community elders and villagers which resulted in the commissioning of restorative work on 9 old wells that had either dried up due to silting or whose lining had breached causing the water to become contaminated - an unfortunate legacy of the 'hand out' development model. In line with our own self-help approach, villagers hand-made the bricks themselves along with collecting river sand to complete this remedial work and the High Five Club supplied the cement and labour costs. All 9 wells are now fully functioning, supplying safe, clean water to 4,500 villagers.

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 and have less conflict now with wildlife. School attendance levels have also increased with less diarrhoeal diseases amongst the children.

High Five Club Support

As access to clean water is the number one priority in rural Zambia, with your support the High Five Club plans to make water provision in wildlife areas of

Zambia one of its core deliverables. We aim to expand our reach year by year bringing safe, clean water to many more people. In line with our self-help 'hand up' policy, High Five Club will provide the labour costs, cement and other materials, and the villagers will be required to hand-make the

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bricks and collect the river sand. In this way ownership of the wells by the community can be assured.



In **2014** we have already commissioned the construction of 4 new wells in Mnkhanya Chiefdom, supplying fresh clean water to a further 2,000 villagers for a total cost of **£2,504**, just £1.25 per villager. Alongside this we have renovated 2 existing wells at a total cost of **£516** including the supply of windlasses (winding mechanism) complete with chains and strong metal buckets to replace the existing nylon rope and laborious 'hand pulling' technique. We have together brought back fresh, clean water back to 1,000

villagers at a cost of ca. £0.50 per person. Absolutely remarkable!

A Village Water Committee has been set up for each well constructed or renovated, as is High Five Club protocol, to empower the community to take ownership for the on-going upkeep and maintenance of these wells – each household agreeing to contribute a token monthly amount to keep their well uncontaminated and in a good state of repair moving forwards. All water committees are monitored by our partner in the Luangwa Valley, the Mnkhanya Community Resource Board, who ensures that any maintenance work is carried out in a timely fashion.

High Five Club Water Programme in Luangwa Valley, Zambia	Total Number of Wells	Total Number of villagers Benefiting	Cost/Villager (£)
New Wells Constructed	11	5,500	1.25
Old Wells Renovated/Restored	11	5,500	0.50
TOTAL	22	11,000	0.88

We will keep you updated as your contributions to the High Five Club enable more wells to be built as we extend to other chiefdoms in the wider Luangwa Valley..... so watch this space!

For more information contact Cheryl@highfiveclub.co.uk