

## African Revival Zambia



### Borehole for Nachoncho Community School

#### Nachoncho Community School

Nachoncho Community School lies 50km from the main tarmac road from Livingstone to Choma. It was founded in 1989 by the community because of the long distance to the nearest school. The school has no electricity, only one classroom block, one teacher's house and ten latrines for the 494 pupils and 4 teachers. All teachers are paid by the community (no government support). They teach 8 grades: from preschool to grade 7.

#### Why a borehole?

There is a communal facility about 500m away from the school that is used by a population of over 750 households for both drinking water and agriculture. That borehole is overworked and often broken. The community then resorts to using water from the nearby well. This well dries up in the dry season and is not safe from contamination by livestock. It poses a significant health risk to those who use it.

The pupils have to walk to the borehole more than twice a day to collect water. This disproportionately affects girls, as culturally in Chitonga society girls are expected to fetch water.



*Nachoncho school*



**Progress:** We waited until the end of the dry season for this project – that is September / October – to be sure that the water level is at its lowest. We hired an official water surveyor to conduct a hydrogeological survey, finding the best spot to drill and engaged a local driller with the best quote.

Unfortunately, the drill at the marked location was dry. We were devastated, especially because in the same week we were also unsuccessful at another school and still had to pay the driller a dry borehole fee.

Advised by the District Education Board Secretary we hired a traditional ‘water diviner’. We then ordered a second drill, this time at the spot he had selected. The second drill could not be completed until the following dry season in 2019. This ensures that boreholes are drilled to the correct depth – and don’t dry up during dry spells.

Getting a borehole at this school was very important this year because this year had the lowest rainfall all decade. Streams and wells dried up before the end of the “rainy season”.

Although it was a long wait, we were successful with the second drill, and the community was overjoyed. The community then constructed a “bush fence” made of logs around the borehole – to prevent animals from contaminating the water source.

#### Project Outputs and Impact:

494 pupils and teachers are the direct beneficiaries of the borehole. Provision of clean water at the school will improve attendance, leaving children – especially the girls - with more time for their academic studies.

The community will also use this borehole, which will strengthen ties between parents and the school – ensuring education, and future school maintenance, are priorities amongst the local community.

We are delighted to inform Future for Kids that we have found another donor to fund the construction of handwashing facilities, staff latrines and changing rooms – and construction has just begun. The handwashing facilities will be filled from the new borehole. Better sanitation improves attendance among both children and staff. Schools in Zambia were shut due to cholera outbreaks last year, making sanitation a key priority.

This project will directly improve child attainment and retention – increasing the number of children who pass their Primary Leaving Exams and are able to go on to secondary school.

Education has been shown to have a causal and direct impact on numerous social markers such as sanitation, health and mortality, nutrition, civic participation, and rural poverty.

Over time improved education in the Kalomo District will create notable returns both financially and with regard to health, these returns will contribute towards rural development - eventually lifting many children and families out of poverty.

#### Financial summary

We have spent a total of £4,935 to complete this project.

This is an overspend of £1,133 from the original budget due to the extra costs of the second drill and the additional material (casing) that had to be put in for security.

Any contribution to this overspend would be greatly appreciated.



SCHOOL ENROL-2018			
GRADE	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
ECE/ECE	19	35	54
1	35	36	71
2	32	32	64
3	34	36	70
4	31	37	68
5	34	30	64
6	32	30	62
7	20	21	41
	237	257	494

**Thank you** to all at Futures for Kids for supporting this project at Nachoncho Community School.

## Project in Pictures



*Above and Left: October / November 2018: water survey, drilling and dry borehole*



*March/April 2019: Traditional water diviner, second drill and building the apron*





*Twalumba Maningi (thank you very much) from Nachoncho!*





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