**Rotary Villages update**

Since 2007, Rotary Clubs have sponsored our integrated hygiene, sanitation and safe water programme for 97 villages and 15 schools in Zambia. Of the 112 communities supported we did not have full data for 76 communities as they were sponsored before our monitoring and evaluation system was developed in 2013/14.

In 2017, Rotarian and Village Water Trustee Richard Pither cycled from Land’s End to John O’Groats to raise funds for a sustainability study that saw us re-visit Rotary sponsored communities to secure the future of all Rotary funded water-points.

- **Total Rotary communities:** 112
- **Original population:** 20,608
- **Latest population data:** 16,495 (population decrease due to migration)
- **Communities visited as part of the project:** 81
- **Visits conducted since September 2017:** 96 (some visited more than once to check improvements)
- **Communities still to visit (no data):** 7 - to be visited in 2018, delay due to access issues during rains

*At each visit field staff completed the following activities:

- Collected GPS, population (men, women and children), number of households, livelihoods
- Checked the number and use of sanitation facilities including handwashing devices and pit latrines
- Checked water-point functionality, including number of strokes to produce water and to fill a 20-litre container
- Check if the community has a maintenance fund and the amount paid in
- Complete household health surveys with at least 3 households checking for cases of diarrhoea, eye and skin infection, and cases of girls’ missing school over the previous 7 days

Hygiene and sanitation messages were reinforced at every visit and, where needed, repeat visits made to ensure the villages had acted on the advice.
**Pump Functionality**

We now have up to date water-point data for 109 of the Rotary villages, the current functionality rate is 78% working. Although this is a lower than our overall functionality rate (currently 94%) this was expected due to the age of many of the water-points.

We investigate the reasons for all the breakdowns so that we can continuously improve the way we work. The table below breaks down the functionality rate by the method of installation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of well</th>
<th>Average well depth</th>
<th>Functionality rate %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hand-Dug</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jet In/Rapid jetted</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rota Jetted</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hand dug wells have the lowest functionality rate, because they are shallower they are much more likely to dry up due to climate change and fluctuating water levels or break down due to silation where sand/sediment enters the pipes.

We now manually drill all our wells, using Rapid or Rota Jetting, its far quick than hand digging (a well can be drilled in just 1-2 days) it is safer as there is no need to enter the well and the method is better suited for sandy terrains that are typical in Western Province. Manual drilling also allows us to fit a geo textile socks to the pipes which we now do as standard. The socks filter out sand and sediment keeping the pipes clear. The result is that manually drilled wells are much longer lasting.

**Health**

The table shows below what percentage of the population in Rotary villages had experienced waterborne diseases in the 7 days prior to the household survey being completed. Generally, we compare this to data collected from our first visit of the same village (baseline data). As baseline data is not available for all Rotary villages this has been compared to our average baseline data instead. The results show that despite many of these communities being supported many years ago they are still benefitting from improved health and girls school attendance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>% diarrhoea</th>
<th>% eye infection</th>
<th>% days off school</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseline (all villages)</td>
<td>13.09%</td>
<td>8.78%</td>
<td>16.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Rotary villages</td>
<td>2.37%</td>
<td>1.88%</td>
<td>2.15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% reduction</td>
<td>81.89%</td>
<td>78.59%</td>
<td>86.97%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“Our lives have since improved. Diseases have reduced and we living a healthy life which makes our children healthier so they do not miss school regularly. This has also contributed the improvement in our living standard because we work hard for our food security." - Limpo Nyambe, Tulukila Village
Our Next Steps

Our commitment to demonstrating the lasting benefits of safe water and sanitation and offering long-term support to communities in Africa is what set us apart from other charities. These results are not as good as we would like to see because a high proportion of the installations are now over 10 years old and were dug by hand. More recently our acclaimed manual drilling techniques have enabled much deeper and longer lasting water points.

We are committed to securing the future of all the Rotary funded water-points. The study has identified 22 communities that require water-point repair, 5 communities have advised they have plans in place to fix their own pump which we will monitor. The remaining 17 communities require further support. These communities will be prioritised for repair in 2018/19.

How You Can Help

Please consider a further Village Water project for your club during the coming year. £1,800 can help restore a pump or deepen a water point and provide further training in a community to ensure that good sanitation becomes a natural choice.

We at Village Water are passionate about enabling communities to become independent, an aim that we know is shared by Rotary Clubs.

Thank you for your support.

Please help us to respect our beneficiaries right to privacy. Please respect our beneficiaries right to privacy and do not publish full names in conjunction with village names. Thank you.

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