

## MONTHLY REPORT

November 19, 2009

- Completed installing 10 wells
- Completed 2 boreholes
- Helped in installing 4 treadle pumps and irrigation pipes for 2 women farmers and 2 men farmers
- Met with 30 farmers and other villagers of Kazuni Village , in discussions regarding food security and income generating possibilities for the people
- Assisted one group of women farmers in getting their produce to various markets to sell
- Met with the Chairman and others in Namapande Village on installing a borehole for the community school
- Hosted 1 volunteer for a month
- Met with the Director of Water Works for Zambia regarding sighting and drilling for water in the Kazungula District

In a few days the annual 'trek' or Industrial Break will begin in our part of the world. This is the time of the year when the 'sidewalks' are rolled up and the masses of workers, especially the 'commoners' climb on buses for a visit to their home country, town or village for the Holidays!

Over a million people will be going back to Angola , Botswana , Congo , Lesotho Malawi, Mozambique , Namibia , South Africa , Swaziland , Zimbabwe , and Zambia . Many will be going back bearing gifts and will not return until mid-January 2010. Indeed this annual break is needed. In our part of the world as your part of the world, so many carry great burdens due to the devastating effects of war and poverty.

The terrible water crisis in Livingstone is hard to bear at times. As we said in last month's report, "we are lucky if we have water for even 1 hour per day." So one awakes at 04:00 in the morning hoping that there will be enough water to catch in buckets where a "splash" bath can happen. Added on top of this is the "blackouts" of electricity that is happening. At least twice a week and sometimes even three times during a week we have no electricity in the town of Livingstone . Of course if one is in the bush there is only firelight at night. On Saturday there was no electricity for the day in Livingstone.

The fuel shortages come and go these days – at least there have been some fuels on the market. Many times, if there is fuel, then motorists are allowed perhaps 20 liters for their vehicles.

We are made more aware of the terrible conditions people must endure on a daily basis. One realizes the necessity of saving every drop of water!

STORY:

Just last week two of the “resettled” families of the Namapande Settlement had their newly constructed huts hit by lightning – burned the huts down. One man and his wife had to be hospitalized with burns. The other family escaped without personal injury. However, both families lost all that they had. These people have, for nearly three years, been “internally displaced people” due to severe flooding over a 2-year span. They lost EVERYTHING and were living in tents in a designated area provided by the government for 2 years. By last year’s end, the government allocated an area for them to resettle. However, this area was all virgin land, so it has been quite a challenge for them to clear, especially with lack of equipment. Now, to have a disaster once again is a severe traumatic experience to have to bear. Our hearts are heavy for these wonderful people and their hardships. See photo.