



# Zimbabwe

## Water Harvesting

### Location

Muzarabani, Zimbabwe

### Partner Church

Methodist Church in Zimbabwe

### The Situation

Muzarabani has a population of 111,000 and most are peasant farmers. The land is flat and isolated and has a very low rainfall. Rivers are seasonal because of siltation and sandy soil and underground water is affected by salination and is not suitable for human consumption.

The consumption of unsafe water has affected the health of the community through the spread of water-borne diseases such as cholera and dysentery. The health of the community has also been impacted as the women are forced to spend many hours a day fetching safe drinking water. This has resulted in insufficient food production as their time is occupied by water collection.

### The Project

The project addresses the need for a secure and accessible water supply through the installation of water tanks. The local people, especially women, are trained in tank construction and build the tanks themselves. Brick making moulds have been purchased to enable each community to make their own bricks as well as a range of other equipment, such as wheel barrows, shovels and hand tools. The tanks are managed and maintained by each household, and training in water management is provided. There is also leadership training and training in disaster management for times of flood.

### Achievements

Since the project began more than 600 tanks have been constructed, a training workshop has been held for local builders and community training in water management and water tank maintenance has been provided.

The project has also supplied equipment such as brick moulds and concrete to enable the construction of the water facilities.

### The Future

The project in Zimbabwe was suspended in 2008 because of the instability inside the country. With Morgan Tsvangirai's rise to the role of Prime Minister and the re-introduction of the US dollar, hopes have also risen that programs can recommence. UnitingWorld continues to monitor to situation closely.

UnitingWorld asks that you continue to pray for the people of Zimbabwe.

### Get Involved

We invite you to get involved with the project by supporting the work financially, praying for the success of the project and receiving regular updates.

### Contact UnitingWorld

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