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Zambezi River Authority

Zambezi River Authority is a statutory body which was constituted in 1987 through parallel Acts of Parliament in Zambia and Zimbabwe (the Contracting States).

The Authority is a non-profit making organization with a business approach to the management of its affairs for the benefit of the Contracting States.



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Nkandabbwe **Irrigation Scheme SINAZONGWE - ZAMBIA** Zambezi Valley Development Fund Projects



Zambezi Valley Development Fund Projects Corporate Social Responsibility Response

The Authority's corporate social responsibility to the communities displaced from the Kariba Dam basin is implemented through the Zambezi Valley Development Fund (ZVDF), which is funded by a percentage of the revenue generated from the sale of water for energy generation to two parastatal power utilities.

The Fund has serviced 19 projects at a total cost of approximately US\$ 600 000.00 since 1997. Several districts from both countries have benefited from the Fund and from the waters of the Zambezi River on which Lake Kariba was built.

Small-scale irrigation schemes:

- Lusitu in Siavonga
- Nkandabbwe in Sinazongwe
- Nkolongozya in Gwembe
- Nyamhunga in Magunje
- Gatche Gatche in Nyaminyami

- Mlibizi in Binga

- - Drilling of boreholes
 - Livestock production

• Grinding mills

- Refurbishing schools and equipping school labs
- Electrification of some rural centers

Other ZVDF projects include:

The communities identify the projects through their district councils before submitting them to Zambezi River Authority for recommendations to the Board of Trustees.

Nkandabbwe dam, Sinazeze

The canals before rehabilitation

Nkandabbwe Irrigation Scheme

contributing to the **national food security** and increasing **income** levels of the **marginalised communities**

The scheme was constructed in 1959 by the Zambian Government as support towards the Tonga farmers who were displaced during the construction of Lake Kariba.

At the time of its construction, the scheme size was between five and six hectares. Three quarters of the scheme was under agricultural demonstrations designed to teach farmers the irrigation techniques. The pilot stage initially started with 10 farmers and later expanded to 20.

The scheme utilized galvanized pipes to convey water from a coal mine dam. In 1965, a coal mining company, Lendor & Burton, accidentally damaged the galvanized pipes resulting in the scheme remaining dormant for two years. In 1973, the Gwembe South Development Project expanded the scheme to 10 hectares and constructed the now existing canals which accommodate 84 farmers within and six outside the scheme.

> enhancing **decent livelihood** of the **displaced people**

The Scheme before rehabilitation

There was a critical water shortage at Nkandabbwe Irrigation Scheme before the six dilapidated canals totaling 2, 445 meters were rehabilitated. This led to water rationing during the four month growing season between April and August. The water problem affected the growth and development of the maize, tomatoes, beans, cabbages, onion and okra.

Some farmers withdrew from the scheme because water conveyance to their fields was inadequate, particularly after August when water levels in the dam could not allow gravity flow.

Zambezi River Authority Intervention – The Goal!

The Authority's goal is to contribute to national food security and increase income levels of the marginalized communities. This is being achieved by:

- i) Rehabilitating the run down canals so that scheme operates at full capacity
- ii) Providing pumps to completely eliminate the water shortages
- iii) Increasing crop production and productivity, and
- iv) Training farmers in relevant modules.

Following the dilapidated status of the irrigation scheme, the Authority proposed and rehabilitated the run down canals and provided one pumping unit to mitigate the erratic water. The table shows a summary of the works done:

Item	Canal	Length(m)	Status
01		387	Reconstruction
02		204	Maintenance
03	3	224	Maintenance
04	4	215	Reconstruction
05	4	92	Maintenance
06	4B	68	Reconstruction
07	5	245	Maintenance
08	6	122	Reconstruction
09		100	Maintenance

The Impact

The intervention is expected to benefit over 100 farmers in the following ways:

- (a) Enhanced food security.
- (b) Increased income levels as a result of increased cropping seasons.
- (c) Employment through increased economic activity in the area.
- (d) The sector's contribution to Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
- (e) Meeting Millennium Development Goals (MDG's)