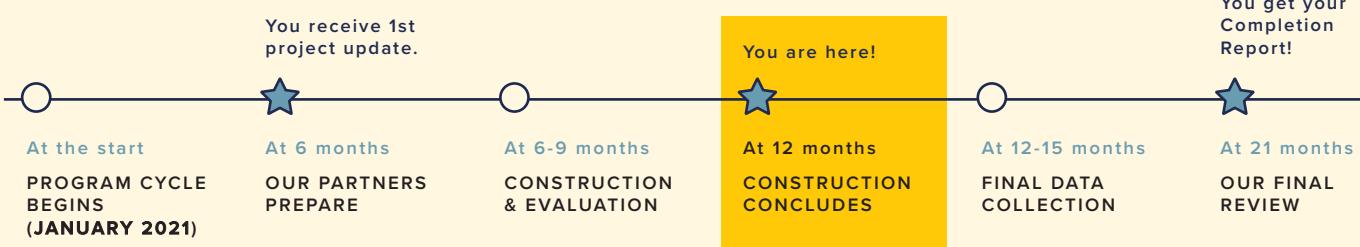




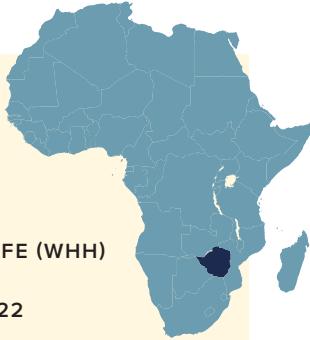
JOE AND ALYSSA,  
WE HAVE AN UPDATE ON  
YOUR WATER PROJECTS!



## ZIMBABWE

### MASHONALAND CENTRAL PROVINCE

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER: WELTHUNGERHILFE (WHH)  
STATUS: **IN PROGRESS**  
ESTIMATED COMPLETION REPORT: **FALL 2022**



In the second half of 2020, you generously funded **1 Piped System** in Zimbabwe. Your gift has since been put to work as part of a larger grant that will bring clean and safe water to **32,815** people living in the Shamva, Mt. Darwin, and Rushinga Districts in Mashonaland Central Province. Below is a report on our progress so far.

## FIELD CONDITIONS

After years of economic crisis, political turmoil, and droughts, access to basic water and sanitation remains a major issue for Zimbabwe. This is especially true for the rural population—approximately half lacks basic access to water and over 68% lacks basic access to sanitation. The low water coverage not only results in long walking times for women and girls but often causes long-term mechanical strain on the water points that do exist. In addition, gold mining activities can occasionally cause chemical and bacterial contamination. While this is not currently a problem in the districts where our implementing partner works, Welthungerhilfe (WHH) does routinely conduct water quality testing.



## PROGRESS TO DATE

Construction is complete for 117 water points! That includes 25 new wells with handpumps and 92 rehabilitated wells with handpumps. In addition, 177 Water User Committees (WUCs) were formed and trained on water point management, and 15 Village Point Mechanics (VPMs) were trained on water point repair and maintenance. Seventy-five people were trained on how to build a latrine so that they can assist others in the communities. Finally, construction will begin soon on the three piped systems included in this grant.



## WHH ZIMBABWE'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19: HOW THE PANDEMIC HAS IMPACTED OUR PARTNER

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact WHH Zimbabwe's work, with their in-person training programs being the most affected. To date, they are still limiting their WUC trainings to small and socially distant groups. WHH Zimbabwe has also experienced supply chain delays throughout the pandemic, but work within this grant remains on track.

Finally, WHH Zimbabwe plans to build 30 handwashing stations in schools this year. The stations will feature messaging about the importance of washing your hands in order to prevent COVID-19 and other diseases.



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

WHH Zimbabwe prioritizes community engagement and capacity building before implementation. Prior to construction, community members and school development committees learn about the project strategy, targeted goals, and estimated timeline. They are then involved throughout implementation so that they understand all aspects of the project. This investment of time and energy prepares communities to manage their water point, ensures sustainability, and creates a sense of ownership.

WUCs are also formed, trained, and provided with support from the local District Water Committee (DWSSC). On a quarterly basis, the DWSSC visits the Water Point Committee for monitoring. Using a set checklist, they review the financial records, make sure a maintenance fund is in place, check the functionality of the project, and confirm that the water point and surrounding area is being kept clean and well-maintained.

Finally, local businesses are encouraged to stock spare parts. This makes borehole maintenance easier overall, while also ensuring water points can be fixed quickly and efficiently.

