



Weinstadt, December 2025

Dear friends of Institute Water for Africa,

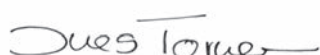
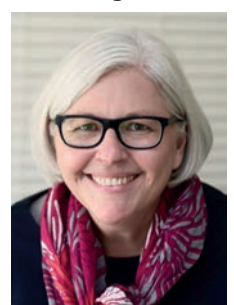
You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill can't be hidden. Also, people do not light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand. Then it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven. *Matthew 5:14-16*

God's blessing to you all. We are the light of the world, as Matthew 5:14–16 describes: we are to shine so that others may see that good deeds come from the Father in heaven. Let us consciously share this light – through love, gratitude and helpfulness.

Our prayers are especially directed towards the farmers in Chideza, Zambia. May the light of Jesus give them strength. It was moving to see how the pumps work and how the field is irrigated. We are grateful for the active participation of the team: the farmers are working hard, distributing new seeds and looking forward to the coming harvest with hope.

Thank you for your support here in Germany. Without your donations, this would not be possible. Your help makes a difference – the light multiplies with every contribution, and together we experience gratitude in action.

Warm regards
Ines Torner

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ines Torner'.

Chideza - Water from the drought

Our irrigation project in Chideza is now complete – time to give you a glimpse behind the scenes. What began in early 2024 with an enquiry from Lusaka turned into a powerful joint project with a real impact on the local people. To show you how it all developed, here is a short diary of the most important steps.



Project diary

February 2024 – The beginning

A free church in Lusaka asks us to collaborate. They already provide medical assistance, but lack expertise when it comes to water. We travel to Chideza and have a two-hour meeting with the village committee. At the end, it is clear that the solar pump does not provide enough water for daily use. There has been virtually no rain during the rainy season from November until now. There is barely enough water to live on, so how can the fields be irrigated? 45% of the village population is undernourished – 70% of children and 20% of adults. It is the worst drought in a long time and people are likely to die.





August 2024 – Kick-off in Chideza

Four months later, in August, things finally get underway. The money needed for the hydro-meteorological survey and drilling has been donated. In a meeting with the local population, we explain what the first step is: to determine the best position for drilling and then to drill.

The church commissioned a geologist to do the work. He determined three positions for drilling. Three days later, the drilling company arrived and drilled two boreholes on the first day. The next morning, they drilled the third borehole. The first water came after only about 10 metres of drilling. The amount of water was unusually large. When flushing, the water jet from the borehole was not pulsating as usual, but continuous. We estimate 4,000 l/h. The rocks that were ejected were unusually large.





We flushed the borehole for just under an hour. The amount of water produced is so great that it runs down the dried-up field. The emaciated cattle have quenched their thirst with it.

The next step is to carry out a pump test on each borehole. The project partner's equipment is not suitable for this purpose. We tried in vain for four days – first the polyethylene pipe buckled several times, the next day the plastic sleeve on the pump tore, another day later the pump gave up the ghost and, to top it all off, the battery of the light probe suddenly ran out during work. Each trip to the neighbouring town takes almost two hours each way. It takes several hours in the town to find the right part, which means leaving in the morning and returning to the village shortly before nightfall. After four days, we have our own high-quality equipment for the pumping tests.

After a five-day delay, we can finally start the pumping tests. The first borehole is dry, does not supply water continuously and is therefore unusable. The previous measurement was incorrect, so we did not pay for the drilling. The second borehole supplies 1,700 l/h. At the third borehole, we measure 7,200 l/h and the water level does not drop. So there is even more water available, but our pump is at its performance limit. Since the first borehole is dry, we now need everything that this borehole can deliver. We order a powerful pump from the city that can deliver up to 18,000 l/h.



November 2024 – Pump test with high-performance pump

The new pump arrives in Chipata at the beginning of November. We are eager to see how much water the borehole will deliver. We work 39.5 hours in two teams – day and night. Then it is clear: the borehole delivers 11,050 litres per hour. This is the highest value we have measured in 19 years.



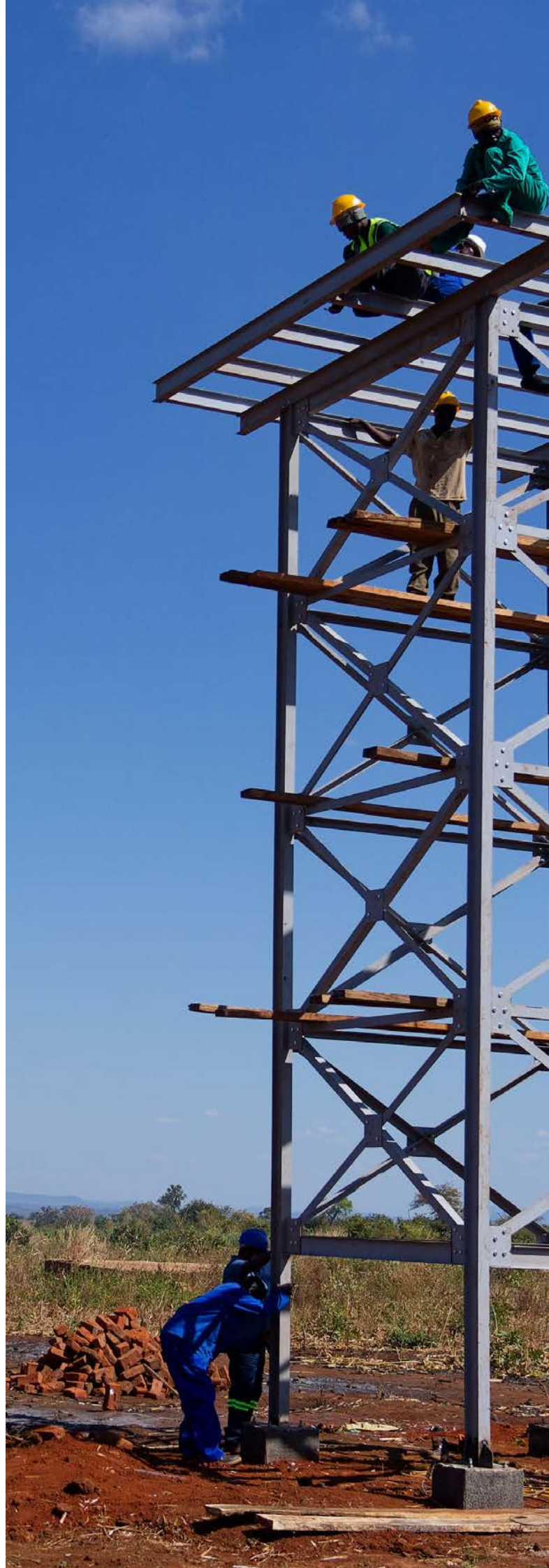
June 2025 – Final spurt

Enough donations have now been collected for the pumps, the solar system and the irrigation system, a drip irrigation system. So we can continue. In six weeks,

- 450 m of trench will be dug, 0.6 m deep and 0.5 m wide – the ground is very hard due to the dry season
- 680 m of piping will be laid
- 700 m of power cable laid
- 50 km of irrigation pipes will be laid
- 3 pumps will be installed, one of them in the existing borehole.
- Solar system with 9.9 kW output installed
- 20,000 litre tank erected on an 8.40 m high steel frame.

The population cannot imagine what irrigation is, so it is not easy to motivate them to work on it every day. Three days before the end of the work, some of them are slowly beginning to understand. When all the pipes have been laid and it's time to turn on the water, there is great joy and amazement. Some have tears in their eyes and shout „Hallelujah“.







End of November 2025 – the first harvest

There were some challenges with the powerful pump at the beginning. Since the end of September, it has also been running at full capacity. 16,000 litres of water per hour are available, enough to irrigate the entire field. The families immediately started planting corn, okra, tomatoes, red beans, pumpkins and potatoes.

Now, at the end of November, after only eight weeks, the first tomatoes are ripe and pumpkin leaves are being harvested. It is the first off-season harvest, something that has never happened here before. In December, corn and other crops will be harvested and then new ones will be planted. With drip irrigation, three harvests per year are possible, regardless of rainfall.





We thank God also for TODA which is pastored by bishop Harrison Sakala to having partnered with Institute Water for Africa to bring this project in our community.

I'm so grateful because when I look at my field just one row, one line, has so many crops of maize and it will make me more than 600 Kwacha (about 25 Euro). So when I sell my crops of the whole field it will bring me a lot of income. I'm so grateful to God having this project in my life. Thank you so much. *Nelly Mwale*

I'm so grateful for this project which is about irrigation here in Chideza. This will change our lives. Because in this area there used to be a lot of hunger. With the coming of this project it will change our lives. We used had malnutrition. So our lives are going to be changed.

With this project we are going to be able to take our children to school. Also to be able to buy what is needed. We are grateful to God to having Institute Water for Africa from Germany to come and bring this project here.







Donations Account

Evangelische Bank eG Kassel
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If more donations are received for a project than required, these will be used for another of our projects.

Best regards, Jürgen and team

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