

Spotlight on Zambia

Harvest
Appeal
2019



Ruth and Ivy live in Zambia, where, despite encouraging economic development over the last few decades, the gap between rich and poor is widening.

1 in 3 people don't have clean water and more than half of the population don't have access to a decent toilet. Dirty water and poor toilets kill almost 2,000 children under 5 a year.

As rains become more unpredictable, families struggle to grow enough food to eat, let alone sell. Without clean water, good harvests are an impossible dream, so is health, education and financial security.



Your church can bring communities harvests worth celebrating

By holding a harvest supper for WaterAid, your congregation will raise vital funds to bring clean water and abundant harvests to people who need it most.

With a reliable supply of water, families will be able to grow vegetables and crops year-round. In rainy and dry seasons there will be nourishing food to eat, and to sell. Villages will have harvests worth celebrating for the first time ever.

We are so excited about what can be achieved with your congregation's help. By coming together this harvest and sharing a meal, you'll be joining other churches across the UK and giving people like Ruth something truly wonderful to celebrate.



Ruth scoops up the little water she can find – water she knows will make her family sick. Mabula village, Zambia.

Come together, share a meal, and give a village like Mabula a harvest worth celebrating.



WaterAid

Mabula village – where unreliable rains cause harvests to fail

Kneeling down on the bed of the stream, Ruth digs a hole in the sand, and patiently waits for water to collect. She carefully scoops it into her container to bring home.

Ruth is 52 and has lived in the small, remote village of Mabula, Zambia, for most of her life. Like everyone in her community, she has no clean water supply. The little water Ruth collects is dirty, and gives her family diarrhoea. Yet it's all she has – for cooking, washing, giving to the animals, and cleaning.

Despite being a keen gardener, growing food to eat and sell is out of the question without a reliable water supply. Right now, a bountiful harvest is an impossible dream for Ruth.

“The water problem in our community is growing from bad to worse, because it is no longer raining as much as it used to. Our streams are running out of water very fast. This year our crops have failed due to lack of rain. Our harvest will not be good. More people in our community will face hunger.”



“I love gardening, but I can't grow anything due to lack of water.” Ruth

“We are worshiping our God with gladness that we have clean water.”

Two years ago, life changed completely for families in Milimo, another remote village in Zambia. A lack of clean water had been a life-threatening problem. But thanks to the kindness of churches like yours, WaterAid installed a new borehole, giving people access to clean water all year round for the first time in their lives.

Growing vegetables and crops is now possible throughout the year. A new community garden is flourishing, and harvests are plentiful. And the money earned is used to look after the waterpoint, so that it lasts long into the future.

Ivy, member of Milimo community, told us: **“Each one of the families in the community know when it is their turn to work in the community garden. We share tasks.**

The water committee keeps the monies we collect after selling produce for replacements if the borehole has broken down.”



The borehole supplies Ivy's community with clean water and irrigates crops. Milimo village, Zambia