

I. Safe Water Access Project: Empowering Mbalame Village with a Sustainable Borehole Solution, Malawi

- Local partner: Touch of Hope (#331)
Touch of Hope is a Lilongwe-based organization founded in 2018 with the mission of improving socially and economically the lives of vulnerable and marginalized individuals in Malawi, by providing scholarships, training and low-interest loans for youths, and other activities in order to creating a bright future for communities.
- Project budget: \$2,290.89 (JWF Fund \$1,500, implementing organization: \$608.39, Beneficiaries: \$182.50)
- Number of beneficiaries: 2,190 (342 men, 365 women, 1,483 children)
- Background:
The sole reliable source of clean water in Mbalame village is a single borehole at Mbalame Primary School, serving the entire community. Unfortunately, demand for water far exceeds the capacity of this borehole, forcing most villagers to rely on unsafe shallow hand-dug wells, which are prone to contamination from surface runoff. The use of contaminated wells leads to waterborne diseases in the rainy season. In the dry season these alternative water sources dry up, leaving villagers only with water from the unsanitary Malingunde dam, located 3 kilometers away, highlighting the urgent need for improved water infrastructure.



Using the same water sources as animals



Poor quality, dirty water from wells



Women and children traveling long distances to fetch water that is also unsanitary

- Details of the project:
 - Drilling and constructing a borehole, installation of a hand pump
 - Community training and capacity-building on operations, maintenance and management of the borehole
 - Health and hygiene education in the community