



Nkeyema Rural Health Centre Zambia



Project Overview

In 2019, the British Airways Carbon Fund started working with the charity Village Water to fund a programme of solar water pumps across rural Zambia. The first project was installed at the Nkeyema Rural Health Centre in the west of the country, where the existing, broken hand pump was replaced with a solar powered one. This highly efficient pump is capable of drawing 1,666 litres per hour, which ensures there is a constant supply of clean water both for the health centre and surround community.

Project Summary

Technology

Grundfos solar water pump connected to 4 solar panels.

Grant Value

£3,150 (for this site. Total grant for the programme £32,362)

Project Details

Nkeyema Rural Health Centre provides vital routine, maternity and immunisation services to around 35,000 people in Western Province, Zambia. Water borne diseases are highly prevalent in the region and account for a high proportion of visits to the health centre.

Clean water provision in health centres is vital for good hygiene and disease and infection prevention, particularly when dealing with maternity services.

Prior to this project, the health centre relied on a hand water pump at a nearby secondary school for its water as their own pump had broken. Not only did this put pressure on the school's water supply, it also meant staff's valuable time was spent pumping and collecting water.

A new solar pump system was installed in March 2019. The existing borehole was deepened to 50 meters to future proof the supply against drought periods and the broken hand pump replaced with a solar powered version connected to four PV panels. The pump draws water to an elevated tank which supplies three taps.



Project type:

British Airways Carbon Fund grant

Grant Value:

£3,150 (for this site. Total grant for the programme £32,362)

Social Impact:

Transformative impact on the health centre and wider community. Previously staff used to spend up to two hours a day fetching water from the secondary school, which was not always a reliable source. Extra time can now be spent dealing with patients. In addition, the school has less demand on its precious water supply.



"Before we had water it was difficult to deal with the newly delivered mothers. We used to get water from the secondary school. Now life at the clinic is much better."

Gertrude Muchimba, health professional

"I used to make about 5 trips a day to draw water. Each trip would take about 35 minutes multiply this by 5. Now it takes me just 10 minutes without any congestion and I can save good time."

Local resident who lives next to health centre

www.pureleapfrog.org
info@pureleapfrog.org
[@pureleapfrog.org](https://www.facebook.com/pureleapfrog)
[Facebook.com/pureleapfrog](https://www.facebook.com/pureleapfrog)

