

BACKGROUND

As a son of the soil, Dr Edmund Chirambo comes from Rumphi district, specifically Nkhamanga Area within Jumbi community. This community borders with Nyika National Park which is one of the major Wildlife reserves in Malawi. Like Jumbi community, many more communities that boarder with Nyika National Park and Vwaza Game Reserve within the Nkhamanga Area.

Having born and brought up within Jumbi community, Dr Edmund Chirambo has experienced and noted with concern how Wildlife and Environment have been destroyed over years. Some residence in this community depend on Wildlife and Environment (i.e. trees) to complement their living as a source of food, income and even traditional medicine. Ever since, Dr Chirambo developed a love of nature especially Wildlife and Environment. When he was at Rumphi Secondary School, he used to be a strong Wildlife Club member and at one time he a won a trip to Nyika National Park to appreciate its Wildlife and Environment.

SOURCE OF PROBLEM

It is from this background and concern that Dr Chirambo decided to start reaching out some communities like Jumbi to help mitigate poaching and environment degradation challenges. He started doing this in February, 2014, when he visited Chamakoza Village in Jumbi community in Malawi. During the visit, he came across an elderly family in the ages of 80s that was selling some charcoal. This family appeared to be starving but is a very lovely family. The family lives in a very small damaged grass thatched house and once in a while burns charcoal to earn little something. Random check in the communities within Nkhamanga, it was observed that many villagers rely on natural trees for firewood and other things including bush meat. It is not a secret that people who destroy Wildlife and Environment are no other than those from communities surrounding the reserves (i.e. Nyika and Vwaza). The situation is the same in all reserves across the country.

Noting the situation and acknowledging that this is one of the major factors that influence poaching and environment degradation, it then pleased Dr Chirambo to assist the aging family with some little money for them to buy their requirements. Two months later, he followed up with some additional assistance including some beddings and advised the family advantages of conserving environment. The donation prompted other villages in the community through their traditional leaders to request Dr Chirambo to help their needy people as well. Since then, Dr Edmund Chirambo (often with personal resources) has been assisting some needy people and now the number has reached 137 for only needy elderly people in Jumbi community. The message he carries is the same always, **“TOGETHER WE CAN PROTECT OUR WILDLIFE AND ENVIRONMENT”**. Through these links created, Dr Chirambo would like to strengthen the campaign by engaging many communities surrounding Wildlife and Environmental reserves on the same.

MITIGATION APPROACH

In order to achieve this, Dr Edmund Chirambo would like to deploy more resources through various Projects that would mitigate some of the challenges that people living in these communities face. Hence, the establishment of **BOAREDR Network WE** as a Private Company Limited by Guarantee to help source resources for the Projects that will be identified to take place in these communities. The organization has good plans to reach out some more communities that are in similar situations in Malawi.

MAJOR CHALLENGES AFFECTING WILDLIFE AND ENVIRONMENT

The following are major challenges that affecting Wildlife and Environment influenced by people living in communities surrounding the reserves.

POACHING

Poaching in reserve areas is the most harmful to the destruction of Wildlife (i.e. animals).

WEAPONS

Poachers use a variety of weapons to kill these Wildlife in protected areas. The following are just some of the weapons among many that are used:

- (i) Dogs: Communities use dogs to hunt wildlife.
- (ii) Snares : Various types of snares are used by pouchers.
- (iii) Guns: Poachers make their own tradiotional guns that are used to kill wildlife.
- (iv) Bows and Arrows: These too are used to kill Wildlife.
- (v) Spears and clubs: Are also used to kill wildlife.
- (vi) Pits: Poachers sometimes dig pits in order to kill Wildlife.

These are just very few examples of the weapons used by poachers to kill wildlife.





REASON FOR POACHING

There are several reasons why people hunt for Wildlife. These include the following among others.

- (i) Food – poachers hunt wildlife in order to find food (meat).
- (ii) Source of Income – poachers hunt wildlife to improve their income level.
- (iii) Source of Raw Materials – some animals have got certain body parts that are needed for specific task (i.e. Flying Whisk/Swatter; Rings & Bangles; Traditional Attire; Medicine; etc.).
- (iv) Pride – some poachers just kill wildlife for pride as a game.
- (v) Restore peace and security – some wildlife are killed in order to restore peace and security of the community (i.e. Lions that attack people and livestock).

MOST ENDANGERED SPECIES

Most animals in reserves are being hunted for specific reasons. However, there are most iconic species of wildlife that are the major targets. These prove to be the most victims of poaching in reserves and in some cases their populations are almost extinguished.

Hence, the need to help protect them from poaching and conserve them to once again multiply.

SOME SPECIES OF ANIMALS

The attached are pamphlets identifying some species of animals that BORDER Network WE would like to help protect from poaching by surrounding communities.

ENVIRONMENT DEGRADATION

Environment in the reserves' surroundings are being destroyed by wild bush fires set by people from the communities or indeed deforestation. These have led to some places become bare ground that is prone to serious soil erosion. Another area of concern is the hygiene of water in rivers and streams, especially those that pass through communities and go

into reserves. This water sometimes get contaminated and cause a lot of damage down strims, not only to wildlife but also to vegetation.

The following are some of the causes of environment degradation:

- (i) Food – people clear vegetation around reserves and indeed even encroachment to reseves in order to have a garden where they can plant their food crops.
- (ii) Source of income – some people rely on charcoal burning in order to support their families financially.
- (iii) Source of energy - people rely on charcoal burning and firewood in order to support their families when cooking or burning bricks.
- (iv) Medicine – some trees are used for traditional medicine (i.e. roots, branches, leaves, etc.).
- (v) Raw materials – vegetation is also cut to be used for various constructions in communities (i.e. trees and grass for houses, food storage facilities, bridges, etc.).
- (vi) Poor farming practices – especially along river banks where vegetation is cleared and serious soil erosion takes place that make rivers dry up.
- (vii) Water contaminations – little care on how to deposit waistes (i.e. up strims lead to contamination of water that is not health for consumption, especially to strims that pass through communities and end up in reserves.

WILD BUSH FIRE AND DEFORESTATION













CURRENT TARGET POPULATION

Having successfully started working in Jumbi community for over 4 years, BOARDER Network WE intends to extend the same services to other places like Nkhozo, Chisinde, Mwazisi, Hewe, Nthalire, Wenya, Henga, Chiweta, Bowe, and Kazuni Community.

Boarder Network WE has already identified some gaps and solutions in the mentioned communities that would influence the achievement of objectives through engagement of residence. The identification processes is being done by Boarder Network WE team in liaison with traditional leaders and other stakeholders in their communities. The earmarked Projects that have so far been identified include:

- (a) Wildlife and Environment conservation community participation programs (i.e. Tree planting, Visitation to Parks for appreciation of nature, etc.).
- (b) Eldely people programs (i.e. Medical attention, Clothing, Small Farm inputs, etc.).
- (c) Girls' support in education programs (i.e. Fees, Hostels, etc.).
- (d) Malaria control programs (i.e. Mosquito Nets and Indoor Resdue Spray – IRS).
- (e) Constrution programs (i.e. Clinics and School Blocks, etc.).

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

A team identified and approved by BOARDER Network WE Board per earmarked Project will collect data that will be analysed. This will justify the need for taking up the earmarked Project. On each Project, this team will prepare and seek approval of guide lines to be used for data collection. Once approved by the Board, sourcing of resources will commence and beneficiaries will start receiving support of various materials as deemed fit.

NOTE:

- The Board of BOARDER Network WE is mandated to authorize deployment of resources on emergency Projects such as floods and other disasters that may not wasting time with data analysis.

- Most people will work as volunteers except few members of BOARDER Network WE who will manage office work. Allowances will be given to people only when working away from their work base.

MONITORING AND SUPERVISION

Boarder Network personnel will be mandated to monitor and supervise the performance of the Projects at all levels. For closer attention in some specific areas, Boarder Network, with the approval of the Board, will be mandated to appoint some individuals or subcontract to help facilitate, monitor and supervise the progress.

REPORTING

BOARDER Network WE, through its Board assures donors that reports will be produced periodically in order to update the status on the ground. Donors will have the right to ask for reports of their interest at any time but with reasonable notice.

ACCOUNTS AUDITING

BOARDER Network WE, through its Board ensures that Project Accounts are well audited by a professional Audit firm at the end of each Project cycle.