

**Project Water for Bilibiza (<http://rsr.akvo.org/en/project/2019/>)
Second update, June 2015**

For Phase 1: Village 1o De Maio

There are several developments in the Project. For instance the village of 1o De Maio in the Quissanga District (see update 1) was replaced by the 1o de Maio in the Meluco District. This has to do with the heavy floods in the northern part of Mozambique which damaged many bridges. These will not be repaired in the short term so the village in the Quissanga can not be reached by car. GSB proposed to change to the Meluco District, where there is also a village with the name 1o de Maio. This will make it easier to work and for donors to visit the project. GSB has worked in this village in 2007 with jatropha projects financed by FACT and coordinated by Arrakis. The heavy floods also seriously damaged 7 water wells with Rope pumps which were installed in the last 2 years.

The 1o de Maio Village in the Meluco District has 1802 inhabitants (1000 women and 802 men), a Primary School with 117 pupils (63 girls and 74 boys) and 8 male teachers. The water, sanitation and hygiene conditions are the same as in the Quissanga District, meaning no latrines and no improved water sources at the schools so no water for children for drinking or hand washing.

In February 2015 the GSB team visited the village to discuss the project to improve water and sanitation and the 1st of March the GSB team started the project. GSB reports: *"The GSB team working in Meluco was: Bachir Afonso, Arlindo Lourenço, Sabila Nacir Pedro Virgílio Aquimo Serafim and Bicheye Tamimo, they are community activists interested in agriculture and water and sanitation.*

Farmer club

A farmers club was started, and the management committee was democratically elected. Field visits took place to identify the places for the establishment of the demonstration field and the nurseries. The village has plenty of space for the horticulture and the farmers are eager to participate. The Administrator of the Muaguide post, Mr. Pires Joaquim gave a speech, appreciating and welcoming the GSB Project and participated actively in all activities.

WASH

Regarding water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) the GSB team noticed consumption of unsafe water, open defecation due to lack of family latrines and lack of racks for drying plates after being washed. Regarding water activities in the past period; a workshop was build and already 10 hand Rope pumps were produced in this new workshop. Regarding wells, a problem is that many hand dug wells in the area dry up. To improve this situation so called Tube recharge systems were installed 1 year ago. These system infiltrate 100 to 300 cubic meters per rainy season in the soil around the dry wells. The 4 wells with these systems now still have water where other wells are dry already.

For water treatment lessons were given in Table top water filters (called "água saudável"/health water) and filters were given to disabled people from the community and 50 farmers' club members. Regarding latrines the activities of GSB have been very effective. 5 years ago none of the 1000 families in Bilibiza had latrines and now some 50% of the families build their own latrine. Similar activities are now undertaken in the project village.

Technical Assistance mission of Henk Holtslag

In May advisor Henk Holtslag went for 11 days to visit the project and to give follow up training to GSB and 12 local artisans. The training included manual drilling with the so called Mzuzu method which is a combination of a Soil punch and a bailer. The soil conditions in Bilibiza and the project area vary from pure sand near rivers to clay and hard soils with gravel and rock in the higher areas. GSB will now investigate where this manual drilling is possible. Also training was given in improving the quality of the Rope pumps, its installation on both hand dug wells and tube wells and the combination with groundwater recharge with the so called Tube recharge system. The training was given in the newly build workshop in Bilibiza. Henk also visited schools and families who received

water filters. It was interesting to see that the school did not use the filters anymore, but the families did.

Phase 2: Natuco Village

After additional funding was obtained, 80% provided by Marie-Stella-Maris Foundation (MSMF) and 20% by Aqua for All, a second phase started in May 2015. The second village, named Natuco, has been selected by GSB. Village data: 1804 inhabitants (1001 women and 803 men), 225 pupils (107 girls and 118 boys) in the local primary school, 6 teachers (3 women and 3 men).

Staff of MSMF will visit the project in July. See the project on; <http://marie-stella-maris-foundation.org/en/projects/project-bilibiza-mozambique> .

A reaction from GSB on the funds for the Natuco village was "Dear All, Thank you for this link...it's rewarding to see these kind of news, because it reminds us of what we are doing and how important it can be in improving peoples' lives..."

Photos



The administrator Mr. Pires Joaquim giving his speech



One of the bridges damaged by the floods



To produce pumps and other technologies, all materials has to be bought in Pemba, 3 hours drive from Bilibiza. Here the project car in Pemba, for the purchase of materials and tools.



The Office and new trainings and production workshop in Bilibiza. This workshop is the only place with tools like a welding machine in the whole area.



The ADPP school who used water filters. After a good start the filters are now not being used. A reason is lack of organization of maintenance



Water filters at family level. The families visited were using the filters, could maintain them and were happy to have the filter.



Water source where some 500 people from Bilibiza collect water. Distance to Bilibiza 3 km



Near this water source there was a Rope pump installed which was washed away by the floods. Now an extra strong well and well cover is installed



Through the work of GSB many families started to make their own latrine



In this part of the village most families now have a latrine



The training. Every morning a discussion on the activities of the day before and explanation of new activities



In front of the training centre a short tube well and a hand pump was installed.



Tools and jigs produced and used during the training



Installation of a well cover on a hand drilled tube well made during the training



As training a tube well of 6 meters deep was drilled in 3 days and a Rope pump was installed.



The group of artisans and welders trained at the GSB Training centre



Bachir explaining the use of the table top filters to the villagers of Natuco



The recipients with their table top filters.



Farmer members in their garden, in this village they never ever produced vegetables. It is the first project to start in Natuco; the plants have been planted only a few days ago in the field, but are growing well. The area is 1 ha.