DEAR FRIENDS

Zimbabwe continued to face serious COVID-19 restrictions in 2021 with the first two months in total lockdown and on-going restrictions on intercity travel for most of the year. Despite these challenges, we managed to distribute a total of 25,731 Buffalo Bicycles in Zimbabwe this year.

Some highlights of the year include:

- In its second year, our Mobilized Communities pilot in Hwange (working with local partner Greenline Africa) distributed a further 1,200 Bicycles to program participants in the education, health, environment/conservation, traditional authority, and livelihood sectors. We launched a second Mobilized Communities program in the Chiredzi district where we distributed 3,640 Buffalo Bicycles in four wards.
- Program participants from our Hwange Mobilized Communities program were profiled in World Bicycle Relief’s global Year End Campaign, “Communities on the Move”. This campaign highlights the life-changing effects the program has for the community.
- Deepening our work in conservation and the environment, we partnered with Anti-Poaching Tracking Specialists (ATS) in the Savé Valley Conservancy - one of the largest private wildlife sanctuaries in Africa - providing Buffalo Bicycles for 56 rangers.
- Under our social enterprise arm, UNICEF ordered 10,638 Buffalo Bicycles for their program with the Ministry of Health. These bicycles went to community health workers who focus on COVID-19 mitigation in their communities.
- We exported bicycles to Mozambique for the first time for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)-funded Efficiencies for Clinical HIV Outcomes (ECHO) program. This experience will greatly enhance our ability to supply bicycles into neighboring countries in the future.
- We opened an additional Buffalo Bicycles shop in Marondera. This brings our shop network to a total of 12 shops.

For the year ahead we look forward to expanding both Mobilized Communities programs and to broaden our partnerships in those focus geographies. We look to grow our shop network to ensure a steady supply of spare parts and bicycles across the country, and to further optimize our operations.

We wish to thank our donors, supporters and customers for their continued support in 2021. With your support we are able to ensure that more people have access to reliable transportation, allowing them to thrive through the power of bicycles.

Gareth Desmond  
Country Director  
World Bicycle Relief: Zimbabwe

OUR IMPACT IN ZIMBABWE
WHERE WE WORKED IN 2021

OUR GLOBAL IMPACT TO DATE (2021)
WHY CHIREDZI?
The Chiredzi district is located in southeastern Zimbabwe, approximately 432 km south of the capital Harare. Chiredzi was chosen as the area for our second multi-year program Mobilized Communities site due to World Bicycle Relief's existing footprint in the area, with the successful implementation of our Bicycles for Educational Empowerment Program (BEEP) in several schools, and the demand for Buffalo Bicycles through our local shop. Chiredzi is a district that is well known for its sugar cane production. There is also a big focus on wildlife conservation in the area, allowing us to work across a number of sectors. The area has an established culture of bicycle usage and would benefit from an infusion of quality bicycles to help rural community members access education, essential services, and economic opportunities. In 2021, World Bicycle Relief partnered with the Chiredzi Rural District Council, Savé Valley Conservancy, local schools and the community in four wards in Chiredzi District.

WHAT IS ‘MOBILIZED COMMUNITIES’?
An evolution of World Bicycle Relief’s work since 2005, the Mobilized Communities model drives sustainable bicycle use through community-led programming to improve rural access to health, education, conservation, and livelihoods. In partnership with communities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), governments and the private sector, targeted regions benefit from an infusion of quality bicycles, programming and mechanic training. With widespread access to reliable transportation, individuals within these communities can begin to lift themselves out of poverty by increasing productivity, income and access to education and healthcare. Women and girls, in particular, whose empowerment is essential for community wellbeing, are prioritized under the Mobilized Communities model.

CHIREDZI BASELINE SUMMARY

48% have no form of employment
82% report lack of transport affects their decision to travel outside of their village
26% report distance and lack of transport as a challenge to accessing water
80% travel at least one hour (one way) to the nearest health facility
37% hold volunteer positions in their community

In our baseline survey, although over half of the Mobilized Communities participants reported that they are in some form of employment, the majority of these are working poor. Their employment is not sufficiently sufficient to allow them to live above the country’s national poverty threshold and their jobs would typically be precarious, poorly paid, with little or no job security. A bicycle is a tool that can help individuals access better opportunities, improve their productivity, and diversify their revenue streams.
THE ROAD TO BETTER OPPORTUNITIES

Dorcas Chisasa lives with her husband and child in Ndali village in the Chiredzi district of Zimbabwe. She is a small-scale chicken farmer, buying chicks and rearing them for resale once they are fully-grown. She started her business in 2019 after training with the Ministry of Youth who ran a program to help people in rural areas diversify their livelihoods activities and revenue streams. Dorcas is also a member of a local women’s saving group.

“Poultry production is the main source of income for most of the youths in my area, so I have stiff competition,” says Dorcas. “For me to get more customers and more profits, I have to travel more than 25 km [one way]. Usually I board a bus or hire my neighbor’s car in order to sell these chickens.”

Dorcas was paying close to US$30 a month for transportation and for two workers to assist her. She was constantly looking at ways to minimize her costs to ensure that they did not cut into her tight profit margins. Due to the small local customer base, the restrictions that she experienced due to transport costs, and the competitive market, Dorcas would rear between 20 to 30 chicks at a time.

In 2021, Dorcas received a Buffalo Bicycle as part of World Bicycle Relief’s Mobilized Communities program in her area. The community-led program is aimed at helping livelihood groups increase their income by providing an affordable form of transportation to support their business initiatives.

“Making In-Roads in Mozambique”

In 2021, 1,337 Buffalo Bicycles were distributed to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)-funded Efficiencies for Clinical HIV Outcomes (ECHO) program in Mozambique. The bicycles were used in the ECHO program to improve the efficiency of health workers in reaching rural clients. Along with the sale, World Bicycle Relief provided technical advisory services including programmatic and mechanic training through online conferencing and training videos. As technical advisers we help organizations build mobility into their programs and advise on how to best structure and manage community-led programs. This exercise has also built our capacity to export to neighboring countries.

HELPING PRESERVE WILDLIFE POPULATIONS IN SAVE VALLEY

To expand its work in conservation and environment, World Bicycle Relief provided 56 Buffalo Bicycles to Anti-poaching Tracking Specialists (ATS) and Special Species Protection Unit (SSPU) rangers in Zimbabwe’s Save Valley Conservancy. Save Valley is a critical stronghold for rhino and one of the largest private wildlife sanctuaries in Africa. ATS is an award-winning rhino protection, anti-poaching, and illegal wildlife anti-tracking, wildlife conservation and security organization. The ATS rangers cover over 2,500 km² to protect rhino, elephant, pangolin, painted dog, cheetah, lion, sable, python, ground hornbills, leopards, vultures, and more, with the help and support of a successful and thriving K9 (dog) unit.

“We are very grateful for the use of the Buffalo Bicycles provided by World Bicycle Relief. Here in the Save Valley Conservancy, ATS and the rangers are able to move about between their work areas much quicker, the bikes hugely assist with fitness, K9 training and support the different elements essential to the everyday work of rhino protection,” says Bryce Clemence, Director of Anti-Poaching Tracking Specialists (ATS).

EXPANDING OUR REACH THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

In 2021, UNICEF ordered 10,638 Buffalo Bicycles for their program with the Ministry of Health and Child Care. The bicycles were distributed to community health workers to assist them with their outreach in their communities. In rural areas, community health workers have been playing a vital role in the dissemination of vital information relating to COVID-19. They also provide basic health services, education, and medication, and test against diseases such as malaria.

A LONG-LASTING ASSET

Tsitsi (11) is a student from Chiredzi district. Her parents are subsistence farmers, doing what they can to support their family. Life is difficult for Tsitsi’s family, and the village where they live is very remote with very little access to transport. No bus services run in the area and there are very few doctors (donkey carts) in the community. Tsitsi’s school is 6km from home, and the only option she has to get to school is to walk for an hour and a half (one way) each day.

“I would normally wake up as early as 4am to prepare for school before it is a far walk,” says Tsitsi. “Our area is very hot and walking this long distance with the high temperatures meant I would reach school sweating and extremely tired. It was hard to concentrate during my lessons.”

“During the rainy season or winter I was not motivated to go to school and would fake sickness or abscond. Despite me waking up so early it was always impossible for me to catch up with the school bell for my first lesson. At times I was tempted to rather go back home than get to school late.”

In 2021, Tsitsi was selected as a participant in World Bicycle Relief’s Mobilized Communities program at her school. This program helps school students who live far away from their school, prioritizing female students, reach school more easily.

Before the bicycle, Tsitsi would often get home after the sun had already set. She found it challenging to do other activities like homework or studying and her household chores as she was too tired. Since receiving a bicycle, Tsitsi says that she can safely get to school in approximately 30 minutes and this helps her avoid spending as much time on the road in the heat of the day.

Tsitsi’s class teacher, Mr. Tawanda Mafuwa, said that with the bicycle she had greatly improved her daily attendance from the previous term, and her participation in class was improving tremendously. “Tsitsi comes from a poor family but she is one of our bright students. In the past she had shown less commitment due to her challenges with distance. But we do not doubt her potential. We are also very grateful for this program at our school as it helps our children,” says Mr. Mafuwa.
Buffalo Bicycles Ltd. is a for-profit subsidiary of World Bicycle Relief that sells bicycles to consumers and institutions across Africa and Colombia. Profits help fund our programs, providing bicycles for those who cannot afford to buy them, including rural students, farmers and volunteer health workers.

The Buffalo Bicycle, the result of over ten years of product development, is a new category of high-quality yet affordable bicycles created specifically to withstand rugged terrain and harsh climate conditions, based on the needs and preferences of the women, men, and children who ride it.

**DURABLE ERGONOMIC SEAT**

**REAR RACK CAPACITY OF 100KG**

**HEAVY GAUGE STEEL TUBING**

**DESIGNED FOR COMPATIBILITY WITH LOCALLY AVAILABLE SPARE PARTS**

**HEAVY GAUGE SPOKES AND RIMS**

**POWERFUL ALL-WEATHER COASTER BRAKE**

**HIGH IMPACT PEDALS WITH FORGED AXLES**

**PUNCTURE RESISTANT LONG-WEAR TIRES**

**FRONT BRAKE CONTROL**

Buffalo Bicycles is built for big loads on tough roads with a durable ergonomic seat, rear rack capacity of 100kg, heavy gauge steel tubing, designed for compatibility with locally available spare parts, heavy gauge spokes and rims, powerful all-weather coaster brake, high impact pedals with forged axles, and puncture resistant long-wear tires.

**RUWA HEAD OFFICE**
540 Roro Close, Ruwa
+263 774 075 915

**HARARE SHOP**
+263 772 888 001

**MSASA SHOP**
+263 773 600 712

**BULAWAYO SHOP**
+263 786 339 249

**GOKWE SHOP**
+263 786 339 211

**MUTARE SHOP**
+263 783 765 246

**CHEGUTU SHOP**
+263 786 339 213

**CHITUNGWIZA SHOP**
+263 783 765 232

**VICTORIA FALLS/HWANGE SHOP**
+263 776 715 530

**CHIREZI SHOP**
+263 775 003 203

**MARONDERA SHOP**
+263 777 560 947

**CHINHOYI SHOP**
+263 773 918 557
+263 777 791 032

**WORLD BICYCLE RELIEF MOBILIZES PEOPLE THROUGH THE POWER OF BICYCLES.**

WORLDBICYCLERELIEF.ORG