

Agriculture Programs

MALAWI & MOZAMBIQUE



Food production on small farms in central Malawi can be increased dramatically through irrigation from shallow communal wells.

Farmers traditionally irrigate with water cans, but this method is slow and labour intensive.

Treadle pumps, on the other hand, allow farmers to deliver water to a garden much more efficiently and consistently. With treadle pumps the growing season

can be extended by five months so that families are less dependent on finding seasonal work in other regions or the indignity of begging for food during the dry season.

During 2007, CRWRF provided funding for the installation of 40 treadle pumps and training that will help 200 families improve their crop production. When selecting recipients for the first pumps, priority is given to those who care for orphans, the chronically ill, the elderly, and the disabled. Those who benefit will contribute some of the increased returns on their crops toward the purchase of additional communal pumps. The cost of each pump is \$120.

CRWRF Partners in Malawi/Mozambique: CRWRC, Nkhoma Synod (R&D Department), Save the Orphans Ministry.

CRWRF Best Practice: Locally Appropriate Intervention.

The treadle pumps make use of technology and skills that the local farmers want to have, are appropriate to their agricultural needs, and are affordable for them.

FAMILY DEVOTIONS - ISAIAH 28:23-29

Although this passage ultimately has a spiritual significance, it also shows that God gives gifts of agricultural skills. How does God grant us these skills?

PRAY FOR

- ✎ Program participants—that through training they will be able to maintain the pumps and increase their food production
- ✎ Sufficient harvest income so that people can pay their share of the pump and set aside money for buying more communal pumps
- ✎ A rich harvest and plentiful resources for families who are caring for orphans, widows, and chronically ill family members
- ✎ The safety, health, and faithful Christian witness of agricultural staff serving communities with this project

For more complete project information see the CRWRF Annual Report, or email crwrf@cogeco.ca

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