



## A whopping good partner in

# Zambia

Zambia's missionaries face many problems. It's a vast country and its inhabitants speak an impressive 39 different languages; unfortunately it also has an illiteracy rate of 40.5%. To deal with these problems, Good News Media (GNM) has taken on board a local partner, Pro Christo Global Mission (PGM).

### What lead to this partnership?

PGM, which is situated in Kabwe, has a network of contacts, co-workers and students.

- The organisation struggles with the same problem as GNM – that of illiteracy.

Consequently, PGM wants to use GNM's ministry materials which have been specially developed for non-readers.

- PGM's location is strategically important. Kabwe is on the highway between the north and south. It's approximately two to three hours by car from Lusaka and the majority of missionaries and outreach groups have to come this way.

- PGM frequently transports provisions and materials between Pretoria and Kabwe. Thanks to their help, GNM's Plastic Pastor audio player and other materials now have a central distribution point.

- PGM has appointed somebody to facilitate GNM's work in Zambia. This person also has to handle requests for materials.

- PGM wants to give their assistance to translation projects. Some important languages still don't have audio teaching materials.

### People are appreciative

In a letter of thanks to GNM rev Limon Daka describes

how well GNM's materials have been received. Daka is a man who can speak various dialects. It helps him spread the Gospel amongst Muslims, as well as in unreached areas.



### "God is so wonderful"

Coen and Suria Scholtz are two outstanding individuals. They stand at the head of PGM in Zambia, and care for orphans. They have also established a PGM training centre. The couple describes their vision as follows: "Our vision is to plant self-sustaining, self-duplicating and indigenous churches amongst the least reached peoples of the world."

### What drives them?

The couple replies without a moment's hesitation: "It is a great privilege, there are many opportunities and an awesome God ... This summarises our experiences in the mission field so far. From the slums of India to the sand dunes of North Africa, from the inner city of Cape Town to the remote village around Lake Tanganyika. We have seen such great need and yet so many ministry possibilities; such hopelessness and yet so many answers. And always the great harvest we read about in Matthew 9."

## Meet our *Mozambican* partner



Teaching under a tree.

### *Project Mozambique brings the following to the table:*

Project Mozambique is responsible for the 76 new Plastic Preachers (it's an updated form of the well-known hand-wind tape recorder) which circulate amongst the bush churches.

Three field workers of Project Mozambique pay frequent visits to remote congregations in the bush. One of the field workers, Inacio, "services" the Plastic Preachers during these visits, on top of answering the congregation's questions.

Domingos, another field worker, assists Inacio in monitoring the way GNM's materials are used. They also identify new areas where it can be used.

Project Mozambique distributes the Plastic Preacher to other missionaries and ministries in Mozambique.

Good News Media's (GNM) materials are being distributed more effectively in Mozambique. This is thanks to their recent partnership with Project Mozambique. The aim of the partnership is to distribute GNM's materials in a more effective, as well as cost effective way amongst Mozambique's non-readers.

### *Warm hearts and weird meals*

Rev Chris Erasmus of Petra College in De Doorns put on his missionary hat during the June holidays. Erasmus went to Mozambique's Tete province; there he joined an outreach group consisting of 43 members. He was armed with three Plastic Preachers, GNM's picture books, manuscripts and cassettes. The group's goal was crystal clear. They were there to spread the Word of God.

According to Erasmus the team was welcomed warmly and they were treated to special dishes. Erasmus once even had to eat the innards of a chicken! There was no way in which he could refuse this, as it was prepared in honour of his visit.



Rev Chris Erasmus.

### *An old man's great trek to class*

Erasmus was introduced to the local Pastors Association in the small village of Moatize – in this way he also got to know their dilemma. He describes it as follows: "They are loyal and dedicated, but haven't had any training." To overcome this, Erasmus trained 28 church leaders who wanted to become involved with children's ministry. One of the church leaders was an elderly man called Jeffrey. Jeffrey had to travel 80 kilometres from his home in the capital city of Tete to attend classes. He cycled the first 40 kilometres and only then he would take a taxi or "shapa" as it is known locally. Jeffrey only had appreciation for the classes. "I learnt to teach children and in the process I've become as humble as a child" he remarked.

# "We have nothing"

- Kotie & Rina Smith

Two local church planters, **Kotie en Rina Smit** (photo right), are busy bringing the Word of God to an impoverished tribe in Mozambique. The Makhuwa Naharra's name is indicative of their status. The word "Naharra" means "nothing" or "we are nothing".

The tribe has an illiteracy rate of 90-95%. This also gives them the status of having the highest illiteracy rate in Mozambique. (On top of that one has to remember that Mozambique also has the highest illiteracy rate in Africa.) They apparently also eat other people's scraps.

The couple has taken the tribe into their hearts. They planted a small church in Nerenje. Recently they also planted a second church in the predominantly Muslim community of Raccini, which is across the bay from where they live. The new church is situated beneath a mango tree! Kotie and Rina use GNM's teaching aids in the Makhuwa Meetto language. The local chief wants to involve Kotie and Rina in the school. It scarcely deserves being called a "school" since it's nothing more than an unfurnished 30m<sup>2</sup> mud structure. Still, Kotie and Rina believe that their involvement in the school will open doors for them.



## Botswana's new Christians

During a visit to Botswana earlier this year 5 815 people were reached.

1 808 indicated that they plan to change their lives. The two outreach teams used creative methods to spread the Gospel. Snyders describes it as follows: "We played ballgames. We used different coloured balls to explain Jesus' teachings. In the evenings we watched the Jesus movie as well as educational DVDs and videos in Tswana." The outreach teams presented the locals with educational material, books, tracts, Bibles and New Testaments.

## Follow-up visit

Evangelist Deon Snyders' outreach in Botswana during the months of August and September was very successful.

The 23 day long outreach had profitable results, and some pretty impressive statistics.

- People reached: 6 791. Groups ranged in size from 4 to 600.
- People who accepted Jesus as their Saviour: 2 304.
- Churches planted: Two.
- Length of trip: 5 260 kilometres.
- Conditions which Snyders had to cope with: dirt roads, donkeys, goats and cows in the roads, warm water for drinking and cold water for washing!

Snyders says: "Many doors opened and invitations were extended to become involved in unreached areas."



Deon Snyders with a group in Botswana.

## A good Samaritan in a bakkie

A good Samaritan recently loaded his bakkie with provisions and drove up into the African heartland. The Samaritan is none other than Nelius Franken, a member of the NG Church and Ruvuma Support Partnership. Franken extended a helping hand to missionaries in Mozambique and Malawi after he heard that they, too, are in need of spiritual renewal and inspiring Christian literature. To fulfil this need he took them a bakkie load of Christian literature, CDs and Good News teaching aids.



Nelius Franken (right) with missionary Pieter Loots and a young boy.

## The new MP3 player is nearly here

We've been awaiting the new Plastic Pastor for a long time. And we're happy to report that it's nearly here. The new hand-wind MP3 digital audio player lands on South African soil beginning of November. The players first have to through customs; thereafter they have to be programmed in the languages of the regions for which they are destined. Shipping will hopefully take place at the end of November.



## New Product covers



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