



MAAMBA COLLIERIES: VIGNETTES OF CONTINUED COMMUNITY SUPPORT

SINAZONGWE, ZAMBIA – Maamba Collieries Limited (MCL) started coal mining operations in the 1970s, soon after Zambia gained her independence. The ever growing energy demands of the fledgling nation, meant that MCL's production output was intrinsically intertwined with Zambia's early industrial and mining boom, and by extension, the country's growing economy.

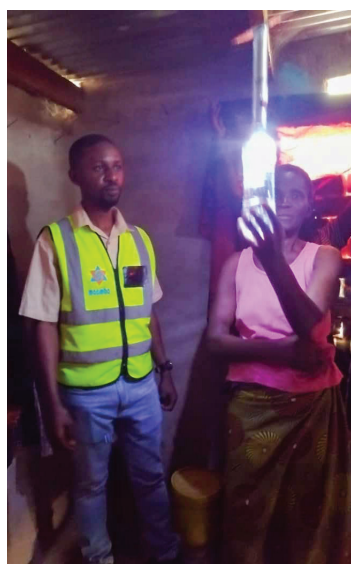
50 years on, Zambia's largest coal mine has continued playing a pivotal role in the extractive sector, supplying coal for the manufacturing sector and diversified operations to the energy sector, as Zambia's biggest private power generator of baseload electricity. Apart from its long standing and yeoman contribution to the country's economy, MCL since privatisation has been at the heart of numerous community development projects that have touched countless lives in Sinazongwe District in Southern Province.

A few stories of initiatives carried out in the past year are recounted here:

Project 'Litre for Light' – Bringing Light to Community Homes

In a bid to illuminate lives and brighten the future of underprivileged households in Maamba, Maamba Collieries Limited (MCL) through its Thermal Power Plant, embarked on project 'Litre for Light' that has had a bright impact on the lives of people in rural areas of Maamba.

The heart of the project lies in its simplicity - a 1 litre plastic bottle, equipped with a light kit, complemented by a tiny solar panel, battery charge management controller, and an energy-efficient LED bulb. This innovation not only provides light but also ensures sustainability by harnessing the power of the sun. It also recycles discarded plastic bottles thus keeping the environment clean. Project 'Litre for Light' serves as a shining beacon in the darkness for all, reminding us that often, the simplest of solutions can create profound change.



Helping Light Up Homes In Villages

In the spirit of community development, MCL continues to strive to help uplift the lives of the people of Maamba and surrounding areas, in this case by making the district a brighter and better place.

MCL Stewardship for a Greener Maamba



In a display of environmental stewardship, MCL arranged an event that united school children, community leaders, and corporate stakeholders on World Environment Day. The campaign, titled the 'Maamba Plastic-Free Walk,' saw collaboration between MCL, community members, as well as the district youth and school going children - all participating in an event that was aligned with the global theme of 'Beat Plastic Pollution.'

The 'Maamba Plastic-Free Walk' was organised by MCL on Monday, June 5th, 2023, appropriately at a site rehabilitated by MCL by planting almost 50,000 trees. The event and its choice of location is a testament to MCL's unwavering commitment to sustainability of the environment. Addressing the gathering, Sinazongwe District Commissioner Mr. Nehimunya Siakole lauded MCL for its proactive measures to foster a cleaner and greener Maamba, which he mentioned deserve widespread recognition, as such endeavours play a pivotal role in nurturing a healthier planet for future generations.

Under the overarching theme 'Keep Maamba Clean & Green,' the event with its global theme of beating plastic pollution, resonated with the immediate environmental concerns of Maamba. In a huge demonstration of reforestation, an impressive 325 fruit trees were planted at the waste rock dump, breathing new life into an area historically used only for locating waste material from mining operations.

After the planting program, the commemorative activities seamlessly continued into a larger community celebration planned by the Sinazongwe Council, including members from the community and many young students from all the local schools. Their presence underscored the importance of environmental conservation across generations, as young minds need to be instilled with the value of safeguarding their surroundings.

The 'Maamba Plastic-Free Walk,' and other festivities organised by MCL highlighted the company's steadfast commitment to bring the community together for driving positive change in safeguarding the environment for future generations. Meanwhile, MCL's continuing initiative of tree plantation stands as an indelible marker of the company and the community united by a shared vision of a greener, cleaner Maamba, in keeping with the company's vision - to minimize the impact of company's operations on the environment.



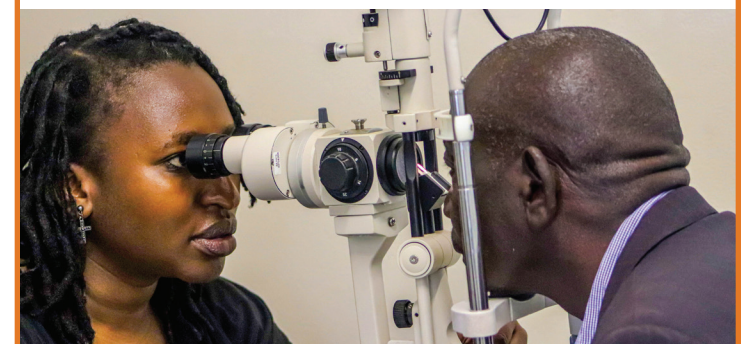
MCL Conducts Eye Surgery Camp for the People of Maamba

Maamba Collieries Limited (MCL), in collaboration with University Teaching Hospital (UTH) Eye Hospital Zambia led by the National Eye Coordinator, Operation Eyesight and Christian Blind Mission (CBM) recently organized a successful Eye Surgery Camp at Maamba Eye Care Centre. The ultra-modern Maamba Eye Care Centre was established by MCL at a cost of over US \$ 1.3 Million and was inaugurated by Her Honour the Vice President in October 2022.

As part of an extensive outreach program, a Mobile Screening Team, comprising three ophthalmic nurses and supporting staff from UTH Eye Hospital Zambia, set up a screening camp for the people of Sinazongwe District and its neighbouring areas from 26th to 30th June, during which all individuals seeking eye care services underwent preliminary examination. The team identified patients in need of urgent treatment and those requiring surgery and scheduled them for the procedures.

Subsequently, a specialized team from UTH Eye Hospital Zambia, comprising three ophthalmologists, led by the National Eye Coordinator for Zambia, conducted surgeries at the Maamba General Hospital Eye Care Centre between 5th to 8th July. This initiative was aimed to provide critical eye care services to the local community – during which, a total of 75 surgeries were successfully performed, with 64 of them being cataract surgeries and 11 involving other eye conditions. After the procedures, patients were provided with post-operative care and necessary medications, and along with their attendants were transported back to their homes free of charge.

The dedicated staff at the Maamba General Hospital Eye Care Centre continually and diligently follow up with all the patients and provide support till the requirement exists. Due to the overwhelming number of individuals in the community with similar problems in the district and its rural surrounding areas, MCL is committed to continuing its efforts to organize more eye care camps in the future, reaffirming their dedication to the well-being of the community. This initiative not only restores sight to the vision impaired but also brings hope and a brighter future to people of Maamba and surrounding areas.



MCL Inaugurates New Library: Empowering Students & Community Members



In July 2023, MCL proudly unveiled its newest facility - the Maamba Community Library. The objective to create this facility was to provide school children of Maamba and surrounding areas as well as members of the community a place with textbooks of different subjects and a conducive study and reading environment. Inaugurated in the presence of school Principals, a representative from the District Education Board and community members, the library serves as the answer to the pressing need felt by community members for their children to access reading material and educational resources.

With a collection of over 1,400 books spanning a variety of subjects and grades, the library aims to cater to the diverse needs of its patrons. From primary school pupils to university students, from working professionals to farmers and health workers, the library's all-encompassing collection seeks to serve every member of the community.

The library's impact has been immediate, with an overwhelming response from the community. Through a comprehensive information campaign spanning schools, churches and workplaces, the library since its opening is attracting an increasing number of enthusiastic readers, seeking to widen their knowledge horizons. In the short time since its doors were opened to one and all, the library is proving to be a vibrant hub of learning.

The library is a 'dream come true' for all members of the community and beyond merely being a repository of books, the community library aspires to be a catalyst for personal growth and development. The community library's aims to cultivate a habit of reading, inspire a thirst for knowledge, and contribute to the overall upliftment of the community. In an era where information is abundant yet not always accessible, the Maamba Community Library seeks to help empower one and all in the community and is another shining example of MCL's enduring attempts towards development of the facilities for improving the lives of community members.



Bridging Skills – Employability Gap in Maamba



MCL Training Centre

MCL, has since 2015, been greatly contributing to empowering local youth to gain employment in various industries by teaching them vocational skills and reducing the skills gap of the community. This venture is through the Maamba Collieries Training Centre (MCTC), which runs TEVETA certified Trade 2 certificate level courses for young women and men in Metal Fabrication & Welding and Electrical Technology. Over the past 8 years, MCTC has helped around 238 youth acquire relevant skills and find employment with their newfound skills.

MCTC has now taken this training to a new and higher level by introducing simulator-based training. MCL recently procured and installed an ultra-modern welding simulator, at a cost of US \$30,000 which facilitates faster assimilation and cost-effective learning by the students. This has enabled students to progress to complex welding solutions in a remarkably short period of time.

Meanwhile, MCTC has planned to commence a one-year certificate course for mechanical fitters by January 2024.

Separately, MCL in conjunction with the Maamba Youth Centre, also runs courses in Tailoring as well as Carpentry and Joinery for unemployed women and men in the Maamba Township. This helps the lesser privileged learn a new skill and using these skills find suitable employment or even venture out and start up their own business. One such success story is that of 69-year-old Brenda Mulyata, a grand mum who did not let her age stand in her way of seeking independence and self-reliance. Sponsored by Maamba Collieries for the Tailoring Course, she has used her newfound skills to start taking small orders, teach her friends a few stitches and is now planning to open a full-time tailoring shop. Expressing her profound gratitude to MCL, she says, "If one is empowered with knowledge, they can become independent. Now, I can afford to fend for myself and not depend on anyone."



69 year old Brenda Mulyata at Maamba Skills Centre

Empowering Dreams

In 2016, MCL began supporting Prince Muchimba, a gifted student from Maamba Special School who faces physical challenges. Despite these challenges, Prince aspires to become a leading accountant in Zambia.

With MCL's support, Prince is in his second year of pursuing an Accounts bachelor's degree at Zambia Centre for Accountancy Studies (ZCAS) University. MCL provides a full scholarship covering his tuition, accommodation, and a dedicated helper to assist him.

Recently, MCL presented Prince with a custom electric-powered wheelchair worth ZMW80,000 (approximately US\$4,400), designed by Aspire Clinic to enhance his mobility and independence.

The electric customized wheelchair transforms Prince's life and frees him from relying on others for mobility all the time.

Prince Muchimba's journey showcases resilience, determination, and gratitude. With MCL's ongoing commitment, Prince's future is full of possibilities as he pursues his dreams.

In partnership with the government and other stakeholders, MCL remains committed to help develop the men and women within its host community in its tireless efforts towards... *Making a Difference!*



Motorised Wheelchair To Empower Prince's Dreams