

Urgent Zambia Appeal Update

Vwila Foundation Office Move

At the beginning of this year we sent out an urgent appeal for our partner organisation in Zambia, the Vwila Foundation.

In January 2025, Vwila were given notice to vacate their premises in Lusaka but finding somewhere safe, secure, fit for purpose and at a reasonable cost was challenging. We were also in a race against time because Container Peter 1996, full of 885 boxes of tools and sewing machines was on its way.

Fortunately, an alternative office and compound were found. However, significant work was required to make the new site accessible for the containers. The main challenge was that the entrance wasn't wide enough for container lorries to access the site. Both a concrete driveway and a solid level base were necessary. Significant work was required to fabricate a heavy-duty sliding gate to protect the compound. In addition, solar panels, an alarm system and a ladies' toilet needed to be installed because of the intermittent nature of electricity in Lusaka.

With heartfelt thanks to your generosity all this work has now been completed and the Vwila team have moved to their newly developed location. They are now in an ideal location and can focus on their primary work of evaluating current projects and assessing potential new ones.

The next stage will be to establish a small service centre within the compound using two empty containers in which we previously supplied tools and equipment in. The containers will be fitted with windows and doors, and a corrugated iron roof will be installed to keep them cool.

The response we received from this appeal was overwhelming. Without your help we would have faced significant challenges. On behalf of Vwila and Workaid, we would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who donated to this appeal.



Wider gates being installed at the new premises and preparing for a concrete ramp



Solid level base being laid for the containers to be placed



Emmanuel Zulu, Director of the Vwila Foundation

The new office building for the Vwila Foundation which was fully refurbished, including a new ladies' toilet and security system



Solar panel installation, a vital addition with the worsening power situation in Zambia



Maureen Mtika, Co-founder of the Vwila Foundation in the new office which was redecorated and fitted with blinds



Heavy duty sliding front gate at the new premises, which is now wide enough for all container lorries and cranes to enter

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