

## ELECTRIFICATION OF BOREHOLE BRINGS WATER AND JOBS AT SALIMA

The village of Kanzimbe, which is host to the Salima Project, has one borehole and a hand pump as the main source of potable water supply. This borehole supports over 2,000 people and, as a result, community members (predominantly women and girls) spend a long time (between two to four hours) fetching water.

This impacts the time remaining for women to carry out their other daily activities, and girls are sometimes late for school, often being sent back home, which affects their school performance. Namanda Primary School, the main primary school in the area, has a non-functional solar water pump system and a standalone solar PV system which is also not working.

As a result, the students and teachers fetch water from the nearby villages, and only one

of eight classrooms are lit as a result of the solar system not having the capacity to accommodate the whole building. The Malawi Government standards require one hand pump borehole to cover a maximum of 250 people for effective provision of water to the borehole users. Boreholes that serve more than 250 people are considered to have a high risk of frequent mechanical failure and low water yield due to extended abstraction. Therefore, from the given population figures, there is need to provide more potable water sources in villages.

In late 2019, a solar PV system and borehole at Namanda Primary School was built and operationalised by the Salima Project. The community members provided labour and funds required for remunerating labourers was paid into the community maintenance account. In 2020, JCM will expand this programme to Mbwezela Primary School.

## HEALTH & SANITATION