We welcomed the reopening of Zambian and Madagascan schools in August 2021 post May/June closures in response to the third wave of Covid-19, and we remain hopeful that there will be no further academic setbacks for students enrolled in our Sponsorship, Female Empowerment and Home-based Education programmes. We pivoted our programme structure to ensure continuation of delivery and maintenance of student contact despite the school closures, conducting activities in outdoor environments close to the students’ homes, and we expanded our support to include provision of academic lessons by qualified tutors and Time + Tide Foundation personnel.
Charcoal and wood fires are the two main sources of domestic energy used in Ampisikina, Madagascar where some of the girls on our Female Empowerment Programme live.

Production of charcoal is linked with vegetation and forest clearing, and current demand for charcoal is substantially higher than sustainable production, with the gap forecast to widen with increasing urbanisation, low process efficiencies and unregulated actions of many producers.

Due to this threat, we held 10 sessions during the third quarter teaching girls recycling methods, which included making green charcoal using waste leaves, old pieces of paper and clay.

The production and use of green charcoal are less pollutive, more environmentally friendly and easier to make than traditional charcoal, which relies heavily on cutting down fresh trees. Adopting this method of charcoal production will reduce habitat destruction for several endangered species, including Crowned lemurs. We will expand the impacts of this initiative by engaging with parents of the girls to make and use green charcoal.
This is an incredible step in our conservation efforts as only 21,000 pairs of Sooty terns were recorded in 2008 and 48,600 pairs in 2018. One hundred pairs of Sooty terns were also ringed this season and reproductive success studies are ongoing with monitoring of 60 nests. Dietary studies were also conducted, and it was noted fish and squid were the main diets and no plastics were recorded as being eaten. These observations illustrate our interventions in terms of monitoring fishing activities in conjunction with our partners to ensure compliance with quotas, and anti-pollution efforts (beach patrols and clean-ups) are having a positive impact.
Matula Girls Club is home of a creative champion. More than 50% of girls on our programme entered the Creative Contest organised by our partner, Global Sojourns Giving Circle (GSGC). The contest is an activity that gives young girls and boys an opportunity to explore and showcase their creativity.

It also serves as an avenue for them to speak out through art on matters that affect young people globally, such as abuse. The Southern Africa competition was divided into different age categories and our club members voted for the best entries to proceed to higher rounds. We are excited to share that a member of Matula Girls Club, Mapalo, was the overall winner in the 7 - 12 years age category with her winning entry of a poem titled, “In Sickness and in Health,” which has a message discouraging early marriages. Mapalo’s poem is proof that she benefits from our Female Empowerment lessons, through which we encourage girls to resist sexual pressures and early marriages, despite their economic challenges and family pressure. We are proud that she used poetry to raise awareness against an issue that affects girls in her community. She won an education voucher worth USD $40 as contribution towards school supplies.

**In Sickness and in Health**

I would rather be all by myself than marry a man purely for his wealth.

The first time I met him, that night a flash flowed to my life what a fright.

Young wild and free that is how it should be, not being forced into things.

I want to fly. Please, where are my wings?

Mom and dad, don’t you love me? Am still so young, let me just be.

Mom and dad, can’t you see? It’s wrong to marry a man for the status of his family.

Best day of a girl child’s life, that is what they say, sheerly not!

Marrying a grown man against my will, trapped in till death do us apart.

Today is my wedding day, let us just say no other 12-year-old girl should be forced to endure her life this way.

THANK YOU
Mikala Mukongolwa, a special education expert, joined our Time + Tide Foundation team in Lower Zambezi from 31 August to 8 September 2021 to train caregivers and parents on disabilities and related care.

The training was conducted post the enrolment of 26 new children on the Home-based Education Programme. Our programme has expanded from only one village to five villages, with the number of children increasing from 12 to 38. The training focused on the causes, identification and management of disabilities such as cerebral palsy, developmental delay, otitis media, autism, and intellectual impairment. A total of 30 caregivers (9 existing and 21 new caregivers) and 26 parents attended the training of over 40 hours. The annual practical workshops conducted by the highly experienced and knowledgeable Mikala are very important for our caregivers’ skill development and to equip parents with the information they need to effectively raise and care for their children.
Liuwa Plain:
HOME-BASED EDUCATION PROGRAMME

From 1 to 9 September 2021 former Director of the Zambia Institute of Special Education, Mr. Robam Mwaba, and Time + Tide Foundation Wellness Manager, Nachilima Namwala, joined us in Liuwa to conduct our first annual child protection training session.

Child Protection is the prevention of, and response to, exploitation, abuse, neglect, harmful practices, and violence against children (UNICEF). Protecting children’s rights is crucial to their health, survival and well-being, which is why it is a priority to train caregivers and parents on the procedures to follow in order to prevent, identify and respond appropriately to issues of child abuse. The Time + Tide Foundation developed and implemented a child protection policy with guidance from Keeping Children Safe (KCS). Additionally, KCS offers continuous technical support to our staff and this helps us stay dedicated to prioritising the safety of all our programme beneficiaries.

A total of thirty-five volunteer caregivers, three schoolteachers and twenty-three parents attended these workshops over sixty hours. The focus of these sessions was the types of child abuse and how they can be identified. These workshops are important because they contribute to creation of safe environments for all children, especially those with special needs and/or live in economically disadvantaged communities such as Liuwa Plain.

For more information, please e-mail: info@timeandtidefoundation.org