

The Success Story

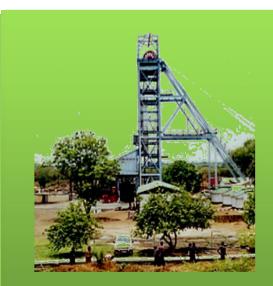
Of

Nampundwe Trust Group

From Simulation To Reality



NACRO





1. Introduction

The German Sparkassenstiftung has been active in the Southern African region for many years now, with the objective of promoting small-scale entrepreneurs in Southern Africa. The regional project combines Sparkassenstiftung's exising and planned project activities in Southern African (based on previous experience in the project countries) with the aim of, but not limited to:-

➤ Promoting a strengthened dialogue between the respective project partners and actors . for example, the central banks of Zambia and Malawi are already project partners or target groups. One of the the implementing partners of the Farmers Business Simulation (FBS), the New Apostolic Church Relief Organisation (NACRO), serves Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The New Apostolic Church Relief Organisation, NACRO, is a registered Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) with the aim of addressing issues of poverty and vulnerabilities in the communities. Currently, NACRO has operations in Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe and has so far been implementing programmes and projects in various thematic areas including education, health, agriculture & livelihoods and disaster mitigation.

NACRO, among other implementing partners, is implementing the Farmers Business Simulation. The Farmers Business Simulation is a simulation game that is so interactive and practical meant for smallholder farmers, emerging farmers and agricultural entrepreneurs.

The Farmers Business Simulation (FBS) is a board-based Business Game targeted to raise financial literacy of small holder farmers, emerging farmers and agricultural entrepreneurs, thus increasing their bankability, access to finance and increase quality of life.

The learning objectives of this simulation are defined as follows:

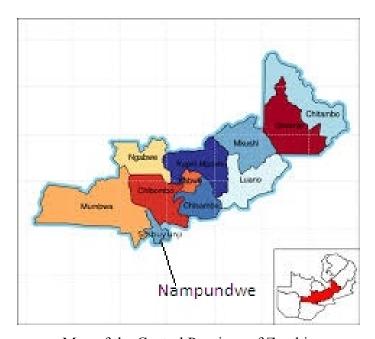
Gain basic economic knowledge of all influencing factors, especially in terms of agricultural businesses.

- Understand what entrepreneurial thinking and acting means and apply it throughout the simulation.
- Understand basic accounting and controlling principles and apply simple financial tools throughout the simulation
- Realize market dynamics and competition

The trainings are conducted through the NACRO formed Regional Advisory Committees (RAC), established in some areas of the country (Zambia). In Lusaka west and Mumbwa, nine (9) FBS trainings have been successfully conducted so far, and the ninth training was conducted in Nampundwe where the success story has just begun.

2. Nampundwe Town

Nampundwe is a place found in Shibuyunji District of Central Province of Zambia. It (Shibuyunji) was first separated from Mumbwa District and transferred from Central Province to Lusaka Province in 2012 by President Michael Sata. Then it was moved back from Lusaka Province to Central Province by President Edgar Lungu in 2018.



Map of the Central Province of Zambia

Nampundwe is located south- west of Lusaka Province. Driving along Mumbwa / Mongu Road from Lusaka, you cover approximately, 9 km (20 minutes driving) before you take a turn at Nampundwe turn-off in Kashima or Farmers area. it is approximately forty-one (41) kilometres southwards to Nampundwe township.

Nampundwe is known for its mining activities. The Nampundwe copper-sulphur mine is an underground mine that is producing pyrite which is typically used as a blending material with copper concentrate for smelting.



Nampundwe Mine

The mine began operating in 1913 when it was known as *King Edward Mine*.

Besides, mining, there are farmers growing a variety of cash crops and traditional crops though at a small scale. Many local people have found a livelihood mostly through farming and not mining.

3. The Farmers Business Game - 9th training

On 26th to 28th of January, 2023, we (*Terry Mwanankuku and Getrude Mushiba*) conducted the farmers Business Simulation training in Nampundwe for three days and was held in Nampundwe Main New Apostolic Church Congregation, where twenty-five participants from various churches took part.

Suffice to mention is that among the participants, was the Senior Village Headman Shakunkuma, (Alick Kennedy Mambwe) who is also the Advisor to Senior Chief Shakumbila of the Sala and Ila people of Central Province.

At the start of Round One of the simulations, five teams were formed and members took the chance to name their simulated farms. The following were the names of the farms:

i. Team 1: NAMPUNDWE TRUST farm

ii. Team 2: TWIKATANE Farm

iii. Team 3: KAPILI Farm

iv. Team 4: TUSOLE Farm.

v. Team 5:TUBAMBE farm

Senior headman Shakunkuma was in Nampundwe Trust Farm, which was team one.



During registration of participants



Snr. Headman Shakunkuma in red circle.



During presentations by participants.





Results for the teams



Group photo with headman Shakunkuma circled in red

4. From the field simulation to reality

After the three days of training, but before issuance of certificates to participants, the senior Headman was given an opportunity to give some closing remarks. It is the content of his remarks that today, you, our respective reader is reading the success story of Nampundwe Trust Group.

In his remarks, the headman confessed that of all the workshops he had attended so far, the Farmers Business Simulation was unique, unusual or unequalled, in that it was specific and hands-on kind of training.

In his own words, he then said, "In order to put everything we have learnt into reality, in actuality, I have given out a piece of land to the group where all our economic activities will take place. And for this, we need to formally form a group, give it a name and prepare for registration".

He further confessed that he owned a poultry and a hammer-mill but he never thought of paying himself a salary because he did not know that his business was a separate entity that he worked for and that needed to pay him.

Right there and then, a group name was proposed and it was the same team name in which the headman belonged: *Nampundwe Trust Farmers*. An election was held for the committee and the headman was elected as the chairperson for the group. Certainly, this uncommon gesture from the headman calls for a follow-up visit. Take a breath as we take up a follow-up visit.

5. The follow-up visit

On the 20th of April, 2023, a follow-up visit was made to go see a piece of land that the Senior Headman Shakunkuma had offered to the group during the FBS training. The team comprised of the DSIK Zambia Director, Rein (short for Reinhold), who also is the Project Manager; the Project Advisor, Hannah; the Assistant Project Advisor, Anika; the Senior Project Officer, Chambata and the two FBS trainers, Getrude and Terry.

The visiting team enjoyed the morning sight-view of the Baobab trees that stood on a high land as we moved towards the central business area. The three giant trees stood with its huge branches spreading out as though to welcome us. They stand a few meters by the roadside, perhaps to draw the attention of each visitor that passes by. Rein could only wish these would stand for eternity. Certainly, these are a heritage for Nampundwe.

Earlier, we had passed through the Nampundwe Mine. But because the mine premise is highly restricted, and we did not have a permit, we never bothered to stop. We proceeded to the headman's residence for a courtesy-call.



Inside the office for Nampundwe Trust Group with Headman sitted next to the Director



After presentation of Gifts to the Headman: (from left to right: Chambata, Headman Shakunkuma, Hannah, Rein, Anika and the wife to the Headman) The Headman also reciprocated the courtesy by giving chitenge to Rein, Hannah and Anika as gifts.

Something is happening!

At the site, the team was welcomed by the Nampundwe Trust Group members whilst chanting "Something is happening"; a phrase that is used during the simulations so as to draw the attention of the facilitator that an unexpected event has occurred. The welcome chant was accompanied by drums from a dancing cultural group.

The event took place on the very piece of land, which lies about 2 to 3 kilometres north of Nampundwe community stadium.





The event was opened by welcoming remarks from the enthusiastic Master Of Ceremony who time to time captured the attention of the spectators with the slogan, "Something is happening!".

Five members from the group shared one after another their personal success stories. To supplement the joyous event, the cultural group gave some entertainment.

In his remarks, the Headman mentioned that the piece of land that he offered measured one (1) hectare, i.e, 100 x 100 and that the group was officially registered with PACRA as Nampundwe Trust and General Dealers. The original copy of the licence was handed over by the Headman to the group together with the Certificate for Customary Land allocation from the Senior Chief Shakumbila which will be renewed after a period of fifty (50) years.



The Headman who also is the Chairperson for the group emphasised that all developmental and economic activities will be taking place on the same piece land, with farming as the major activity for a start. He further stated that the group's long-term objective was to establish a Skills Training Centre where trainings such as the Farmers Business Game will be conducted. He said if more land is needed for expansion, he is willing to offer. He concluded by lobbying for help from the DSIK and NACRO, toward the establishment of a Skills Training Centre.



In his speech, the DSIK Zambia Director thanked the unusual kind gesture that the headman displayed especially that he also participated in the FBS. The Director urged the group to actualize what was learnt in the simulations. He also mentioned to the group that in an event where they needed financial help, they (group) can as well take advantage of the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) which is made available in every constituency by the Government. And he challenged them that if stakeholders should come in for help, the group should first prove its commitment on the piece of land that indeed *something is happening*.

In her vote of thanks, *Ms Loveness Nachizya* (group member) thanked the DSIK and NACRO for implementing such feasible programmes.

Thereafter, the group posed for some group photos and after going round the boundaries of the one hectare piece of land, we called it a day and the Director with his team drove back. What a memorable event it was! indeed *something is happening!*





6. The Two Trainers



Getrude and Terry

The two trainers, Getrude and Terry, (in picture above) were certified FBS trainers by the German Sparkassenstiftung in February 2023. They operate under NACRO's Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) operating under Lusaka west & Mumbwa Apostle Area.

The Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) is a NACRO structure that was formed with the aim of coordinating, receiving, reviewing and supervising programs in specific satellites or communities. Furthermore, protecting the interest of the organization (NACRO) and as well as coordinating programs from NACRO to Satellite Advisory Committees (SACs) and vice versa are the roles of the RAC. The RAC has seven members. Two of the seven members have been trained as FBS trainers. It is these two trainers that are conducting FBS trainings in Lusaka west & Mumbwa.

Getrude lives in Chongwe District while Terry lives in Mumbwa District, respectively.