

Sachibondu, Northwest Province Zambia

It's on Google maps!! Just north of the Luakela River

Look it up!!

Land locked

Bordered by Democratic Republic of the Congo (Not Republic of the Congo), Tanzania, Malawi, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana (0.15 Km), Namibia and Angola.

But DRC – Another Ebola outbreak – only 500 miles away against the Rwanda and Burundi border.

Very dangerous due to local customs of handling the dead. Two Red Cross staff attacked for carrying out safe burials.

Also people flee when the “authorities” want them to stay. Would you flee from Ebola? Probably!!

Developed during 1920's and 30's as Northern Rhodesia with emphasis on mining. The mining is in the south of the country on the border with Southern Rhodesia now Zimbabwe.

Not much up North – even tourism and National Parks are in the south of the country because of the wars that have gone on in Angola and the Congo wiping out the wild life for food.

Gained independence in 1964. Then declining copper prices, very, very poor economic management and a long drought hurt the economy.

752,618 sq km (three times the size as the UK)

Population 16 Million (UK 65 Million)

18 Ethnic Groups (and languages)

Rapidly growing, 5th highest birth rate in the world, 5.63 children per woman

46% under 14

Average age 16.7 years – Really!

Life Expectancy 52.5 (UK 80.7)

Hospitals:

2.0 beds per 1000 (UK 2.9) But beds are different – no power at night; (they now have some solar!!)

15% unemployment and growth means this could get worse – that means that you lot on the left side of the Church are unemployed with no chance of finding a job!!

GDP per person \$3,900 (UK \$42,500) That sounds great but it is geographic – it is all down near the mines on the south border. The North is where we are looking.

Of course immediately south is Zimbabwe which should be the bread basket of southern Africa.

Inflation 17.9% - Do you remember our days of inflation at that level?

I remember those days – it was no fun.

Consider this!

Take your can of baked beans. Today 60p and that is on special offer:

- Tomorrow (Monday) -70p
- Tuesday 83p
- Saturday for lunch - £1.79

2nd worst distribution of income beaten only by Zimbabwe. Most very very poor, a very few rich

Population below the poverty line – 60%

This is where we will make a difference

Cannot solve world poverty but we can make a difference.

Urge you to be generous.

So how can we be generous this time?

In the past:

- Glass slides that cannot be reused. – No slides; no examinations
- Solar – great sunshine but it needs to be stored for use in the evenings – battery technology is getting better.

What do they want now?

Basic medical stuff:

IV stand

£85

Bedside locker	£175
Hospital bed	£350
Delivery Bed	£450
Traction Unit	£750
Baby incubator	£3300

It seems simple and it is – they do not have this and they need this to function as a hospital – Those prices to do seem to great and we have enough for a couple of hospital beds already promised.

You can give items or you can let them choose but we need to dig generously into our pockets and give these people a chance.

They don't have East Surrey and never will for the NHS is but a dream to them but we can help them with a start.

We are not a big Church and we are not a wealthy Church but we can and do make a difference.

We make it each week and we make it each Harvest.

Consider carefully what you can do to make a difference in this small corner of Africa – we focus so that we can make a difference and be seen to make a difference for Graham will send photos of what they buy with our money and we will know that we have changed lives by what we have given - that is biblical generosity.

The widow and her mite were commended and we will be commended for what we do today.

As we take up our collection all that we give today will be taken as part of our harvest – if you cannot give today either put it in an envelope and mark it harvest or give it to one of the Deacons or Margaret and I and we will add it to the total.

On behalf of the people Sachibondu Thank you.