

#### Safe Water in Matabeleland

This month we highlight the superb work done by one of *Commitment for Life's* Christain Aid partners in Zimbabwe, Dabane Trust.

Dabane Trust operates in the south- western areas of the country - Matabeleland South and Matabeleland North. These regions are classified as arid and semi- arid rangelands. Here, Dabane Trust develops and supports sustainable low technology community initiatives. It is a leading, non-governmental organization dedicated to establishing water and food secure communities.



Dabane has what they call 'Water Workshops' which involve teaching and learning about water. Water sanitation and hygiene are especially emphasised.

Communities are encouraged to have clean kitchens, pit latrines with handwashing facilities and well organised refuse pits. Communities are also encouraged to draw water for domestic purposes only from approved water sources.

In addition, Dabane is involved in borehole rehabilitation and construction of Rowa pumps.

Dabane works with rural communities to develop clean, palatable water supplies for household use, livestock drinking and small-scale irrigation system. Communities are assisted in developing alternative and seasonal water resources for sustainable domestic use, sanitation and hygiene. Learn more at <http://dabane.org>

#### News from Zimbabwe

President Emmerson Mnangagwa recently launched the annual, national tree planting day in Goromonzi at the 18<sup>th</sup> National People's Conference.

Zimbabwe has planted 12 million trees so far out of an annual target of 15 million trees. The government wants traditional leaders and churches must allocate land for forestry in their respective areas. However, tobacco farmers and tree-logging firms continue to log unabated, devastating the environment.

The statistics for overall deforestation in the country make for grim reading. See <https://rainforests.mongabay.com/deforestation/archive/Zimbabwe.htm>

