

## QUARTERLY REPORT SEPTEMBER 2021

The main focus of the September 2021 Quarterly Report is on implementation of projects that were approved by the Partnership Assessment Team from Engineers Without Borders.

These are:

1. Harmonisation of Water Resources
2. Cybernet Hauna
3. Eco-Tourism

The project for the harmonisation of water resources in Ward 10 of Honde Valley got its boost with data/information being assembled by both Fortune DC and Engineers Without Borders, Sweden. Under the guidance of EWB-SWE, MSc student, Jeremias Eriksson has drawn Ward 10 Village Borders showing all the contours: mountains, rivers, road network, water tanks and the current pipelines; number of homesteads and homes. Fortune DC has further provided data/information on the population in the area and the state of current water tanks and how much it would cost to refurbish them.

As a follow-up, EWB-SWE requested river flow measurements for seven (7) rivers and tributaries. Fortune DC has successfully presented the required data.

### Situation on the Ground

Fortune DC has observed that the end of July is the time Ward 10 is affected by erratic water distribution. The rainy season is long gone since end of March, but rivers are still flowing. The river flow measurements show a relatively healthy picture in the flow of rivers. For example, Turumhu, which is just a tributary, showed a measurement of 0,63 dm/sec while Honde River (the major river in the area) shows 1,28 dm/sec.

Whatever the scientific interpretation is, what we observe is that the rivers and tributaries are still flowing. The depressing situation is that we have now counted about 10 individual pipelines drawing water from Turumhu river. This is the river that borders Fortune DC's land and the Chikuhwa property. On 20 September 2021, we woke up to find someone had put sandbags to tap water on a spot bordering Fortune DC's plot.

Just on Fortune DC's land alone, there are about 5 individual pipelines with villagers jostling for water supply. This is the same situation prevailing in all the drawn Clusters (socio-economic development zones).

A simulation of a water distribution network is being built in a study being carried out by EWB-SWE. Hopefully this will put an end to the haphazard DIY systems currently prevailing in Ward 10.

The **communication infrastructure** is still at a very low ebb in Ward 10. The roads are in a deplorable state and this will affect implementation of the harmonisation of water resources project when it comes to the supply of construction and other essential materials needed to realise the goals and objectives of the project. Fortune DC identified roads for construction and upgrade as follows:

Laying of Tarmac

- Honde River Bridge to Shamu Crossroads: 40.2km

Gravel Improvement

- Masere Business Centre to Samaringa Clinic: 2.7km;
- Masere BC to Samaringa Institution via Turumhu (bridge): 1.5km;
- Baradza Village Turnoff to the Nyahangare Water tank: 1.8km;
- Mutisi Business Centre to Chipunha Village via Chiruzvi River: 2,5km
- Hauna to Mahwemasimike via St Columbus High: 6km.

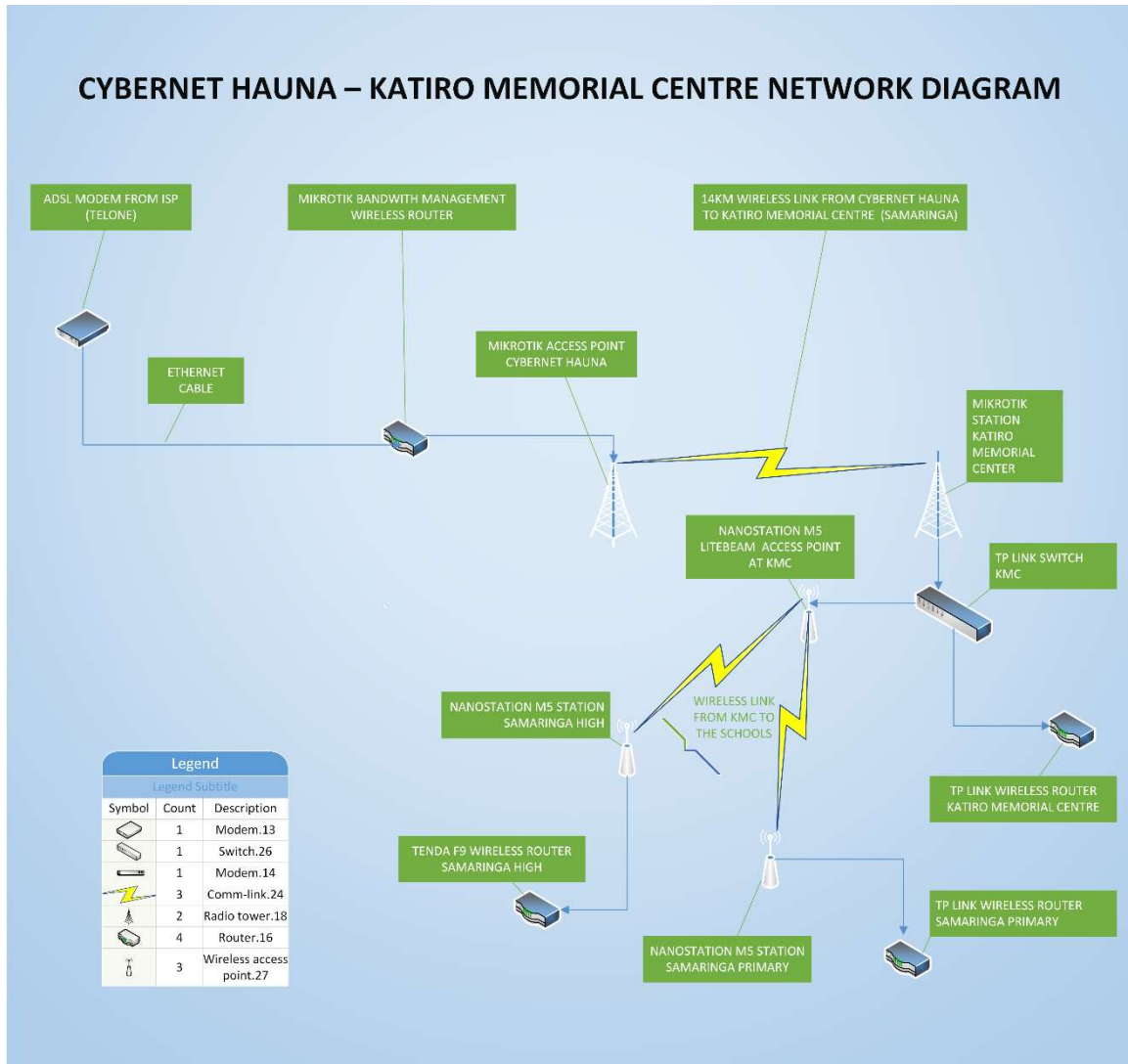
On the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) side of the communication network, Fortune DC has successfully installed a cybernet connection from Hauna Growthpoint to the Chikuhwa Residence (Katiro Memorial Centre) onto Samaringa Primary and Secondary schools. What is needed now is to upgrade the network so as to enable speedy and uninterrupted access to the Internet. Fortune DC's Wi-Fi ambition is to develop a portfolio that includes single access point solutions and scales to multi-site cloud managed high-density solutions.

It is vital to emphasise that Fortune DC's partnership with EWB is understandably hinged on a strong digital structure. In this digital age, fast Internet has become more of a necessity than a luxury as it acts as a fuel to business management. Nothing is more annoying than dealing with internet problems when you're trying to get your job done. Waiting an hour for a video to download, staring at a blank screen while it loads at a snail's pace, or having an important call with a client drop isn't just frustrating—it can seriously harm your business.

Fortune DC continues with upgrading of Cybernet connectivity with plans underway to turn from cables to wireless. We have invested more than US\$16,400:00 in equipment purchase and installation. Fortune DC is in the processing of constructing a DIY Service Provider at the Katiro Memorial Centre as a fundamental rethink of operations in order to thrive in a rapidly digitized and data-driven world. The ambition is to introduce 5G to cater for increased data demand. Fifth-generation wireless (5G) is the latest iteration of cellular technology, engineered to greatly increase the speed and responsiveness of wireless networks.

## CREATION OF COMMUNITY NETWORKS' PARTNERSHIPS

The establishment of CNs partnerships encompasses the Licensing Model to operate an authorized CNs location. Authorisation is granted by Fortune Development Centre to an individual or group enabling them to carry out ICT related activities that include, and not less services than digital commercial activities.



The diagram above shows the Community Networks now in operation.

### Second Phase of Network Expansion

The vision is to go into partnerships with business people, other professional organisations/associations and churches to make use of Fortune DC's acquired information communication technology: both hardware and software; skills development with the objective to encourage star-ups for job creation. The idea is to target those going into retirement and other professionals with start-up capital.

Bridging the digital divide between urban and rural communities is critical to the development of any community. However, rural areas don't always have the best mobile reception. This can be achieved by extending the reach of the Internet beyond the economically viable areas that ISPs and other commercial operators normally target.

Hotspots to be created in this second phase of development are Gatsi, Pungwe Irrigation Scheme, and Sahumani Secondary. An idea has been mooted to set shop at Green Business Centre.

Fortune DC seeks the entrepreneurial spirit in partnerships. We sift out doctors or engineers who are looking for a second income. We want people involved in the day-to-day and who want to expand the brand. While so many people are looking for new ways to find a job and make money, some are going into business for themselves with the help provided by the envisioned partnerships. Our clients are going to get expert, personalized advice. They will have access to the latest tools. And when it's complete, they will be able to approach their retirement confidently and with a peace of mind.

#### ECO-TOURISM

The eco-tourism project development has taken a giant step by the inauguration of the replica of the Conical Tower Statue at KMC. The idea is to attract both regional and international visitors to Honde Valley where they can view cultural structures and relics representing Shona cultural heritage and artworks.

Preserved heritage has become an anchor of the global tourism industry, a major contributor of economic value to local communities. This preservation or conservation, is what Fortune DC is deliberately striving to keep—from the past and present for the future generation—through promotion of cultural and historical ethnic museums and cultural centres.

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