

The Domboshava Community Project Encompassing The Fishers Foundation





My mother at age 17 at her homestead in Shamu Village



Sylvia Mashonga at age 19, Domboshava Caves



Sylvia & Grandmother Sadzi, Shamu Village



Sylvia's Mother in 2009

Background And Inspiration

Born To a mother (Christina Mazhindu) who comes from Domboshava I guess the maternal instincts were calling me from the onset. My mother is from Govera, Shamu village in Domboshava and I feel I was destined to be involved in this community from inception. In 1985 I met Emmanuel Hove who is my Husband and our first dating adventure was at the Domboshava caves. What a breathtaking view of the whole area from the top of the rock? I did not realize that 22 years later I would discover a rock in the Domboshava area (Masikandoro View) which would spark so much interest in my working with the community.

In 2008 I found myself at the Domboshava show grounds selling clothes to raise cash because at that time the banks were struggling with cash. It was the most amazing experience for me to see so many women who worked so hard and produced vegetables for the Harare market. This made me stay longer and observe this new found interest. I met Mai Bare and she made me see what I call Masikandoro view. 'A rock with a difference' in my opinion. That is where all the ideas of coming up with the Domboshava Community Project came from. The need to empower women came to mind. I shared my ideas and thoughts with her and we approached the Community Leaders to inform them of my desire. I was given a letter by the Local Headman Mr. Murape. Initially the project was to empower the young and old especially orphans and widows and to give them hope and a future. The rock would offer employment for the whole community as a Cultural Tourism venue. This dream became reality after a few months of putting things into practice.

Friends came to the rock and experienced what I had visualised. I called this project
The Masikandoro view, A rock with a difference, Back to my roots.

Sylvia Hove

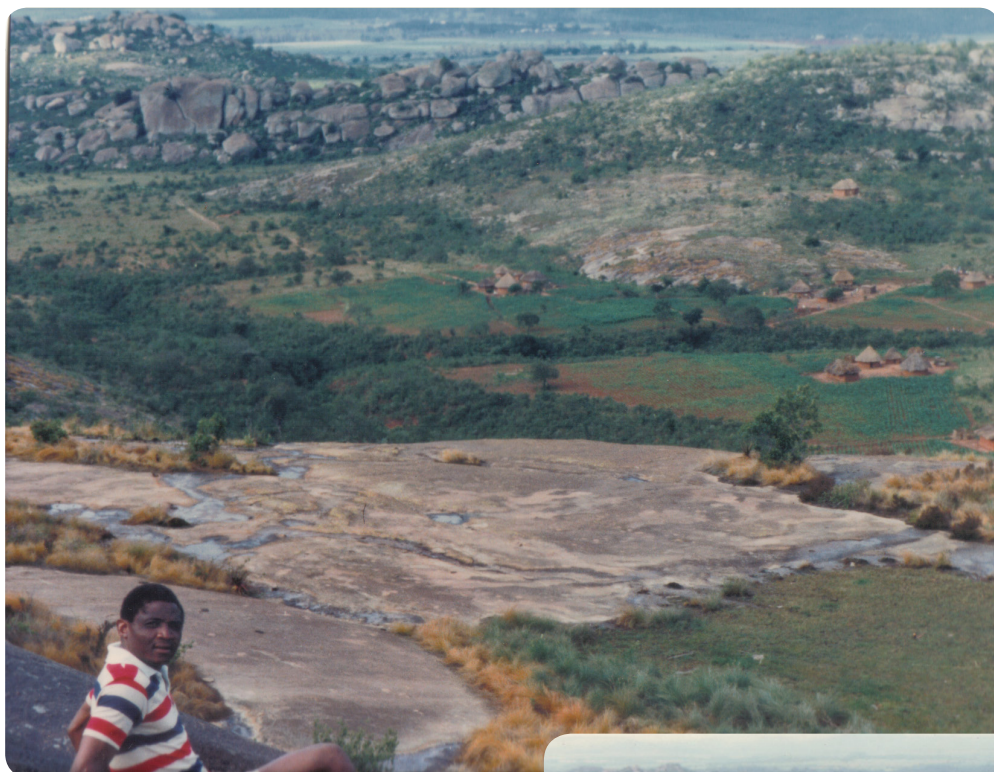
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*Emmanuel Hove
in 1984 at Domboshava
Caves*



*Sylvia Mushonga
Domboshava Caves
1985*



*Vusumuzi & Thulani
Hove
(Sylvia & Emmanuel's)
children at Masikandoro
View*



Masikandoro prayer

God, OUR FATHER

CREATOR OF HEAVEN AND EARTH

ALL THINGS ARE CREATED ACCORDING

TO HIS RICHES AND GLORY

MADE MAN, IN HIS OWN IMAGE

TO TAKE DOMINION

OVER WHAT HE HAS CREATED

GLORY BE TO God WHO RESIDES
IN THE HEAVENLIES

AND FROM THIS ROCK "MASIKANDORO"

God WILL PROVIDE ALL OUR REQUIREMENTS

AS WE ASK HIM IN PRAYER

WE WILL WORSHIP HIM IN SONG AND PRAISE

WITH ALL THAT HE HAS GIVEN US AND WE GIVE

GLORY ONLY TO HIM

MAY HIS GRACE BE WITH US FOREVER MORE

AMEN!!





Aims and Objectives of The Domboshava Community Project (Masikandoro View)

- To empower the young and old, orphans and widows in the community through creative art, growing food and offering services which will bring income to benefit the community.
- To conserve the natural resources of the area by planting trees and maintaining the area (improve the environment in line with issues concerning environmental problems).
- To encourage healthy living and eating healthy i.e. planting herbs and vegetables that build the immune system. Promoting organic foods
- To collect seeds from indigenous trees and plant them in bags or home gardens which will be used to replace those that have been cut down.
- To come up with better energy sources and conserve trees
- To promote culture and keep our heritage so that it can benefit the generations to come i.e. teaching Mbira music, drums, dance etc.
- Encourage keeping of records i.e. pictures, documents, or even start a cultural museum
- To appreciate what God has given us in terms of environment, skills and a purpose-driven life
- We all need to encourage each other, show love and improve on the quality of life through the resources that God has given us.
- We need hope and a future for the young and the old in the community.
- We need to encourage those from other areas and countries to appreciate:
 - Culture
 - Hard Work
 - Healthy Living
 - Entertainment
- We can all make a difference in our own small ways, let us encourage each other and lift up each other in everything we do.

Lets not become weary of doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Gal 6:9. For I know the plans I have for you, declares the lord, Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, Plans to give you hope and a future Jer29:11

Mission Statement

Our Mission

At Masikandoro View, we do not take our God-given talents lightly, therefore, we are using these to better our own lives and those of others through hard work, involvement and productivity which has visible results.

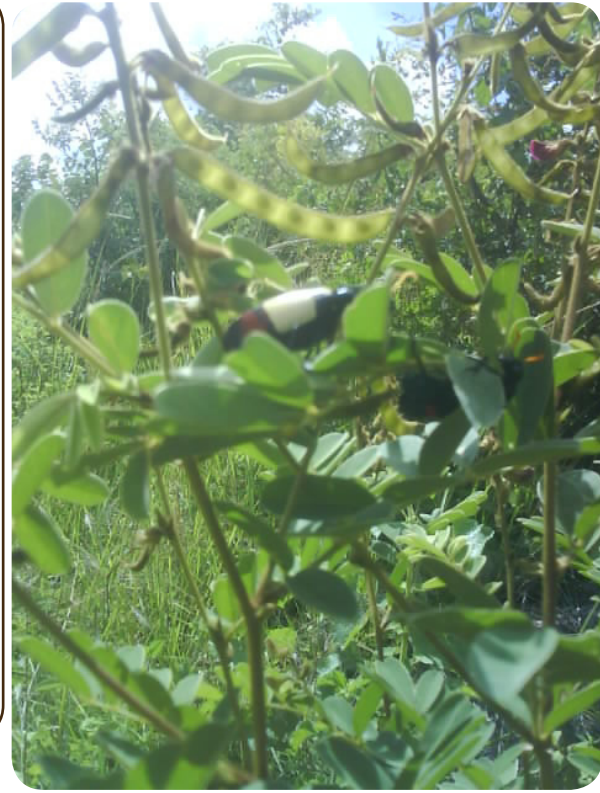
Our Purpose

Is to use the knowledge that we possess in terms of skills, to make a difference in our community because we have focus and direction. The driving force behind this is:

- The need to take care of the widows, orphans and the needy in the community
- The need for conservation of our culture, environment and land productivity
- The need to develop skills in children and adults in their areas of interest for a better future.

Our Values

Personal Development - Resulting in the positive decisions that we make. Self dignity which extends love and compassion to others. To reach out to others using the community structures that already exist. To be grateful for what we already have.



How to get involved

We all have a passion for something and that passion is only realised if we can offer ourselves openly to make a difference in our own lives and in the lives of others.

The question is - What is the state of our minds???

Focus, vision and being involved in body, mind and soul is the only answer to success



Declaration

This project arose unexpectedly. Therefore any requirements, finance, wisdom and experience will come as we progress.

- With the little amount of money that I possess, I will inject into this project to set it up initially and the rest I will trust God for provision
- Through my experience with Vabatsiri Soroptomist Club, Printing background, Sales, Marketing and Public Relations I will provide as much experience as I can for this project to take off so that it can benefit the intended community.
- My hope is to leave a legacy for the future generations on conservation, culture, and empowering the community in all aspects of human living.
- So far, I have been providing food, school stationery, building materials, encouragement and a vision to the community at hand
- They in turn, have given me support and provided labour because this is their inheritance which they will subsequently hand over to their children
- I love nature, beauty and healing of the mind and this place when developed properly will offer all these to those who are like minded.
- Research and development of this community is important since a lot of trees have been cut down in favour of development such as building homes and urban style living (which is evident in this community)
- New ways of creating energy have to be established to save trees
- The ecosystem is crying out for help therefore help from the environmentalist is required.
- Crop rotation is required on the homesteads around Masikandoro, so that there is a good supply of vegetables and herbs throughout the year.
- Animals have to be introduced into this area which will benefit both humans and the environment.

I declare that all these points and views are true and a reflection of my intentions for this community. I will endeavour to get as much assistance from well wishers who have the same intentions and not to benefit themselves, using the people in this community.

Sylvia Hove

Founder Member of Masikandoro View Project (Domboshava Community Project)

2008



Activities At Masikandoro

- Traditional Meals
- Braai/Gochi Gochi African Style
- Mbira Music
- Camping
- Walking Trails - Guides Available
- Dog Walks
- Teas Traditional Style/ Herbal
- Bring a camera for spectacular views
- Artist welcome to paint
- Vegetable and Craft Market
- Story telling by Sabuku
- Organised School Tours:
To learn about Zimbabwean Culture, the environment and activities such as cattle herding and soccer
- Blair Toilets available



Masikandoro Challenges and Redirection

After facing a few challenges in 2009 in April - around independence the need to refocus came in. I noted a few points which I gave to the Headman and the problems which I had come across in order to proceed and move on to benefit the community. I took a break without following through with new points to focus and redirect the project and because of the burning desire that was in my spirit to never give up hope for Domboshava, my motherland!

At the end of 2009, I went back to the community because my heart was still there. The umbilical cord could not be broken no matter what challenges lay ahead. I thought of setting up clubs which would allow women to come together and work as a team and create wealth and empowerment. This would give the women a chance to be empowered through training and starting income generating projects. The Domboshava community is already rich in those areas but needed enhancement and networking strategies to make it even bigger.

From a fraction of my salary and a friend Jill Day who gave twenty United States Dollars, we invested in a bun making project, inspired by Jesus' story in the bible about the feeding of the 5000. A boy willing to share his lunch comprising of fish and bread led to multitudes of people being fed and the blessing came from God. I thought of The Fishers Foundation with the help of friends like Jill and Eve, regarding the name.



The Fishers Foundation



My Surname is Hove and it means Fish hence Fisher. The ethos is “Teach a man how to fish not to just give him fish”. It was inspired by fish, water, the fact that it is food and that one must cast a net or use a fishing rod to catch.

In the Domboshava Community I saw so many various links that encompass a foundation- which is of success and prosperity, Love peace and joy which I experienced on so many encounters at the market and the number of friends I made from these interactions.

I saw the future generations and asked myself the question that what do we leave for them as a legacy. Looking at the environment, the cultures and our heritage and being reminded of the initial project, the Masikandoro View, I was even more inspired to just be in this community. I see a bright future of a strong business centre in Domboshava which will touch so many lives locally and abroad in so many spectrums. In terms of:-

- Culture
- Farming especially Horti-

culture

- Cultural tourism
- The Scenic Mountains and rocks which have so many untold mysteries waiting to be discovered by anyone willing to.
 - History of the Shona people and yet so close to the city
 - Conservation of our natural resources and utilizing those at no cost at all and still live vibrant lives
 - Life sustenance
 - Business in what ever form or shape the list is endless.

This brought me to think of the Culture Fund which focuses on artistic perception which mirrors our society and tests our values and in turn being rewarded with a Culture be it Positive or Negative. The choices we make as individuals determines our destiny as a people.

These choices affect how we live as people and mirrors our life's purpose. And the question that when it is all over 'Life', that is, what do we leave behind for future generations.

The environment gives us inspiration where nature shares in the process and beauty, peace and joy which fulfils like minds. Internal peace gives outward peace and appreciation for God, creation and mankind.





The Fishers Foundation is all about teaching a man/woman how to fish and have a better life and be prosperous financially and spiritually. We all have talents, we are all



exposed to people with various markets and needs and through our bodies, minds and soul we can accomplish tasks and live abundant fulfilled lives.

A functional body is a gift - hence the need to understand healthy eating and living conditions.

A peaceful mind and soul is a gift - Beauty, trees plants the environment offers all these free of charge therefore the need to look after our environment and respect it.

A creative mind is a gift - Reason why we should find out what our gifts are, enhance them and put them to good use and produce products that benefit us financially.

Sharing all these attributes is a gift- My passion is to see everyone empowered through sharing ideas and helping one another to be a nation which is grateful to God for creating all of us in his own image. And most of all Love. Love for the environment which gives us life, Love for all creatures that share the environment with us and brotherly Love where we feel for one another's needs.

A foundation in my own life comprises family, tradition, values and beliefs- when all these are in place one can build a strong structure be it in the home, business, community or nations.

A culture comprises of – belief systems, food and beverages, our heritage, fashion and dress, artist expression in forms of music, dance, literature, language, arts and crafts. All nations of the world are fascinated by different cultures and are willing to learn and be involved at any level to be able to understand what makes us all tick.

The Fishers Foundation is love for all man, the rainbow nations of the world coming together as one entity to make a difference in our hearts and lives.

Domboshava my mother land is waiting to be discovered and continue to feed many through the vegetables and tomatoes.

The story of domboshava is just beginning let us all come together and experience something different, special and timeless

Women are nurturers and carers and domboshava has a lot of them waiting to be a part of someone out there.

Beneficiaries of the Fishers Foundation

The first beneficiaries are the clubs to start with and eventually the entire community will benefit.

The new clubs are chenjerai club, simukai club and kurirana clubs

Chenjerai club - Bun making project



Kuwirana club

We have an artist in this club who focuses on highlighting violence and abuse in picture form. Development of skills and projects that generate income. Retailing, crafts and farming

Simukai club

Drink making , petticoat making, ide market research in tsoka tsoka to improve in farming and lots more.

The sky is the limit to what anyone can offer, money is not everything sometimes but money can be made out of ideas or anything in the environment.

For inspiration the caves will recharge any batteries try that first and then go into the community.



In God we trust because only God can supply all our needs through those whom he chooses. Glory to God in the heavens. We thank him for all the gifts and blessings we have.

