



Benguerra Primary School

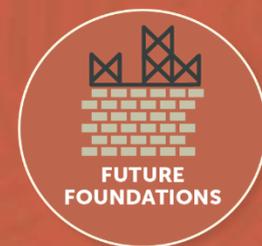
Water tanks and guttering, and Classroom Repairs
Final Report – November 2023

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BENGUERRA PRIMARY SCHOOL - BACKGROUND

Benguerra Primary School, on Benguerra Island, was founded in 2008. It is the only school on the island and enrollment is currently 512 children from grades 1 to 7, who are taught by 12 teachers. Families who want their children to study beyond primary level, must send them to the mainland, an expense of around \$700 / year.

Infrastructure at Benguerra Primary School consists of 6 classrooms, a library that is sometimes used as a classroom, an administration block and ablution toilets. 2 of these classrooms were recently constructed with funds secured through Africa Foundation and andBeyond.

With the current enrolment, the classrooms cater for an average of 73 pupils per room. To help the school cope with the numbers, some students attend class in the morning and others go to school in the afternoon.

Even with the current arrangement, the small classrooms cannot accommodate all the students, some students attend class under trees exposed to weather elements.



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BENGUERRA PRIMARY SCHOOL –WATER TANKS, GUTTERING AND CLASSROOM REPAIRS

Africa Foundation, &Beyond and African Parks are working with the Benguerra community leadership to progressively improve the Primary School's infrastructure, with the intention of developing the school into a quality educational facility for children born on the island.

In 2022, funding was secured to build a double classroom block at the school – the construction of which was completed at the end of that year. Along with the critical need for classroom space, the school highlighted the issue of there being no water on site and it was recognised that there was the opportunity to install guttering and water tanks to the new classroom structure, to enable rainwater harvesting. While fundraising was underway for this project, the new classroom block was damaged by cyclone Freddy, which struck the island in March 2023.

This led to the requirement for repairs to the roof, walls and paint work.

With some further funding secured, it became possible to repair the cyclone damage and install guttering along the roofline, attached to a 5,000 litre jojo tank for water collection – which was placed on a stand with an access tap.

The water collected is used for hand-washing and cleaning at the school to ensure hygiene standards are maintained. It also provides water for cooking and helps to keep the school garden watered on dry days.



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BENGUERRA PRIMARY SCHOOL – WATER TANKS, GUTTERING AND CLASSROOM REPAIRS



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Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in Mozambique at a glance

People with access to improved water sources nationally	61%
People with access to improved water sources in urban areas	88 %
People with access to improved water sources in rural areas	49%
Open defecation rate	36%
People who do not have or do not use improved sanitation facilities	76%
Access and using improved sanitation in rural areas	12%
Access and using improved sanitation in urban and peri-urban areas	47%

Source: JMP, 2017

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BENGUERRA PRIMARY SCHOOL – CLASSROOM REPAIRS, WATER TANKS AND GUTTERING PROJECT - TESTIMONIAL

“A month after the classroom's inauguration, a big storm named "Freddy" passed from our school and part of the classroom's roof was destroyed and it affected part of the walls on the top where the woods are fixed.

Fortunately, some months later, the African Foundation representative contracted a team of builders for maintenance and repainting as well as fixing a tank of 5 000 liters so that when the water from rain falls it can enter in the tank and students can have water to drink and water the plants in the school garden.

We would like to say that African Foundation, in the social responsibility, is running very important projects to improve the life of the community and school kids and teachers.”

Januário João Alfredo Anguilaze

Assistant Director; Benguerra Primary School

Benguerra Primary School
Benguerra, Mozambique

Africa Foundation
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LETTER OF THANKSGIVING

Dear Africa Foundation,

In the name of the school council, teachers, and students, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for the implementation of the building project of two additional classrooms that had a positive impact on the improvement of our school. This is especially true for the 82 students that had their lessons outside under terrible weather conditions.

The building of the two classrooms is a response to the letter that was submitted in 2021 to the Africa Foundation representative in Benguerra Island seeking infrastructure for the 82 students. During that year, the school had 520 students from grade 1 up to grade 7 assisted by 12 teachers in different shifts using 4 classrooms. Due to the lack of classrooms, the library was also used as a classroom.

This project commenced in 2022 in the last term of the school year, and it took a period of approximately 3 months. During this 3-month, plenty meetings were held involving the Africa Foundation representative, local leaders, teachers, and the community to coordinate the undergoing process of building and make everyone feel involved in the project.

In January 2023, the District principal of Education in Vilankulo, Mr Florêncio Vilankulo, was invited with the District of Vilankulo, Mr Edmundo Galiza Matos to see and inaugurate the two classrooms.

After the inauguration:

A month after the classroom's inauguration, a big storm nicknamed "Freddy" hit and a part of the classroom's roof was destroyed, and it affected part of the walls on the top where the woods are fixed. Fortunately, some months later, the Africa Foundation representative contracted a team of builders for maintenance and repainting as well as fixing a tank of 5 000 litres. This is so that when it rains, the water from rain can enter in the tank and students can have water to drink and water the plants in the school garden.

Ultimately, we would like to say that Africa Foundation is running very important projects to improve the life of the community and school kids and teachers.

However, there are some challenges that we are still facing. Challenges such as such as:

- The lack of electricity - we cannot implement English classes to the people working at and beyond during the day, and it would be helpful for teachers to plan their lessons in well-lit rooms.

Yours sincerely,

Januário João Alfredo Anguilaze,

Assistant Director at Benguerra Primary School



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BENGUERRA PRIMARY SCHOOL – COMMUNITY CONTEXT

Mozambique remains one of the poorest countries in the world with its GDP per capita at 5% of the global average. 70% of Mozambicans live in poorly serviced and impoverished rural communities. Mozambique has a 2 500 km long coastline, with many island groups. The Bazaruto Archipelago is one of these groups, situated opposite the coastal town of Vilanculos.

6 of the Archipelago islands are included in the Bazaruto Archipelago National Park, which was proclaimed in 1971. These are Bazaruto, Benguerra, Margaruque, Santa Carolina (Paradise Island), Banque and Pansy Shell Island. The Park provides refuge to a wide range of iconic megafauna, including whales, sharks, sailfish, manta rays, dolphins, marlin and nesting marine turtles, as well as the region's last viable population of dugongs.

The sheer beauty of this seascape, along with the diversity of wildlife, has made Bazaruto a globally sought-after tourism destination. However, the historical overuse of natural resources, illegal fishing practices and poorly regulated tourism activities negatively impacted the area's biodiversity and the livelihoods of those who live here. Bazaruto Archipelago National Park is managed by through a partnership between the Administracao Nacional das Areas de Conservacao (ANAC) and African Parks.



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BENGUERRA PRIMARY SCHOOL – COMMUNITY CONTEXT

Benguerra Island is the second largest of the Archipelago Islands, at 55km². Extremely underdeveloped, there are around 2,000 residents living in three small villages. Chizungune in the north, Bavene in the center and Chiringoma in the south. With very poor soil structure to support agricultural activities, the main source of livelihood is fishing, and to a lesser extent, tourism.

The island community is run by an Association known as the Kanhikwedo which comprises Traditional Leaders, elected representatives of the community and political councillors. The Association's primary source of income is their share of the tourism levies paid to the Mozambique government by the local operators. This is not enough to support the development of the community and provision of basic services.

Africa Foundation and andBeyond Benguerra have worked with the Kanhikwedo and Benguerra community since 2016, supporting the upgrade of the community church, the expansion of the clinic, provision of clinic water and provision of nurses' accommodation, provision of a community borehole and hippo rollers, solar lamps and food parcels during the Covid-19 pandemic, and provision of a double classroom block at the Primary School.



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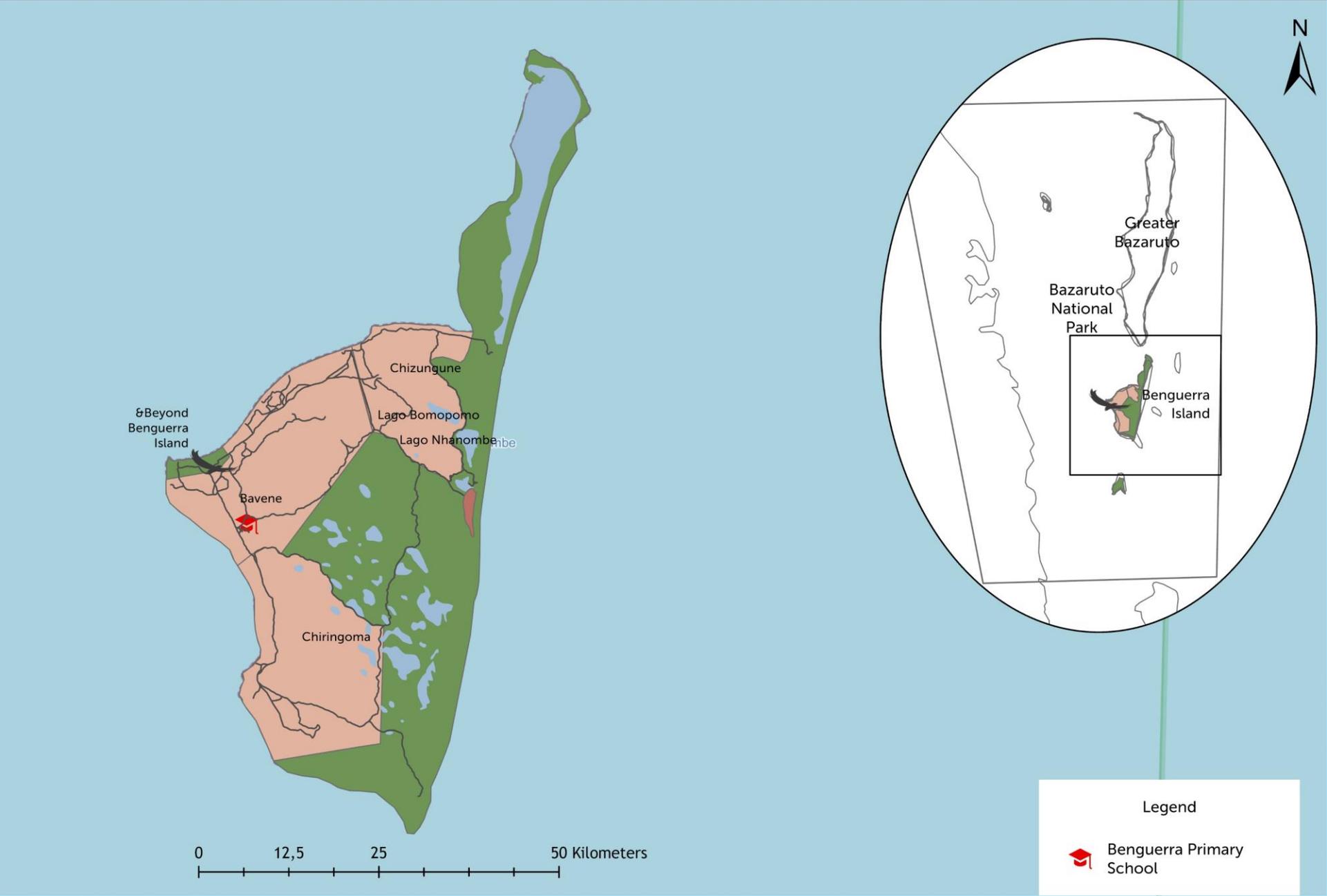


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SOUTHERN AFRICA - BAZARUTO ARCHIPELAGO SEASCAPE



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Legend



Banguerra Primary School