

REMOTE AFRICA SAFARIS LTD

THE TAFIKA FUND

2023 INFORMATION SHEET



SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS SKILLS TRAINING & TERTIARY EDUCATION FOOTBALL FOR WILDLIFE

Remote Africa Safaris is actively involved, through the Tafika Fund, in sustainably uplifting the surrounding community of Mkasanga village in Mwanya. The majority of the staff working at Remote Africa Safaris' four camps, come from the Mwanya area.

The Tafika Fund was set up by John and Carol Coppinger in 1998 and has been managed by Carol ever since. Donations to the Tafika Fund, from generous guests, tour operators and Remote Africa itself, are used to fuel the initiatives.

Although Remote Africa Safaris is a tourism operation and not an NGO, a donation from each Remote Africa Safaris guest bed-night is made to The Tafika Fund and to conservation efforts in the area which include the North and South Luangwa National Park conservation programmes. Guest donations and sponsorships add to the funds, which are inevitably topped up by Remote Africa Safaris to balance the books at the year end.

Generous guests visiting Tafika, and the other Remote Africa Camps, may often be seen dragging a second heavy bag into camp filled with footballs, school supplies, football boots, whistles and second-hand phones and computers for our students. The delight these gifts bring to our villagers and students make the overloaded journey through international airports to reach Zambia well worth it! Domestic airlines can cater for this extra luggage at no extra cost if this is pre-booked (please contact us for more information).



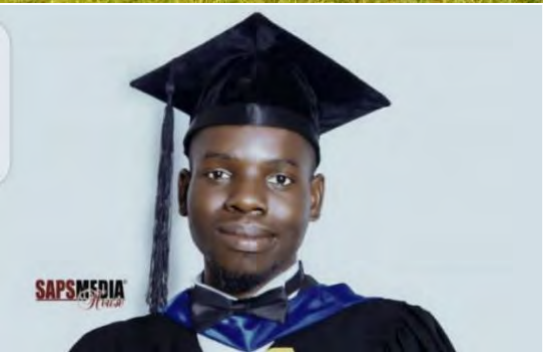
School support & scholarships

The Tafika Fund assists the (government run) Mkasanga School in a number of ways; from building renovation, to the purchase and supply of stationery, textbooks, library books, desks, additional educational material and the payment of assistant teacher salaries.

The Fund makes a significant difference to present lives and future aspirations of Mkasanga pupils. Stationery packs ensure pupils can make full use of their opportunities for study not hampered by the poverty stresses their families may be experiencing. It also offers further educational opportunities for the children of the Mwanya community by providing scholarships annually; awarded on merit, to the 4 top scoring grade 9 pupils writing the national examinations.

Approximately 10 to 13 pupils are supported annually on full high school scholarships at boarding schools further afield, to complete grades 10 to 12, as no local schools offer these grades. In 2023, 3 girls and 10 boys are being sponsored. The support for these young pupils includes boarding school tuition fees and accommodation, transport and allowances for stationery and uniforms which costs approximately **\$700 per annum**.

The Tafika Fund also built an outpatient clinic in Mkasanga which officially opened its doors in 2006, and acts as a first aid centre for the 2000+ residents of Mkasanga. A government medical officer oversees the clinic and tends to patients while the fund pays a monthly wage for an assistant to the officer. Periodically medical supplies may be donated to supplement the clinic provisions.



Skills training

Inevitably, the desire for tertiary education for our successful school leavers, found the Tafika Fund extending its support to aspiring students. The Tafika Fund now offers annual scholarships for skills training and college students.

In 2023, 11 students are being supported. Courses include teaching, nursing and midwifery, medical officer training and accounting. One of our accounting students aims to start working at Tafika once his studies are concluded.

Once the Fund takes on a student, they are supported throughout their studies, provided their grades remain acceptable. The scholarships are fully inclusive of transport, food, accommodation, tuition fees, exam fees and stationary allowances. This long-term commitment puts huge strain on the Fund and limits the number of students that can be included in the programme.

The Tafika Fund has supported several students through long-term degrees over the years, including a student of medicine at Unza, Mr Swedy Nkhoma, who completed his degree in 2017. Watching various life options become available to our youth is a great reward for the efforts and ongoing support of the Tafika Fund.

Rome was not built in a day, but changing and uplifting one life at a time makes the world glow brighter. Funding a skills / university student varies depending on the degree / diploma but a student scholarship costs approximately **\$2500 per annum**.



Football for wildlife

The Tafika Fund started the football league in 2015. It was inspired by the late David Back who, together with his wife Karen, worked in the Luangwa Valley for several years. The objective of the league is to build awareness and enthusiasm for wildlife conservation over a wide reach of the Luangwa Valley residents through their abiding love of soccer. The initiative is ably managed by Jimmy Sakala and Jennifer Coppinger of Remote Africa Safaris. A fully funded league costs approximately **\$25,000 per annum**.

Each team represents individual villages, generating great inter-village relations and communications for the 6-week period of the league. 8 men's teams, 4 from each the South and North Luangwa chiefdoms, have competed in the league since its inception for the grand prize: the Kafupi Cup.

In 2017 the football league was expanded to include a ladies' league, offering encouragement and opportunities for the woman of the Luangwa, as well as men. This possibly marked the first time ladies played football in the Luangwa Valley in a competitive league.

The ladies league also includes 8 teams, 4 from each the South and North Luangwa chiefdoms. True grit and determination are shown by the ladies in learning both the skills of football and overcoming their cultural hesitance for this newly accepted female role in the community as they compete for the Shipikisha Cup (*Be strong to go forward*).

Much preparation is required on an annual basis to ensure the success of Football for Wildlife. All players, coaches, linesman and officials receive a match fee to ensure everyone reaps a reward for their efforts. Transport, uniforms, whistles and footballs are also provided. Banners with team branding have been made associating each team to a specific animal to encourage wildlife appreciation.

These matches provide great entertainment for all and a source of income for many. They enrich the lives of the surrounding communities, creating a friendly competitive spirit and encouraging different villages to work together. Most of all, the league aims to promote positive awareness for conservation of the Luangwa's precious wildlife, trees and environment in an atmosphere of fun, excitement and achievement.

A group of smiling children in a rural setting. The children are of various ages, with some in the foreground looking directly at the camera. They are wearing simple, colorful clothing. The background shows other people and a dirt path, suggesting a community gathering or a school event.

How to help

Should you wish to support the Tafika Fund, kindly email us on: jen@remoteafrica.com. Tax-free donations can be made from the USA with **Philanthropic Ventures Foundation**. If you're donating through a charitable fund from the USA, this can also be done through this Foundation.

Alternately, bank details for welcome donations are:

Account name	Remote Africa Safaris Ltd
Our address	PO Box 5, Mfuwe, Zambia
Bank	ZANACO
Account currency	US\$
Bank address	Mfuwe, Mfuwe International Airport, Eastern Province, Zambia
Account number	0361149500223
Sort code	012606
Swift code	ZNCOZMLU

Kindly ensure any payment is referenced: **Tafika Fund + your name**, to ensure that we allocate the payment correctly. Thank you very much for your generous support.