

### **Dear Friends & Family,**

It is my last week in Mozambique. My time has come to return to Ila in Mesa, Arizona and hand-off the remainder of this project to the capable hands of John and Hilda Van Gyssel. As is the case every time Ila and I go on a CRWRC assignment, we leave behind a piece of our hearts.

And we leave with mixed feelings. There are so many needs and even as an organization we can only help so few. Nevertheless, we love doing what we can and we always receive more than we give.

Our second food distribution has just been completed and it went smoothly without any road or high water issues. The trucks arrived late again but we are getting used to that. For reasons none of us understand, the day we finished the distribution in Inhangoma the river water level rose again and people had to go through about a foot of water to cross what was a dry riverbed the day before when our trucks had driven through. We were amazed.

The people of Mozambique are interesting in many ways. They are very alive and active, living their lives mostly outdoors. Physically they are strong. Women often carry a 50kg bag of maize on their heads plus a 10kg bag of cowpeas plus a baby on their backs for many kilometers. That is 132 pounds plus the baby.

The people of Mozambique are also far more accepting of their lot and what happens than we are as westerners. We often try to change things if we don't like how it is. They are much more likely to accept things and say, "it must be God's will."

This can have its downsides. CRWRC and other non-government organizations work hard to provide food and necessities for people that are hungry and needy without creating dependency. Despite this, we often see cases where

Over Please...



*Pictured (from top to bottom): Boys; The river flows again; women crossing the river on foot.*

## PRAYER REQUESTS

We ask for prayers for:

- Pete as he travels home
- John & Hilda as they complete the food distribution project
- The long-term development programs of CRWRC
- The people of Mozambique



CRWRC

*Living Justice, Loving Mercy*

## CONTACT US

[pete@diepersloot.com](mailto:pete@diepersloot.com)

### CRWRC-US

2850 Kalamazoo Ave. SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49560  
1-800-55-CRWRC

### CRWRC-Canada

3475 Mainway  
PO Box 5070 STN LCD I  
Burlington, ON  
L7R 3Y8

[WWW.CRWRC.ORG](http://WWW.CRWRC.ORG)

following crop failures, droughts, or floods people accept the reality and wait for aid to come. Many times nowadays we implement Food-For-Work projects where people must work in some way to receive the food being provided. These projects are also intended to help improve the community or their food productivity for the future.

I wish somehow that we could create an environment where it is possible to be more effective at teaching people to solve their own life problems. It would be great if they could be self-sufficient year-round and be able to provide for themselves. CRWRC has many development projects, such as conservation farming, that are good steps forward but yet it seems it is never enough. I believe that somehow education and initiative are the most key ingredients needed toward progress in place like Mozambique.

So here I am getting all philosophical about this business while my job is simply to assist in providing food as emergency relief to hungry people. I leave you with the thought that it is good for all of us so richly blessed that we should share those blessings with the needy of the world.

You have been patient to watch us struggle with the issues of our project. Please keep the people of Mozambique in your thoughts and prayers. In the future if we should be asked to participate in another CRWRC assignment we will again try to give you periodic updates on what we are doing and how it goes.

God bless you all,

Pete and Ila Diepersloot



*Gleaning*



*Sisters*



*Waiting for a food distribution*