



transaid



CASE STUDY:

## Baron's testimonial

MAM at Scale - Zambia

*ETS training as part of the MAM@Scale COVID-19 response in April 2020*

"I will always be thankful for the opportunity of working with MAM@Scale as an ETS rider. My family is very proud of my work and encourages me to continue saving lives in my community with the bicycle ambulance. Transporting emergency cases is one of the most rewarding things I can do and I am happy with the level of transformation that has occurred in my community because of ETS"

**Baron – ETS rider in Serenje District**

### **BARON EDUCATES PEOPLE ON MALARIA, EMERGENCY TRANSPORT SYSTEMS AND COVID-19 ON AIR**

Fwanta is a community in the Kabamba area of Serenje District, Zambia. It has a population of approximately 640. In the past, many people in Fwanta who developed medical complications, be it maternal or malarial related, died because people wrongly interpreted the danger signs as a result of bad luck in their family or punishment from the gods. A turning point happened when MAMaZ Against Malaria at Scale (MAM@Scale) began working with this community and the Kabamba Rural Health Centre. They trained Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) on the management of severe malaria at community level through the administering of a Rectal Artesunate



Suppository (RAS). MAM@Scale also provided an emergency transport system (ETS), in the form of a bicycle ambulance, to Fwanta.

Baron Mupeta was one of the people selected to be trained as an ETS rider.

I am very happy because I was the first person in my community to be trained as an ETS rider as well as a CHV administering Rectal Artesunate Suppository by MAM@Scale. My community has really benefited a lot because I have made a total of 20 maternal and 12 severe malaria emergency transfers using the bicycle ambulance. Being a rider, I receive a lot of love and respect from my community. I recently got ill and I was surprised by the number of people who came to my house just to wish me well. MAM@Scale not only gave us the bicycle ambulance to shorten the distance [time] to the health facility but has ended the cultural beliefs people had on the cause of illness in the community through the meetings and lessons that CHVs conduct,' Baron said.

protocols and basic PPE. The Serenje District community radio station was also used by MAM@Scale to educate people on COVID-19. Baron has even been a panelist on these radio programmes and educates the listeners on preventive measures taken in the community when making emergency transfers using the bicycle ambulances. 'We have the support from our traditional leadership here in Fwanta: Mindian Mwelwa our headman has told everyone to be tuning in to the radio programmes organised by MAM@Scale and I am so happy to be one of the panelists educating my community on malaria, COVID-19 and Gender Based Violence. Daily I hear from parents talk about the positive changes that MAM@Scale has brought in our community through the CHVs and ETS riders', said Baron.

'I will always be thankful for the opportunity of working with MAM@Scale as an ETS rider. My family is very proud of my work and encourages me to continue saving lives in my community with the bicycle ambulance. Transporting emergency cases is one of the most rewarding things I can do and I am happy with the level of transformation that has occurred in my community because of ETS' Baron said.



The MAM team (Baron, Rebecca and Ernest) speaking at the People that Deliver conference in Lusaka, November 2018

MAM@Scale has also integrated COVID-19 activities into the malaria programme. Because of the FIA funding, ETS riders in Serenje were trained in April 2020 on new COVID-19 safe ways of working and provided with a copy of the new COVID-19 ETS



Josephine Mupeta, Community Health Volunteer and Emergency Transport System (ETS) rider