

# Farmers forced out so the lions can roam free

By David Blair, in Macavene

- 1 In the floodplain of the Olifants river, green shoots of maize grow as if by a miracle in an immensely dry expanse of bush.
- 2 These precious fields, watered all the year round, make the people of Macavene village in Mozambique dependent on no one but themselves.
- 3 Yet thanks to the creation of one of Africa's biggest game parks, they will soon have to abandon the floodplain for new homes in a dry region. There, if drought strikes, they will need western food aid.
- 4 Macavene and seven other villages find themselves inside the new Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park. For the first time in generations, Africa is expanding the area of wilderness roamed by elephant, lion and buffalo. The steady invasion of human beings into the habitat of wildlife is, for once, being 8.
- 5 This vast conservation area, soon due for an official opening, will span three countries and cover 14,000 square miles – almost twice the size of Wales.
- 6 By removing all boundary fences, South Africa's Kruger National Park will merge with a new reserve in neighbouring Mozambique and with Gonarezhou Park in Zimbabwe.
- 7 Today, 6,000 Mozambicans live inside the park. All will be uprooted, turning over land they have cultivated for generations to herds of wildlife. They have agreed to move and compensation will be paid. 9, they are quietly dissatisfied.
- 8 "Our wish of course is to stay here. This is our land, we know this place,



**Julio Mongue and his wife Salmina face an uncertain future**

- we were born here," said Julio Mongue, who has lived in Macavene for all of his 59 years.
- 9 Every day Mr Mongue and his wife Salmina tend their fields in the floodplain, helped by their six daughters and four sons. In a dry region, they can feed themselves even if the rains fail. "These fields are the most important treasure here," said Mr Mongue.
- 10 "But in the place where we are going to move, we will need the rain. In the years of drought, we will suffer."
- 11 Whenever the rains fail, millions of Mozambicans are kept alive by the World Food Programme. Their dependence on handouts is a key barrier to the country's development. The Limpopo Park may only make this worse.
- 12 Mozambique is already one of the world's poorest countries and few areas have enough land or water to accept families resettled from the park.
- 13 "We have been asked to move to the Chingangane area," he said, "but the owners of that land are refusing to accept us. They say there is no room and no water for us. It's up to the park

authorities to sort it out." But the clock is ticking.

- 14 Mr Mongue and his family live barely 25 miles from the Kruger Park. All that stands between them and 2,000 lions, 1,000 leopards and 14,000 elephants is the Kruger's reinforced boundary fence.

15 Once that is removed, game will overrun Mr Mongue's fields. Already, elephants have ruined crops nearby. People in Macavene say leopards killed two cows a fortnight ago. "The government values animals more than us," said Enoque Cossa, 22. "If nothing is done for us, the foreign tourists are going to benefit more than we will."

- 1p 7 What is made clear in paragraphs 1-3 about the inhabitants of the Macavene village?

A Their fields get too little water because of the bush.  
B Their independence is threatened.  
C They are hard-working people who love wildlife.  
D They are helping to design a very important game park.

- 1p 8 Kies bij 8 in alinea 4 het juiste antwoord uit de gegeven mogelijkheden.

A applauded  
B helped along  
C turned around  
D witnessed

- 1p 9 Kies bij 9 in alinea 7 het juiste antwoord uit de gegeven mogelijkheden.

A After all  
B At least  
C Even so

- 3p 10 Welke problemen staan de familie Mongue te wachten volgens de alinea's 9 tot en met 15?

*Omcirkel in je uitwerkbijlage achter elk nummer of het probleem 'wel genoemd' of 'niet genoemd' wordt.*

- 1 Ze kunnen honger gaan lijden in hun nieuwe woongebied.
- 2 Zij zullen voedsel moeten verbouwen voor het *World Food Programme*.
- 3 Ze zullen niet geaccepteerd worden door de mensen die al wonen in het nieuwe gebied.
- 4 Wilde dieren bedreigen hun vee en hun akkers nu al.
- 5 Ze moeten bij het onderhoud van de hekken in het park gaan helpen.
- 6 Ze zijn bang dat de toeristen hen zullen gaan lastig vallen.

- 1p 11 "The Limpopo Park may only make this worse." (alinea 11)

→ Welke woorden uit alinea 11 kun je in plaats van het woord 'this' zetten?  
*Schrijf de woorden over in je uitwerkbijlage.*

- 1p 12 "But the clock is ticking." (alinea 13)

→ Leg kort uit wat de schrijver hiermee bedoelt te zeggen.  
*Let op: voor alleen een vertaling wordt geen scorepunt toegekend.*

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#### Bronvermelding

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