

Malawi

Community Development

Season: Spring 2014

Partner: Eagles



Eagles Relief and Development Programme
Living Waters Church International

Dear Supporting Churches

Greetings from Eagles team members and Beka village in the southern part of Malawi in Chikhwawa district. We are always grateful to God for the divine connection between your church and the work we are doing of transforming lives. The hope we get through your continued encouragement, prayers and financial support are not taken for granted. May the good Lord continue blessing you. Currently in Beka, like in any other villages in Chikhwawa, farmers are busy weeding and spraying chemicals in their cotton fields, while crops like maize, millet and sorghum are about to mature so they are about to begin harvesting.

Jemster Jimu

Jemster Jimu (56), married with 5 children, has lived in Beka village for a long time and memories of poor harvests due to prolonged dry spells are not forgotten. This has been the major cause of hunger in Beka village for close to a decade. Community members including Jimu have been coping through handouts and casual labour in exchange for food or money which enables them to access food.

After taking part in an enhancing community resilience project, Jimu has had his hope restored. Through the project, he learned about and was able to acquire early maturing varieties of millet. During the 2013/14 growing season Jimu has been able to grow one acre each of millet, sorghum and maize.

Coupled with the favourable rains that Beka village has received this year, Jimu is expecting to harvest 12 bags of millet, 8 bags of sorghum and 15 bags of maize. With this anticipated harvest, Jimu is hoping to feed his family for the whole year. He said,



Jimu shows the millet in his field which is about to mature and be ready for consumption

"This will be an exceptional year for my household as we will have food for the whole year after many years of poor harvest and hunger. This project is changing our lives."

Prayer points

- Thank God for the favourable rainfall in Malawi including Beka village which is contributing to good crop growth and consequently will lead to better harvests for people like Jimu.
- Thank God for the peaceful Christmas and new year festival season in Malawi
- Continue praying for the nation of Malawi for free and fair elections on 20th May 2014 and that a leader at God's heart should be elected as president for Malawi so that people like Jimu continue to live in peace.

We are grateful to God for your continued support. Your support is making a difference in the lives of disadvantaged people in Beka village.

Onex Chikalipo

About the letter writer

Onex Chikalipo lives in Blantyre with his wife, Chrissy and three children Debora (12), Babra (10) and Wonderful (6). Onex is a Projects Facilitator for Eagles, responsible for facilitating projects in Chikwawa District in the southern part of Malawi.

About the Project

Projects being implemented in Beka include Climate Change Adaptation (Enhancing Community Resilience), Water and Sanitation plus Church and Community Mobilisation. These projects are continually leading to transformation of community members' spiritual, physical and economic lives.

The logo for Tearfund, featuring the word "tearfund" in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font on a dark teal background.