



## Speaker Calls for Stronger Child Participation in Governance



Speaker of the National Assembly of Zambia, Rt. Hon. Nelly B.K Mutti, SC, MP, FAPRA (2<sup>nd</sup> right) at the opening Session of the African Forum of the Children's Parliament in Rabat, Morocco.

**By Jericho Minyoi**

The Speaker of the National Assembly of Zambia, the Rt. Honourable Ms Nelly B K Mutti, SC, MP, FAPRA, has urged African leaders to prioritise the rights and participation of children in governance if the continent is to achieve sustainable, equitable and inclusive development.

Speaking during the inaugural African Forum of Children's Parliament in Rabat, Morocco, Ms Mutti emphasised that involving children in national development is not merely a policy option, but a fundamental human rights obligation.

She noted that children's voices must be integrated into decision-making processes that shape their future and the continent's progress.

Ms Mutti informed the Forum that the National Assembly of Zambia has taken deliberate measures to strengthen child participation in governance and development.

She highlighted the institutionalisation of the Children's Parliament, which is supported through technical assistance and the live broadcasting of its proceedings on Parliament TV.



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These initiatives are designed to enhance visibility, promote civic engagement among young people, and encourage a culture of accountability,” she said.

In his welcoming remarks, Honourable Rachid Talbi El Alami, Speaker of the House of Representatives of Morocco, noted that the Children’s Parliament in the Kingdom of Morocco, established in 1999 upon the decision of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, has, for over 25 years, served as a vital institution for civic education and social development.

He added that it provides a meaningful platform for dialogue between children and government officials on issues affect-

ing young people, with questioning sessions that parallel those of national legislative bodies.

Ms Mutti was in Rabat at the invitation of her counterpart, Honourable Rachid Talbi El Alami, from 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2025, to participate in the African Forum of Children’s Parliament.

The Forum brought together Speakers and Deputy Speakers of Parliaments, Government Ministers, and young participants from selected African countries. The event was hosted by the Kingdom of Morocco under the patronage of His Majesty King Mohammed VI and the presidency of Her Royal Highness Princess Lalla Meryem.



Speaker Mutti (middle ) speaks as a panelist at the opening Session of the African Forum of Children’s Parliament in Rabat, Morocco.



## First Deputy Speaker urges stronger alliance to end child marriage



First Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Malungo A Chisangano, MP, (seated in the centre), alongside Chief Chakuma of the Lenje People Central Province, Members of Parliament, University of Zambia (UNZA) Dean of Law School, SADC-PF Representative, CARE Country Representative and UNZA students.

**By Lomthuzi Simpemba**

The First Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Zambia, Hon. Malungo A. Chisangano, MP, has urged Members of Parliament, traditional leaders, and civil society to strengthen collaboration in ending child marriage, describing the practice as a violation of human rights and a threat to national development.

Speaking during a public lecture on “The Role of Traditional Leaders in Ending Child Marriage” at the University of Zam-

bia on Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2025, Hon. Chisangano said that Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) are fundamental human rights that ensure access to accurate information, family planning, and healthcare for young people.

Mr Stephen Kawimbe, National Assembly Deputy Clerk (Procedure), reaffirmed Parliament’s commitment to eradicating child marriage through its legislative and oversight roles. He highlighted Zambia’s

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progress through key laws such as the Anti-Gender-Based Violence Act (2011), Marriage Amendment Act (2023), and Child Code Act (2022), and noted Parliament's active role in the SADC Parliamentary Forum SRHR Project since 2014.

Representing the Southern Africa Development Community-Parliamentary Forum (SADC-PF) Secretary-General, Ms Claire Musonda expressed concern that over 26 percent of girls in Southern Africa are married before age 18, stressing that child marriage undermines health, education, and economic growth.

CARE International Country Director, Ms Chikwe Mbweeda, called for collective action to address child marriage as a

social, economic, and moral challenge, while Dr. Annie Chew, Dean of the UNZA School of Law, highlighted the need for stronger partnerships between academia, lawmakers, and traditional leaders.

The event, jointly organised by the National Assembly of Zambia, SADC-PF, UNZA School of Law, and CARE International, honoured the late Chieftainess Theresa Kachindamoto of Malawi for cancelling over 3,500 child marriages and promoting girls' education.

The event was attended by lawmakers, His Royal Highness Chief Chamuka of the Lenje people, civil society organisations, media houses, and university students.



First Deputy Speaker, Hon. Malungo Chisangano, MP (r) with Chairperson of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and Lukulu East Member of Parliament Dr. Christopher Kalila (m), joins the dance troop in a dance



First Deputy Speaker, Hon. Malungo Chisangano, MP, delivering her remarks during a public lecture on "The Role of Traditional Leaders in Ending Child Marriage," at the University of Zambia.



## Second Deputy Speaker urges MPs to utilise the Research Department amid the rise of AI



Honourable Moses Moyo, MP, together with Deputy Clerk–Procedures, Mr Steven Kawimbe and Director of Research, Mr Banabas Bwalya, poses for a photo with award recipients, Mr Sunday Chanda (left), Mr Mulenga F. Fube, MP (second left) and Mr Christopher Kang’ombe, MP (third right).

**By Caroline Chikonde and Namasiku Mubiana**

**S**econd Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Zambia, Honourable Moses F Moyo, MP, has urged Members of Parliament to continue making full use of the Research Department amid the rise of Artificial Intelligence.

Hon. Moyo said this would help strengthen evidence based decision-making in their legislative, oversight and representative roles.

He said this during the official opening of the 2025 Research Fair held on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2025, at Parliament Buildings, *under the theme “Remaining Relevant in the Face of Artificial Intelligence.”*

The Second Deputy Speaker noted that

while AI presents innovative opportunities, it also demands greater vigilance in ensuring the accuracy and reliability of information used in Parliamentary work.

He said the Research Department therefore, remains a key partner in equipping MPs with credible information, especially at a time when digital technologies are reshaping how information is generated, accessed and used.

Hon. Moyo stressed that as legislators embrace AI, they must remember that the foundation of good governance lies in knowledge, evidence and informed decision-making.

He stated that the Research Department is well positioned to help Members navi-



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gate the challenges of information explosion brought about by technological advancements, so that the information shared both on the Floor of the House and in constituencies remains factual and verifiable.

Hon. Moyo therefore, urged MPs to interact more with researchers, noting that such collaboration will enhance their effectiveness in Parliament and in their communities.

Speaking at the same event, Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Secretary-General Dr Martin Chungong commended the National Assembly for successfully hosting its second Research Fair.

He noted that since the introduction of the Fair was in 2022, more MPs have been engaging the Research Department in their work.

Dr Chungong encouraged parliamentari-

ans to take a leading role in managing the use of AI, not only through responsible legislation and oversight, but also through adopting the technology in Parliament's day-to-day operations.

Meanwhile, the National Assembly Deputy Clerk of Procedure, Mr. Stephen Kawimbe, expressed gratitude to the IPU for its continued support, noting that the partnership is invaluable in advancing the institution's pursuit of informed and effective governance.

The 2025 Research Fair saw the introduction of Member Recognition Awards aimed at acknowledging MPs who have actively sought information from the Research Department since 2023.

The award recipients, in order of highest engagement are, Mr Mulenga F. Fube, MP, who received a laptop, Mr Sunday C. Chanda, MP, awarded a printer, Mr Christopher Kang'ombe, MP, who received a mobile phone and Mr Joseph Musanje, MP, who was presented with a cash prize of K2,000, a National Assembly cup and necktie.

The Research Fair first commenced in 2022, with the aim of promoting knowledge-driven law-making and strengthening the role of research in parliamentary practice.

The 2025 edition continues this mission by reinforcing the importance of research in ensuring Parliament remains relevant and responsive in the age of AI.



Chilubi Member of Parliament, Mr Mulenga F. Fube, MP (left) being awarded a laptop by the Second Deputy Speaker, Hon. Moses F. Moyo



## National Assembly committed to inclusive reforms, says Speaker Mutti during visit by Finland's Development Policy Committee



Speaker Mutti (8<sup>th</sup> right) pose for a photo with the Finland Delegation and Members of the Zambia Finland Parliamentary Friendship Group in front of the New Committee Building after the courtesy call.

**By Namasiku Mubiana**

**S**peaker of the National Assembly of Zambia, Honourable Nelly B. K. Mutti, SC, MP, FAPRA, says the National Assembly remains committed to strengthening democratic participation by advancing reforms that support the increased inclusion of women, youths and persons with disabilities in Parliament.

She said such reforms are essential to improving representation and ensuring that the priorities of all citizens are reflected in national decision-making processes.

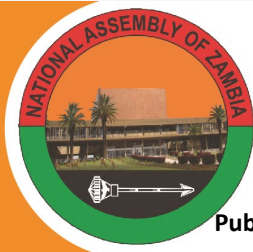
Speaking when a delegation of Members of Parliament from Finland's

Development Policy Committee accompanied by Finland Ambassador to Zambia, Her Excellency, Ms Saana Halinen, paid a courtesy call on her on Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2025, at Parliament Buildings, Speaker Mutti said that while Zambia has made progress in promoting inclusivity, achieving full gender parity in Parliament remains an ongoing challenge.

She noted that according to the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development, the target is 50 percent women's representation in leadership roles, a milestone Zambia is still working toward.

Speaker Mutti therefore, said Zambia could draw valuable lessons from Finland's experience in achieving near equal gender representation in Parliament, including strategies

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Mr Kokko shares a light moment with Speaker Mutti while Ambassador Halinen (2nd right) and Ms Sari Tanus (right) looks on.

that enhance cross-party cooperation and strengthen support systems for women and young leaders.

She added that continued collaboration with partners such as the Finnish Parliament would assist Zambia advance reforms that promote equitable access to political leadership.

Meanwhile, Leader of the Finland Delegation, Mr. Jani Kokko, said Finland places strong importance on gender equality, children's rights and girls' education as key drivers of development.

He said societies prosper when women are empowered through education and representation, adding that nearly half of Finland's Members of Parliament are women, a testament to inclusive governance.

Mr. Kokko further stated that Finland is committed to supporting Zambia in areas of mutual interest to accelerate national development.

And Chairperson of the Zambia-Finland Parliamentary Friendship Group, Mr Imanga Wamunyima, MP, said the Finnish

visit has provided a valuable platform for Zambian Parliamentarians to learn from Finland's reforms.

He explained that such exchanges enable Zambian lawmakers to gain insights into practical approaches and adopt innovative legislative practices from other Parliaments which could ultimately strengthen Zambia's parliamentary system.

The Finnish delegation also held discussions with Members of the Zambia-Finland Parliamentary Friendship Group, where they explored key areas of cooperation including mining regulation, forest preservation, climate change adaptation and advancing a circular economy for sustainable growth.

The Development Policy Committee is an official advisory body to the Finnish Government. The Committee comprises Members of Parliament, experts, civil society actors and researchers from different political parties. Its aim is to strengthen dialogue on development policy and it is the only body in Finland that systematically monitors and analyses development policy.



Mr. Jani Kokko, MP, 1st Vice Chair of the Development Policy Committee and Leader of the Finland Delegation giving his remarks.



## MPs and UNICEF strengthen partnership to promote children's education and welfare in Luapula Province



Luapula Province Minister, Hon. Eng. Nason Musonda, MP (5<sup>th</sup> right), Chairperson of the Parliamentary Caucus on Children and Mbabala MP, Mr Joseph Munsanje (3<sup>rd</sup> left) and Senior Chief Mwewa (centre), pose for a photo with Members of the Parliamentary Caucus on Children and UNICEF representatives after paying a courtesy call on the Chief during a joint field mission in Luapula Province.

**By Chabala Chalema**

**M**babala Member of Parliament, Mr. Joseph Munsanje, said the partnership between Members of Parliament and UNICEF, to promote children's education and welfare in Luapula Province is a demonstration of their shared commitment to advancing children's rights and development.

Mr Munsanje who is also the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Caucus

on Children, said the collaboration, which brings together Parliament, UNICEF and traditional leaders, seeks to transform policy commitments into practical actions that improve learning conditions, health and protection for children at community level.

He said this when Members of the Parliamentary Caucus on Children and UNICEF Zambia undertook a joint field mission conducted from 31<sup>st</sup> October to 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2025 under the Equal Chances for Human Development Programme.

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Mr. Munsanje said the programme which began in Chifunabuli District, has provided an opportunity for Members of Parliament to interact with traditional leaders, school administrators and parents.

He explained that through these engagements, the delegation observed ongoing efforts to establish Early Childhood Development (ECD) centres, address teacher shortages and secure land titles for school sites.

Mr Munsanje urged the district and traditional authorities to expedite the allocation of land for school infrastructure and utilise the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) to construct teacher accommodation. He said that doing so would help retain teachers and improve the quality of education, particularly in rural communities.

Meanwhile, Luapula Province Minister, Hon. Eng. Nason Musonda, commended the collaboration between Parliament, UNICEF and local leaders in advancing children's welfare. He said Luapula Province remains committed to ensuring that no child is left behind and that the Government, together with its partners, would continue to improve access to education, health and protection services.

UNICEF Representative in Zambia, Dr Nejmudin K. Bilal, stated that UNICEF was dedicated to supporting government efforts in realizing children's rights through practical and sustainable interventions. He said the Equal Chances for Human Development Programme connects education, nutrition and child protection, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

And speaking on behalf of traditional leaders, HRH Dr Chief Chisunka, who is also Chairperson of the Luapula Council of



Members of the Parliamentary Caucus on Children pose for a photo with Luapula Province Minister Hon. Eng. Nason Musonda, MP (3rd right), UNICEF Representative Dr. Nejmudin K. Bilal (back row, left) and Chief Mwan-sakombwe (front row, centre) during a joint field mission in Luapula Province.

Chiefs, said traditional authorities appreciate the initiative and would continue to provide land for the construction of ECD centres. He noted that traditional leaders were also sensitizing parents on the importance of keeping children, especially girls, in school.

The delegation visited several districts where they engaged with local communities, school managements and civic leaders on issues affecting children's education and welfare. The mission concluded with a reflection session between Members of Parliament, UNICEF and the Provincial Administration, which outlined key follow-up actions.

The meeting also resolved to accelerate the issuance of land titles, prioritize teacher housing under the 2026 CDF cycle and ensure the inclusion of children with disabilities in development programmes. The engagements demonstrated that when Parliament, traditional leaders and development partners work together, lasting progress for Zambia's children can be achieved.



## Post-legislative scrutiny crucial to modern legislation

By Makani Kabeta

The National Assembly of Zambia on 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2025, held an important capacity-building training on Post-legislative scrutiny (PLS), bringing together Honourable Members and key Parliamentary staff in a collaborative effort to strengthen Parliament's oversight function.

The training was officially opened by the Deputy Clerk for Corporate Affairs (DCCA), Mrs. Cecilia Sikatele Mambwe who represented the Right Honourable Speaker.

In her opening remarks, Mrs Mambwe said that Parliament's mandate extends beyond passing laws. She noted that ensuring laws are effectively implemented and improving the lives of citizen is central to the legislative mission.

She explained that post-legislative scrutiny provides the crucial link between the enactment of legislation and its real-world impact.

The one-day training brought together fifteen participants including: Members of Parliament and parliamentary staff from various departments.

Mrs Mambwe highlighted the National Assembly's ongoing partnership with the Scottish Parliament, the Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD), the Centre for Innovation and Development (CIDE), and the Institute for Parliamentary Studies and Training (iPST).

Mrs Mambwe expressed gratitude to all partners for their continued support in building institutional capacity in many areas including post legislative scrutiny.

She also acknowledged the prospective Memo-



Deputy Clerk Corporate Affairs (7<sup>th</sup> left) Deputy Clerk—Corporate Affairs poses with Members of Parliament and Parliamentary staff following the official opening of the capacity-building training on Post-Legislative Scrutiny.

randum of Understanding between the iPST and the West Minister Foundation, which is expected to further formalise and strengthen this collaboration.

Mrs Mambwe noted that 2024 marked a significant milestone when the National Assembly formally integrated post legislative scrutiny into the work of the Committee on Delegated Legislation and International Agreements.

She described the initiative as part of a broader reform agenda aimed at positioning the National Assembly of Zambia among modern legislatures that systematically evaluate how laws are implemented and whether they achieve their intended outcomes.

Mrs Mambwe said that by institutionalising post legislative scrutiny, Parliament reinforces its commitment to accountability, transparency, and citizen-focused governance.



## CONSTITUENCY CORNER

## Vice President commends the construction of CDF-Funded Kasoka Mini Hospital



Vice president Mrs Nalumango (r) engages with Ms Nakaponda (m) during the tour of the newly constructed maternity annex, as Hon Njavwa Simutowe look on.

Vice President, Dr Mutale W K Mutale Nalumango, MP (2nd right), Muchinga Province Minister, Hon Njavwa Simutowe, MP (l) and Isoka Member of Parliament, Mrs Marjorie Nakaponda, MP (r) pose for a photo with health personnel from Kasoka Mini Hospital.

### By Dora Haruperi

Republican Vice President Hon. Dr W.K. Mutale Nalumango has commended the construction of the Kasoka Mini Hospital, a project funded under the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) in Isoka District.

Speaking during the inspection on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2025 Ms Nalumango said that Government remains committed to ensuring that rural communities receive the same standard of health services as those in urban centres.

She noted that bringing essential health services closer to the people is key to improving health outcomes, particularly for women and children who are often most affected by long distances to health facilities.

The Vice President expressed satisfaction with the quality of works and praised the engagement of a local contractor, stressing that this approach not only strengthens community ownership but also supports local employment and economic growth.

She explained that the construction of the Kasoka Mini Hospital is part of Government's broader strategy to strengthen health service delivery through

improved infrastructure development across the country.

Meanwhile, Isoka Member of Parliament, Ms Marjorie Nakamponda, said the project demonstrates the positive impact of the increased CDF allocation, which has enabled communities to prioritise and implement projects that directly address their needs.

She stated that the Kasoka community had long been in need of improved health facilities and the construction of the mini hospital is a response to those needs.

She added that the project has encouraged active community involvement, with local residents showing continued commitment in supporting and monitoring the progress.

And Muchinga Province Health Director, Dr David Sityeya, commended the quality of construction works on the Maternity Wing, noting that the standard of workmanship reflects a strong focus on safety and durability.

He said the facility will greatly enhance maternal healthcare services by providing a more secure and comfortable environment for expectant mothers, which will contribute to reducing maternal mortality.



## CDF Loans must be repaid to sustain empowerment efforts — Lupososhi DC



One of the beneficiaries receive a bicycle after the handover ceremony



Pictures courtesy of Lupososhi Council

Loan Recipients pose for a photo in Lupososhi Constituency

**By Sipiwe Banda**

Lupososhi District Commissioner, Mr. Simon Mwenya, has stressed that Constituency Development Fund (CDF) loans are public resources and that beneficiaries must repay them within the stipulated timeframe, to ensure the sustainability of the revolving fund and continued community empowerment.

He said Government remains committed to uplifting citizens through programmes that support economic empowerment and strengthen local development structures.

Speaking during the handover ceremony for the 2025 CDF loans and 59 bicycles to Ward Development Committees (WDCs) held on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2025, Mr Mwenya stated that many rural communities continue to face limited access to affordable financing, a situation the CDF loan program seeks to address by supporting small-scale entrepreneurs, youth groups and women-led cooperatives.

He noted that delayed repayments threaten the ability of the fund to support new applicants and limit the reach of empowerment programmes. Mr Mwenya stressed that when loans are repaid on time, more community members are able to benefit, creating a stronger and more sustainable local economy.

He therefore urged the recipients to honour their repayment schedules and manage the funds responsibly, stating that doing so would ensure that the loan facility continues to benefit more residents and support long-term community development.

Lupososhi Town Council Chairperson, Mr Kelvin Mwansa, noted that the provision of bicycles to WDCs would strengthen the committees' operational capacity. He said this will enhance their mobility and improve field monitoring of development projects in various wards.

He added that the bicycles will also help committee members respond faster to community needs and ensure that CDF-funded initiatives are effectively implemented and tracked.

And speaking on behalf of beneficiaries, Mr Felix Chola Bwalya, a loan recipient from Mutandashi ward said the assistance will help him improve his business and uplift his family's well-being.

He stated that the initiative gives entrepreneurs a practical opportunity to grow and expand their businesses.

He further noted that recipients remain committed to repaying their loans and using the funds responsibly so that others may benefit in future.



## Lumezi farmer revives parched land through CDF-funded irrigation project

By **Lomthunzi Simpemba**

Pictures courtesy of Lumezi Council

**A** Lumezi farmer has transformed his farmland after accessing a K200,000 Constituency Development Fund (CDF) loan that enabled him to establish a full-scale irrigation enterprise.

Mr Standwell Mtonga, owner of Harrison Farm in Kamimba Ward, said that he previously relied solely on rain-fed farming, a practice that had become increasingly risky due to prolonged dry spells and the effects of climate change.

He explained that, determined to secure consistent yields, he opted to apply for a Constituency Development Fund (CDF) loan in 2024 to shift to irrigation farming.

Mr Mtonga said that after accessing the K200,000 CDF loan, he used part of the funds to sink a borehole, install water tanks, purchase an irrigation system and acquire other essential farming inputs.

He stated that K128,000 of the loan was allocated towards setting up irrigation infrastructure, while the remaining balance was used to purchase fertiliser for his other crops. He noted that this decision helped him generate additional income and begin repaying the loan.

Mr Mtonga further said that with continued support, he hopes to diversify into orange, banana and other citrus fruit production, with the ambition of turning



Mr. Standwell Mtonga picking watermelons on his farm

Harrison Farm into one of the standout agricultural ventures in Lumezi District.

Lumezi Town Council Public Relations Officer, Mr Irvin Muyumbwa, noted that Mr Mtonga's success highlights how many farmers possess the expertise but lack financial backing. Mr. Mtonga has encouraged other farmers to consider CDF loans as a pathway out of rain-dependent farming.

Council chairperson, Mr Oliver Mwale, who toured the farm, commended Mtonga's commitment and said the council was promoting irrigation among beneficiaries due to its long-term advantages.

"We value what Mr Mtonga is achieving and recognise the positive impact of CDF support on farmers in Lumezi," he said.



A lush field of cabbages thriving on Mr Mtonga's farm.



Mr Mtonga's vibrant field of flourishing tomatoes



## Mwembezhi MP Machila Jamba applauds new palace, inspects major projects in Shibuyunji

Pictures courtesy of Shibuyunji Council



The newly constructed palace for Senior Chief Shakumbila

**By Gwennie Shamizhinga**

**M**wembezhi Constituency Member of Parliament, Mr Machila Jamba, has applauded the completion of the new Constituency Development Fund (CDF), funded palace for Senior Chief Shakumbila, describing it as a meaningful step in improving traditional administration in the chiefdom.

He said this when he visited the newly constructed structure on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

Mr Machila stated that the palace, which includes a main office for the Senior Chief and two houses for palace retainers, will enhance the environment in which traditional leadership operates.

He further noted that strengthening traditional institutions contributes to community development and cultural preservation. Mr Machila stressed that such investments make it easier for traditional leaders to carry out administrative duties and host important ceremonies.

Mr Machila stressed that he remains committed to ensuring that the Constituency Development Fund is utilised responsibly to bring fair and meaningful development to all communities in Mwembezhi Constituency.

And later in the day, Mr Machila stated that he was pleased with the progress of the works of the maternity annex under construction through CDF at Mastek in

Nampeya Ward. He explained that the facility will bring essential health services closer to mothers, reducing the long distances they currently travel for care.

The Lawmaker also inspected ongoing works of a 1x3 classroom block at Mabanga in Chabota Ward, where he said that the project will ease overcrowding in classrooms and create a better learning environment for pupils once completed.

The MP was accompanied by several key district officials during the visit, including the Council Chairperson, Mr Adrian Mwanakanyemba, the District Commissioner, Mr Alfred Shaputu, the Council Secretary,



Mwembezhi Constituency Member of Parliament, Mr Machila Jamba (in white shirt) and Senior Chief Shakumbila (in black t-shirt), poses for a photo with the District Commissioner, Council Chairperson, Council Secretary, Heads of Government Departments and CDFC representatives.



## Western Province PLGO Commends Local Authorities for Progress on 2025 CDF Projects



A housing block built through CDF



Provincial Local Government Officer (PLGO) for Western Province, Mr. Nickson Nkwapu (3rd right) pose for a photo with his team



Inspection of a water tank procured using CDF

**By Makeni Kabeta**

Western Province Provincial Local Government Officer (PLGO), Mr Nickson Nkwapu, has commended local authorities across the province for notable progress in delivering the 2025 Constituency Development Fund (CDF) projects.

Speaking after a two-day monitoring tour in the province on 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> November 2025, Mr Nkwapu said he was pleased with the quality and pace of works taking shape in several districts.

He stated that the progress reflected good coordination between councils, contractors, and community structures, and stressed that local authorities across Western Province should ensure that all CDF and Road Fund projects earmarked for 2025 are delivered within the set deadlines.

Mr Nkwapu also noted the importance of communities safeguarding the new infrastructure once handed over. He urged Ward Development Committees to prioritize

staff housing for key line ministries such as agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and forestry, explaining that improved accommodation is essential for retaining personnel in rural areas.

Turning to Mitete Town Council, Mr Nkwapu commended its strong progress in delivering projects. He said that of the 20 approved projects in the constituency, six had already been completed, while the remaining projects were nearing final stages, with most recording about 80 percent progress. He stressed that contractors should maintain consistency with required standards and advised those facing technical or financial challenges to seek partnerships to accelerate completion.

During the tour, Mitete Constituency CDFC Chairperson, Mr Martin Chifwaba, stated that the increased CDF allocation had brought meaningful change to households and allowed the council and communities to undertake more ambitious projects addressing local needs.

Meanwhile, Mitete Council Secretary, Mr Kennedy Kazanda, explained that most projects were progressing within acceptable cost and quality parameters. He noted that although the Electronic Government Procurement (e-GP) system posed some challenges, support from the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development and the Zambia Public Procurement Authority ensured that procurement procedures were properly followed.

Mr Kazanda also stated that the soon to be completed maternity annexes and rural health posts particularly in Lutumo and Kashizhi zones, are expected to expand access to healthcare and reduce maternal deaths once operational.



## Chikankata receives new ambulance and several CDF projects

Pictures courtesy of The Falcon



Mrs. Sabao posing for a photo with the recipients of the CDF Grants



The newly commissioned 1x2 laboratory



The newly procured ambulance

**By Chileshe Chirwa**

Chikankata Member of Parliament, Mrs Jacqueline Sabao has said that the new ambulance and several Constituency Development Fund (CDF) projects in the District are part of ongoing efforts to improve service delivery and address community needs.

Speaking when she toured Kasengo, Chitete, Mabwetuba and Chikombola Wards on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025, Mrs Sabao said one of the key projects is a mechanised borehole at Nkupisha Primary School in Kasengo Ward, which has now been officially handed over to the community.

She also noted that the 2025 CDF Grants, totaling K2,491,290.40 have been disbursed, benefiting 63 community members.

Ms Sabao further explained that the new ambulance procured through the CDF, will help reduce delays in emergency referrals and strengthen healthcare services.

Meanwhile, Chikankata District Commissioner, Mr Timothy Chipolyongo, said the newly commissioned projects reflect the district's commitment to uplifting the welfare of local communities. He stressed that Government investments such as these are essential to improving livelihoods and enhancing access to key

services.

He urged residents to safeguard all commissioned projects to ensure their long-term use and sustainability.

And District CDF Chairperson, Mr Mukuwe Mulyate, stated that the increased CDF allocation has enabled communities to undertake more impactful and people-centred projects. He noted that the Government's support has allowed Chikankata to address various developmental needs more effectively.

The Lawmaker later commissioned a mechanised borehole at Natandi in Mabwetuba Ward to further improve access to clean and safe water in the area.

Mrs Sabao and the Chikankata Town Council also commissioned a 1x2 classroom block at Kalundu Primary School in Chitete Ward, which has been fully furnished with desks to help reduce congestion among learners. A 1x2 science laboratory was also handed over at Nangula Primary School in Chikombola Ward with 60 stools.



## Hon. Mukumbi commissions key infrastructure projects in Chitungu Ward

By Thiloleko Lungu

**S**olwezi West Member of Parliament, Hon. Mukumbi says that the handover of key infrastructure projects in Chitungu Ward demonstrates the Government's commitment to improving health, water and education services.

He said this during the official commissioning of a maternity annex at Kachiwezi Rural Health Centre, a water reticulation system and a staff house at Chitungu Primary School on 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2025.

Hon. Nicholas Mukumbi, said these projects are part of a broader effort to ensure that communities in Solwezi West have access to essential services.

“while not all projects can be implemented at once, as your leaders, we are committed to steady, phased devel-



Hon. Mukumbi (in checked shirt) shares a light moment with the residents of Chitungu Ward after the handover of a water reticulation system

opment across the constituency and will continue responding to your needs,” he said.

Hon. Mukumbi encouraged residents to take care of the facilities and work together with local leaders to sustain them.

Speaking on behalf of the local leaders, Kalumbila Town Council Chairperson, Mr Shadrack Munjunga said the newly commissioned facilities would significantly enhance service delivery in the ward.

“This is a major step forward for our communities. The maternity annex will reduce the long distances expectant mothers travel, while the staff house and water system will improve working conditions for teachers and access to clean water for residents,” he said.

Mr Munjunga further urged community members to safeguard the infrastructure, saying that development succeeds when residents take ownership of the projects.

The event was also attended by representatives from the Council office, Ward Development Committees (WDCs) and local stakeholders.



A newly constructed maternity annex



## New ablution blocks handed over to Chishinga and Ntulo Schools to improve sanitation



Ablution block handed over to Chishinga Secondary School



Ntulo School Ablution Block

**By Chomba Malanda**

**K**awambwa Town Council Chairperson, Mr Titus Musa has said that the newly constructed ablution blocks handed over to Chishinga Secondary School and Ntulo School will greatly improve sanitation and promote a healthier learning environment for pupils.

Speaking during the official handover of the facilities on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2025, conducted in collaboration with the Ministry of Water Development and Sanitation, Mr Musa said the new infrastructure marked a major step toward addressing long-standing sanitation challenges in the two schools.

He said the ablution blocks include separate facilities for boys and girls at both schools, replacing old pit latrines that had become inadequate for the growing learner populations.

Mr Musa further noted that the ablution blocks have been designed to accommodate differently-abled learners, ensuring inclusivity in line with national standards and strengthening efforts to create equitable learning environments.

He stated that the project also supports the Presidential directive aimed at ensuring all schools across the country have access to appropriate and safe sanitation facilities.

The Council Chairperson therefore, encouraged learn-



Inside the Ablution Block

ers to take good care of the facilities to ensure their long-term usefulness.

Speaking at the same event, Ntulo Secondary School's head teacher explained that the institution previously had only eight toilets shared by more than 1,500 learners, making the new ablution blocks a timely and necessary development. Chishinga Secondary School, with over 300 pupils, is also expected to benefit significantly from the improved sanitation infrastructure.

The handover ceremony was attended by Luapula Provincial Water and Sanitation Officer, Eng. Charles Mwale and representatives from the District Education Board.



## Chifubu MP hands over Mutambala Clinic and maternity annex to constituency residents

By **Jessy Mtonga**

Chifubu Member of Parliament, Mr Lloyd Lubosha, has stated that the newly handed-over Mutambala Clinic and its Maternity Annex will greatly strengthen health service delivery for residents of Chifubu Constituency.

Speaking during the handover ceremony on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> November 2025, Mr Lubosha explained that additional health facilities in the constituency will be handed over once the procurement of medical equipment is completed. He noted that it is essential for every health centre to be fully equipped before it becomes operational.

“This development will contribute to effective health delivery for the increased population of Chifubu, who until now depended on only three



Chifubu Member of Parliament, Mr. Lloyd Lubosha, MP (middle), District Commissioner Ms. Precious Njekwa (left) and His Worship the Mayor of Ndola City (right) Mr. Jones Kalyati cuts the ribbon during the official handover ceremony of the newly completed clinic.

clinics that were insufficient for the entire community,” he said.

His Worship the Mayor of Ndola, Mr Jones Kalyati, stated that the new facilities are vital to improving community health and urged residents to take care of the infrastructure.

Meanwhile, District Commissioner Ms Precious Njekwa called on health practitioners assigned to the new clinic and maternity annex to provide quality care, particularly in matters relating to maternal health.

And District Health Director, Dr Lilian Nyendwa, commended the Government for ensuring that the facility was handed over with all the required equipment. She assured residents that health staff would serve the community with dedication and professionalism.

The construction of the clinic and maternity annex, including the supply of equipment, was funded through the 2022, 2023, and 2025 Constituency Development Fund (CDF) at a total cost of K4 million.

Pictures courtesy of Ndola City Council



The newly constructed Mutambala Clinic and maternity annex