

Enabling bright futures

Mwala Judith Mwangala is a retired deputy headteacher. She expects the **CHIANSI IRRIGATION PROJECT** to bring great opportunities for young people in her community.

Mwala is a member of the Demu Irrigation Cooperative Society, she muses, “They call us subsistence farmers. I want to feed my family and the nation at large. Our land is good, we can grow anything. But we need water.”

Struggling to make her soft voice heard above the wind, she continues: “A lot of challenges we face without water...our animals are dying with a lot of diseases. With water you can dip them, they can have plenty of it and you can grow many crops. You can grow enough to sell to buy fertilisers to grow better and better crops and to buy the new seeds that are required to develop our farming here. With water, there will be no hunger in our area.”

As a retired deputy headteacher, Mwala is excited about the opportunities that the Chiansi Irrigation project will bring for young people. “Our youths are idle, so to say. We need water for development. It feels motivating to be at the start of a skills project for the youth particularly - with water, they will have opportunities to learn about gardening, brick laying, construction and many other things.”

Mwala says: “I am youth oriented, that is where my skills lie and I do not want to sit on my skills. I like empowering the youth because they are the future of our nation. I have a dream one day that I should train those people and that they should also train others! That is my vision.”

