Sunday, Petauke (26<sup>th</sup> September, 2024)

## <u>CEJ ANNOUNCES PLANS FOR SOLAR-POWERED BOREHOLES IN CLIMATE STRESSED NYIMBA,</u> PETAUKE

Centre for Environment Justice (CEJ) has announced plans to deliver solar-powered boreholes in the climate stressed Nyimba and Petauke districts in Eastern Province in the year 2025.

CEJ Executive Director Maggie Mwape made the announcement when CEJ handed over 30 improved goats to farmers in Petauke.

Ms Mwape stated that CEJ, now fifteen years in existence, is working in seven provinces of Zambia, with operations in three districts per province.

She mentioned that the presence of CEJ in Eastern Province marks the eighth province, and they will work in Nyimba and Petauke districts.

Ms Mwape expressed happiness about CEJ's presence in Eastern Province, hoping that next year they will expand to a third district in the province.

She explained that CEJ is conducting a pilot project in the province to understand the area before rolling out major activities.

Ms Mwape said so far, CEJ has undertaken notable activities under the pilot project and has received support from the government, traditional leaders, and the local people.

She highlighted that CEJ is in Petauke to actualise one component of the project, which is livelihood support to different beneficiaries, a process that was also done in Nyimba.

The CEJ Executive Director said the move is a pass-on exercise from one beneficiary to another.

Ms Mwape also mentioned that CEJ will continue with training, especially in agroecology, environmental protection, and climate change.

She expressed hope that CEJ will remain in Nyimba and Petauke for a long time and will deliver according to the support rendered by their partners.

The Centre for Environment Justice (CEJ), in collaboration with ZCCN, is working on a project focusing on Gender and Climate Justice in Food Systems, funded by We Effect.

This initiative aims to address the intersection of gender inequality and climate change impacts on food security.

By empowering women and the youth, and promoting sustainable agricultural practices, the project seeks to enhance food systems' resilience and ensure equitable access to resources.

Meanwhile, Petauke District Administrative Officer, Mr Vincent Chibuye, thanked CEJ for the gesture.

He stressed that goats have economic and nutritional value.

Mr Chibuye said the government would monitor beneficiaries closely to ensure that the goats multiply.

He added that Petauke is fortunate to be considered by CEJ, as the organisation could have chosen other districts.

Issued By: CEJ Communications Unit

Centre for Environment Justice (CEJ)

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