Monday, Lufwanyama (11th August 2025)

180 LUFWANYAMA FAMILIES RECEIVE RELIEF FOOD UNDER EARTHWORKS, GREEN GRANTS PROJECT

180 families in Lufwanyama District, Copperbelt Province, have received relief food through the Earthworks and Green Grants project.

The project distributed 25kg bags of mealie meal, two litres of cooking oil, 2kg of salt, and medas of beans and kapenta to each beneficiary.

The Earth Works and Green Grants projects are being implemented by the Centre for Environment Justice (CEJ) in partnership with Future Prenuers Zambia and Care for Nature.

Centre for Environment Justice (CEJ) Executive Director Maggie Mapalo Mwape explained that CEJ had asked the community what kind of assistance they required, and the items distributed were based on those suggestions.

She said that both short-term and long-term projects had been discussed, including livestock programmes involving goats and pigs, as well as agricultural support.

Ms Mwape stated that for the short to medium term, the community had requested food assistance.

She revealed that five(5) communities—Mukumbo, Kapata, Kankonde, Kamwesha, and Chifupa had been selected for the distribution.

Ms Mwape said that village head persons worked with the Community Welfare Assistance Committees (CWACs) to identify beneficiaries in the community using four criteria: eligibility for social cash transfer, persons with disabilities, child-headed households, female-headed households, and the elderly.

She emphasised that only one beneficiary was selected per household to ensure broader coverage.

The CEJ Executive Director further explained that CEJ supports village banking groups of 15 to 20 people, training them in savings and business planning.

She said successful groups receive interest-free loans ranging from K10,000 to K50,000, provided they are viable and committed to revolving the funds for future use.

Earlier, Programme Coordinator Dalitso Mvula stated that the Earthworks and Green Grants project was shaped by community input.

And Lufwanyama District Commissioner Justin Mwalikwa urged residents to support CEJ's efforts and not allow the programme to fail.

He remarked that many organisations struggled in rural areas due to a lack of community support.

Mr Mwalikwa said Chief Lumpuma endorsed the programme and thanked residents for their patience.

Meanwhile, Chief Lumpuma of the Lamba people, through his representative Mr Chomba, encouraged residents to share their challenges and work with CEJ for long-term development.

He urged the community to be inclusive when selecting beneficiaries and called for behavioural change, particularly regarding environmental practices.

Mr Chomba warned against cutting trees near streams, stating that such actions led to environmental degradation and water scarcity.

He said that protecting natural resources was vital for agriculture and survival, and that community actions should align with environmental protection efforts.

Issued By: CEJ Communications Unit

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