

OPEN DEFECATION FREE CAMPAIGN IN CHIREDZI DISTRICT

CHIREDZI RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

The government on the 25th of May 2016 with the aid of UNICEF also chipped in to assist the villagers in ward 20 by constructing a borehole in village 2B Glendevon. The borehole caters for 149 households.

The villagers now have clean sources of drinking water and have constructed hand washing facilities (tip tap) around their homesteads. The villagers also came up with methods on how they were going to sustain their newly achieved status.

As one of the methods, they were going to continue with internal lending and saving *(mukando)* to assist them in the construction of latrines that could have been damaged by natural or unnatural causes. They also came up with a constitution that stipulates waste management of the villages, and has penalties for those that breach the constitution.

In interviews with some villagers in ward 20, they thanked the local authority, Chiredzi Rural District Council for the unwavering support. Ward 20 councillor Yeukai Matsaure



ODF Billboard

thanked the local authority saying that it has been highly instrumental in the fight against cholera and other hygiene related diseases.

"Ini sa councillor ndakamirira ward 20, ndinoda kutenda CRDC nechido chavo kusimudzira ward yedu especially kune zveutano nekurwisana nemanyoka" said Matsaure. Alternatively another ODF celebration ceremony was held to honour villagers in Maware for having attained ODF status. Chiredzi Rural District Council environmental health officer Mrs Mukaro facilitated the occasion and she conferred a certificate to the village. In her speech, she urged the community members in the village to continue working together in a bid to build more toilets as a means to curb hygiene related diseases.

However villagers who gathered for the ceremony expressed their joy and appreciation towards their ODF

status. The event was characterised by music and dances, with pupils from Ruware Primary School providing entertainment in form of drama, traditional dance and poetry.

Takudzwa Majoko is a grade five pupil at Ruware Primary who recited a poem highlighting the importance of toilets in the community.