

JOIN HANDS IN FIGHTING GBV

DAPP Malawi joined the government of Malawi through the Ministry of Gender, Community Development and Social Welfare in the commemoration of the 16 Days Of Activism against Gender Based Violence (GBV).

The launch to mark the 16 days of activism took place on the 25 of November 2020 at Makawa primary school in Mangochi district and was graced by the Minister of Gender Honourable Patricia Kaliati.

In 2020, the event was commemorated under the theme “Unite to End Gender Based Violence: Prevent, Report, Respond and Fund”.

Speaking during the event and in relation to the theme, the Minister called on individuals, law enforcers, organisations and all people to join hands in the fight against GBV citing the rise in the cases of GBV and the recent reports on rape and defilement that have been on the rise in the country.



DAPP Malawi works on creating sustainable development approaches that put the local communities in the fore front to identify local solutions to issues that affect them in their day to day lives.

DAP empowers young women to become economically independent through vocational skills training in various trades at its Mikolongwe Vocational School and through Satellite and Mobile training centres.

The organisation also implements development projects in agriculture, education, health and community development where various forms of human rights and women empowerment are promoted.

THE AFRICAN LIBRARY PROJECT RECEIVES BOOKS



The Africa Library project has as of the month of November 2020 received the first container of books to be distributed in the 64 Libraries under the project in the country.

The project is being supported by well-wishers to promote the reading culture in schools and communities across Malawi.

DAPP is the lead partner in the project and it is working with the Wungwero Book Foundation, the Malawi Institution of Education and the Chancellor College of the University of Malawi.

“I AM CONTRIBUTING TO THE ECONOMY” - SELEWIN

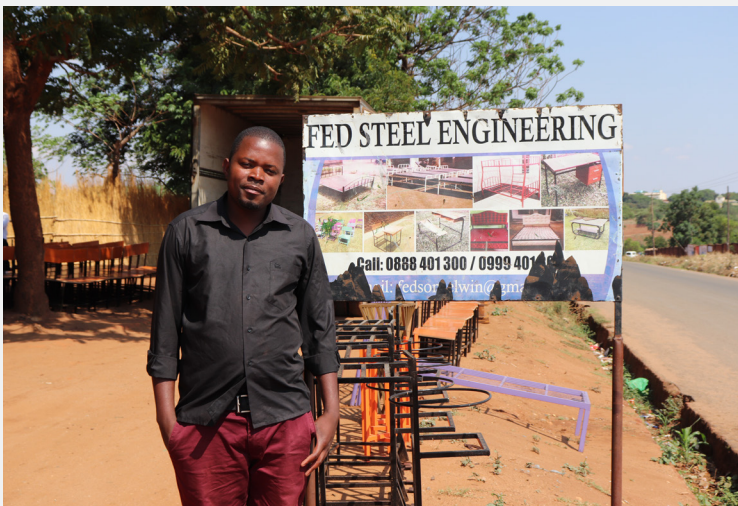
Fedson Selewin is a 33 year old business man based in Lilongwe where he is currently plying his steel furniture manufacturing business in Mchesi area in Lilongwe city. He was trained at DAPP Mikolongwe Vocational School in Welding and Fabrication between the years 2009 and 2010. “When I joined the course I had only acquired my Malawi School Certificate of Education certificate in Mulanje district, my home district. I was among beneficiaries from Mulanje who were identified by an organisation known as ECPP to be supported with scholarships for training in vocational skills at DAPP Mikolongwe and that time I had no idea what welding and fabrication involved, he said. At DAPP Mikolongwe, welding and fabrication students are taught how to manufacture steel products like window and



door frames according to different designs as demanded by customers.

Following his training from Mikolongwe, Selewin said he went back to Mulanje where he did attachments around Tea estates in the district but he later moved to Lilongwe to work at a company that manufactures maize mills. He worked with the company for about two years and later joined Steel Base Furniture company where he worked for 4 years.

“Through the experience gained in these two companies I started doing part time jobs like producing door and window frames while I was still working with Steel Base until 2016 when I decided to quit the job and start my own business, in 2017 I did hit the road with the business. My focus has been to produce steel furniture whereby steel materials are combined with wood or other materials to produce furniture that ranges from classroom desks, office desks, and beds for hospitals, schools or home use. In addition we have now started producing milling machines to have a range of products and I also have another



workshop in Area 49 where we produce windows and door frames for customers who need these products,” explained Selewin.

Fed Steel and Engineering, is an established businesses that currently employs up 9 people on full time basis.

“The company has 9 people employed on full time basis but sometimes we outsource labour on temporary basis,” he said.

Selewin indicated that the business is growing and they are able to supply products to big organisations like the European Union and Plan International who buy steel furniture for schools among other. On average, Fed Steel and Engineering makes a profit of 4 million Malawi kwacha monthly.

At a personal level he said he has managed to buy 3 plots of land and built a house, and established a farm where he is rearing pigs and chickens.

Selewin works with youth who have also benefitted through his skills and coaching in the workshops. He said he would like to see his fellow youth soar in the technical and vocational skills trade.

More than 20 people from his home district, in Mulanje, have learnt about welding and fabrication through his company and that in the next 3 years he wish to have worked with at least 50 youth who can as well become independent. With his business registered and contributing to the economy through taxation and as a registers business they are recognized and able to work with companies, institution and organisations.

Mikolongwe Vocational school was established in 1997 to equip youth with technical, vocational and entrepreneurial skills for them to be able to secure an employment or establish a small scale business. The school has to date trained more than 10,600 youth.

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