

## DAPP graduates 207 female teachers



The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology recently commended Development Aid from People to People (DAPP) Malawi for taking the lead in increasing number of role models for girls by training more female primary school teachers in their Teacher Training Colleges.

Mary Chirwa, Acting Director in the Department of Teacher Education and Development (DTED) spoke at DAPP Dowa TTC during the graduation of 83 primary school student teachers of whom 46 graduating students were females.

*"It is pleasing to note that there are more female teachers who are graduating today."* She said, during the ceremony and added *"This is commendable because we are now talking of gender equality."*

According to Chirwa, the country has a shortage of female primary school teachers as they only represent 40 percent of primary school teachers nation-wide. She therefore said due to these worrisome statistics, most

rural primary schools have no female teachers and that a lot of girls in such areas dropout of school because they do not see any role model who can inspire them to continue with their education.

DAPP has in November graduated 316 teachers, 207 of whom are female in its four teacher training colleges.

## Mzimba TTC graduates all female team



DAPP Mzimba TTC graduated its first ever team of 65 females, who along with their colleagues from Chilangoma, Amalika and Dowa pioneered the 3 year program introduced by DAPP in 2013. The all female team is the best performing DAPP college with 2 distinctions and 15 credits followed by Dowa TTC with 14 credits.

*"The 3 year training has equipped me with skills to enable me to make a difference in the community I am going to serve, in addition to normal classroom work,"* said Mwabi Ngwira after her graduation. *"I have been well prepared to cope and survive rural hardships."*



DAPP Malawi remains grateful for the three years of partnership with Sunbird Tourism Limited and Honourable Rhino Chipchiko MP towards the training of 15 teachers (7 and 8 teachers respectively) who graduated in November at the DAPP colleges.

DAPP also extends its profound gratitude to its partners for Team 2013 who include, Atsikana Pa Ulendo, Standard Bank, Airtel Malawi, Aquaid, Ntchima Trust and others for believing in its refreshed idea to expand the teacher training program from the initial 2.5 years to 3 years.



## OFID partners with DAPP to train teachers



OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) entered into a multi-regional partnership agreement with Humana People to People to train 164 new primary school teachers in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea-Bissau, Malawi, and Mozambique. The teachers are being trained at the 17 existing teacher-training colleges located across the four countries.

The project in Malawi is aimed at expanding inclusive and equitable quality education through the training of 65 student teachers at three of the four DAPP TTCs.

*"Early this year, my teammates and I travelled across Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe where we learnt a lot of new things during the 4 months study travel."*

*The most striking moment during the travel was when we were in Ntcheu district and got the rare opportunity to interact with Senior Chief Kwataine who is championing safe motherhood. I was inspired by his passion and enthusiasm, this encounter has made me to be more aware of the issues that affect girls and women which include gender based violence, child marriages and illiteracy. I am now more involved in community activities which aim at raising awareness on these issues."*

*"I feel that with the training and continuous engagement of communities in college activities, I am able to advocate for women and girls' rights."*

William Matawale, OFID sponsored student at DAPP Amalika TTC.

*"I have learnt how to use the computer as a tool for communicating, not only for communication with my lecturers but also the outside world."*

Mphatso Chimdima, OFID sponsored student at DAPP Dowa TTC