



# Shire Valley Transformation Programme (SVTP)

## ●●● a journey towards agriculture commercialization



### Shire Valley Transformation Programme:

**Project Implementer:** Department of Irrigation, Ministry of Agriculture

**Project Objective:** To increase agricultural productivity and commercialization for targeted households in Chikwawa and Nsanje Districts and to improve the sustainable management and utilization of natural resources.

**Total Duration:** 14 years (2018-2031)

**Targeted hectareage:** 43,370

**Beneficiary farmers:** 223,000

**Total length of canal:** 118km from Kapichira Dam to Bangula in Nsanje

### SVTP approach to agriculture commercialization

Farmers are consolidating their land together into large commercial farms for large-scale commercial farming. Fourteen farms are expected to be established in the Phase 1 area of the project. This is in line with the Government of Malawi's vision of establishing mega farms for commercial agriculture.

So far 46,194 land parcels have been demarcated covering 24,105 hectares belonging to 48,175 land owners (24,628 female and 22,547 male).

Currently five cooperatives from Traditional Authorities Kasisi, Katunga, Maseya, Ndakwera and Lundu have been registered with the Registrar of Cooperative Societies and preparations are underway to register the remaining nine.

Farmers are being trained on how to manage cooperatives and undertaking commercial farming.

Farmers are being encouraged to hire services of professional farm managers to manage their farming enterprises considering that they will be managing large farms whereas currently they are used to managing small farms averaging 0.8 of a hectare.

Through the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Malawi Investment Trade Centre, the project is working on wooing investors to set up processing plants and off-takers to buy products from the farmers among others.

For more details visit:

[www.svtp.gov.mw](http://www.svtp.gov.mw)



Pictures 1-6 provide some pictorial highlights on some major works taking place at the SVTP construction site in Chikwawa currently. **Picture 1:** Construction of 160 metre long Siphon 2 in progress, **Picture 2:** Part of the cleared canal route, **Picture 3:** Part of the 4.09kms concrete paved section of the canal, **Picture 4:** The 200 metre long tiger fish barrier structure under construction, **Picture 5:** One of the three completed bridges on the canal



**Picture 6:** A Ministry of Lands official interacting with land owners during a land parcel adjudication and demarcation sensitization campaign in Phase 2 area, **Picture 7:** Mr. Henry Chimpesa from the Ministry of Trade and Industry during a cooperative meeting in Chikwawa, **Picture 8:** Mulambe Cooperative meeting in session