

# BR EFS

## Police lobby for clean environment

Machinga Police Station officer-in-charge Jane Mandala has urged police officers to partner other stakeholders in creating a hygienic environment. She said this on Friday in Machinga during a cleanup exercise. She said it was important to conduct the exercise to keep the district clean. During the exercise, stakeholders cleaned Machinga Market, Machinga Police Station, Liwonde Bus Depot and Machinga District Hospital. President Lazarus Chakwera launched the cleanup campaign in 2020 to promote hygiene in the country.—WESTERN KANSIRE, CONTRIBUTOR

## Man in for possessing charcoal in Mwanza

Police in Mwanza District have arrested a 36-year-old man for allegedly being found in possession of charcoal and entering a protected Thambi Forest Reserve without documents from relevant authorities. Mwanza Police Station spokesperson Hope Kasakula said Thambi Forest guards caught Malunga during patrols on Friday. "At the time, the suspect was found with some processed charcoal worth about K105 000," he said.—BRIAN WASILI, MALAWI NEWS AGENCY

# Nsanje Council nods to resettlement plan

MARTIN GELA JNR  
CORRESPONDENT

Nsanje District Council has adopted the resettlement action plan under the Shire Valley Transformation Programme to pave the way for compensation and relocation of affected households.

Speaking on Saturday during a full council meeting in Nsanje, Shire Valley Transformation Programme social safeguards specialist Author Kambombe said the resettlement exercise will be conducted in Traditional Authority Mbenje in the district.

He said in Nsanje the project will cover 66 kilometres (km) out of its 118 km.

Said Kambombe: "Affected people will be



PHOTOGRAPH: CHRIS INHANE

Kambombe: Affected people will be compensated

compensated for land for the construction of the main and secondary canals and other structures, including temporary roads.

"We envisage that over 3 300 people will be compensated for land covering about 422 hectares, according to the resettlement action plan for the second phase."

Ministry of Lands land

surveyor Beston Pemphero Chisamilie Junior said the ministry has established customary land committees in 15 group village heads in the area in accordance with the provisions of the amended land laws.

He said in an effort to secure land tenure for beneficiary farmers, the government has been undertaking the process of

land parcel adjudication and demarcation in the project's catchment area.

Said Chisamilie: "So far, government has adjudicated and demarcated 82 460 land parcels in the Shire Valley through the Shire Valley Transformation Programme. This is the largest undertaking by the government aimed at securing land for the citizens in line with the newly amended Customary Land Act [2022]."

Nsanje South West legislator Euita Ntiza Valeta (Democratic Progressive Party) asked government to establish other irrigation schemes in the district.

On his part Senior Chief Tengani urged people to take ownership of the project and support the process being implemented under the project. ■



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## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Global Health Informatics Institute (GHII) is a non-profit organization working at the intersection of science, engineering and global health to address problems of global health importance through development of local solutions and capacity (<https://www.ghii.org>). GHII is inviting proposals from landlords and real estate agencies for the provision of office space for the Malawi EMR Data Use (MEDU) project team beginning **January 8th, 2024**. The lease of the office space shall be for a minimum of 3 years with agreements signed and renewed annually. The MEDU project is funded through a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease and Control and Prevention (CDC) to increase the utilization of data collected through electronic medical record systems.

The proposed space should be located within 15 kms of the GHII main office in Area 3 have a minimum of:

120 square meters of usable space (excluding walkways/corridors)

4 bathrooms/toilets

15 car parking spaces

A minimum of 5KW Power backup infrastructure preferably an inverter with batteries.

A minimum of 4500 liters water backup

Controlled access to the office space

Full specifications and terms of reference can be obtained from our website ([www.ghii.org](http://www.ghii.org)). Deadline for receiving proposals is **22nd December, 2023**.

## Blantyre District Council in campaign against GBV

MARYAM  
MTENGULAH  
MALAWI NEWS AGENCY

Blantyre District Council principal gender and development officer Stephano Joseph has urged people in the district to report gender-based violence.

He said this on Friday in Traditional Authority Somba when the district commemorated this year's 16 Days of Activism Against GBV.

Joseph said the district has increased spaces to engage and encourage men to report cases of violence such as denial to conjugal rights and property grabbing instead of suffering in silence.

"Through multiple reporting channels, including One Stop Centre and Gender Office, Blantyre District has registered an average of 300 GBV cases monthly," he said.

Joseph said they wanted to encourage men, women, children and the youth to unite in ending GBV in their communities.



PHOTOGRAPH: MARYAM MTENGULAH, MAMA

Joseph speaking against GBV

He said: "The global theme talks about ending violence against women and girls. However, we have recognised that men are also GBV victims; hence, our ministry has launched what we call the 'male engagement strategy' which is aimed at ensuring that we eradicate GBV against every person regardless of gender."

Initiative for Community Development Services executive director Kennedy Mwalwandana, whose organisation supported the event, commended

the council for its effort in raising GBV awareness.

He said they also encourage men and women to report such malpractice to relevant offices for action. "We pledge to continue supporting the council's interventions aimed at eliminating gender-based violence," said Mwalwandana.

The commemoration was held under the theme 'United Invest to Prevent Gender-Based Violence in Malawi' and was spiced up with a parade, road shows, dances, poems, comedy and choral performances. ■