



CONSTRUCTION OF WASHROOMS AT CHIKOLORERE PRIMARY SCHOOL

JCM has been supporting the government in the provision of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services in institutions (WinS) that mainly constitutes the rural primary schools in the projectaffected communities. This is done in partnership withDistrict Councils and NGOs through the Livelihoods Restoration Committee. The current programme focused on both provision of WASH infrastructure (water facilities and latrines) as well as hygiene promotion, which is expected to contribute to increased school enrolment and retention, especially for adolescent girls and students living with disabilities. Construction works at the school by Kungoni Contractors have been completed and JCM has handed over the project to the school committee for the students to start utilization of the facilities. A water connection was also provided which will be used to bring water to the girls' bathroom.

The contractor has also included two disability-friendly toilets for both girls and boys living with disabilities. The Dedza District Council Director of

Public Works has technically supported the project by supervising and monitoring the construction process to ensure all works were being done according to the building standards.

"We didn't have enough toilets and the facilities we had were small, dilapidated and didn't have doors and roofs. This affected the students, especially the girls, while our male students often rushed to nearby bushes to help themselves. The situation was worse for students living with disabilities. Insufficient washroom facilities saw many adolescent girls stay away from school during their menstrual period, while others dropped out completely. Even our teachers would have to go back home to access toilets."

Bridget Mseteka, Head Teacher Chikolorere Primary School

