



Domain: Increases maize production through Conservation Agriculture

Date story was recorded: 12th April, 2013

Recorded by Senard Mwale

Type of monitoring: Regular project monitoring

Alabi Tabu lives in Kuweluza village in TA Kachindamoto, Dedza district. He first came into contact with Concern Universal in 2012 through the DISCOVER project. The community chose him to be a Lead Farmer (someone who would show other farmers benefits of farming technologies). During the first year he decided to do an experiment on his

garden. He planted three plots with maize but under different practices of Conservation Agriculture i.e pit planting, surface planting. He wanted to compare these practices with traditional farming methods. When we visited him, he was about to harvest his maize. He told us that "I used to harvest 5 baskets of maize from my 5 acre piece of land. This year I will harvest 25 bags of 50Kg. In addition, I have cultivated cassava and sweet potatoes". He thinks that this maize will take them to the next growing season. There are 6 people in his household. He has been approached by 33 people in the village who would like to learn the practice of CA. He say other benefits he has observed are reduced soil erosion and reduced labour. He will expand his land under conservation agriculture during the next cropping season. He is preparing to keep his crop residues "I will construct raised rack and I will put cow dung on top of the residues so that cattle do not eat it". We learnt farmers can protect crop residues from cattle by putting dung on top of it"