

## NGALA: Likuche Farmers' club members get agriculture loans

Likuche Farmers' Club members of Ngala in Nkhotakota District got agriculture loans worth about K4.0 million in form of hybrid seeds and UREA and CAN fertilizers. Sponsored by *Malawi Hilfe Schwindegg* (MHS) of Germany under 'Ngala 2020 Covid-19 Project,' the loans were distributed by *URAC team* at the headquarters of Senior GVH Kamkondo on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2020. The loan facility was preceded by a 2-week training provided by GIZ focusing of good agriculture practices and marketing skills.



*Senior GVH Kamkondo (in tie) with Likuche Club*

As government's agriculture inputs programme (AIP) does not target organised farmers, Likuche Farmers Club members were very grateful to get the loans. Restings Phiri, the club's chairperson said the training and loan initiative were a remedy rendered in time. "After getting trained on good agricultural practices and receiving the loan just when the rains have just started, our goal now is to apply what we learnt in the training and work hard to repay our loans." The loans will be repaid by instalments after harvest at 10% interest.

In his remarks, URAC's Project officer, Wongani Chunga, advised the club members pay back the loans to win the trust of funders and create opportunities for more projects in their area. The Senior Group Village Headman Kamkondo, who signed as a witness for each member getting a loan, hailed the project for providing the loans saying his subjects would not have planted maize this year.

Apart from promoting food and nutrition security among families, the farm input loan project is expected to support a planned school feeding programme. Contacts: [info@uracmalawi.org](mailto:info@uracmalawi.org).