

Developing careers

Gilbert Munsaka is employed to supervise a team working on **Chanyanya Infrastructure Company's** commercial farm in rural Zambia.

"I am Tonga by tribe. Both of my parents are Tongas from this area of southern Zambia," says Gilbert.

"I came to work here on the Chanyanya Infrastructure Company (CIC) farm on 8th of August 2008. Before that, I was working piecemeal in the compound and did not have regular income."

Starting out as a General Worker, Gilbert worked hard and was promoted to Pump and Pivot Operator, becoming Farm Supervisor in 2014. "I am responsible for overseeing the work of six General Workers. I enjoy my job and it feels good to be in this role. As a team, we plant and weed the fields, we ensure that the pumps and pivots have no faults and we dig drainage ditches if floods come. If

it rains, we can turn off the pivots and use rainfed, but we no longer have to rely on the rain to ensure a successful crop."

Gilbert talks about how the project has impacted his life, saying, "My life now is a very good life. It is much better than before. I can support my two children and I am very happy."

Having secured ORIO grant funding, InfraCo Africa and its private sector partner are working to expand CIC's commercial farm and the nearby market gardens as part of wider work to connect up to 3,800ha of land in Kafue District to irrigation infrastructure.

Looking to the future, Gilbert says: "This project has brought employment to Chanyanya and I expect the expansion to boost employment still further."