

INTERVIEWING ELLEN NTHENDA THE ASSISTANT PROJECT'S COORDINATOR

Recently, Andiamo's department of news and current affairs published a story about two new members who have just joined the executive team. One of the new members, Ms. Ellen Nthenda told Andiamo's Website Development team of her new experience at Andiamo Youth Cooperative Trust through the following interview. Excerpts:

Recently, we have noticed you in several campus activities, can you tell us about yourself?

Sure! My name is Ellen Nthenda. I was born on 20th February, 1984 in Chiradzuro district. Am a third born daughter in a family of six siblings. My father passed away in 2001 and now I live with mum only. We emigrated from Chiradzuro to Balaka district on 1st December 2000. Now, I may proudly say I am a resident of Balaka! Currently, my home place is Chiuja Village; Group Village Headman Chimatilo; sub T/A Sawali. To talk of marital status, I am single.



Ms Ellen, to be where you are now, one should be pretty sure that you attained some education. Can you tell us about your education background?

I have attended different primary schools in my life. For instance, I did my primary 1-3 at Namandanje primary school in Machinga then primary 4-5 at Chiradzuro primary school. In the following year, I moved to Mwanje Primary school where I did primary 6-8. This was again in Chiradzuro. After completing my Primary School Leaving Certificate Education, I was selected to study at Providence Girls Secondary School in Chisitu, Mulanje. I completed successfully in 2001 and obtained a Malawi School Certificate of Education (MSCE).

After MSCE results, my intention was to do a course in nursing. However, I did not pursue this course because of financial constraints. Lucky enough, in 2006, father Mario Pacifici sponsored me to study at Andiamo Technical School. I chose to do a course in Motor Vehicle Mechanics (MVM). I passed my grade III exams then the following year, I excelled through grade II.

What is your current position at Andiamo?

Before assuming the current position, firstly, I was asked to work at a Water Filtration plant. After only one week, I was appointed to work as an assistant Project's Coordinator, a post that took effect from the 20th October 2008.

Considering the fact that the post you have assumed is a tough one, what are the likely challenges you expect to meet?

The first and the biggest of all is my age. Being a youthful person, I have got a feeling that some people may not be willing to cooperate with me.

Sure?

It is just a feeling, any way! But in few instances, some noticeable individuals expressed contempt to have requisitions signed by me. This is really a challenge! However, I am more than ready to work and cooperate with them.

How do you feel to work at Andiamo?

Being a student who has studied at one of the Andiamo Trust's education institutions, I am very happy to work at the same place, so as to utilize the knowledge imparted on me by the same people drilling Andiamo. I am ready to work hand in hand with everybody so as to make Andiamo produce more and better fruits. The joyful feeling in me goes beyond the skies for the fact that I was appointed by virtue of being Andiamo's own product in the academic circle. Hence, I want to represent and present Andiamo Education Institution as the best tool a student can rely on. I am here to prove myself worth of the appointment.

What should people expect from you?

First of all, the people above me i.e. those holding higher responsibilities should have hope in me and should believe that they chose a right person. And the persons below me should expect high coordination. They should not think that because I am holding a higher post then I am not the same Ellen they shared jokes and laughter with. The truth of the matter is that we are all working together for the progress and harmony of Andiamo Youth Cooperative Trust.



What message do you have for fellow Youths?

Being a youth, the first message goes to fellow youths. I urge all youths that whenever they finish school, they should not rush into marriage. They should take their time and look forward for their future. Marriage is not a bad thing but to marry without a substantial future is a mistake that

is regrettable for the rest of life. Without showing complacency, for example, since I completed secondary education in 2001, I had never thought of getting a life partner because I prioritized my future. My age and marriage never purred.

For everybody else, my encouragement is to be fearful to God. Put God first for He is the only planner of events in ones life. On our own, we cannot do anything; he made us who we are today!

Thanks Ellen, and we hope to meet you on the same forum in future

You are welcome, and may God bless you!