Bright Bwalya: Fighting epilepsy with innovation

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), around 50 million people worldwide have epilepsy, making it one of the most commonly occurring neurological globally. Bright Bwalya from Zambia is on a mission to help this group of people using innovation and technology.

Bwalya explains that there is a patient who has epilepsy and is a farmer living in the rural areas of Zambia. This patient has just had a seizure.

The patient’s location is tracked and his emergency contacts are notified. In addition, the patient’s physical condition is monitored to draw attention to any emergency.

Whoever picks up the notification can choose to call the patient or go to his location to provide first aid. This is made possible by the smart wristwatch which the patient is wearing.

By CHRSITINE KUNDA

I AM inspiring each and every one of you to take part in a growing activity such as agriculture due to its goldmine, but can now be offered as a great way to help others.

These are the words of 61-year-old Duncan Mbanda of Mubende District, a beneficiary of the Social Cash Transfer (SCT) programme. According to Mbanda one of the benefits of Social Cash Transfer (SCT) is the ability to choose his own projects.

According to Mr Banda, SCT has enabled him have income-generating activities. Later, in an effort to stimulate and strengthen public dialogue on the SCT, the government has released K1.46 billion for social interventions that would be scaled up this year. After a trip to Kenya where he was diagnosed with epilepsy, Bwalya was recently awarded K250,000 by the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) for hisbar</p>