

## Beneficiary Story:

Name: Mama Emiliania

Village: Odima

District: Lokandu

Province: Maniema

Mama Emiliania aged 62 lives in Odima village (total population 1,000) in Lokandu district, Maniema Province. She and her 15 children have lived here all their lives, witnessing many atrocities during the war in DRC and suffering many hardships. All this time her family have depended on the land for their livelihood, growing rice, maize, groundnut, selling what little is left over from what they eat. During the harvest time they can have one meal a day but between harvests it becomes difficult as food runs out and it is not unusual for her and her family to go for days without eating anything other than cassava leaves. Mama Emiliania is well known in the village and often is found helping those who are even worse off than herself by giving them some food to live on, always giving out of the little that she has herself.

Tearfund is helping Mama Emiliania and families like her in Maniema Province to recover from the effects of the war and develop their best resource, their land. The aim is to help people to encourage good agricultural practices that will in turn improve the agricultural yields of the communities so they have more to sell as well as eat. As well as this vegetable gardens are being encouraged so that families and especially children can have improved nutrition in their diet. Over 3,000 families have received seed (types) over the past year and a further 2,500 are to be supported over the next two years.

*"This project will mean that I will be able to have money to pay for the school fees of my grandchildren and it will mean we will have more food to eat throughout the whole year"*