

Kujenga Maisha East Africa (KUMEA)

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Project Completion Report

Indigenous Chicken Dispersal Program in Embu & Kisumu; Kenya

NAK-
karitativ



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1.0 BASIC INFORMATION

Donor Organization	NAK-Karitativ (Germany)		
Implementing Organization	Kujenga Maisha East Africa (KUMEA)		
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Contact Name:	Joseph O. Ekhuya	Contact Title:	Chief Executive Officer
Project Title:	Indigenous Chicken Dispersal Program for Income Generation and Nutritional Improvement of the Rural Poor in Kisumu & Embu Regions	Beneficiaries	474 Families
Project Start Date:	February 2012	Project End Date:	27/6/2013

2.0 ABOUT KUMEA

Kujenga Maisha East Africa (KUMEA) was established and registered in Kenya in June 2010 as an NGO for the New Apostolic Church ; East Africa District. It grew out of the Relief and humanitarian efforts of the Church that had been going on for five years. The majority of church members in East Africa live in places where HIV/AIDS and poor climatic conditions are major contributors to poverty. Kumea therefore feels duty bound to respond to the needs of these communities.

Although KUMEA is a Faith based NGO, It operates beyond the boundaries of the New Apostolic Church. It brings together people of all faiths and persuasions without discrimination. KUMEA seeks to improve the living conditions of vulnerable members of the community through developmental activities .It is a vehicle through which an organization or individual can contribute towards sustainable development in the communities of East Africa The Objectives of KUMEA include:-

- Enhancing agricultural crop and animal yield through modern, innovative ,cost effective and efficient farming techniques and improving sanitation.
- Employing agricultural extension officers to train adult Kenyans in modern farming techniques and assisting them acquire managerial skills;
- Drilling boreholes and erecting water catchments reservoirs.
- Distributing farm implements free or at subsidized cost to individual or collective members of the beneficiary community’s activities and projects aimed at economic empowerment of the people within the organization’s sphere of operation.

- Engaging members and the general public in environmental conservation efforts and sensitization.

3.0 BACKGROUND OF THE CHICKEN PROJECT

Local hens and cocks which will be referred to as local poultry in this report, are kept mainly by small scale farmers in most parts of the world where they adapt well. There are fewer religious and social taboos that are associated with local poultry than other livestock, thereby making poultry products an acceptable and easily available form of animal protein to most people throughout the world, with exception of strict vegetarians. Animal proteins are relatively more expensive than other protein sources and therefore on-farm production of such protein becomes one of the cost effective means of sustaining its availability. According to some FAO reports, the actual requirements for animal proteins are 6 -7g per person per day. Sadly, in many poor communities in Africa, even this apparently small quantities required are hardly achieved due to poverty. The major sources of animal proteins that would be available at community level are milk, eggs, chicken, wild game and pork. The availability of these are limited by either or a combination of such factors as inaccessibility to the livestock, lack of knowledge and skills to manage the livestock, high feeding requirements of the livestock, wildlife policies against game hunting and expensive products on markets.

Considering the wide adaptability of local poultry to most areas, relative ease of accessibility, rapid generation time and a high rate of productivity, delicacy of the meat and high demand for its products in markets, the local poultry has a potential to be scaled up to satisfactorily meet the needs for animal protein even at community level and generate income. That this is technically feasible is the fact that there exist trained technical staff who can speak various local languages, facilities for training exist even at community level and there are many small scale farmers who are willing and eager to be trained. The challenge has been the funding for the technical training since the African governments have limited resources to effectively reach a critical mass of farmers. Lack of employment and the current high costs of living have aggravated the situation.

The Indigenous Chicken dispersal Project in Kisumu and Embu is an attempt at the realization of such a gap for improving the living standards of rural communities where poverty indexes are high, and in supplementing Government efforts in Kenya. The project had an initial plan to reach out to 300 families within the target communities to improve their livelihoods by giving each trained family member five pullets (female birds) and a breeding cock (male bird) as a gift start up stock. This report covers the actual implementation of the project.

4.0 TRAINING COURSE & PAULTRY PLACEMENT PROGRAM

This report is a summary of the individual training site reports. This summary report only highlights major findings.

4.1 JUSTIFICATION OF THE TRAINING COURSE

The project received funds from NAK-Karitativ (The German Organization of the New Apostolic Church) to facilitate the implementation of a project for improvement of local poultry production among community members within the target areas in Kisumu and Embu in Kenya. The potential for poultry production had not yet been fully tapped by farmers due to lack of technical skills and knowledge. The training was just designed to address the farmers' technical gap before they received the chicken.

4.2 THE TARGET GROUP

The farmers from the target communities were mobilized by the KUMEA regional Committees to the respective training sites. Farmers from groups neighboring each other were merged to one training site for convenience. These were deserving, vulnerable community members not necessarily of the New Apostolic church faith. The farmers were drawn from 20 different groups. A total of 281 farmers were trained against an initial target of 300 farmers, implying a 93.6% achievement to the original target. The 281 trained farmers comprised of 65 men and 206 women all of whom each received five pullets and a breeding cock.

4.3 AIM OF THE COURSE AND DURATION

The main objective of the project was to empower the farmers by imparting the modern poultry improvement skills and knowledge through training for them to be able to improve their livelihoods through consumption and sales for income of poultry and poultry products. The case studies cited by trainee farmers alluded to the fact that livelihoods have actually been improved in the past by poultry and its products even when practiced under the dominant traditional management systems. The training of farmers took place within six months between January 2012 and June 2012 and took two days at each of the eight training sites.

4.4 THE COURSE CURRICULUM

The training curriculum on improving local poultry was designed to address the common challenges experienced by farmers in poultry rearing. The training curriculum that was applied across the training sites was a standard one and it was facilitated by the same training consultant for consistency. It was however flexible enough to address other issues that came up during the training.

4.5 FARMERS' CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE TRAINING

The farmers that were trained also contributed to the training in kind by arranging for their own meals, gave their time to attend all the training sessions and transport to and from the

venues for the two days. The course took two days per site. **Table 1:** shows the breakdown of the training information as summarized.

4.6 A SUMMARY REPORT FOR THE TRAINING AND PLACEMENT OF LOCAL POULTRY

Table 1

DATES 2012	CLUSTER NAME	GROUPS	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL TRAINED	TRAINING VENUE
January						
12 - 13	Ahero	3	13	35	48	Ahero New Apostolic Church
30 - 31	Embu	2	7	50	57	Majimbo New Apostolic Church
February						
16 - 17	Mbeere	2	2	38	40	Kanyariri New Apostolic Church
March						
20 - 21	Kisumu 2	6	10	35	45	Kisian New Apostolic Church (Tree shade)
22 -23	Vihiga	4	20	25	45	Vihiga New Apostolic Church
April						
12 - 13	Mituki	1	2	14	16	Gangara New Apostolic Church
June						
5 - 6	Mwitethia	1	11	4	15	Kigumo New Apostolic church
7 - 8	Mbuvori Passion group	1	3	12	15	Karau New Apostolic Church
TOTALS	8 Cluster Sites	20	65	206	281	

4.7 PARTICIPANTS' EXPECTATIONS FROM THE TRAINING

All the farmers' expectations cited were mainly to improve skills and knowledge on local poultry production and these were covered by the training curriculum. The other expectation was to be given start up poultry stock of five pullets and one breeding cock. All the 281 trained farmers comprised of 206 women and 65 men each received five pullets and one breeding cock after understanding and signing a binding contract agreement with KUMEA Project. The birds were purchased by KUMEA from farmers in the communities where training was being done. The supplying farmers were not trainees.

4.8 MAJOR CHALLENGES THAT FARMERS EXPERIENCED BEFORE TRAINING

- Lack of Knowledge and skills
- Rampant poultry diseases
- Lack of organized markets
- Theft cases

4.9 TECHNICAL TOPICS COVERED

4.9.1 INTRODUCTION TO IMPROVED LOCAL POULTRY REARING MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

It was established that over 90% of the trainees were practicing traditional poultry management which gives the least returns to investments. The various technical topics in the curriculum addressed the gaps. To illustrate the losses, in one year, a hen under traditional management produces an equivalent of Ksh.2, 190/=. The same hen if subjected to improved management will produce Ksh. 8,585/= in the same period. This is 74% more production. The training would help farmers to unlock this potential.

Even under traditional management, some farmers still benefit from the enterprise as revealed by case studies as narrated by trainees.

- Women were able to take children through primary education- Hellen Ouma from Kisumu 2 cluster and Loice Muthoni from Mituki cluster benefited directly.
- A farmer, Joyce Awino of Kisumu 2 cluster was able to pay off her hospital bills and take her son through driving school from income from livestock which she got starting with local poultry.
- Many farmers were able to progress to bigger livestock (cattle) from sales of local poultry. Such farmers include Joyce Awino from Kisumu 2 cluster, Rosemary Muturi and Teresia Rweru from Okira, Mbeere cluster.
- Two farmers, Patrick Adede and Hellen Adede were able to re-invest income from local poultry to realize better livelihoods. Hellen managed to even buy a plot of land finally.
- These were all good case studies albeit the traditional management practices applied. The training on improved local poultry management would help farmers realize much better livelihoods in a shorter time.

4.9.2 HOUSING

Under the widely practiced traditional management, over 90% of the trainee farmers had no houses for their poultry and even those who claimed to have, had improper houses. They shared their houses with the birds or keep them in kitchens built next to their houses. Most

farmers said that they fear to house poultry outside their own houses due to rampant theft cases at night.

The project will be obligated to mobilize or facilitate for mobilization of the target farmers to cooperate and support each other to put up modern permanent poultry houses for them to enjoy the benefits which include among others shelter from predators, opportunity for proper feeding, controlled breeding and collection of manure. It is also easier to catch birds for food.

4.9.3 DISEASE CONTROL

Massive poultry stock mortalities (deaths) in particular seasons is characteristic of these farmers' management systems. They have not been vaccinating poultry mainly due to lack of knowledge and skills. The training imparted the necessary knowledge and skills and therefore the farmers' confidence to manage common diseases effectively. They were trained on vaccination techniques and linked to mobile SMS for enquiries on all livestock diseases medication recommendations at just Ksh 5/=.

4.9.4 FEEDS AND FEEDING

Majority of farmers kept birds on free range system where birds roam in search of food which is usually inadequate and not in balanced nutritional requirements. This has greatly contributed to the low production realized from the local birds. The training addressed among others what should be fed, how to feed, and why feed in the recommended way.

4.9.5 SELECTION AND BREEDING

Under the widely practiced traditional poultry farming, there is hardly flock selection and inbreeding and related problems abound. The training emphasized need for flock selection for a vibrant productive flock. Proper breeding methods were recommended and encouraged.



The facilitator demonstrates the techniques of selection for breeding

4.9.6 MANAGEMENT OF A HEN'S PRODUCTION CYCLE

A hen has a definite production cycle that if left to flow naturally delays productivity. The farmers were trained on how to harness the unproductive stages of the cycle to productivity for example use of incubators for hatching eggs leaving the hen to continue laying –

enhancing productivity. Other techniques included synchronized hatching where multiple birds are managed to hatch at the same time making it easy to vaccinate and manage chicks of same age. Relay hatching involves managing a hen to continue brooding to term soon after hatching. The farmers will definitely improve productivity by these management techniques imparted.

4.9.7 GENDER ISSUES AROUND POULTRY FARMING

Gender profiles were established by participants themselves, as trained, using a score matrix for rapid results to determine the trends on roles and relationships of family members (men,

women and children) in the various aspects of poultry keeping so as to make informed decisions based on who does what and why not questions. Comprehensive interpretations of the various roles and relationship implications are best analyzed when these are compared in relation to expected justifiable relationships.



A participant leads others in scoring to determine gender profiles for interpretation and analysis

Gender issues analysis was a must intervention considering that even with the best knowledge and skills on poultry management, one would still need the support of other family members in successful implementation and decision making for access to required resources for successful project implementation. The rapid study technique on the roles and relationships of family members had therefore to be done to advise the farmers and the project on the inherent setbacks and opportunities for a productive project. The following are summaries from the gender profiles and trend indications for project consideration. Note however that the specific gender profiles for each group that are available would best be used by the respective groups to address their specific gender issues. The summaries are general trends that can also advice.

Table 2

A summary of the trends from roles and relationships of family members around various tasks for poultry rearing across all the cluster of farmers where done.

Cluster Group	MA	FA	MC	FC
Mituki	18	36	06	07
Vihiga	08	25	01	06
Kisumu 2	07	30	06	07
Mbeere	23	48	09	10
Embu	04	37	04	05
Ahero	12	02	32	04
Totals	72	178	58	39

KEY: MA-Male Adult, MC-Male Child, FC-Female Child, FA- Female Adult. Marks were awarded by participants for how the various tasks are normally done. On a scale of 1-10 across each task, they scored giving the highest mark for category that worked most. The indicated figures in the tables therefore give the total marks for the various tasks by each category at the respective cluster points for the various roles and responsibilities. More marks therefore indicate greater workload. Note also that the key ad explanations that follow apply to tables 2, 3 and 4 below.

4.9.8 TREND INDICATIONS AND IMPLICATIONS-TABLE 2

Women are the task bearers; work more than twice the men's' and more than thrice children's contributions. The women's hands-on experience therefore sets them apart as the best target group for the poultry enterprise across the training sites. Indeed, and in harmony with the trend advice, 206 women against 65 men benefited from the training and start up poultry stock. Deliberate efforts would however still have to be made to have the men and children significantly step up their support in performing the tasks-related to poultry keeping otherwise women will be unjustifiably overburdened. The male child is more



Discussions around roles and relationships on sharing tasks by family members- table 2

involved in the tasks than the female child yet the reverse will be true in adulthood. What happens along the way?

A male participant is humbled and agrees with the trends from the gender profiles on sharing tasks on poultry by family members. He urged fellow men to each give more support to their women, their ribs! Note the amusement and unanimous applause by participants.

Table 3

A Summary of trends from roles and relationships of family members on access and control over resources required for poultry keeping at the cluster groups

Cluster group	ACCESS TO RESOURCES				CONTROL OVER RESOURCES			
	MA	FA	MC	FC	MA	FA	MC	FC
Mituki	15	12	05	06	20	11	07	02
Vihiga	22	14	07	07	26	22	00	02
Kisumu 2	39	16	10	05	40	24	06	00
Mbeere	15	21	03	01	22	18	00	00
Embu	19	20	06	05	29	21	01	00
Ahero	24	03	30	04	24	00	35	00
Totals	134	86	61	28	161	96	49	04

4.9.9 TREND INDICATIONS AND IMPLICATIONS – TABLE 3

Under normal circumstances, the person who works most should be able to have most access to the resources required to do the work. This helps them work with ease. However, they don't necessarily have to have the highest control over resources but yes, some reasonable level of control. The Scenario around farmers trained is such that the Men (Male Adults) across all cluster groups have the highest access **and** control over the resources used in poultry rearing yet they work half as much as the women. The male child has reasonable access to resources for the limited period of his involvement yet the female child who will be involved in more tasks in future has least access and least control over the resources required for the work. When and where does she perfect her skills?

Table 4

A summary of trends from roles and relationships of family members on the access and control over benefits from poultry keeping across the cluster groups

Cluster group	ACCESS TO BENEFITS				CONTROL OVER BENEFITS			
	MA	FA	MC	FC	MA	FA	MC	FC
Mituki	16	09	15	10	---	---	---	---
Vihiga	14	15	05	06	---	---	---	---
Kisumu 2	19	13	04	03	10	26	03	01
Mbeere	08	12	10	10	13	25	01	01
Embu	13	21	03	03	19	17	02	02
Ahero	29	02	17	02	19	00	31	00
Totals	99	72	54	34	61	68	37	04

4.9.10 TREND INDICATIONS AND IMPLICATIONS TABLE 4

Under normal circumstances, one who works most is entitled to higher access to benefits so that they are motivated to work more. In this case however, men have the highest access to benefits even though they work half as much as women. Interestingly though, women have highest control over the benefits.

4.9.11 CONCLUSION

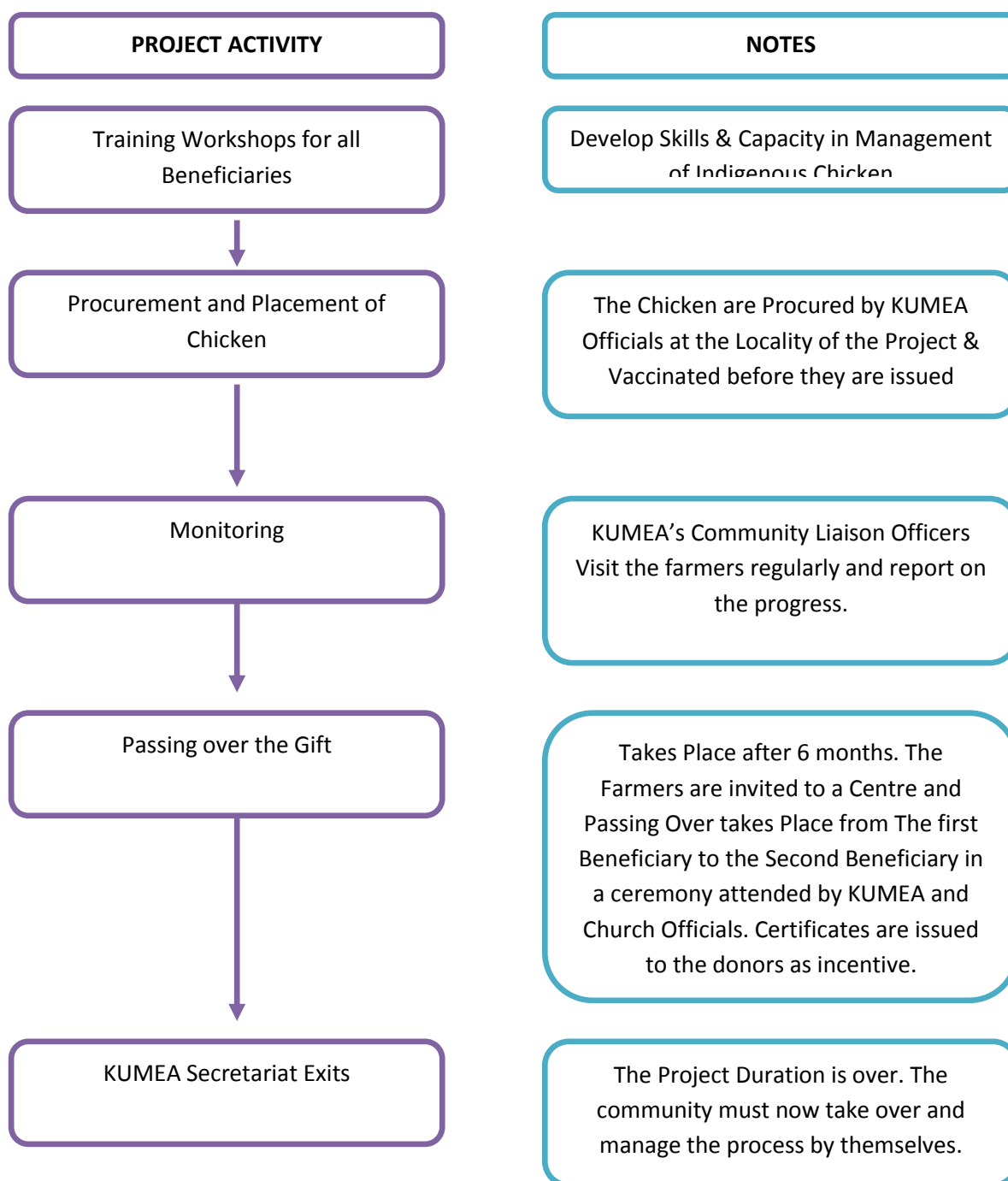
The local poultry improvement course was relevant to the participants and judging by the general project progress, mortalities are under control six months after initiating the course. There are various economic activities within the target communities around which workers, persons in business and community provide ready markets for poultry and its products. Chicken is a delicacy to many as confirmed by the best meal score sheet for the trainees which had over 90% of farmers ranking chicken as the most preferred meal. The initial lack of technical Knowledge and skills has now been checked by the course and it is anticipated that many livelihoods will therefore be realized. The fact that 216 women and 87 men benefited during placement of poultry is consistent with the gender findings for the right target groups benefiting most.

5.0 SUSTAINABILITY OF THE PROJECT

The sustainability of this project is based on the following:

- KUMEA has mobilized the community into Self help groups that are overseeing the overall running and management of the project. The project was designed in such a way as to ensure self propagation. The first beneficiaries received 6 chicken; 5 hens and 1 cockerel. After six months, each beneficiary then passes on 6 chickens to a second beneficiary in a different group. Once this is done, KUMEA pulls out of the project. The groups continue on their own.

6.0 IMPLEMENTATION FLOW CHART



7.0 PROJECT CHALLENGES

The Project has not been without challenges, among them:-

- Obtaining sufficient numbers of chicken to purchase within the project area. This made an event that should have happened in one day to take several days.
- Beneficiaries who were not willing to pass on their chicken after 6 months.

8.0 CHICKEN DISPERSAL SUMMARY

 Passing of the Gift after 6 months

	1 st BENEFICIARIES	MEMBERS	BIRDS	2 nd BENEFICIARIES	MEMBERS	BIRDS	DISPERSAL DATE
1	Shining Star Self Help Group	28	168	Green Span Self Help Group	24	150	21/11/2012
2	Faith Self Help Group	29	174	Makima Muungano Group	29	174	21/11/2012
3	Ukira Self Help Group	30	180	Bethsaida Self Help Group	24	144	21/11/2012
4	WendoSelf Help Group	10	60	Utheri Women Group	10	60	21/11/2012
5	Mbuvori Passion Fruit Growers	15	90	Ishiara Self Help Group	15	90	11/02/2013
6	Mituki Women Group A	16	96	Mituki Women Group B	15	90	14/01/2013
7	Mwitethia Karira Self Help Group	15	90	Wendani Self Help Group	15	90	11/01/2013
8	Kisumu 1 -Ahero	48	288	Kisumu 1 -Ahero	19	102	27/06/2013
9	Kisumu 2 -Kisian	45	270	Kisumu 2 -Kisian	6	30	08/11/2012
10	Kisumu - Vihiga	45	270	Vihiga	36	204	27/06/2013
	Total	281	1686		193	1134	27/06/2013

9.0 BRIEF EVALUATION REPORT FROM THE FIELD

The following report was compiled by KUMEA Liaison Officer, Tereciah Maina.

During the evaluation all the groups said that their participation in the project benefited their whole families. They said they have benefited from the manure, eggs and meat. In all the groups we found that chicken have multiplied because every member testified of an increase in number

of chicken from the initial 6. We also verified this. Comparing all the groups we also found that there were three ranges the chicken multiplied where the first range was among 13- 20 chicken, the second range between 20-30 and third range from 30-50 chicken per individual member. The reasons given by the groups for the differences were that of the different ages of chicken at the time they were received. Some matured earlier than others. Therefore due to that, some individuals got their products earlier than others. The groups talked of sustaining their project through maintaining the group with merry go round and assisting one another in rearing the chicken through pooling their efforts together.



Tereciah Maina (KUMEA Liaison Officer Embu)

The groups said that they chose to be in the project because chicken has a quick economic gain and nutritional benefits among others. They also said that chicken produce very quickly and when taken care of then one can be economically fit.

The connection of KUMEA to NAC church encouraged the members of the group because there was no discrimination of religion, race or culture in the project. All the members said that they have never been in any chicken project. They also said that they reared chicken in their homes just as domestic animals without realizing the benefits which can be brought by the chicken. They said they didn't have the knowledge of rearing the chicken and therefore they lost chicken to the diseases every now and then. Now they are happy to have all the knowledge of rearing the chicken and have seen the economic benefits of the chicken unlike before.

According to the four groups interviewed, they said that the community benefited from the project because members included their neighbors at the time of vaccination of Newcastle disease. The community also benefited from buying the kienyenji (Local) eggs which were scarce commodities before. Finally the project has become a mirror to the community in showing how the chicken can benefit people economically.

Most members said that this project has alleviated poverty in sense that one can easily sell a chicken to meet an urgent domestic need.

According to the members from the four groups we got answers that the project has brought difference to their families by providing eggs, manure, meat and economic gain where they have sold the products of the chicken to care for family health, domestic use and school levies. They also encouraged other community members to form groups in order to benefit from the funds which are directed to the groups through the Govt, NGOs and MFIs. Almost all the groups said that they receive support from other stakeholders and especially the Government ministries.

10.0 SUCCESS STORIES

1. **Sarah Njeri** of Faith group said that she has seen a lot of benefits from the 6 chicken she received. She said that she was lucky because her chicken started laying eggs by April and so they have multiplied very quickly from six to 46 chickens. Through selling of eggs she was able to buy Dairy meal for the cows plus layers and chick mash for the chicken. She has also gained in meeting the domestic needs as well as buying school levies for her children.



Sarah Njeri in her Chicken House



2. **Alice Muthoni** of shining star group did not have something to cook for her children and her child was chased from school due to shoes. She sold a cock for 800/- which helped her to buy shoes and to buy some food to cook. She said that her chicken have multiplied to 33 from six. Also in the same group one member named **Cathrine Gicuku** had a fund raising for her son joining University and the group members donated few chicken which finally brought in KES. 15,000/- . This boosted the fees. She said that during the fund raising, the community members were challenged by the unity of the group. Group members escorted the donations with KES 2,000/-.



Alice Muthoni with Her Husband holding some of the Chicken

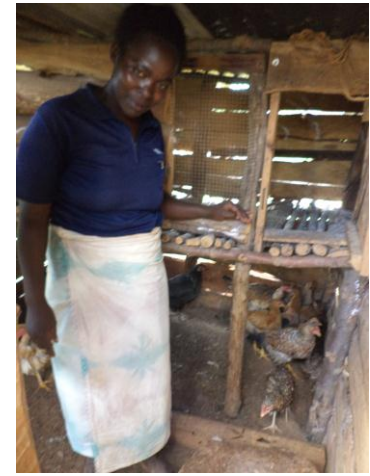
3. **Wifred Ndegi** of Wendo group said that the project has boosted her life a lot because her son was sent away from school for school fees and the money she had was not enough. Therefore she sold eight chicken and was able to get KES 4,000/- which she added and paid fee for her son Muchiri. Wifred said that through this project the poverty which was present in her home is now alleviated because through selling eggs she is able to buy minor domestic things for use.



Wifred Ndegi of Wendo group in her chicken house

4. **Justa Kiura** of Ukira group had no other chicken in her home. After receiving the six chickens which have multiplied to 26 chickens. She has sold few and bought the school text books for her children. Also Diana Njoki in the same group was happy to say that she paid the tuition fee for her children through the chicken.





Some of the other farmers that have succeed in the Project

11.0 A TWO DAYS TRAINING PROGRAM FOR LOCAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT

DAY ONE	TIME		TOPIC
	10.00	10.30	Introductions of participant and facilitators. Official opening of course
	11.00	11.30	Introduction of training theme - Local poultry keeping as a business
	11.30	12.30	Traditional compared to improved poultry management systems.
	12.30	13.00	Facilitated open discussions to tap experiences from participants on potential of poultry keeping.
	13.00	13.30	LUNCH
	13.30	14.30	Management of local poultry's production cycle. (Laying, incubation, hatching and brooding management.
	14.30	15.00	Egg collection, handling and storage. Question and answer session for the day's course work.
DAY TWO	09.00	09.30	Re cap on day one training - Farmers' reports
	09.30	10.00	Poultry housing: Requirements
	10.00	11.00	Common diseases and disease control
	11 am	11.30	Feeds and feeding
	11.30	12.00	Selection and breeding
	12.00	13.00	Gender profiles on labor division for poultry keeping and their implications.
	13.30	14.00	LUNCH
	14.00	14.30	Gender profiles on access and control over benefits from poultry keeping and its implications.
	14.30	15.30	Display and introduction to disinfectants antibiotics, deformers, feed supplements for poultry keeping.
	15.30	17.00	Review of and signing of contracts for poultry placements.
	17.00	17.30	Vaccination and placement of poultry

12.0 PHOTO STORY



The training Session conducted at **Ahero New Apostolic Church** was intensive and hands-on.

Beneficiaries are seen here learning how to vaccinate chicken against common ailments.



After the training group members received 6 chickens each as the seed stock; 5 hens and 1 cockerel.



Training & Chicken Disbursement at Vihiga (Kisumu)



Training & Chicken Disbursement at Embu



Ukira Self Help Group members passing the gift of 6 chickens to **Utheri** Women Group Members



Moments of Joy as Chicken is passed from one beneficiary to the next