

Australian Aid

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**Village poultry in the
Democratic Republic of
Congo**

**SELF Workshop on
Regenerative Living and
Happy Chickens in Fiji**

**Bringing the Mkulima Young
marketing platform
to farmers in Uganda with
support from the DFAT Direct
Aid Program**

**A Precious contribution to
our communications and
fundraising team in 2019**

**Spotlight on a valued
KYEEMA supporter
TEAMWORK GOLD!**

**ACFID spotlight Quality
Principle 6 of the Code of
Conduct**

A big announcement from Kyeema Foundation.

This new financial year has started with a rush! We are very proud to announce that we were recently accredited by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) for the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP). We are one of only 58 NGOs accredited by DFAT under the ANCP for overseas development activities. With ANCP funding support, we will be implementing three activities this year, including a very exciting new trial in Papua New Guinea combining coral reef restoration activities with village chicken breeding and raising; a Newcastle disease control program for village chickens in Malawi; and a Master trainer program on Newcastle disease control with the African Union Pan-African Veterinary Vaccine Centre in Ethiopia and selected African Member States. Thanks to all those who contributed to the annual Chickens 4 Africa fundraising campaign for Malawi, which was held from April-June 2019. We received a number of great entries this year and we hope to announce the winners shortly. If you are reading this newsletter, you are already a supporter of KYEEMA. However there are several other ways you can get involved:

- Forward this email to other interested parties.
- Like us on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter.
- If you live in Brisbane, attend our PNG fundraiser evening in November.
- Support one of our three new projects being funded with the DFAT ANCP funds.
- Become a monthly donor.
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Thank you for your continued support of KYEEMA.

Yours gratefully,

Celia Grenning CEO, KYEEMA

An overview of the village poultry project in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)



Over the past year, our partners on the ground from the AusCongo Network (ACN) have been busy working to improve the health and production of village poultry for better livelihoods in Mbuji Mayi in the Kaisai-Oriental province of the DRC. Two more vaccination campaigns in December 2018 and April 2019 have taken place since the first campaign in August 2018.

Feedback from the communities and vaccinators trained to service them is that people are very happy with the project. They can see the results of vaccinating their chickens, with those vaccinated not succumbing to recent local outbreaks of Newcastle disease

In the December 2018 campaign, 14 villages (up from the original 10 villages in August 2018) participated in the Newcastle disease vaccination service, despite huge rains and country electoral activity causing delays. The vaccinators managed to reach 205 households and vaccinate over 6000 chickens, with vaccinations being paid for by households at 10 US cents equivalent per bird.



This project was generously funded by Partners in International Collaborative Community Aid Ltd (PiCCA).

The April 2019 campaign was executed in 15 villages (220 households), thanks to the continued hard work of ACN Lead Supervisor, Jean Calvin Tshibuabua, who mobilised the activity on the ground with 6 vaccinators (2 additional trained for this campaign) and 3 supervisors. The vaccinators are content with the business opportunity that vaccination presents for them thus far, despite some villagers being unable to pay for the vaccine with money. For now, they are accepting chicks as payment by some community members, with the confidence that as household flocks grow and improved household incomes follow, more farmers will be able to pay for the vaccination of their chickens with cash, allowing a more viable business venture.

Though the project is coming to an end in 2019, we are working with the ACN, volunteer trainer Dr Theodore Mwabi and the donor PiCCA to see how we can continue to support the sustainability of the activity for the local ACN community and business centre. The main challenges are sourcing reliable and affordable transport and storage options for the vaccine, which is produced at the National Veterinary Laboratory in Kinshasa, some 1350 km away.



Thanks to our fellow Brisbane based partner AusCongo Network for collaborating with KYEEMA on this project.

Local solutions for vulnerable communities

A Fabulous Week in Fiji - Learning How to Live Sustainably from the Land and Sea

A report from our CEO Celia Grenning

Who would ever think you could learn so much over a six-day period on a farm in Fiji? That's exactly what we did, when we were kindly hosted by Austin and Kim Bowden-Kerby on their Teitei Livelihoods Farm near Sigatoka, Fiji.

Our group consisted of volunteers and friends of KYEEMA who wanted to experience why village chickens are so important to rural livelihoods. They also hoped to learn more about permaculture, coral reef gardening and what it means to live mostly from your own garden. We achieved virtually all of these objectives!

On day 1 we were treated to an overview of the farm and why Austin felt the need to breed local chickens. Fiji has vast coral reefs, which sadly have been degraded severely due to overfishing, population pressure, silt from rivers and most recently coral bleaching events. In order to restore reefs and therefore fish breeding grounds, Austin has worked tirelessly with communities around Fiji on coral reef restoration activities.



Snorkeling around the coral reef nursery site.



Baby chicks just hatched

However, he soon realised that an alternate source of protein and income was required, if communities were required to set up “no fish” zones in order to give their reefs time to recover. Hence his “Happy Chickens” project! He has now distributed over 32,000 improved breed local chickens around Fiji.

As if that wasn't enough, he decided that he needed to “walk the talk” on living a sustainable life, so set up Teitei farm as a permaculture farm and sent his Farm Manager, Junia, off to Australia to be trained in permaculture techniques. The result is a wonderful oasis in the middle of Fiji, resplendent with chickens, ducks, geese, a few sheep and a myriad of trees, shrubs and crops, all with some food or medicinal value that Junia, the farm manager, can tell you all about.

Subsequent days consisted of learning about village chicken keeping; permaculture; Fijian-Indian cooking; making soap, making coconut oil, cheese and vinegar, starting right from shucking the coconuts to the final projects; making chocolate using cocoa beans picked from the farm; experiencing a lovo and kava ceremony in the local village; running up the sand hill that the Fiji Rugby Sevens train on (no wonder they are world champions!); and last but not least, visiting a coral reef restoration site.

Suffice to say, we all returned energised and ready to put our new-found skills to use!

Bringing the Mkulima Young marketing platform to farmers in Uganda with support from the DFAT Direct Aid Program

The Mkulima Young project, which supports a platform that provides digital agricultural marketing services to small-scale farmers and links consumers interested in supporting local farmers, is underway in Kenya and Uganda. It hopes to attract young people back into the business of farming by improving their earning potential. It is essentially a place for buyers and sellers of agricultural products – crops, livestock and farming equipment/supplies – to find new products and markets.

You could call it a Gumtree for farmers



With support from the Australian High Commission in Nairobi's Direct Aid Program, we are working with our Kenyan partner ACLECOPS (the developer of the platform), to upgrade the functionality of the platform and promote it to new users in Kenya and now in Uganda.

In Uganda, farmers have received the platform with great enthusiasm. We have managed to recruit many new active users there, which is evidenced by the flourishing 'soko' or marketplace with many Ugandan products being sold in Ugandan shillings. We also have some great stories of successful transactions made by Ugandan farmers, some in the Eastern region who have sold to Kenyan buyers across the border. Watch this space in the future to meet these Uganda farmers. The platform stands out among other farming applications in the region as it is free to use, the sign up process is easy, and it specifically addresses the widespread problem for farmers here of finding a market for their products.

In the last 3 months, user consultants in Uganda have been busy promoting the platform on traditional media and in person to farmer groups and at the National Agricultural Show in Jinja – the largest of its kind in the country. After a period of online surveys and focus group discussions with current and new users in both countries, the website and application is undergoing an upgrade which will be launched later this year.

In the coming months, with the new and improved platform, we look forward to stepping up the promotional exercises and media opportunities in both countries and will look to see how we can further improve the user experience and benefit from the platform in order to increase their profits and improve their decision making on farm.



A Precious contribution to our communications and fundraising team in 2019



Precious Karimi is a Kenyan Master's student studying Public Relations (PR) at the Queensland University of Technology in Brisbane. This year she joined the KYEEMA team as an intern to help with our communication strategy, in particular supporting the Mkulima Young project in East Africa. It's been a pleasure having Precious contribute to social media content plans and promotional strategy in order to build KYEEMA's social media audience. Her background in business, marketing and risk management places her well to contribute to our general communication and fundraising goals.

"KYEEMA stood out because of their diversity and will as an organisation to help improve the livelihoods of people with the resources that they have."

Precious hopes to become a media/ PR specialist in not-for-profit organisations, governments and other institutions contributing to international development. We hope the internship this year will provide her with real world experience she can use to make valuable contributions in the future.

"This internship has been an eye-opener for me as it has helped me in identifying my talents in public relations and communication through the various tasks passed on to me. It's been a fantastic learning experience for me so far, especially as an international student. The organisation is full of team players who are active listeners and are very reliable and approachable."

The type of work she has been doing, developing content and promoting the more technical side of improved poultry keeping to farming communities in East Africa, is a little different from her experience in the business and marketing world to-date, but she has embraced the challenge with enthusiasm. For the remainder of the internship we hope to use her PR skills in developing KYEEMA fundraising events and activities in Australia that will contribute to our existing and developing projects in Africa and the Pacific. A big "asante sana" (thank you) is extended to Precious. We look forward to working with Precious to see what we can achieve in the remainder of 2019.

Spotlight on a loyal KYEEMA supporter TEAMWORK GOLD!

Wendy from Powered Up People is KYEEMA's valued volunteer from a team culture and coaching perspective. She loves the collaborative work we do to reduce food and nutrition insecurity in resource poor communities. Wendy also loves the work of African Beat and recommends them for team building and entertainment for corporates, schools, community groups and private events. African Beat are African entertainers that lead team building activities based around engaging over rhythm, drumming and dance. With wide smiles and genuine joy, they facilitate team connection and communication like no other activity does. This is a powerful way to remind us of community and collaboration. Look them up and book them at:

<http://www.africanbeat.com.au/enquiry/corporate-booking/>



Thanks to ACFID for this recent feature on our organisation in which we reflect and share our approach to communicating truthfully and ethically



ACFID @ACFID · 8h

Celia Grenning, CEO at @Kyeemadawn gave her take on Quality Principle 6 of ACFID's Code of Conduct on truthful and ethical communications.

Check out the video coming next week!...#CodeSpotlight



Watch the video at:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=J-oddp1sOpA&t=301s

Did you know?

Now every donation you make to Kyeema Foundation projects will be combined with funding from the Australian Government to reach more people. We have committed to contribute \$1 for every \$5 we receive from the Australian government towards our three ANCP activities in PNG, Ethiopia and Malawi. Your donation will allow us to extend our programs.

Set up a one off or monthly payment through our secure payment facility on our website at:

www.kyeemafoundation.org/donate/