New projects and fundraisers - take a look what's new at Kyeema Foundation.

The past few months have been very busy, with the start of our three new projects in Papua New Guinea (PNG), Malawi and Regional Africa funded under the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP). We held our first “Master Farmer” workshop in Fiji for selected PNG farmers. They learnt about coral reef gardening, permaculture, village chicken keeping and community consultation from our partner, TeiTei Fiji. The Master Farmers will now be supported to set up Coral Reef Restoration sites and Village Chicken Breeding farms in PNG. We held our third “Chickens for Africa” competition to raise funds for our partner in Malawi, the Rural Poultry Centre (RPC), and received some lovely entries. The RPC exists to promote the needs of smallholder poultry farmers throughout Malawi and to raise livelihoods and contribute to improved nutrition in rural areas of Malawi. They are the only local organisation dedicated to village poultry. Over the last two weeks in October, we co-hosted two workshops in Nigeria with the African Union Pan-African Veterinary Vaccine centre. The workshops were held to pre-test the technical content of modules from two Newcastle disease control training curricula for Master Trainers: Laboratory diagnosis of Newcastle disease, and Newcastle disease prevention and control in the field. Finally, on Saturday 30 November from 1-6pm, we will be holding a fundraiser at Kangaroo Point, Brisbane for our recently commenced PNG project. We will be highlighting the film “Power Meri”, which shows how the female PNG Rugby League team showed true grit to overcome adversity and make it to the 2017 World Cup in Australia. We feel there are so many parallels with their struggle and the day-to-day struggles of the women we support through our projects. Without your support, none of the above activities would be possible. More information is provided in the blog links below.

Thank you!

Celia Grenning
CEO, Kyeema Foundation
Calling all Brisbane folks! Come along to our PNG film fundraiser and community event on Saturday 30 November 2019, 1-6pm

“There’s only three common denominators in this country. One is God. Two is Tok Pisin, the language we all speak. Three is rugby league.”

On Saturday 30 November, Kyeema Foundation will host a film screening of Power Meri with the Brisbane PNG community. From 1-4pm, you will be immersed in all things Papua New Guinean, with stalls, food and music before the movie screening which will commence at 4pm.

All funds raised will go directly to our PNG project with Hiri Coral that will support Master Farmers to work with their local communities to introduce locally-adapted village chickens and set up locally led marine resource recovery zones. The project aim is to restore declining coastal fish habitat and stocks and to provide an alternative, local source of protein and income through village chicken meat and eggs. Integral to the project will be supporting the empowerment of local women to lead the change for improved food and nutrition security in their communities.

For a gold coin donation, please join us for stalls, music and food from 1-4pm. For $10, join us for the entire afternoon to watch this beautifully captured feature documentary film by Joanna Lester and Media Stockade, following Papua New Guinea’s first national women’s rugby league team, the PNG Orchids, on their journey to the 2017 World Cup in Australia. These trailblazers must beat not only the sporting competition, but also intense sexism, a lack of funding, and national prejudice to reach their biggest stage yet.

All funds raised will go directly to our PNG project with Hiri Coral that will support Master Farmers to work with their local communities to introduce locally-adapted village chickens and set up locally led marine resource recovery zones. The project aim is to restore declining coastal fish habitat and stocks and to provide an alternative, local source of protein and income through village chicken meat and eggs. Integral to the project will be supporting the empowerment of local women to lead the change for improved food and nutrition security in their communities.

Time
Saturday 30th November 1-6pm
Arrive at 1pm to enjoy stalls, food, music and prizes
Get your popcorn and drinks and gather at 3:30pm for the film starting at 4pm.

Location
Uniting Church Community Hall, Kangaroo Point
48 Linton St, Kangaroo Point QLD 4169
(access also via Princess St). Off street parking will be available via Linton St; street parking on Princess St.

Movie Tickets $10 per person

Entry to pre-film stalls, food, music by gold coin donation.
Sustainability was the theme of two Newcastle disease (ND) workshops conducted in Nigeria in October 2019. 23 veterinarians and animal scientists from eleven Member States of the African Union gathered to pre-test the technical content of modules from two ND control training curricula for Master Trainers: Laboratory diagnosis of Newcastle disease, and Newcastle disease prevention and control in the field.

The curricula and training modules were designed and developed by a team of eight expert Master Trainers, in collaboration with the African Union Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre (AU-PANVAC) and KYEEMA. The technical content of the third of the ND control curricula, Vaccine Production and Quality assurance, was pre-tested last November in Ethiopia. Each workshop was conducted over five days and comprised country presentations, group discussions and practical demonstrations. The experts were guided by Prof. Ayayi Fogan Bona Ayih-Akakpo, Drs Nick Nwankpa, Mary Young, Rosa da Costa, Joannis Tony Bala and Halifa Msami. The workshop provided an excellent opportunity for networking and sharing of challenges associated with diagnosis and control of disease of village chickens, particularly ND. It is widely recognised that ND is one of the major constraints to village poultry production in Africa. While vaccination is a key tool in the control of ND, it is costly, complex and challenging to implement effective, sustainable vaccination programs and relies on the timely implementation of activities by well-trained and appropriately resourced personnel. The ND control Master Trainer curricula are a major tool and will form the framework for the control of ND and improvement of village chicken production in Africa.

The event was organised and funded by AU-PANVAC, in collaboration with KYEEMA who received funding from the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program. We are very grateful to all who contributed to the success of the two workshops.
A new breed of farmer in PNG - kickstarting village chicken rearing and coral reef gardening (restoration) for their communities

In September we kicked off the training component of Kyeema’s latest project ‘Food security and income for villages in PNG through village chicken rearing and reef restoration’ together with our new partner Hiri Coral. Five Master Farmers from Papua New Guinea flew to Fiji for four action-packed weeks to learn from our partner organisations Corals for Conservation and Sustainable Environmental Livelihoods for the Future. Participants learnt about coral reef restoration, permaculture, participatory community decision making and improved village chicken keeping.

The group was kindly hosted by Plantation Island Resort for their first week where they learnt various coral reef restoration techniques and worked with other Pacific Islanders from Samoa, New Caledonia and Fiji to establish a brand new coral nursery of bleaching resistant, hot water adapted corals – the Greta Thunberg Nursery. The group also upgraded existing coral nurseries and learnt about coral predators and the importance of community involvement. Back at the Teitei Farm, our Master Farmers were trained in permaculture practices and developed plans for their own land. They also learnt strategies in effectively engaging and working with their community for when they return home. Their final week was devoted to chickens where the group learnt how to establish their own breeding flock, developing quality feed with local sources, chicken housing, incubating effectively and the importance of good biosecurity practices.

This training is part of our pilot project in PNG where our Master Farmers will work with their local communities to introduce island-adapted village chickens, reducing pressure on coastal fisheries and empowering women, and restore declining coastal fish habitat and introduce no-take fishing areas. Overall the group had a wonderful time learning new concepts and sharing their own. They have built lifelong friendships with their Pacific Islander counterparts and are excited for the next phase of the project.

We are excited to be partnering for the first time with Hiri Coral on this project and acknowledge the funding support of the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).
3rd Annual “Chickens 4 Africa” Photo Competition winners

Congratulations to the winners in our third annual ‘Chickens For Africa’ fundraising photography competition, continuing on from last year’s success. The aim of the competition was to raise awareness of the importance of village poultry for rural communities in Africa and raise funds for training community vaccinators in Malawi through the work of our main partner there – the Rural Poultry Centre (RPC). This year we raised AUD 4600. A big thank you to all who donated to the campaign and to those who contributed photographs. This year’s photographs were outstanding. The submissions showed originality and skill in portraying the lives and characters of the people and animals we work with.

First place was awarded to Lynn Clifford, with a group of women proudly showing off their chickens. Lynn manages the Wildlife Action Group in Malawi with whom we work to help protect the Thuma Forest Reserve. By supporting vaccination and improved chicken production, we help communities reduce their dependence on wildlife and forest resources for their livelihoods. A flow-on effect for women’s economic and social empowerment in communities is also evident – especially when women are trained as community vaccinators.

Second place was awarded to Karmen Martin, whose backyard chicken, Jett, Queen of the Coop, is here waiting for her favourite treat, meal worms. Third place went to Charles Sokoso, who is shown vaccinating village chickens with just one liquid drop in the eye. The photo portrays just how easy (and painless for the chicken!) this technique is and indeed how much interest and enthusiasm the vaccination campaigns generate in the communities we work with. Less chickens dying from Newcastle disease every year means a growing flock. What does this simple fact mean for families? It means more chicken and eggs to eat and a greater capacity to earn extra cash from chicken sales to pay for other food for the table, medicines when needed and school fees to send children to school.

Thank you for your ongoing support in helping us achieve #nopoverty #zerohunger #goodhealthandwellbeing #qualityeducation #genderequality for all.

Local solutions for vulnerable communities