

Chickens4Change factsheet – How do chickens change lives?

Kyeema Foundation frequently asked questions:

Why is the nutrition provided by chicken meat and eggs so important in some countries?



Where communities do not have access to nutritionally dense food, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa, the meat and eggs provided by village chickens can improve dietary quality, micronutrient intake, nutrient status and overall health. With the world's population expected to reach 10 billion by 2050, village poultry will remain an

environmentally friendly source of essential, high-quality protein and micronutrients.



What is Newcastle disease?

Newcastle disease (ND) has been identified as one of the major constraints to village poultry production in Africa and Asia. It is the result of a virus that causes a deadly infection in many kinds of poultry, including chickens. Spread is usually by direct physical contact with infected or diseased birds. The virus is present in manure and is breathed out into the air.



What does it do?

Outbreaks generally peak during the dry season, killing 50 to 100% of the chicken flock.

Is there a way it can be prevented?

It can be prevented by an effective vaccination. The thermotolerant 'ND I-2' vaccine strain that was developed and tested by Kyeema founders enables simple vaccination to be delivered as one drop in the eye of the chicken by people trained to run a small business as chicken vaccinators for their communities. It can also be given via drinking water but the immunity doesn't last as long.



What is a thermotolerant vaccine?

One that does not need to be kept cold all the time to remain effective. It can tolerate some fluctuations in temperature outside a refrigerator for a number of days depending on the temperature.



Who developed the I-2 Newcastle disease vaccine?

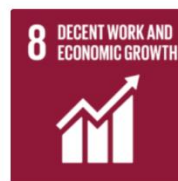
Kyeema Foundation founding member, the late Professor Peter Spradbrow AM, and his team at the University of Queensland. Kyeema was founded by a group of Australian veterinarians working to control Newcastle disease in village chickens in developing countries.

What Kyeema activities help to improve village poultry in Africa?

1. Kyeema promotes the sustainable control of Newcastle disease in rural areas. This support can include production of a quality assured thermotolerant I-2 Newcastle disease vaccine, freely available to governments and organisations in target countries, mostly in Africa.
2. Kyeema produces vaccine campaign resources and helps train community vaccinators.
3. Kyeema also provides expert support for enhanced Newcastle disease diagnosis in the laboratory and in communities, which is important in differentiating the disease from other diseases of poultry such as bird flu (Avian Influenza), which can cause illness in humans.



What sustainable development goals does improved village poultry production address?



Visit the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals page to learn more.

What is the impact of Kyeema Foundation's activities?

It is estimated that 12 million people annually experience improved food and nutrition security as a result of access to sustainable Newcastle disease control programs Kyeema has supported in Southern Africa.

