AUGUST 2020

Thank you for your support.

At this unprecedented time of change, we reflect on where we have come from and where we are going. One of our most loyal supporters - Mike Worsman from Give Media - has put together this 5 minute video to share with our followers and supporters, some of whom have been with us from the beginning. From all over the globe, our team says thank you!

With gratitude,
Celia Grenning CEO,
Kyeema Foundation

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Check out our You Tube channel to watch the video 'Thank you for your support in 2020 and beyond'.
PNG Project update

The community involved with the coral reef restoration site at Tubusereia had a very motivating visit to check on the growth of the corals this month. After 6 months, the corals are growing well and they noted several species of fish in the area. The trained master farmers in Vanapa, Tubusereia and Gabagaba are also doing well with growing their healthy indigenous chicken flocks with great interest for purchase from the surrounding communities.

Check out our You Tube channel for ‘Tubusereia Community Coral Reef Restoration’ video to see recent growth of the corals.

A true PNG champion

Ali is a retired agricultural project officer based in Queensland and is the key instigator behind our work in Papua New Guinea (PNG). He initially met Celia Grenning, the CEO of Kyeema Foundation at a workshop in Brisbane. He was interested in what Kyeema was doing in Africa in promoting smallholder chicken keeping. It did not take Ali long to convince Celia that the project was much needed in his own birth country, Papua New Guinea (PNG). Within a short period of time, he facilitated a scoping trip to Central Province working with the Central Provincial Government Livestock Division. The scoping confirmed the viability of a smallholder chicken keeping program in Central Province. Shortly afterwards, he was trained as a Master Farmer in Fiji in preparation to implement a smallholder chicken keeping farm in his village at Vanapa.

In 2019, with the support of Kyeema Foundation, Ali set up a chicken breeding and rearing farm in Vanapa. Since setting up the farm, Ali has donated chickens and roosters from his farm to several local villagers to help them set up their own backyard farms. He has also helped others to improve their existing chicken farms. These farms now enjoy increased chicken numbers and as a result of word of mouth, other interested villagers are approaching him, also seeking his assistance.

Visit www.vanapavcf.com/vanapa-village-chicken-farm/ to see the work Ali Ume is doing in PNG.

This project is supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

Local solutions for vulnerable communities
#Endcovidforall campaign

With the new lock downs in Melbourne, Australia and the global COVID-19 cases reaching almost 17 million people, we are reminded no one is safe until we are all safe. In July and August we are promoting this campaign for a continued and strengthened Australian Aid. With no fences standing between any of us and COVID-19, we must stand in solidarity with all our neighbours and encourage our government to provide vital support to vulnerable nations. Show your support by visiting www.endcovidforall.com and signing the pledge. Share the campaign on August 19th with others by posting a selfie using the virtual campaign-branded Facebook and Instagram face mask soon to be available @endcovidforall.

Entertainment book 2020

Purchase Australia's popular discount voucher book (for every city) and save on restaurants with special takeaway options, grocery shopping and many other everyday services AND support Kyeema Foundation at the same time.


Local solutions for vulnerable communities
Chickens4Change

This is the inspirational story of how Kyeema Foundation came to be and what Chickens4Change means.

Thanks to all who participated in this year’s photography competition. We had some really interesting entries and we look forward to announcing the winning entries soon. In the meantime, have a read about what’s in the name - why ‘Chickens for Change’?

You have probably never thought about how integral the humble chicken is to the health and income of resource-poor households. In many parts of the world, owning healthy livestock can provide people with a better quality of life and help entire communities to work their way out of poverty.

Village chickens (and poultry more broadly) are owned and managed mostly by women and children at household level, and as such are important for the livelihoods of families in places where good quality protein and micronutrient sources are hard to come by.

By putting financial resources in the hands of mothers, the versatile village chicken empowers women as decision-makers within the household. This in turn usually leads to improved outcomes in child education and nutrition, which is critical in countries where childhood stunting rates are as high as 49.5%. Not only do chickens provide vital nutrition through their meat and eggs, surpluses can be traded to provide extra income or resources to pay for medicine or school fees.

Additionally, they are often used to fulfill social obligations (such as welcome gifts or as a method of payment for labour around the household or farm), provide soil-enriching manure, are active pest controllers and used in many traditional ceremonies (such as the use of feathers in traditional costume). While you may never have heard of Newcastle disease (ND), it has been known to wreak havoc in chickens and for the people who rely on them to survive and thrive. The disease has a negative impact on food and nutrition security across both Africa and Asia. Occurring frequently, outbreaks kill between 50 to 100% of the flock in an area.

Enter dedicated Australian scientists! The late Emeritus Professor Peter Spradbrow AM (a founding member of Kyeema) and his team at the University of Queensland received worldwide praise for their efforts in the development an affordable, thermotolerant vaccine for the control of ND in village chickens. Funded by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) and the Australian Aid program, the research and vaccine have paved the way for a small, dedicated team of animal health professionals from Kyeema to improve the health of village chickens.

The vaccine significantly decreases the mortality rate in a vaccinated flock, which means very few chickens die when an outbreak comes through an area (compared to 50-100% mortality of unvaccinated flocks). This particularly benefits vulnerable households, who can keep and even grow their flock as a result and use the chickens as a way to support their household requirements. Implementation of vaccination programs through the training of men and women community vaccinators has meant deaths of chickens from ND can be significantly reduced. Improved poultry farming practices continue to be supported through our work thanks to Australian Aid through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) and private donors from the Australian community.