

APRIL 2022

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Kyeema Quarterly E-News Jan-Apr 22

The first quarter of 2022 has had everything: COVID continuing to rage across many countries, including Australia; the outbreak of war in Ukraine; and back on the east coast of Australia we have dealt with massive flooding. The flooding was a once in a lifetime event that also occurred just 11 years ago, a sure sign that climate change impact is accelerating. We are adjusting our programs to meet with these challenges. Our PNG training activities are up and running again after a hiatus due to COVID. With the support of Palladium, we have provided grants to two organisations in Moldova to support Ukrainian refugees. Read more about these activities below.

Thank you for your continuing support of
Kyeema Foundation!

With gratitude
The Kyeema Team

Core Country Updates

Our core country programs in Mozambique, Malawi and Ethiopia continue to support small-holder farming communities to improve Newcastle disease control for sustainable livelihoods, food and nutrition security. Since January, Malawi has kickstarted a new program in Dowa East, identifying 61 people to be trained as community-based poultry health workers. The Women's Village Chicken breeding project in Mozambique is also going well - three breeding units have been set up and two of them already have 56 hens in total, which are producing on average 4 eggs/bird/week. This is a good average for village chickens!

Under the Sofala Province Water, Energy and Food Security Project, 45 community members were trained in improved management practices for indigenous chickens and goats, including construction of goat and chicken shelters, and use of available feed resources to prepare feed mixtures for chickens, ducks and goats.

Ethiopia Care Project

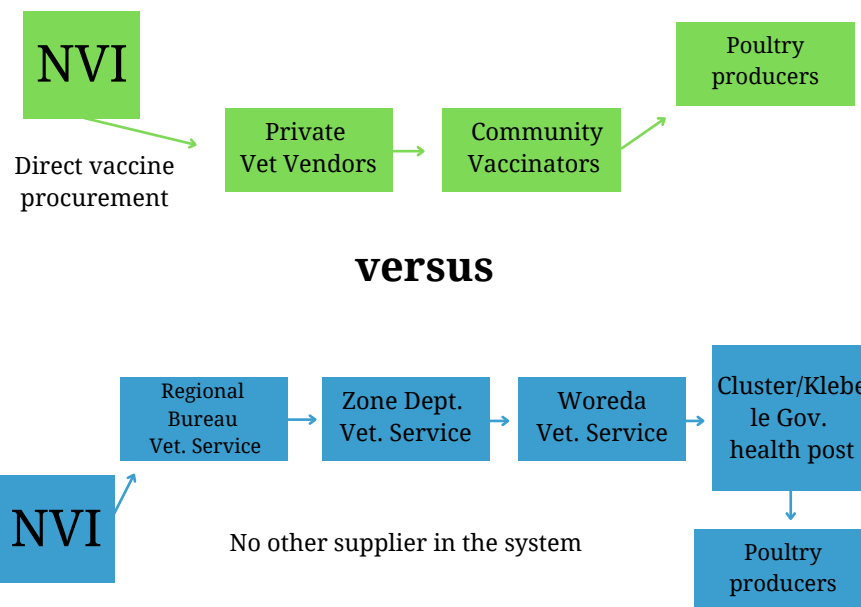
Improving poultry health through community animal health workers in Ethiopia

Kyeema recently completed a pilot project on "Livelihoods for Resilience" with funding partner CARE and several other implementing partners in Amhara, Sidama and SNNP regions of Ethiopia.

The overall aim was to improve the livelihoods of small-scale farmers through protecting their village chickens from dying, by improving access to the Newcastle disease (ND) vaccine. This was done by employing a new private-public ND vaccination model. The model trained, equipped and supported male and female community vaccinators, who worked with vaccine distributing Veterinary Vendors to vaccinate chickens for households in their communities, using the Ethiopian National Veterinary Institute produced thermotolerant I-2 ND vaccine.



Pilot private-public distribution model (top) versus government distribution model (bottom).



Participation in vaccination campaigns was key

276 Community Vaccinators (48% female) were trained in vaccine administration techniques and actively participated in conducting three vaccination campaigns in March, July and November 2021. In Amhara, unfortunately only the March vaccination campaign could be completed as the July campaign was discontinued due to security concerns. On average, 12,412 households participated and around 66,777 chickens were vaccinated in each campaign. This is a significant outcome for the project as during the baseline survey, only 1 of the 120 households interviewed reported vaccinating their chickens against ND.



*Above: One of the community vaccinators trained to vaccinate chickens against Newcastle disease in her region.
Photo credit: Kyeema Foundation.*

Moving in the right direction

By far the greatest achievement of the project was a behaviour change from free to fee-paying service for poultry vaccines in participating households – Community Vaccinators

interviewed in Sidama and SNNP reported that 94% of households paid for the service, with 87% paying with cash on the spot. In Kyeema's experience, this is a significant achievement for a 12-month project. Furthermore, 95% of households in these regions interviewed during the end-line survey reported that the ND vaccination service was beneficial and 98% indicated that they would likely participate in future campaigns. This shows there is a demand for the service, though the set price per vaccinated bird needs to be negotiated to balance sales potential with what households are willing to pay. Importantly, the National Veterinary Institute has agreed to continue to produce the I-2 ND vaccine in 100 dose vials to sustain the model and has undertaken to continue to coordinate with regions for ongoing delivery.

Future of the model in Ethiopia

We will be continuing to work in Aleta Chuko Woreda in Sidama region to ensure a 4th vaccination campaign runs smoothly, vet vendor capacity is developed, and I-2 vaccine supply is sustained. We hope to scale up this private-public model of animal health delivery across regions in Ethiopia in the coming 5 years.



Kyeema acknowledges CARE and the USAID Feed the Future Initiative for making this project possible.

PNG community training for village chicken rearing



Pinu Village women's group certificate presentation

Vanapa Farm's first community-training session in Village Chicken rearing began on March 31 with 10 members of the Pinu Village women's group. Uncle Emmanuel Ume began the training with a tour of the farm and over the next two days the women were trained in chicken house construction, feeding, breeding, egg management, disease management and biosecurity. On the last day the women split into four groups and killed and prepared chickens for lunch. Each group made a different dish, but the coconut curry was the clear winner!

Most of the women had never received any previous training, so the Vanapa Farm session was a significant milestone. With a lack of employment opportunities in Pinu, the village chicken training was an important tool for ensuring food security and generating income. At the end of training, the women were provided with their village chicken starter pack of three hens, one rooster and a roll of wire for their chicken houses. On receiving their certificates, the participants were enormously proud of their first official community-based training and a little overwhelmed that they had received training 'all the way from Australia!'



Learning to build roosting boxes for their new flocks

Supporting relief activities for Ukrainian Refugees in Moldova

After the Russian invasion into Ukraine, more than a million Ukrainians have fled to neighboring countries, many of these women and children. This number is expected to soar to more than 4 million over the coming months. Moldova is Ukraine's southern neighbour and is receiving Ukrainian refugees daily with 10km long lines at border crossings. UNHCR reports there are 3,975 refugees per 100,000 inhabitants, which is more than double in Poland and Slovakia. The country is currently focusing on supporting transit of refugees to other countries, but they are also rapidly drafting a longer-term refugee strategy. Two activities have been selected for funding under the Let's Make it Possible Humanitarian Relief Fund. Both activities are being implemented by local organisations in Moldova.

Partnerships 4 Every Child Moldova (P4EC)

P4EC is already operating in Moldova, working to give vulnerable children who are, or are at risk of being, separated from their family or community a safe and secure future. They support raising children in a family environment as opposed to orphanages, ensuring social inclusion in education, building child participation, and protecting children from abuse and neglect. Therefore, they are already well familiar with child protection best practices. Because of the in-country presence, P4EC is well placed to respond to the refugee crisis, and due to experience working with orphaned and vulnerable children, is able to quickly identify and provide for their needs. P4EC will be able to deploy the funding quickly, to meet the most urgent needs.

P4EC will use the funding to provide food products and hygiene goods to refugee families accommodated in communities, as well as outfitting refugee centres with children's corners where kids can play. This would help meet the basic needs of over 140 families for a month. In addition, the toys, drawing materials, and children's furniture will provide a welcome break for children traumatised by the conflict.

National Centre for the Prevention of Child Abuse Moldova (CNPAC)

The National Centre for Child Abuse Prevention (CNPAC) is a non-governmental organisation from the Republic of Moldova which promotes children's rights to be protected against any form of violence. CNPAC will use the funding to assess and respond to children's psychosocial needs within the temporary placement centers - without waiting for infrastructure and funding for Child Friendly Spaces. The mobile team will conduct home visits to meet with children's families to discuss any concerns and provide practical advice on coping with children's distress. The psychologists from the multidisciplinary teams have a goal to inform the refugees, mainly women and children, about the safety and security risks for children and adults during migration but also to guide the parents in the identification of stress symptoms in children and adults. They also provide the necessary immediate assistance to adults, adolescents and children, if it is necessary.

“The main goal of these teams of specialists is to respond to the needs of refugees related to their safety, their children's wellbeing, a certain degree of social stability and integration in our society. In other words, we came to help the refugees with information and support – aspects that cannot be neglected! As any human needs food and a warm blanket, similarly they need adequate information to help them make good decisions, support for overcoming the difficult situation they are in, and respect for their rights and dignity” - Daniela Simboteanu, the initiator of this project supporting psychosocial assistance for Ukrainian refugees.

Rebalance Earth: Valuing nature by developing ecosystem services credits for keystone species

At the end of 2021, Rebalance Earth (RBE) was one of the three organisations funded under the Let's Make It Possible (LMIP) Challenge Fund. The annual theme for 2021, Valuing Nature, invited organisations to propose solutions to the question of “how can you make protecting nature more attractive as an economic pursuit than destroying it”?

Rebalance Earth's proposition was to create a blockchain minimum viable product (MVP) that provides a trustworthy, transparent, and traceable marketplace for buyers to purchase ecosystem services credits generated by keystone species in their natural environments (including carbon offsets). The credits aim to:

1. Reduce climate change and regenerate biodiversity.
2. Assign a monetary value for living keystone species.
3. Help support UN SDG 1: No Poverty, by linking investments in local communities to the welfare of keystone species.

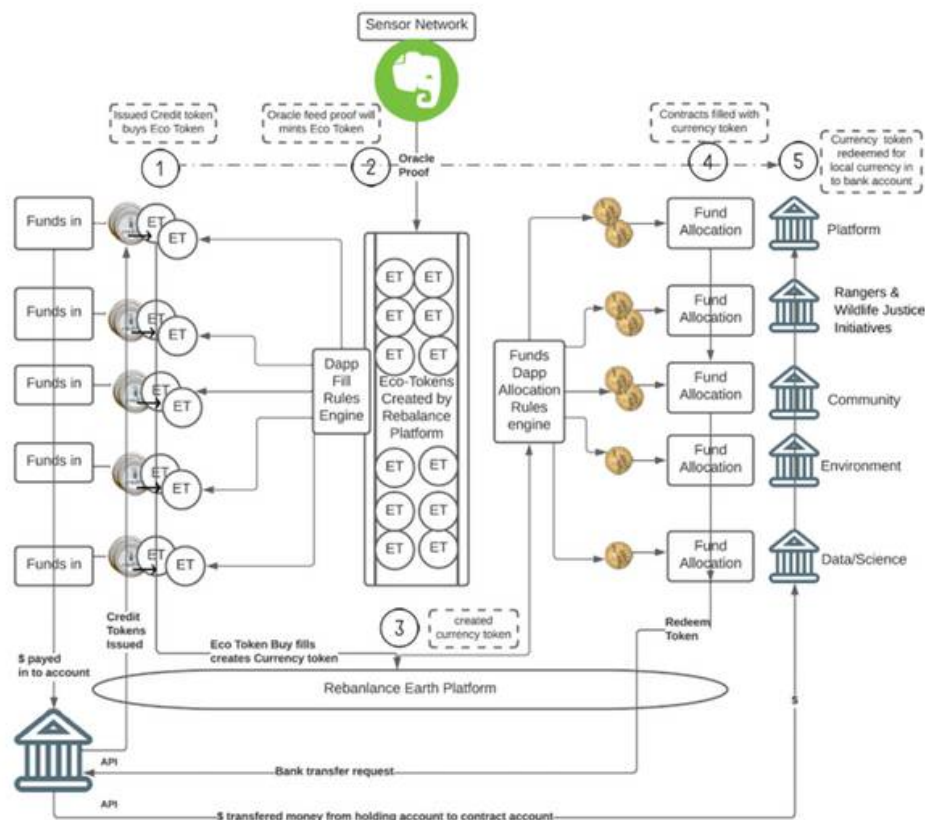


Illustration of how the Rebalance Platform delivers funds through tokens to different approved entities that have been connected to the Platform.

Keystone species are identified as being pivotal to the health and prosperity of an ecosystem. Without its keystone species, an ecosystem would be dramatically different or cease to exist altogether - they are considered the glue that holds a habitat together. Therefore, targeting keystone species is vital to environmental conservation of an entire habitat. RBE have focused their pilot technology specifically on the forest elephant, which is a keystone species in Africa, due to the role they play in landscaping their environment for other animals and plants to prosper.

As forest elephants travel through the forest, they tear down and eat shrubs and small trees, creating light canopies in otherwise overgrown areas, which then provides direct sunlight and nutrients for smaller plants and trees to grow. They spread seeds vast distances, which has a propagating effect - their dung is high in nutrients for other plants and animals to consume. They use their tusks to dig for water, which in turn provides water for other animals.

RBE has been able to learn from the strengths and weaknesses of existing carbon offsetting markets to generate a superior ecosystem services market. Most importantly, RBE has been able to adapt its model to redress past consumer concerns around the lack of transparency, traceability and trust in the products and offsets purchased while providing a holistic solution that addresses the interconnected problem of climate change, biodiversity loss and poverty in local communities in developing economies.

The LMIP funding has assisted RBE to develop this blockchain minimum viable product (MVP) which demonstrates the ability to transfer funds from buyers to local communities and wildlife justice initiatives in a trusted manner and place a high monetary value for living biodiversity that far supersedes its value when dead.

Developers have created and tested a functional prototype platform which is the first step in establishing an ethical ecosystem services credit that provides both an opportunity for investors to contribute directly to both the conservation of an important, endangered species, and provide positive livelihood opportunities for local communities where the species live. The pilot is working in Gabon, Africa. RBE is collaborating closely with the Government and local communities to plan how funds will be managed and distributed into the community to support and reinforce conservation activities.

This is an exciting first step in a long and important journey. Once the platform has proved its effectiveness; it can be scaled to include expansions of science and valuation methodology to other keystone species in different parts of the world.

For more information on rebalance earth visit <https://www.rebalance.earth/>



Chickens4Change Photography Competition 2022

We are happy to announce our 6th annual photography competition to raise funds for the work of the Rural Poultry Centre (RPC) in Malawi. RPC focus on improving the nutrition, health and livelihoods of small-scale farmers in rural areas in Malawi through the humble village chicken.

A precious resource for a changing climate and food future

This year, we want to raise awareness of the 'village chicken' or backyard chicken as you may know it as. With diverse genetics enabling them to survive in low input free-range systems, these birds are a precious resource for a food and nutrition secure future. They are the cornerstone of our core work in Africa and the Pacific, where rural and coastal communities are facing significant challenges, including high rates of childhood stunting, limited income generating opportunities (particularly for youth) and a changing environment that is limiting agricultural productivity and fish catches. Small-scale chicken keeping is important, especially for communities where food supply chains are regularly disrupted by both environmental and man-made events. By supporting small-scale farmers to source nutritious food locally, we also help to lower the global carbon footprint.

What is it about this year?

We are encouraging photo entries from people raising chickens particularly in Africa and the Pacific, but also from across the globe. Photos should depict backyard chickens in their environment. Show us your chicken coop and run, what you feed your chickens and how you keep them healthy, happy and productive. Photos will be judged on artistic and technical merit and on their connection to the work we do in Malawi, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Kenya, Papua New Guinea and Fiji.

How do I enter?

Submit up to 5 photos through the RPC website [here](#) and tell us what benefits chickens bring to their owners and families. Winning photos will be featured on our website and in our 2021-22 Annual Report. With your permission, we will use them to help promote the important work we do.

Entries are free but donations to the work of RPC Malawi are welcome through the secure donation facility on Kyeema's website: www.kyeemafoundation.org/donate/.

Your donation will support community-based poultry health workers in Malawi to provide essential Newcastle disease vaccine to small-scale farmers their rural community. Sign up to become a monthly donor to support RPC's work in Malawi.

Rural Poultry Centre Malawi and Kyeema Foundation present

CHICKENS 4 CHANGE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION 2022

Capture photos of your chickens in the environment you are raising them in and tell us how they are important to you.

May-June
entries to rpc@ruralpoultrymalawi.org
by **30 | 06 | 2022**

Free Entry

Donations to the work of RPC welcome
@ www.kyeemafoundation.org/donate/

Rural Poultry Centre Malawi

KYEEMA FOUNDATION

Become a monthly donor in 2022

A monthly donation will help us to reach more people across our core country programs in Papua New Guinea, Malawi, Mozambique and Ethiopia. You can ask for your donation to be allocated to a specific country initiative or simply where it is needed most. Your contribution allows communities to leverage their own knowledge and resources to restore local ecosystems, secure sustainable food and nutrition, and grow inclusive business opportunities. Join us in championing the health and prosperity of the people and environments that need it most.

Explore our donating options



Support a community in Papua New Guinea to restore their marine ecosystems through coral reef gardening and mangrove planting.



Support rural women in Mozambique to set up small-scale local chicken rearing enterprises to mitigate the impact of COVID-19.



Support a village chicken community vaccinator in Malawi or Ethiopia to start an income generating opportunity in a rural community.

We acknowledge the support of the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) for our projects in PNG, Malawi and with the African Union Pan-African Veterinary Vaccine Centre.



We thank our partner Palladium who directly finance, and volunteer staff time to support, the three 'Let's Make It Possible' initiatives for projects across the globe.

