

April-June 2024

# Kyeema Newsletter

## Words from our CEO

Dear Kyeema Community,

I am thrilled to address you for the first time as the new CEO of Kyeema Foundation. As I step into this role, I am filled with a sense of excitement and anticipation for the journey ahead. I have just had the opportunity to spend a week in PNG meeting our partners and beneficiaries and am leaving Port Moresby feeling hopeful, inspired and with a very full heart.

First and foremost, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to AJ, our outgoing CEO, for his remarkable leadership and dedication. AJ's contributions have left an indelible mark on our organisation, and I am committed to building on the strong foundation he has established. I am grateful for my hand over and the warm welcome by the entire Kyeema team globally.

The work that Kyeema Foundation does is nothing short of awe-inspiring. From enhancing food security and improving livelihoods to promoting sustainable practices, our mission resonates deeply with me. I am truly honoured to be part of an organisation that is making such a significant impact on communities around the world.

As we embark on a new fiscal year, we have a multitude of exciting projects on the horizon. We are expanding our work in Papua New Guinea next fiscal year, with support from new and existing partners and have submitted our plans for the next 4 years to continue our work in Africa and the Pacific with the support of the Australian NGO Cooperation Program. Our team is energised and ready to tackle these projects with the passion and commitment that Kyeema is known for. I look forward to working alongside our talented staff, dedicated partners, and supportive community to drive our mission forward and achieve even greater heights.

Thank you for your continued support and belief in the Kyeema Foundation. If you are contemplating a last-minute end of fiscal year donation, please think of Kyeema. It will go a long way. Together, we can create a brighter, more sustainable future.

Warm regards,  
Marijke Frantzen  
CEO, Kyeema Foundation



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## Core Country Update

*Our core country programs in Africa and the Pacific continue to champion small-holder farmers to improve their nutrition, health and livelihoods.*

### Mozambique

Fundação Kyeema was delighted to welcome Mrs. Justine Jones, First Secretary from the Australian High Commission in Pretoria, to our ANCP project in the Marracuene district, which focuses on female-led village chicken value chain development in Mozambique. In this project, Kyeema partners with district authorities to improve food security and income for vulnerable women in Marracuene by increasing poultry and egg production and sales across three sites.

The High Commissioner's monitoring visit aimed to enhance ANCP performance and DFAT's civil society engagement by collecting data, ensuring policy compliance, and improving project outcomes.

The team from Fundação Kyeema met with Mrs. Jones and visited some of the women involved in the project. Mrs. Gina Cossa has managed to grow her flock significantly to 61 chickens, and Mrs. Ester Howana, a visually impaired woman, now has a flock of 20 chickens. Ester recently faced health issues resulting in hospitalization, and she was able to afford these medical costs through the sale of some of her chickens.

We greatly appreciated hosting the High Commission and providing them with the opportunity to hear firsthand about the positive impact the project has on our female participants' lives and households.



*Mrs. Justine Jones, First Secretary from the Australian High Commission in Pretoria with participants of our ANCP program in Marracuene, Mozambique.*



*Participants receiving their starter flocks under the Direct Aid Program in Addis Abbaba.*

## Ethiopia

The team in Ethiopia has had a busy few months beginning the implementation of the "Improving the Livelihoods of Women and People with Disabilities in Addis Ababa through Improved Family Poultry Production" project, funded through the Australian Government's Direct Aid Program (DAP).

Over the last few weeks, 20 selected beneficiaries were trained in poultry production, financial management, and health and nutrition. The trained households were then provided with chicken houses, pullets (young chickens), feed, and other necessary materials to support their chicken production enterprise. The project specifically targets marginalized groups, including women and people with disabilities, and the participants were selected in collaboration with district experts and the Ethiopian Social Work Professionals Association.

The team continues to work with students from Addis Ababa and Bahir Dar Universities applying for the Kyeema Innovation Business Challenge for Veterinary Students. The program focuses on supporting sustainable Newcastle disease control in village poultry, promoting sustainable poultry farming, and fostering private poultry veterinary businesses. Currently, students are being supported in developing their grant applications for funding small village chicken business innovative initiatives, including developing business plans. This program is the first of its kind in the country and will be shared with stakeholders for possible future collaboration.

## Malawi

Project data from Dowa East has illustrated some promising results and strong impact. Before-and-after surveys indicate a 50% increase in chicken population per household over the life of the project and a 33% increase in the production of chickens per household per month.

As the Dowa East project wraps up, the Rural Poultry Centre (RPC) team is preparing to expand their work, turning to Dowa West, centered around the town of Mponela. ANCP funding has enabled us to plan a robust program building upon earlier experiences and engaging very closely with local communities. RPC continues its strong partnership with InterAide in improving the production of the I2 Newcastle disease vaccine. A consultancy undertaken by RPC revealed useful background information on the spectrum and activities of stakeholders involved in ND control. This will guide wider efforts to improve and scale up ND control, as well as the development of a national strategy on ND control in rural poultry.

In other good news, earlier in the year, RPC applied for funding through the Our Communities program to help with the development of their Farmer Field School in Chadza. We have received word that they have been approved for funding, which will contribute towards the development of an egg incubation unit, fencing, and latrines for the site. We look forward to bringing more updates on this later in the year.



*Interviewing community based vaccinators and farmers, Chiradzulu.*

# Papua New Guinea

It has been a big few months for our PNG program. PNG Program Manager, Ali attended the Pacific American Fund Regional Learning Exchange Workshop in Suva, where a number of NGO's shared learnings and challenges from across their programs and exchanged ideas and solutions with other team leads.

We celebrated World Environment Day by facilitating reef and mangrove restoration activities as part of a larger program organized by the National Capital District Commission (NCDC) for students across numerous schools in Central Province. The students learned about the importance of protecting our coral reefs, which play a crucial role in food security, biodiversity, and environmental health. The team also facilitated another event for staff members of Swire Shipping to learn about our mangrove and coral reef restoration activities.



*Master Farmers at the workshop developing their farm business plans.*

In the final week of June, Marijke, our new CEO, and Celia, the Foundation's Finance Manager, visited the team in PNG. Amidst visits to key government agencies and high-level meetings with project donors, they engaged in stakeholder consultations, weaving connections with partner organizations, project donors, and project participants. The highlight of the trip

was a two-day workshop with the village chicken Master Farmers at Tutu Beach Retreat. Master Farmers worked on preparing business plans for their farms to improve the sustainability and profitability of their operations going forward. The workshop was a fantastic opportunity for Marijke to meet the PNG team and the Master Farmers for the first time and learn about their successes and challenges throughout their involvement in the program

## Pacific Regional

This month's activities were around monitoring of the scientific heat tolerant coral nurseries in Fiji, PNG and Samoa; monitoring ongoing activities in Kiribati; and working with the communities on Yule Island in PNG and Moturiki Island in Fiji on their livelihood, coral gardening and mangrove replanting activities. In Fiji, most corals in the science nurseries are ready for outplanting and with the next nursery visit the team will be outplanting them. They will need to collect data on the nursery corals and also outplant corals and re-frag the new ropes with corals to replace those outplanted.



*Setting up mangrove protectors in Kiribati.*





## Empowering Women and Strengthening Communities with Small Business Village Chicken Projects in Mozambique

In Mozambique, many households are led by women who struggle to provide for their families. These women often face additional challenges to men such as safety concerns, childcare responsibilities, lack of economic control and resources. Consequently, they have a harder time making ends meet and ensuring their children are well-nourished and healthy. The country faces significant nutritional challenges, with 43% of children under five being stunted and 6% acutely malnourished. These statistics highlight the urgent need for better nutrition and food security.

Recognizing this need, the Kyeema Foundation launched the "Promoting Local Chicken Small Business to Mitigate the Impact of COVID-19 on Rural Vulnerable Women" project in Marracuene District. This initiative aims to improve the nutrition, health, and livelihoods of rural communities through small-scale poultry production. By providing training, chicks, and necessary equipment, Kyeema helps women start and manage small chicken farms, empowering them economically and enhancing their families' well-being. These small businesses enable women to generate income, improve household welfare, and contribute to the local economy.

Village chickens are an ideal solution for female-run small businesses as they are easy to raise, require minimal resources, and offer a quick source of income. They produce eggs and meat, which are excellent sources of protein and essential nutrients. This not only helps improve child nutrition but also reduces malnutrition and stunting. Additionally, women can sell surplus eggs and chickens in the local market, generating income to cover household needs like school fees, healthcare, and other essentials. This economic empowerment enables women to contribute more significantly to their families and communities.

### The Impact of Kyeema's Poultry Project in Mozambique

One of the beneficiaries of this project is Mrs. Gina Cossa, a 54-year-old woman living with her disabled husband, Fernando, a former Ministry of Defence employee. Since 1994, the family has relied on a modest pension. However, with the start of Kyeema's project, Mrs. Cossa saw an opportunity to enhance her family's income and stability.

As an initial step, Mrs. Cossa had purchased a Boschveld hen and a rooster from her neighbor to begin building a flock for additional income. In May 2022, she was selected as a participant in Kyeema's female-led village chicken project, where participants received twenty 4-week-old Boschveld chickens. Through the project's training programs and technical support, she acquired vital skills in natural incubation, breeding, feed formulation, and disease prevention.

Mrs. Cossa has successfully tripled her flock as it has grown to 60 chickens. Benefiting from higher-than-average market prices for her birds, she can sell each chicken for 500 MZN (approximately US \$7.90), compared to the typical price of US \$4.70 for native village chickens. This significant price difference has bolstered her family's income and improved their quality of life.

Kyeema's Africa Regional Manager, Rosa Costa, shared insights into Mrs. Cossa's dedication: "It is very beautiful and gratifying to see the patience she has with the chicks, separating them from their mothers when they are hatched. Before doing this, she lost more than 10 chicks. She puts the chicks in a basin and uses her 'capulanas' (a type of sarong worn in Mozambique) to keep them warm." During a monitoring visit on March 8th, Fernando stated, 'My wife raises the chickens with patience, and she loves it'.



## Sustainable Development and Community Resilience

This project not only enhances individual livelihoods but also promotes sustainable agriculture and community resilience. By providing training in disease prevention and feed management, Kyeema ensures that participants can maintain healthy flocks and maximize their profits. Additionally, the project addresses food security by increasing the availability of high-quality animal products, which are crucial for improving nutrition in rural communities.

Mrs. Gina Cossa's journey exemplifies the beneficial impact of Kyeema's poultry project, showcasing how targeted interventions can uplift vulnerable populations and drive sustainable development while improving health and nutrition outcomes for communities.

Kyeema Foundation's efforts are supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP). With this support we can make significant strides in empowering women, fostering economic independence, and building resilient communities in Mozambique.





## Reefs of Hope: Supporting a Community Led Approach to Save Our Coral Reefs

Coral reefs are among the most biodiverse and economically valuable ecosystems on Earth. However, they are facing unprecedented threats due to climate change, including rising sea temperatures and ocean acidification. In response to these challenges, Kyeema has partnered with Corals for Conservation (C4C) to implement its innovative “Reefs of Hope” methodology in the Pacific.

### Operational assumptions of reefs of hope

- ▶ The open ocean will remain under 33°C even in the worst-case scenarios.
- ▶ Some outer coral reef areas will continue to remain under 33-34°C during marine heat waves of the future.
- ▶ Corals exist within hot pocket reefs that can withstand multiple days of 34°C and above without bleaching
- ▶ These hot pocket areas are becoming even hotter, approaching lethal temperatures of >36°C, which threatens to kill these most heat adapted corals.

- ▶ Moving heat-adapted corals to cooler water nurseries is a viable strategy to prevent their demise and maintain genetic diversity.
- ▶ Thermal resilience involves multiple factors, including the host, symbiotic algae, and probiotic bacteria, which can be best secured by moving corals from jeopardized hot pocket coral populations.
- ▶ Coral reef scientists partner with governments, and also focus on those who most rely on coral reefs for their existence; island communities and the tourism industry, enabling non-scientists to take a proactive role in saving coral reefs.

Reefs of Hope has recently received official endorsement from UNESCO as part of its Ocean Decade of Action, providing the highest level of international recognition. This methodology includes emergency measures to evacuate heat-adapted corals from the hottest parts of the reef to cooler waters within the same reef systems. By empowering communities and resorts to participate in coral conservation efforts, Reefs of Hope aims to prevent local coral species extinctions.

Dr. Austin Bowden-Kerby, Director of C4C, who developed the Reefs of Hope methodology, has often been described as the grandfather of coral gardening. At the recent Reef Resilience Symposium in Cairns, he emphasized the urgent need for action, stating, “We are running out of time to save our coral reefs.”

Dr. Bowden-Kerby’s message is clear: the old models of coral conservation and restoration are no longer sufficient. Instead, we must focus on helping nature adapt to the present and future challenges posed by climate change. This means actively moving a diversity of corals from heats stressed reefs to cooler water nurseries before it’s too late.

As stewards of the planet, we have a unique opportunity to make a difference. By supporting Reefs of Hope and actively engaging in coral reef adaptation efforts, we can help ensure the survival of these invaluable ecosystems for future generations. marine heat waves of the future.

Dr. Bowden-Kerby believes that the future of the planet hinges on the actions of the coral reef community and their ability to reach out and include communities and the tourism industry in adaptation solutions, stating:

***“With the thermal anomaly now becoming permanent, everything has changed. I believe that the very future of the planet is in the hands of the coral reef community. No other group can do what we can do. We must realize our unique position and we must cherish that position. Our coral reef community sits on the leading edge of a planetary collapse, and if we succeed in saving coral reefs, we can succeed in saving the planet.”***

Community and tourism-led action is at the heart of the Reefs of Hope methodology. By empowering local communities and coral reef tourism partners to participate in coral conservation and adaptation efforts within locally established no-fishing reserves, Reefs of Hope not only helps prevent local coral species extinctions but also creates a sense of ownership and responsibility among community members and businesses. This approach recognizes that communities and resorts have the most to lose from coral reef collapse and are therefore crucial partners in conservation efforts. The strategies include visiting hot pocket reefs to assess the remaining coral populations both before and during marine heat waves, collecting unbleached individuals during bleaching events as the waters cool, and protecting them from predators within gene bank nurseries. Additionally, local translocation of corals from hot to cool reef areas is carried out during the cool winter months, while there is still time.

Once the heat adapted corals are secure within nurseries and in the cooler water restoration sites, natural processes of coral reef recovery begin to proceed, which includes the restoration of coral reproduction. Fish habitat is also enhanced by the corals, and the increasing fish populations reinforce community-based conservation efforts, amplifying the success pf MPAs and encouraging participating communities and resorts. The resulting excitement helps propel the work forward, as interest in this breakthrough approach spreads.

Together, we can move swiftly to empower those most impacted to implement strategies that help our marine ecosystems to adapt to the changing climate and ensure the survival of reefs for generations to come. Help us embrace our unique UNESCO-endorsed position and work together to save not only coral reefs but also improve the resilience of the local communities working at the forefront.



# Palladium Challenge Fund

When it's Time to Rebuild:  
Jobs for Refugee Returnees

Apply Now

## When it's time to Rebuild: *Jobs for Refugee Returnees*

Conflict can leave unimaginable destruction in its wake, and the work to rebuild requires more than funding; it requires people with passion, resilience, and skillsets matched to the country's reconstruction needs. Many of these people could be 'returnees' – whether refugees or other emigrants returned home.

From Ukraine to Gaza to South Sudan, recovery will take decades. These and more will embark on a long and complex road, key to which is the recovery of the labour market to ensure meaningful livelihoods for people in the process.

The ask is deceptively simple: connect refugees with jobs that bring them home and let them rebuild their lives while they rebuild their societies.

As the world brainstorms solutions, Palladium co-CEO Sinéad Magill believes that it's time to reinvent some of the development approaches upon which we've traditionally relied. "What got us here won't always be the right way forward. Rather, the answer is in new ideas, new players, and new technology, blended with the development sector as we know it

now," she says. "In conflict-torn countries, we need to be ready when the task of rebuilding begins."

Without empowered workers with the right skills, rebuilding after a conflict is slow and poverty remains high. The task at hand needs people; but just as much, people need to be connected to the tasks at hand. This is particularly true for youth who may see more opportunity to build their lives elsewhere, when the right approach to skills development and matching could help them build a life and future at home.

The potential to transform workforce development is huge. Market led training can help fill labour gaps, faster. Innovative technologies can scale up digital education and target skill building. Improvements to services like childcare and transportation make it easier for individuals to start (and keep) jobs. And new thinking and approaches can match up refugee skillsets with what's really needed.

Through this challenge fund, we will unlock innovative solutions that connect refugees as

a workforce with the post-conflict needs of their home countries.

Through this challenge fund, we're seeking proposals from organisations that offer innovative and sustainable solutions to building a strong post conflict labour market, which in turn, will support economic reconstruction and social transformation.

Innovations could include, but are not limited to:

- Skills matching for refugees
- Market-led training and job placement services in post-conflict environments
- Income-earning opportunities like training stipends, internships and apprenticeships
- Innovative technologies that address unemployment and skill building
- Wraparound services that support job placement, including childcare, transportation and health services

The Challenge Fund is looking for solutions that:

- Pilot innovative and cost effective approaches
- Connect and prepare individuals for long term employment
- De-risk start up ventures targeting post conflict workforce building
- Leverage partnerships with businesses, civil society and government
- Can be scaled up and applied across different country contexts

To apply for funding up to \$100,000.00 please go to [letsmakeitpossible.com](https://letsmakeitpossible.com). Applications are due 31 July 2024.