



Update from John Lokeno May 2021

Dear Partners in Mission,

We greet you in Jesus' precious name! We are eager to tell you what our Father has been doing in the communities and churches of West Pokot, Kenya.

Poultry Value Chain

An outbreak of Newcastle Disease in poultry necessitated a mass vaccination of chickens to prevent further loss of birds. The vaccination was carried out in four communities where 300 birds were vaccinated against this destructive disease.

Under the veterinarian's supervision, birds exhibiting the sick-bird syndrome were isolated. The farmers were advised to give the sick birds antibiotics and multivitamins mixed with water until they recovered. They were also encouraged to put in place strict biosecurity measures in their poultry houses to prevent the entry of diseases into the flock.



Dr. Brian doing poultry vaccination in Alany. He also instructed farmers on the importance of proper mineral supplements and how worm and tick infestation contribute to mineral deficiencies.

General Animal Health Activities

Herd health and clinical work at Kameris were as follows:

- Tick and worm control at Mr. Raphael Lowoi's home. This family was counseled on how to manage ticks and worms in their livestock. More than 50 percent of the common diseases that affect cattle are from ticks. With well-focused herd health training, this menace can be addressed.
- Handling a camel with an injured uterine wall at Mrs. Rufina Lingaa's home. Mrs. Rufina said, "I am so happy to know that after such a long wait we finally have the services of a veterinarian in Alale."
- Milk fever and heartwater—Mr. Luka Lomerikou's cow in Arengipi fell after calving and was unable to get up. The veterinarian diagnosed milk fever. After treatment, the cow began to show signs of improvement but developed other signs believed to be those of heartwater disease due to poor health. The cow was treated for a week and has recovered!



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Honey Value Chain-Nyuki ni Uhai (Bees are Life) Project

This project aims at establishing a community-based bee-keeping network. It will facilitate the establishment of a bee farmer cooperative that will both produce and sell honey and other bee products. The cooperative aims to have 1,000 farmers. Fifty lead farmers will be trained on bee husbandry technology. They will be in charge of reaching out to 20 fellow farmers each with this knowledge. These lead farmers will provide technical backup to their fellow farmers. The cooperative will also be facilitated to have one honey processing unit. The cooperative will be linked with markets where the processed honey will be sold. The project is meant to boost household incomes as well as open the eyes of the members of this community to the responsibility of caring for God's world. Surveying and community discussions are in the early stages of ramping up this project.

Success Story: CCMP and MMGs (Good Samaritan Groups)

Among the *Msamaria Mwema* groups that were formed last year is one called Kangotutai MMG in Alale village. It is comprised of 18 members, all of whom are women. What drew them together is that they face common household challenges as mothers. They rely on daily wages from casual labor to sustain their families. The group members have similar aspirations and life goals. After being in the group for more than a year with a saving plan of Ksh. 200 (about USD 2) per member per week, they saved Ksh. 60,000 (about USD 546). This money was used to buy 18 large cooking pots which they intend to use in catering service as a business. In thanksgiving to the church for bringing them the training and to God for helping them realize their vision, they gave one cooking pot to the local church kitchen. Amazingly this group is composed of women who are so committed to their walk with the Lord Jesus Christ, a good number of them also serve as cooks during the triennial CCMP training in Alale. With more training in financial management and investment opportunities, this group looks forward to doing more.



Thanking you with all our hearts for your gracious and prayerful participation in God's work in Kenya!

John Lokeno