**Supplemental Application**

**Questions & Answers**

* **We want to understand more fully what you envision for the long-term sustainability of this project. In the application, it says when the hens get old they will be sold or eaten. Are you also planning to breed new chickens? A savings component was also mentioned. Can you explain what this looks like? What will the savings be used for specifically?**

Yes, we are planning to bring in new chicken after these ones becomes less productive. According to the seller’s information, this type of hens can become less productive after 3 years. In this regard, money generated from selling old chicken will be used to purchase new ones. In addition, Portion of income generated from selling eggs will be saved monthly to make sure each household is able to buy new chicken when these ones became old. The committee that will be following up on the project will make sure of this. They will do a thorough follow up on weekly and monthly sales records and ensure savings are done as agreed. We do believe that for them to have small domestic livestock that can generate some income weekly/monthly is one of the sure ways to halt poverty that has been rampant in this community.

Savings will be a crucial step in this project. The beneficiaries (households) are 100 and out of this number we want to form 5 saving groups made of 20 people each. Each group will be headed by a member of the committee and 2 assistants to help him in follow up and managing well the group. Each saving group will have an account in local community micro finance bank commonly known as **Sacco**. The groups will be meeting weekly to present their sales and bring in part of their weekly income obtained from selling eggs.Thereafter, the income gathered will be transferred to their respective bank accounts as their savings. On one side, this is a sure way of measuring how the project will be making changes in their lives but on another side, it’s a way of promoting saving culture which is still far behind and sensitizing them to work with local micro finances to develop themselves. The accumulated savings will be used in different profitable ways depending on their priorities such as; buying new chicken after these ones become old, buying insurance cards for their families annually, they can also temporarily lend money to the fellow members who want to invest in other profitable businesses and after a specific period they pay back with interest, they can also use part of savings to buy chicken food, savings can also be reinvested in other profitable initiatives such as in agriculture (their area of interest); all this are going to be guided by internal written rules of association which will be in place.

* **There is a line item in the budget for 2500 units of chicken feed. How much is in each unit? How long do you anticipate this supply to last? Additionally, what are your plans for buying chicken feed after this supply runs out? Are the savings going toward this? There is also a line item about trainings in the budget. What are the themes of the trainings, who will attend, who will lead, and how will they benefit the members of the group?**

Out of 2500 units of chicken feed, each beneficiary will take 25 kgs as an initial starting point,to assist them at the beginning and we expect this bag to last four weeks maximum. When this supply runs out, part of savings can be used to purchase feeds as we want to buy hens that are ready to start laying eggs, but we plan on mobilizing them to start making savings from their other income that can help them in case this supply runs out before the expected time. IN regards to trainings, we plan to invite two people; one is the sector veterinary and the one is a poultry farmer who started small and made good out of a similar project. Before distributing hens, the veterinary officer will conduct one day training session on “chicken feeding, parasite, disease detection and control”, While another session will focus on “production management and sharing experience”. We do believe that this will help them to gain additional knowledge in managing well their eggs production, income generated and make the best out of this project.

* **Can you explain where the chickens will stay? Are there existing chicken coops or plans to build new ones? If you are planning to build new ones, what will they look like? Will the chickens stay together or in coops at each household? How will you ensure the quality of the chicken coop and the health of the chickens? Will members of the community be responsible for maintaining the coop and the chickens?**

The chicken will stay in the coops at each household as the beneficiaries found it much better if each one can take care of his/her own share. Why each household instead of a group? There is a plethora of evidence which indicates that group ownership leads to the free-rider problems and to an extent moral hazard. Every household managing their own chicken means maximum care and a real sense of ownership. Some already have coops for the chicken but others are building new ones.Following the advice from the committee and the veterinary, we find out that the coop for three hens can be of at least 2mx1m, cleaned and safe. The committee is visiting the beneficiaries. End this week, they will have checked and approved of the coops. After receiving the trainings, we do believe that participants will be able to take a good care of their hens, maintaining their health and managing their production. In addition, local leaders especially the veterinary and cell’s leader in charge of development will be visiting these Groups periodically to check the progress and assist them in any issue that might arise. CorpsAfrica volunteer who will replace me at the site will also continue with follow up to make sure the project is successful and sustainable.

* **Where are the markets for the eggs that the hens will produce? Are they accessible to your village? What is the baseline average household income in your community? How do you anticipate this project impacting household income?**

Market for the eggs is available especially in neighboring trading centers made of people who work in mines. The baseline average household income in community is 600 Frwper day. We expect this project to boost their household income by providing additional income weekly/monthly/annually through eggs production.

Thank you for reviewing my proposal and considering my application.

Sincerely,

Patrick Rumanyika

Community Volunteer

[www.CorpsAfrica.org](http://www.CorpsAfrica.org)

Physical Address: Congo Nile-Tangabo-Rutsiro
Cellular: + (250) 788891984

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