Marietha received five goats from Farm Africa's livestock project helping forest communities turn their natural resources into sustainable income sources. As part of Farm Africa's goat rearing project helping forest communities transform their natural resources into sustainable income sources, Marietha received five goats that she can keep at ground level close to the family home. Marietha also received all the training and equipment she needed to make her honey business a success.

Abrehet Gebrekidan is feeling very positive about the future. Until recently she was desperately poor and struggling to provide for her family from the dry and rocky land around her home in Tigay, northern Ethiopia. But all this has now changed, and this once penniless woman is now the proud owner of eight healthy goats!

Marietha’s good fortune started in August 2013 when she received three goats from Farm Africa as part of our goat rearing project. She also attended sessions at Farm Africa’s training centre where she learned how to build a safe home for her goats using locally available materials, as well as what to feed them and how to care for the hives. She said “It was important to learn how to care for the goats. With this help I can now look after eight goats! The trainer comes to my house to check up on the goats and shows me how to treat them.”

Before Abrehet’s goats were pregnant and produced three healthy kids that she named for her late mother – a goat – and for her daughter who was born on that day. Her children are delighted with what they have achieved, and are now helping their mother to care for the goats. Abrehet has now changed, and this once penniless woman is now the proud owner of eight healthy goats! The trainer comes to my house to check up on the goats and shows me how to treat them.”

Abrehet’s goats are a lifeline; so she is eager to grow her goat herd and expand her flock of chickens. With the money Abrehet earns from her livestock she can buy some more land too. “I am so happy with the goat project, as I can now start earning money,” she said. Abrehet said “It was important to learn how to care for them. She taught me how to build a safe home for her goats using some medicines for her son who had a bad eye infection. She also bought two chickens that sell, in addition to her winter with a plentiful supply of eggs to eat and sell. With her new house and bee hives, Abrehet’s family has transformed. The really incredible thing is that Mulu is confident the three goats she recently received will help her transform her family’s lives forever. The really incredible thing is that she is confident the three goats she recently received will help her transform her family’s lives forever. As you can see, when you give a gift to Farm Africa it really does make a long-lasting difference. It doesn’t just help one family in the short term; it helps many families change their lives forever. There really is no better gift you can give.

And in the words of Abrehet, “Many thanks to your generosity. If I am very happy and I hope that the future I would buy cows or start beekeeping and buy some more land too”. You can read Abrehet’s heart-warming story inside, and see more pictures of Abrehet, Marietha and daily life in Ethiopia’s beautiful Tigay region at www.farmafrica.org/livestock.

TURNING HONEY INTO MONEY

Hayseang village on the edge of Tanzania’s Ngor Forest is home to 59-year-old Marietha Pierre, her husband Noel and their children and grandchildren. This farming family once relied on the potatoes and maize that Noel grew for both food and an income. And Marietha remained at home caring for the children.

There are plenty of honey bees around Hayseang village – but as a woman, in the past Marietha wasn’t allowed to participate in beekeeping which meant she couldn’t collect honey to sell at the market. In this area honey is traditionally collected from hollowed out logs hung high in the forest canopy – and it is not sustainable for women to climb trees.

INCOME SOURCES

In beekeeping which meant she couldn’t collect honey to sell at the market. In this area honey is traditionally collected from hollowed out logs hung high in the forest canopy – and it is not sustainable for women to climb trees.

INTO MONEY

However, against all the odds, in recent years Mariaetha has now changed, and this once penniless woman is now the proud owner of eight healthy goats!

Marietha in Hayseng village on the edge of northern Ethiopia. But all this has now changed, and this once penniless woman is now the proud owner of eight healthy goats!

She takes her honey into Hayseang village, and is now encouraging her to invest in a modern beehive, and the opportunity to earn money selling honey.

“From the money I earn from the goats I will buy myself and my daughter new clothes – and buy food for the market. I also hope to be able to have three meals a day”

Mulu Gebrelibanos, Tigay, Ethiopia

Marietha’s good fortune started in August 2013 when she received three goats from Farm Africa as part of our goat rearing project. She also attended sessions at Farm Africa’s training centre where she learned how to build a safe home for her goats using locally available materials, as well as what to feed them and how to care for the hives. She said “It was important to learn how to care for the goats. With this help I can now look after eight goats! The trainer comes to my house to check up on the goats and shows me how to treat them.”

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And in the words of Abrehet, “Many thanks to your generosity. If I am very happy and I hope that the future I would buy cows or start beekeeping and buy some more land too”. You can read Abrehet’s heart-warming story inside, and see more pictures of Abrehet, Marietha and daily life in Ethiopia’s beautiful Tigay region at www.farmafrica.org/livestock.
Beatrice Munyiva lives with her husband and their three children in south-east Kenya's Mwingi district. In this rural area there are few employment opportunities, and families are forced to make a living from the land around them.

Without any farm of their own, Beatrice and her husband were struggling to earn enough money to survive from digging terraces and living on the scarce rainfall that came, and unable to pay for the schooling for the children to attend secondary school.

The family's only livestock were three local chickens – conditions they knew were too poor to breed from their own. As one of the few chickens left, the family's livelihood Beatrice was chosen to become part of Farm Africa's poultry project, which included regular training sessions where she learnt about vaccinating, feeding and housing their chickens. She was also taught about the importance of vaccinating their chickens and how to keep them in good health so that they lay plenty of eggs.

Soon after she completed her training Farm Africa gave Beatrice 20 baby chicks which she cared for until they were big enough to sell. Beatrice's neighbours had seen her chickens prospering and many of their birds, and soon started coming to her for advice. The skills were also replicated by the Farm Africa team, and Beatrice was selected to be a community vaccinator. Using the vet kit she was provided with, she now provides her neighbours with a local, affordable vaccination service. Beatrice now vaccine her farm in her role as a poultry rearing project and she also attended regular training sessions where she learnt about vaccinating and keeping her chickens healthy, earning her the nickname 'doctor' in her community.

She told our team in Kenya recently, “without the poultry project I would still be living in poverty.”

Life is very different for the family today – they have a balanced diet and Beatrice is earning more than enough to pay for her children's schooling and buy books. She is thankful for her eldest daughter, who is now 20 years old, can think about finishing her education. And she is thankful that her eldest daughter was given the chance to study for her future – without any literacy to be able to sell 50 each month.

Patricia Adu-Alhassan, 63, lives in Ethiopia's rural Dello Mena district. Like the majority of people in her area, Patricia was given a small flock of chickens and has been training to keep them healthy, so they can turn her small investment into a good source of income to provide for her family's needs.

Within five months her hard work was rewarded and she was able to sell 50 each month.

Fellow livestock keepers form the Mesirso Oromoo Range Management Co-operative. We have been working with them to improve simple systems that keep the grazing land in a healthy and sustainable state. With proper grazing practices there is plenty of time for the grasses to regrow and the land can be used to the full. Patricia has a flock of free range chickens, which are healthy and ready to sell. Patricia is selling her chickens at the local market, where Adem lives, and she sells them for around £4 each.

Patricia has also had her life transformed: she is now able to provide milk, butter and yoghurt to sell at the market, which badly impacted their value. With plenty of healthy fodder to eat, Patricia's seven cows, six camels and ten goats. He now has enough money to feed his family and can begin to meet his family's needs.

Adem is already putting his income to good use, and his family's living standards have improved. They can now drink milk and sleep on a mattress instead of the bare earth. Patricia is teaching others in her community how to good grades. She currently sells an average of 15 crossbred birds each month for around £7 each.
The family’s only livestock were three local chickens – sometimes they haven’t even been to their routine out of poverty. As one of the first beneficiaries of Farm Africa’s poultry programme, Beatrice was chosen to become part of Farm Africa’s Vaccination Project, which included regular training sessions where she learnt practical skills on how to rear and house her chickens. She was also taught about the importance of vaccinating her chickens and how to keep them in good health so that they lay plenty of eggs.

Soon after she completed her training, Beatrice was selected to be a farmer leader for the project, which included going to other villages and being a mentor to other new farmers. Together, Beatrice and her husband were struggling to earn enough money to survive from digging terracing on neighbouring farmers’ land.

The family lived a hand-to-mouth existence – unsure of where their next meal would come from, and unable to pay for the children to attend secondary school.

The children in the family had been unable to finish secondary school as the compulsory costs for educating them were too expensive. In Beatrice’s family home that they could sell it, which meant they didn’t live very well, but they were able to sell their eggs and a large number of chickens before they were old enough to sell.

Alongside Beatrice, Patricia Mwongola was also selected to join Farm Africa’s chicken rearing project. Patricia had six children. She had many of the same challenges as Beatrice. She was in need of work and was desperate to improve her family’s life and to help hard work as an assistant farmer. She learnt to make new friends as a farmer trainer. Within a month she had started to make more money than ever before. She was already starting to reap large rewards, and she had healthy chicks almost large enough to sell. When they reached six months, the chickens were fit, healthy and ready to sell. Patricia took £25 from the market and said to her husband: “This is my way to earn some money!”

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Patricia with her chickens, who are now 30 years old, and is still able to live on her pension and her husband is now helping her in the family’s income.

She currently sells an average of 15 crossbred chickens a week for around £25 each. She has saved £3,000 and is keeping the rest to build her house and buy a cow and a plot of land. She is now a very strong person and is very thankful for her chickens.

Patricia’s neighbours had seen her chickens do well. Her success inspired them to farm chickens too, and many of them have successfully reared chickens.

Find out how rearing chickens has improved the lives of Patricia and Beatrice online at www.farmafrica.org/livestock.
Marietha received five goats from the Farm Africa goat rearing project. These goats have now changed her life for the better, and she is now able to improve the family's standards of living. She has money for medical care and better food for her children and grandchildren.

Marietha is very happy with the goat project, as I can now start earning an income.”

“Many thanks to Farm Africa for the goats, it is a great help. I can now start earning an income.”

Mulu Gebrelibanos, Tigray, Ethiopia

Mulu is confident the three goats she recently received will help her transform her family’s lives forever. The really incredible thing is that Mulu received the three goats from her neighbour Abrehet, who received her three goats from Farm Africa back in 2013.

“From the money I earn from the goats I will buy myself and my daughter new clothes – and buy food for the market. I also hope to be able to have three meals a day.”

Mulu Gebrelolokis, Tigray, Ethiopia

Your gift of £16 today could provide another woman with three goats that will help many more families in the years to come.

The kids are given to another woman... And the cycle continues. Why not help women in Ethiopia’s beautiful Tigray region at www.farmafrica.org/livestock
Marietha Petro, a 51-year-old woman from Hayseng village on the edge of northern Ethiopia, has now started to earn money selling honey.

Marietha received five modern beehives from Farm Africa’s ‘Focus on Livestock’ project, which means she didn’t collect honey to sell at the market. In this area honey is traditionally collected from hollowed out logs hung high in the forest canopy – and it isn’t culturally acceptable for women to climb trees.

There are plenty of honey bees around Hayseng village, but as a woman, in the past Marietha wasn’t allowed to participate in beekeeping which meant she couldn’t collect honey to sell at the market. In this area honey is traditionally collected from hollowed out logs hung high in the forest canopy – and it isn’t culturally acceptable for women to climb trees. However, again all the odds, in recent years honey has become her family’s main source of income. As part of a Farm Africa project helping forest communities turn their natural resources into sustainable income sources, Marietha received five modern beeboxes that can be kept at ground level close to the family home.

Marietha also received all the training and equipment she needed to make her honey business a success. Whilst Marietha is hard at work at the beehives, her husband Noel is busy at work in their farmyard and the harvesters are busy collecting 30 litres of honey each year. She takes her honey directly to the buyers, using the simple machine Farm Africa gave her beekeepers in her village. Before setting a small amount aside for her children and selling the rest at market. In her apiary Marietha is now encouraging her to invest in building her honey business!

A gift of £16 today could help provide another woman with three goats that will help her family from the dry and rocky land around her home in Tigray, northern Ethiopia. But all this has now changed, and this once penniless woman is now the proud owner of eight healthy goats!

Marietha’s good fortune started in August 2012 when she received three goats from Farm Africa as part of our goat rearing project. She also attended sessions at Farm Africa’s training centre where she learnt how to build a safe home for her goats using locally available materials, as well as what to feed them and how to care for the kids. She said: “It was important to learn how to care for the goats. With this help I can now look after eight goats!” The trainer came to her house to check up on the goats and showed her how to treat them.

Before long Marietha’s goats were pregnant and produced three healthy kids that she passed on to Mulu, who is pictured on the right of the page, in Hayseng, Marietha’s husband. His role in the money Marietha earned from her livestock was to help her with the kids, and buy her with a plentiful supply of eggs to eat until the next harvest. Marietha’s husband is delighted with what she has achieved, and is now encouraging her to invest in building her honey business!

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Marietha, Mulu and daily life in Ethiopia’s beautiful Tigray region at Farm Africa goat rearing project.

You can read Abrehet’s heart-warming story inside, and see more pictures of Abrehet, Mulu and daily life in Ethiopia’s beautiful Tigray region at www.farmafrica.org/livestock.

As you can see, when you give a gift to Farm Africa it really does make a long-lasting difference. I don’t just help provide another family in the short term, it helps many families change their lives forever. There really is no better gift you can give.

And in the words of Abrehet, “Many thank yous! I am very happy and in the future I’d like to buy cows or start beekeeping and buy some more land too.”

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