

A close-up photograph of a woman with dark skin and short hair, smiling warmly at the camera. She is wearing a vibrant blue shawl with thin white stripes. Her hands are occupied with feeding several goats in front of her. The goats are various colors, including black, brown, and tan. The background shows a dry, hilly landscape under a clear blue sky.

# FOCUS ON LIVESTOCK



END HUNGER >>> GROW FARMING  
**FARM AFRICA**

# **HEALTHY CHICKENS PRODUCE A FLOCK OF SUCCESS**

**Beatrice Munyiva lives with her husband and their three children in south-east Kenya's Kitui district. In this rural area there are few employment opportunities, and families are forced to eke out a living from the land around them.**

Without any farmland of their own, 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.



Beatrice  
vaccinating  
her chicken

Find out how rearing chickens has also transformed the lives of Regina and her son Abdilay online at [www.farmafrica.org/livestock](http://www.farmafrica.org/livestock)

The family's only livestock were three local chickens – nonetheless they have proven to be their route out of poverty. As one of the poorest poultry keepers in her village, Beatrice was chosen to become part of Farm Africa's chicken project. She attended regular training sessions where she learnt how to care for 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, Farm Africa provided Beatrice with a large cockerel for crossbreeding with her local hens. The resulting chicks are much bigger than local ones, and fetch a much higher price at market. After just two months Beatrice had 24 baby chicks which she cared for until they were big enough to sell.

Beatrice's neighbours had seen her chickens survive disease that had killed many of their birds, and soon started coming to her for advice. Her skills were also recognised by the Farm Africa team, and Beatrice was selected to be trained as a community vaccinator. Using the vet kit she was given, she now provides her neighbours with a local, affordable vaccination service. Beatrice has become famous in her area for her poultry rearing skills, earning her the nickname 'daktari' which means doctor!

**She told our team in Kenya recently "without the poultry project I would still be living in poverty"**



Life is now very different for the family – they have a balanced diet and Beatrice is earning more than enough to pay for her children's secondary school uniforms and books. And she is thankful that her eldest daughter, who is now 20 years old, can finally finish her education.

**Patricia Mwongela and her husband live near Beatrice, and face many of the same challenges. Also reliant on securing casual work on neighbouring farms to survive, all too often when they were unable to find work they had nothing to eat.**

The children in the family had been unable to finish secondary school as the compulsory costs for attending were too expensive. Patricia kept two chickens at the family home that they could sell in an emergency – but any chicks they produced died before they were old enough to sell.

Alongside Beatrice, Patricia was also selected to join Farm Africa's chicken rearing project and she too attended practical training sessions before receiving a large breeding cockerel. Patricia was desperate to improve her family's life and worked hard to use all she had learnt to make a new start as a chicken farmer. Within five months her hard work was starting to reap large rewards, and she had 60 healthy chicks almost large enough to sell.

When they reached six months, the chicks were fit, healthy and ready to sell. Patricia took 25 of them to market and sold them for around £90! She described this day as a miracle and a turning point for her family. They had never had so much money – and straight away she paid for her children's schooling and bought a plentiful supply of food for the family. Spurred on by her success, her husband is now helping her take care of their growing brood – making sure the chickens are well fed, regularly vaccinated and in good health.

With so many farmers producing chickens, Farm Africa has helped them to form a marketing co-operative. Instead of competing with each other for trade at the local market, the women now sell their birds as a group. With large volumes of big healthy birds to sell, the women can negotiate hard with major buyers who travel to Kitui and pay a good price for their quality chickens.

Since joining the project Patricia has grown her flock from two to 156! She currently sells an average of 15 crossbred birds each month for around £7 each (around twice what a local chicken would fetch), and is keeping the rest to build her flock. She has big plans for the future and wants to one day keep 1,000 chickens and be able to sell 50 each month.

**She currently sells an average of 15 crossbred birds each month for around £7 each**



Patricia with her  
grandchild, son  
and casual worker



**A gift of £38 today could help teach another woman how to keep their chickens healthy, so they can turn their birds into a thriving business.**



Adem Hussein  
with his livestock

## TURNING LIVESTOCK INTO THE LIFELOOD OF RURAL BUSINESSES

30-year-old Adem Hussein lives in Ethiopia's remote Dello Mena district. Like the majority of people living in this arid and inhospitable area, Adem is a pastoralist – meaning that he relies on selling livestock and animal products to provide for all his family's needs.

Until recently, the communal land around where Adem lives was parched and over-grazed which meant his three cows and two camels didn't have enough to eat and had fallen into poor health. They were producing little milk and had become almost worthless at market, leaving Adem without a reliable income to provide for his family.

Adem's problem was a common one, so Farm Africa has helped him and his

"There was no attention given to our community before, but Farm Africa has given us this attention and made a very strong start"



fellow livestock keepers to form The Hurufa Dero Rangeland Management Co-operative. We have been working with the members to implement simple systems that keep the grazing land in good condition. Rangeland is now strictly rotated, and at regular intervals it is protected from grazing livestock so that there is plenty of time for the grasses to re-generate. Adem and the other farmers charge non-members a nominal fee to graze their animals on the well-managed land, which together with their own membership fees covers the cost of rehabilitating the grassland ready for the next season.

With plenty of healthy fodder to eat, Adem's animals soon returned to good health and started breeding and

producing milk once again. He now has seven cows, six camels and ten goats. They are providing plenty of milk for his children to drink, and Adem also makes butter and yoghurt to sell at the market. He has doubled his income and now has enough money to feed his family and buy the books his children need to attend school.

After many years struggling to keep his livestock healthy and earn a good living from them, Adem is very pleased to have Farm Africa's support.

**Adem Abdulahi also lives in Dello Mena district, and like Adem Hussein he also relies on his livestock to provide for his wife and children. The new rangeland management system means that Adem and the other farmers in the area now have plenty of healthy animals to sell – but getting a good price for them was proving to be a struggle.**

The nearest market is in Dello Mena town – 35km away. Unable to afford the cost of hiring a truck, each farmer had to walk their livestock to market. The long journey was leaving their once healthy livestock weak and in poor condition, which badly impacted their value. With each goat he sold from his small herd fetching just 400 Ethiopian Birr (around £13) Adem's family were desperately poor.

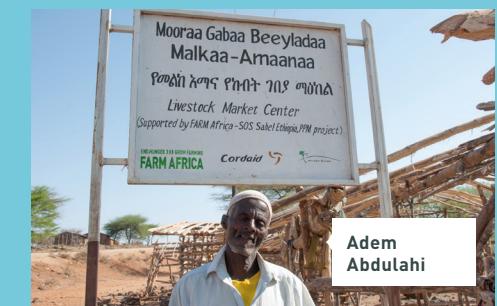
Aware that simply helping farmers provide their animals with enough fodder wasn't enough to help farmers like Adem earn a good income; Farm Africa has established a weekly livestock market much closer

Mohammed, a fellow co-operative member, has also had his life turned around by Farm Africa. Read his story at [www.farmafrica.org/livestock](http://www.farmafrica.org/livestock)



to where they live. With many livestock all for sale in one place, traders from other towns come to the village to buy their strong, healthy animals for more than 50% more than they fetched after the long walk to Dello Mena town.

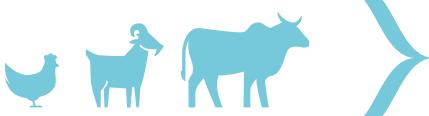
Adem is already putting his income to good use, and his family's living standards have improved. They now have a mattress to sleep on and he no longer walks barefoot as he has been able to buy some shoes. The family now have two meals a day, whereas in the past they could only afford to eat once. And Adem is feeling hopeful about the future – he believes that livestock can continue to provide a good income for future generations of his family.



Adem  
Abdulahi

**"Keeping livestock is our culture. My sons will follow me to do the same. Thanks to Farm Africa we can now sell our livestock in our own village"**

**A gift from you today of £500 could help establish a livestock market – giving another community like Adem's the help they need to turn their livestock into thriving businesses that will feed their families, educate their children and provide for generations to come.**



## **TURNING HONEY INTO MONEY**

**Hayseng village on the edge of Tanzania's Nou Forest is home to 51-year-old Marietha Petro, 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 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, against 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 beehives 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 family home, her bees are hard at work in their hives and she harvests an average of 45 litres of honey each year. She takes her honey to be cleaned using the simple machine Farm Africa gave the beekeepers in her village, before setting a small amount aside for her children and selling the rest at market.

The £300 she earns each year selling honey may not sound like much in the UK, but for Marietha's family it has been transformational. As well as feeding and educating their children, they now have money for medical care and have been able to improve the family's mud home. Marietha's husband is delighted with what she has achieved, and is now encouraging her to invest in building her honey business!

Find out why Minael can also now pay for school costs to send her children to school online at [www.farmafrica.org/livestock](http://www.farmafrica.org/livestock)



Marietha in her apiary

Your gift of £16 today could help provide another woman with a modern beehive, and the opportunity to earn money selling honey.



Abrehet holding one of her goats

## **GOATS THAT KEEP ON GIVING**

**Abrehet Gebrekidan is feeling 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 Tigray, northern Ethiopia. But all this has now changed, and this once penniless woman is now the proud owner of eight healthy goats!**



A gift of £100 could help provide another woman with three goats that will go on to help many more families in the years to come.

Abrehet'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 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 them. 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 long Abrehet's goats were pregnant and produced three healthy kids that she passed on to Mulu, who is pictured on the front cover. And Abrehet's goats have since produced six more kids – one of which she sold to buy some food for her children and some medicines for her son who had a bad eye infection. She also bought two chickens that will, in time, provide her with a plentiful supply of eggs to eat and sell. With no husband to provide for the family, the money Abrehet earns from her livestock is a lifeline; so she is eager to grow her goat herd and expand her flock of chickens.

**"I am so happy with the goat project, as I can now start earning an income"**

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

**Mulu Gebrelibanos, Tigray, Ethiopia**

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**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 her three goats from her neighbour Abrehet, who received her three goats from Farm Africa back in 2013.**

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](http://www.farmafrica.org/livestock)

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#### **Farm Africa goat rearing project**



A woman receives three goats from Farm Africa...

They produce three healthy kids...

The kids are given to another woman...

And the cycle continues...

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