

Goat to goat Modern Demonstration Farm at Good Samaritan Integrated Primary School, located at Nasuuti, Mukono District, Uganda

Implemented by Foundation of Disabled Employees Development and Employment Promotion Organization (FDEDEPO)

INTRODUCTION

FDEDEPO is a community based organization CBO that is registered in Mukono District . The office are located at Nasuuti village about 11/2 km of Mukono – Kayunga village. Here a school was started to provide education to needy orphans and disabled children in an integrated setting. This is in line with the government's program of community based rehabilitation (CBR) where persons with disabilities are absorbed in their communities and participate in all activities that take place in the community.

Goat to Goat project has been identified by the organization to be one of the projects to fight poverty amongst the vulnerable groups of people like the orphans and the disabled taking the first priority.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project proposes to provide goats both for meat and dairy products like milk and cheese. The project targets the following groups of people during implementation: - orphaned children, disabled children, needy and elderly.

Children who are not going to school because the parents or family cannot pay school fees . The process of identifying such children shall be done in partnership with the local leaders in the mentioned sub county.

Orphaned and disabled children shall follow, needy and finally the elderly.

During implementation FDEDEPO shall take the responsibility of submitting progressive reports after every three months to the supporting organization Lejofoundation in The Netherlands mentioning the success, challenges and suggestions of the project.

The project will prepare farmers to receive the goats after they have built their own shelters, after which the first birth will be passed on their next family. If the 1st birth gives two goats, the first goat will be passed on the next beneficiaries. The second goat goes to the management of the project with the profits of the goats. The management can pay office running costs such as secretarial services, monitoring and vet Doctor Services.

WHY WE CHOOSE THIS PROJECT

The goats do not need a lot of land for their raising. These days land is becoming scarce with the coming of investors.

Nutrition of the beneficiaries is generally poor as they lack means to acquire food rich in proteins and this is clearly seen in having malnourished children in these families hence when given a goat, it will improve the nutrition of these families.

The project will also train trainers of trainees in an intensive training of two weeks. Goat to goat will start to operate with the initial number of farmers 20 supported by two trainers of trainees and a veterinary staff in addition; there will be a governing committee of five members that will oversee the administration and management of the project.

An evaluation will be done annually the effect of Goat to goat on the following:

Improvement of nutrition of beneficiary family

Improvement of the soil fertility based on the agricultural practices

Improvement of the incomes of the beneficiary families.

BACK GROUND INFORMATION OR STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The Good Samaritan goat to goat project would be focusing on giving goats to the beneficiary farmers through linkage with the management committee trainers and vet staff.

The project will prepare farmers to receive the goats as gifts after which the first birth will be passed on to the next beneficiary and the process continues and it will operate in three sub counties of Mukono district, namely: Mukono Town council, Nnama and Nakisunga.

ENVIRONMENT

Soils in the said sub counties are poor as nothing does grow well in these soils without use of manure. Droppings from goats can be used to fertilize the soils together with improving farming methods.

The improved soils will lead to better agricultural production leading to an increase in the families' income and nutrition.

Due to improvement in nutrition and environment through goat to goat the beneficiaries will be able to save money and be able to pay school fees for their children and also improve the living standards of the beneficiary families.

RELIGION AND CULTURE

Goats are animals that are not segregated by both culture and religion hence they are easily accepted by all members of society.

GENUINE NEED

Many families have expressed willingness and needs for goats as they do not have enough land and also have poor incomes.

Goat to goat modern demonstration farm financed by *the Lejofoundation, The Netherlands, represented by Leo and Herma Annyas.*

The construction of a shelter, buying an alpine male goat for the milk, 7 female goats for meat, 8 female pregnant goats for dairy milk, labourer to assist in goats rearing for the first six months, transport to collect goats from the farm and training of two trainers is contributed by the Lejofoundation.

The profits of the second goat shall be used to start self financing of:

Submission of reports
Monitoring
Training of the beneficiaries

And then at the later date the profits shall be used to meet the salaries of the trainers. Some of the boars shall be sold off to meet the running costs of the project, while some shall be placed at a sub county to decentralize the project in order to minimum distance of beneficiaries for their female to be brought to the centre for mating.

1ST PROGRESSIVE REPORT FOR THE PERIOD OF MARCH – MAY 30TH 2009.

This is our first report since we started implementing Goat to Goat project *funded by Lejo Foundation*. We would like to take this opportunity of thanking the foundation for the financial support that was extended to us through Leo and Herma Annyas that has enabled us to take off with the project. We shall not forget the parental and technical advice we got from the couple. It was quite beneficial for the success of the project.

With the support we have managed to do the following:-

GOATS MANAGEMENT TRAINING.

Two directors at the project site attended goats' management training in order to implement the project successfully. Migadde Fred and Musulo Fred attended the training on How best to implement the project.

We thank the veterinary doctor for his effort to avail us time and space for the training which almost lasted three weeks.

GOATS SHELTER

The support also was used to construct goats' shelter for goats resting at night, during rainy days and sunny days. At 1st the shelter was too small to accommodate the big number of goats that were stocked. There was a fear that the goats would knock each other and results into some of them leading to miscarriage for those that are pregnant. This was solved by extending the existing structure with further financial support which was received recently. We thank you very much for the support.

PAYMENT OF GRASS COLLECTION

This has indeed assisted us the more because we started the project before planting the grass. The person feeds the goats twice a day. However, we have planted Calliandra we hope that in future we shall do away with the grass problem.

The goats are in healthy conditions and already two have given birth to two kinds each. One delivered one kid. together they are three Goats that have so far delivered. The rate of multiplication is high requiring us doubling our efforts.

DONATION OF GOATS TO BENEFICIARIES

The goats have not been given out to beneficiaries due to the following reasons below:-

Before the goats are given out, we saw it wise for beneficiaries to take up some basic goats management training to enable them run the project successfully. This has been realized from what we have undergone since the project begun.

Most of the local goats are not yet pregnant because they were in a squeezed place where we would not let the male free to do the mating. As of now we leave it free in the behind fenced Area. We hope that this will go as planned.

We want to identify coordinating centre within our area of operation. The schools shall act as coordinating centre. We want to strengthen these centres so that their capacity in terms of stocking them with male goats to minimize distance when the female goat is on heat to bring it back to the project site for mating. They also need goats' management skills and planting alfalfa calliandra , lucene grass in advance without forgetting construction of Goats shelter.

PADDOCKS

We have already divided land adjacent to the goats Shelter into paddocks to allow the goats feed alternating in paddocks while allowing grass to grow in some paddocks undisturbed. In between the paddocks we have planted calliandra to act as fences to separate the paddocks. Our biggest challenge is that Calliandra is sweet for the goats and at times they disturb the younger seedling of Calliandra.

HORTICULTURE

A half acre of the land has been reserved for Horticulture. Gardens have been prepared for growing various types of Vegetables to supplement the diet of pupils in the School. And some for Commercial purposes. Vegetables such as Dodo, Cabbages. Eggplant and Green Paper.

The droppings from the goats and poultry are used to fertilize these vegetable gardens. We shall also grow Fruits as there is demand for them within the country and the neighbouring countries.

When the gardens are established property, we plan to use them for demonstrations and training people to grow vegetables and fruits. They shall go along way to provide vitamins and balanced diet to children within the beneficiary families.

The incomes of those families shall further increase through the earnings obtained from growing vegetables and fruits.

The pupils also shall benefit from the project because they will be involved in this project.

THE CHALLENGES SO FAR FACED.

We faced a number of challenges as listed during the course of implementation

Over stretched

The two board members who are involved in the project were over stretched by the project in such way that the project started before planting grass for the animals .Grass had to be got outside the project site to supplement on what is available at the project site.

The watch man who was contracted to provide the grass was over worked and as a result become sick. This necessitated to employ other two casual laborers to provide the grass which was a bit very expensive on our side as we still have very limited resources, yet the project is expected to yield results in about one year from the time of Implementation.

VETERINARY DOCTOR

We started well with the doctor by the time when you were present and after our training.

In African countries especially Uganda, people work when “muzungu” is around after departure they abandon the project completely on several occasions we called him to treat our animals but could not respond.

He could promise to come but failed us in the long run. One time our goat nearly died because it was suffering from almonia.

We contacted the farmer where we bought the local goats but to our chance he rushed to the project site and recommended us to another doctor who is very active whenever he is called upon. For the meantime we have switched on to that one..

Already we have planted over six hundred seedlings and are doing well.

PAID UP STAFFS FOR THE PROJECT.

During implementation of the project, we under estimated it but if the project is to succeed, then there is need to employ some paid staff to manage day to day affairs of the project. their duties should include the following among other things;-

Check on the health and the conditions of the animals on a daily basis and either informs the Directors or the veterinary doctor for action

Make records and write reports monthly to be submitted to funders and directors.

Look for ways of making the project benefit many and fundraise for its expansion in terms of stocking more animals, preparation for disbursing the goats and designing strategies for project sustainability.

Become the contact person for the project and net work with other NGOs, Government Departments in line with Agriculture, and those involved in fighting Poverty among the Vulnerable groups like the Women, Youths and People with Disabilities.

Be charged with writing reports to both the directors and submit them to funders on timely basis.

The present staff is the directors who work on voluntary basis which is a bit risky in terms of project growth as they have other commitments to accomplish in terms of other projects like the School and Poultry without forgetting the Horticulture which is in the offing. We recommend that they should be left with the advisory roles.

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE BENEFICIARIES.

Experience has shown that there is need to train beneficiaries in Goats management if the project is to work out properly. Lessons have been learnt about Goats rearing. The beneficiaries have to be trained so that they manage the project in an effective way.

This was an oversight at its infancy stage. We need to budget for at least two days training in every sub county of our area of operation. this is to equip beneficiaries with skills in goats management much as we experienced the above challenges the beneficiaries welcomed the project and are willing to take up the challenges.

GOATS STRUCTURES FOR THE BENEFICIARIES.

For the tour we held during your visit to assess the living standards of the would be beneficiaries showed that they can hardly afford to finance the construction of the shelters without outside help. They would manage to provide the labour and poles for the construction but the Iron Sheets, timber and nails cannot afford as you witnessed by yourselves during the tour.

It is on the basis of the above facts that we do recommend the following:-

To provided capacity building to the beneficiaries in terms of goats skills management training before they receive the goats.

Beneficiaries to obtain goats at the age of 4 months and above to avoid risks involved.

The project to get a permanent staff charged with day to day affairs of the project.

Maintaining and evaluation of the project beneficiaries to be done on a regular basis to advise the beneficiaries the monitoring should be budgeted for.

The project needs to have some money reserved for treatment of the goats because quite often they fall sick and need immediate attention. This we have experienced it. We spray them weekly and deworming them on a monthly basis.

Project staff should visit big farms for learning experiences and idea sharing with a purpose of improving our farm.

Since this is a pilot project we would recommend that the first beneficiaries be supported on a cost sharing basis for the construction of the first Goats Shelters with support from Lejo Foundation at least SHS 150,000/=

Currently, at the site we have a stock of twenty seven mature goats and three have produced; two produced two kids each while one produced one kid. Together we have thirty two goats on the farm.

We promise that we shall send you the tentative programmed of the 1st donation of goats to the beneficiaries after confirmation of how many are pregnant by then. This is so because we want to minimize chances of beneficiaries taking goats which are not pregnant. It will be expensive for them to bring the goats back for mating.

We have already made the 1st fact finding visit to the would be beneficiaries though it was a bit expensive because we hired motorcycle man to take us round, we advised beneficiaries to plant grass and prepare for receiving the goats, to avoid the situation we under went of having the goats before planting the grass. The Goats have been de-horned to avoid knocking each other with the advice of the new veterinary doctor.

Finally we thank you very much for the financial support we are receiving from you for the project.

As we are waiting about the fencing the whole place, we have management to at least fence a small part behind the shelter.

Migadde Fred.

Agreement to donate goats this 12 day of March 2009

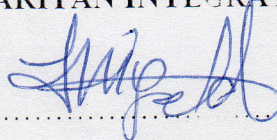
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GOOD SAMARITAN INTEGRATED GOAT TO GOAT PROJECT

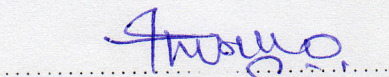
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LEJOFOUNDATION NETHERLAND

On behalf of **GOOD SAMARITAN INTEGRATED GOAT TO GOAT PROJECT**




MIGADE FRED

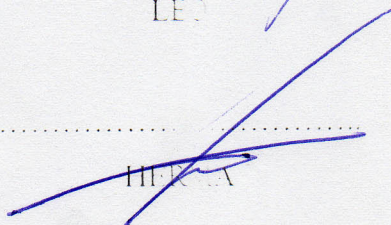


MUSULU FRED

On behalf of **LEJOFOUNDATION NETHERLAND**



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