

PIG FARMING PROJECT REPORT 2004

Funded by The Funding Network

PRESENTATION OF PIG FARMING TO THE COMMUNITY

1. Background to the report:

This review report is the outcome of 10 days of intensive field visit and discussions with partner organisations Uyisenga staff, local authorities, 24 households benefiting from the project, AVEGA Eastern Region Coordinator and the Cooperative Bank representative. The review provided an opportunity for Uyisenga and the beneficiaries' project groups to reflect on the experiences of this income generating project over the past 9 months, identify strengths and weaknesses of the project and to consider the implications of the findings for replication of similar projects in support of child headed households who are currently unemployed.

2. Summary of the report:

In August 2003, 12 young families received a fund of £5,400 GBP to support an income generating activities (IGA) This project was implemented by Children in partnership with The partnership insured over hands on practical help to the project. It also guaranteed mentoring of the young families by the widows. It created a safety net and buddying between groups. The project is based in Rwamagana which located in the Eastern region of Rwanda. It is sheltered near the AVEGA (Association of the widows of genocide) training and resource centre.

This location has been important to the project, because the beneficiaries do receive support from the centre, they also get exposure to visitors who conduct training at the centre. As a result of this location, some schools are coming to the project as school trip to learn about piggery farming from the primary schools. The project is continually training other beneficiaries to run their cooperative groups. 10 families have benefited from the training and have subsequently been given 10 piglet to start their new cooperative venture.

The advantage of the location has been through individual donations and pledges to support orphans from the general public, connection with the local community, donations in kind and support to the project. It has also widened ownership beyond the immediate beneficiaries.

2.2 How the grant was spent: See attached Budget notes.

1. The grant was used for stocking costs and the cost of feeds which came lower than budgeted for making it easy to meet unforeseen cost of plot of land.
2. Pig shelter was constructed; equipment bought, and veterinary services provided as per project budget.
3. There was also unexpected cost of one permanent labourer to compliment the work done by beneficiaries and to attend to visitors coming to the project
4. Administration costs, have involved setting up accounts systems for the cooperation, general stationary, postage, publicity material.

2.2 Results achieved:

- The household income is lower than expected at 9 months, because the sale of piglets was cheaper than expected, because out 54 piglets born in the first quarter, 44 piglets were sold at three months old, 10 were given in kind to a new group to start up a small income

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generating project. The cooperation has four pregnant pigs, with a further 40 piglets are on the way by end of June.

- Profit made from the sell has been put in a kitty to be used by beneficiaries in emergencies.
- Low maintenance of the project has enabled beneficiaries to do extra jobs outside the project, with the help of extra funds from the general public, contribution of the local school visits, and a small grant award for £300 from the mayor's office, a revolving loan has been set up which members can use to set up extra small businesses. The revolving loan encourages members to do agricultural projects such as sorghum farming, vegetable farming, staple food farming. This has ensured food security, while at the same time enabling families to have extra cash to meet basic needs such as school fees, medical care and clothing.
- 46 orphans are being cared for by group members and they are included in the work activities
- 22 Child headed household have benefited instead of the original 12 families, members declare they have emerged from solitude and feel more positive about their future.
- Indirect beneficiaries include schools, local community and visitors

2.3 Media coverage and publicity:

The project has received praises from the region and from visitors alike. No media coverage has been done, however, during February, at the opening of the AVEGA eastern Region Training and Resource centre, the project was presented to the community (Front cover photo). Unfortunately the pigs could not stay still for a picture.

3. Conclusion:

Despite low profit, and the total overhead costs being high due to start up infrastructure costs, these will fall drastically in the next year. During the second year, the project has been requested to supply meat to the AVEGA resource and training centre, which opened in February 2004. From the initial loan, of £5400, this group is helping other orphans to set up cooperative s has set up a bank account in which profit is pooled together for a period of time and a lump sum is allocated to each member to set up separate projects. The project has achieved more than expected results and hopes to do even better in the second year.