

GENDER INCLUSIVE VACCINE ECOSYSTEM: ENHANCING DISTRIBUTION AND DELIVERY SYSTEM FOR NEWCASTLE DISEASE & PPR AMONG SMALLHOLDER FARMERS [The GIVE Project]

PROGRESS ON PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

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Project Objectives

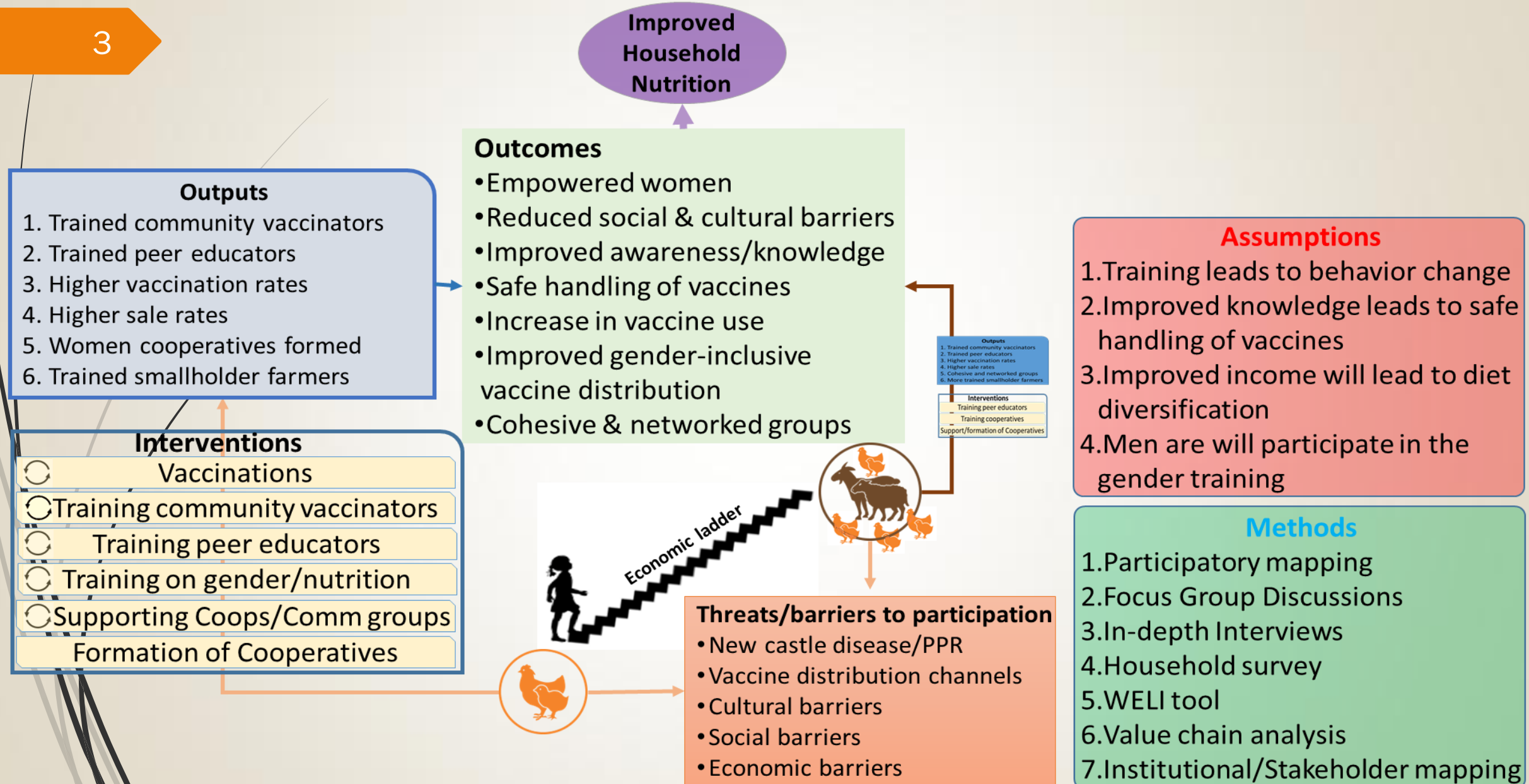
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Specific Objectives

- To establish the vaccine knowledge among women and how it affects their ability to use and benefit from vaccines
- To explore the socio-cultural, economic and technical barriers in access to ND and PPR vaccines.
- To examine norms that hinder women from owning and using livestock, participating in and benefiting from the livestock vaccines value chain, and utilizing vaccines to improve the productivity of their livestock.
- To map actors who influence norms and practices that affect women's engagement.
- To identify the gender-based factors in adoption of ND and PPR vaccines along the vaccine value chain among female smallholder farmers.

Theory of Change

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Project Intervention arms

		Knowledge delivery mode	
		Peer educators (a)	Peer educators + farm visits/demonstration (b)
Vaccine delivery channel	Project trained vaccinators with subsidized vaccines (1)	1a	1b
	Project trained vaccinators with no cost vaccination (2)	2a	2b
	Existing facilities (3)	3a	3c

Study Area

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➤ Makueni is largely (87%) an arid county more so the mid and lower parts;

➤ Lower arid areas have higher average holdings (30–40 birds) per HH compared to highland areas (10–15 birds).

➤ Over 75–80% of all farm families in Makueni County keep chicken - mainly indigenous;

➤ Study focusing on Three sub-counties: (2 wards per sub-county)

Kibwezi East sub-county

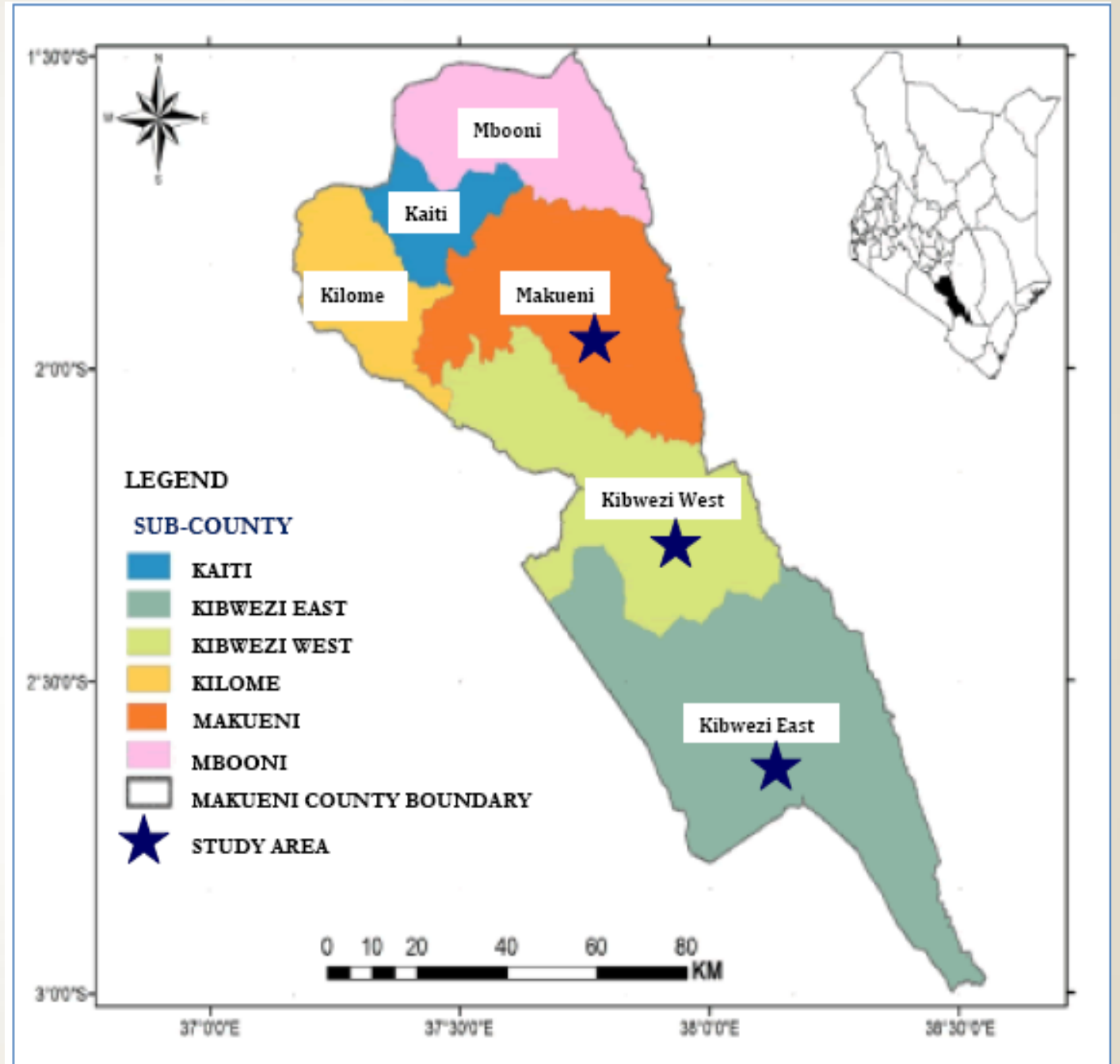
1. Masongelani (**1a**)
2. Kambu (**1b**)

Makueni sub-county

1. Kitise (**2a**)
2. Kathonzweni (**2b**)

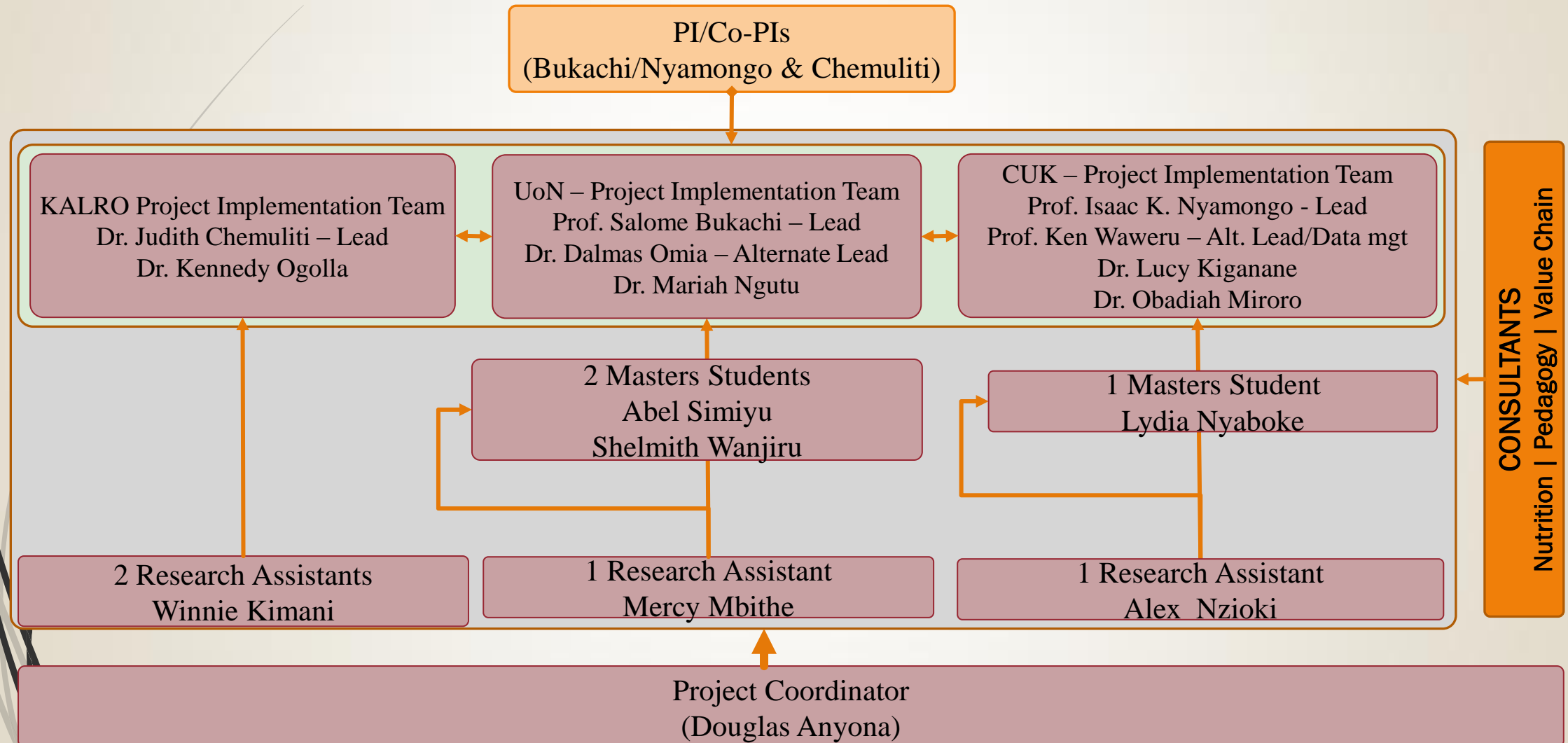
Kibwezi West sub-county

1. Makindu (**3a**)
2. Kikumbulyo North (Kibwezi town) (**3b**)



GIVE Project Achievements – Administrative set-up

Project team is fully constituted



Achievements cont.. – Administrative set-up

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- Ethical clearance obtained
- Office space identified and secured
- Project staff hired and are engaged
- Masters students recruited and ready for field work
- Study equipment identified and procured
- Sensitization meetings held with key stakeholders including county government officials

Achievements cont.. – Key documents developed

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Standard operating procedures (SOPs) developed on:

1. Data management
2. Publications
3. Communication and reporting

- Outcome Mapping Framework developed
- Result Based Logical Framework developed
- Monitoring and evaluation framework developed
- Study tools developed, revised and finalized, they include:
 1. Questionnaires
 2. FGD guides
 3. KII guides
 4. IDI guides
 5. WELI tool

Achievements cont... – workshops & team meetings held

	Activity/Event	Date	Duration
1	IDRC joint inception meeting	May 2019	6 days
2	GIVE team inception workshop & launch	Aug 2019	3 days
3	Gender training workshop	Sep 2019	3 days
4	Outcome mapping training workshop	Sep 2019	3 days
5	Training on WELI	Oct 2019	3 days
6	Baseline data collection training workshop	Oct 2019	6 days
7	Enumerator training workshop for vaccine value chain mapping exercise	Dec 2019	2 days

Achievements cont... - Project field activities conducted

1. Rapid Rural Appraisal (RRA) exercise
2. Pre-test exercise of the baseline survey tools
3. Vaccine supply chain mapping exercise

▶ Actors reached during the field activities:

- ▶ Poultry farmers
- ▶ Community vaccinators
- ▶ Vaccine outlet operators
- ▶ Private vets
- ▶ County government veterinary officers
- ▶ Local administrators
- ▶ Village elders / opinion leaders

Preliminary Findings

11 On poultry production:

- Commercial chicken production is relatively advanced compared to smallholder chicken rearing in Makueni.
- Most women are involved in indigenous chicken rearing on a free range system with minimal supplementation.
- Chicken production is influenced by seasons - most HH confine chicken during planting season
- Average holding per HH varies greatly , ranging from about 10 to over 200 chicken per HH.
- Makueni county government has been supporting indigenous poultry development at ward level.
- Several institutions and initiatives (e.g. CARITAS, World vision, USAID, Child Fund Kenya, TETHEKA Fund, UON, NARIGP, KAPAP ASDSP, KCB Foundation, FIPS Africa, Lutheran Foundation, etc) have focused on poultry farmers in Makueni County.
- Some of the initiatives include: provision of free chicken to HH, training on chicken husbandry, feeds & feeding, poultry housing, marketing, group formation, access to inputs etc.
- **However**, these initiatives have only reached a limited number of farmers - especially those in registered groups.

Preliminary findings cont...

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On Newcastle Disease

- ▶ Newcastle disease remains the biggest threat to chicken farmers in Makueni county with outbreaks being a common occurrence.
- ▶ The disease is known locally as “*Mavui ma Nguku*” or “*Wenzi*” in some areas.
- ▶ Some of the symptoms of ND are easily identifiable by most smallholder chicken farmers.
- ▶ ND is most prevalent in March, June and October resulting in huge losses among chicken farmers
- ▶ Nutritional deficiency particularly during prolonged drought was linked to ND outbreaks among chicken.
- ▶ Outbreaks that occur in Jul/Aug are often associated with peas harvesting season, dust or dirt.
- ▶ Some smallholder chicken farmers believed that ND cannot be prevented and therefore did nothing to prevent the disease.
- ▶ Use of herbal remedies in the treatment of various chicken diseases is common practice in Makueni.
- ▶ Some of the herbs or vegetation included: Aloe Vera, Neem tree, tobacco, pepper, *Itula*, *Muthulu*, *Uthunga*, *munonooki*, *usue*, *munyeeani*.
- ▶ Some farmers admitted using Amoxil tablets to treat ND

Some of the poultry housing structures evident in the few homesteads visited

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Preliminary findings cont...

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On ND vaccines and vaccination

- Vaccination rates in the county are unknown but estimate put them at between 10 and 15% in some areas.
- Most farmers rely on community vaccinators to vaccinate their chicken.
- Community level vaccinators charge on average between Ksh. 5 and 10 per bird depending on the distance.
- However, safe delivery and uptake of vaccines is still a concern to the county government.
- The county government continues to train more community vaccinators.
- Private animal health assistants also offer vaccination services in parts of the county
- Most large scale poultry farmers adhere to the poultry vaccination program while majority of small scale poultry farmers do not.

Preliminary findings cont...

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On the vaccine supply chain

- Only a small proportion of agro-vets stock ND vaccine within Makueni County
- Poor coverage of ND vaccine outlets, majority being in major towns and market centres.
- A number of agro-vets that stock ND vaccines have multiple outlets – some in the same town and others in different towns.
- While some vaccine outlets do not stock ND vaccines, they assist small scale poultry farmers to source for vaccines.
- Most Agro-vets did not have sufficiently trained personnel as agrovet attendants - with some using high school leavers.
- There is no standard price for ND vaccine in different agro-vets.
- Thermos flasks were popularly used to carry and transport ND vaccines by farmers.

Preliminary findings cont...

Challenges around vaccine use

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Access to vaccine outlets for far flung areas presents a challenge to poultry farmers.

- High dropout rates among trained community vaccinators citing challenges and frustrations.
- Packaging of vaccines in large doses & high cost are some of the challenges cited by chicken farmers
- Reluctance by some farmers to pay community vaccinators for services rendered
- Most farmers admitted taking action once an outbreak is reported.
- Agro-vets could not guarantee proper handling of vaccines on transit from distributors to their outlets.
- Power outages was also a challenge among vaccine sellers.

On cooperatives and women groups

- Unlike women groups, only 2 women cooperatives deal exclusively in poultry within Makueni County.
- Most poultry improvement projects work with registered farmer groups, leaving out those not in groups.
- Group membership is seen as beneficial & it is common to find one farmer in multiple groups
- Poor governance & misappropriation of funds is the biggest challenge facing cooperatives

Preliminary findings cont...

On marketing of chicken and their products

- ▶ Chicken are considered a ladder for acquisition of larger livestock especially among smallholder indigenous chicken farmers.
- ▶ Indigenous chicken production is increasingly becoming commercially oriented
- ▶ Major markets for most chicken from Makueni County are Nairobi and Mombasa, though marketing remains a big challenge for smallholder poultry farmers.
- ▶ Most smallholder farmers do not sell directly in the market but rely on middle men.
- ▶ About 5 million chicken are sold annually, while annual income from sale of poultry rose from KSH 2.06 – 2.95 billion between 2013 and 2018.
- ▶ Construction of a poultry slaughter house at Kitise ward is underway to provide a ready market.

Preliminary findings cont...

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On power dynamics within the household

- Women own most of the chicken and have significant control over income from sale of chicken and in most cases men are not engaged in the sale of chicken
- Children also own chicken, though most have limited decision making powers
- Women tend to have limited decision making powers over sale of larger animals (goats, sheep and cattle).
- Women have full control over what is consumed in their household but cannot independently decide on what goes to the market.
- Men tend to take over the chicken rearing venture from women when it becomes profitable.
- In most cases, women are often unaware of some of the technologies that could be of benefit to them.
- Women empowerment is often misconstrued and is generally thought of as a way of inciting women against men.
- Economic empowerment is however generally acceptable in the community.

THANK YOU

