

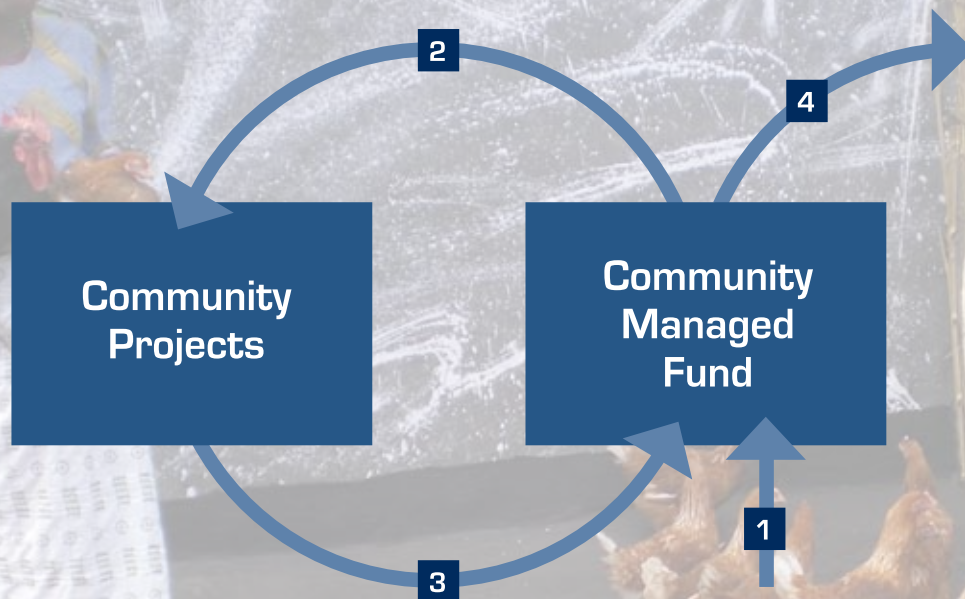
OUR AIMS

Since 2005 we have worked in partnership with rural communities from some of the poorest countries of the world. We provide opportunities, through a range of agricultural and environmental projects, that are appropriate in helping to meeting local needs. We believe this allows people to achieve self-sufficiency on their own terms.



HOW WE ACHIEVE IT

Each of our projects is set up with the active participation of the community groups involved. At the core of each of our projects is a revolving-fund.



We have used the revolving-fund principle because it is a simple way of providing communities with access to affordable credit (1) enabling them to buy what they think is most needed (2). In many cases this credit has been used to purchase livestock. When they are able, the farmers repay their initial loan by providing some of the first offspring back to the community group (3). The communities can then build up a "living bank" of animals that can be passed on to help others to benefit. When everyone in a community has received their own animals and each beneficiary has paid this back, excess animals can either be sold, to provide capital for microcredit loans or to pay directly for other essential goods and services (4).

In some cases, when communities have felt that they had sufficient animals to provide for their own needs they have donated animals to neighbouring communities to enable them to start their own community revolving fund.

GOAT PROJECTS

We have supported many revolving-fund goat projects in Malawi, Nepal, Pakistan, Ghana Kenya and Indonesia. Goats are easy to look after and are familiar livestock to most people in rural communities across the globe. They reproduce quickly and are kept for their meat or for their milk, or both.



BEE PROJECTS

Beekeeping projects have been funded in Uganda and Kenya, providing household income generation opportunities whilst helping to sustain local plant and tree biodiversity. The women's groups we have supported in both countries sell excess honey and other hive products (e.g. beeswax) to pay back the initial investment in hive equipment. This is used to "revolve" the project benefits to other interested groups.

CHICKEN PROJECTS

Since 2009 we have been conducting the pilot phase of Malawi's Responsive Village Egg Model with local partners in Mchinji District, Malawi. This is a community revolving system of poultry rearing that initially provides households each with chickens as an effective means of providing income and food security. The model has since been scaled up to improve accessibility of fertile eggs of the "Tombi Village Layer 2010" breed to all villagers. It is envisaged that in 3 years the number of beneficiaries will have grown to around 750 households.



OTHER PROJECTS

Although livestock projects are likely to remain our core activity, we are keen to expand our portfolio and provide benefits from environmental projects too. In 2009 we funded the purchase of solar driers in Malawi to help communities in Chikwawa to add value to forest-based products such as Moringa leaves. In 2010, again in Malawi, we are working with a local NGO to quite literally empower local people through the provision of appropriate renewable energy technologies in rural areas where few people have access to electricity.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO MAKE A DONATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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