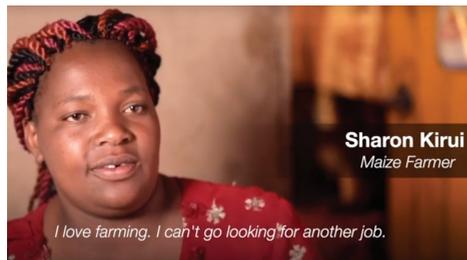


Success Story 1

Improved Crop Yield and Higher Income, Nakuru County

Sharon Kirui



Sharon Kirui is a small-scale youth farmer aged 28 years. She is married with three (3) children. She went to school up to secondary school level. Their farm is 2 acres. Her family live in Chumunit Village, Sigotik Sub-Location, Nessuit Location of Nessuit Ward, Njoro Sub county, Nakuru County.

She heard about Programme (KCEP-CRAL) through community mobilization barazas at locational level where she was sensitized on the Programme objectives, terms and recruitment criteria. She applied to be part of the Programme and was recruited as one of the beneficiaries in 2017 (Cohort 2 after the 2016 Cohort). She was among 12,662 smallholders who were issued with various inputs in Western Region.

Before KCEP-CRAL Intervention

Before joining the programme, Mrs. Kirui used to plant uncertified bean seeds purchased from local market. She used to intercrop maize and beans by planting in the same hole and

never adhered to any specific spacing. She used one (1) bag of 50kg DAP- planting fertilizer to plant two (2) acres for both maize and beans and never used to top-dress. Plant population was usually low due to poor spacing, bad agronomic practices, low fertilizer application rates, high post- harvest losses due to poor drying and high weevil infestation, leading poor yields of about nine (9) bags (90 Kg bag) per acre.

KCEP-CRAL Interventions

After recruitment into the e-voucher system and getting the Equity smart card farmers were grouped into groups of 25 farmers each where she became a member of Chumunit KCEP-CRAL self-help group with 22 members.

During the first year 2017 farmers paid 10% (Ksh.2,100) of the e-voucher value valued at ksh.21,000. Sharon and her group were trained on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) that included intercropping maize and beans using individual lines crops, fertilizer application at recommended rate of 2 bags of N.P.K (100kgs) per Acre and 25kgs for beans in the maize beans intercrop. Top dressing was done at knee height using one (50kg) bag of CAN.

Sharon and the other farmers were issued with seed, fertilizer and post-harvest materials through e-voucher card in the first year.

- The farmer prepared her land well in advance and was able to plant early



Success Story 1 (continued)

Improved Crop Yield and Higher Income, Nakuru County

resulting to improvement of yields.

- Good crop management practices were observed throughout the growing period and she attended and adhered to the trainings given.
- After harvest the produce was sorted out, sufficiently dried on the tarpaulin, considerably reducing the post-harvest losses.
- As a result of Programme intervention, she was able to substantially increase her production from an average of 9-11(90kg) bags of maize per acre to 26 bags of 90kgs each (over 100% increase). This was despite the drought at the beginning of the year and fall army worm attack that had negative impact on development of the crop. Bean yield increased from 0.5 bags of 90kgs to 3.5 bags of 90kgs per acre giving (85% increase in bean production. Produce was bagged in hermetic bags and stored.
- She stored 6 bags for food security for her household using the Hermetic bags.
- She sold 10 bags at 2,000/= to the middleman to enable her pay school fees for her kids, pay the 40% (a total of 6,750) required in the following season to cater

for input costs.

- She aggregated 10 bags as per the group guidelines.
- With proceed the farmer has done the following,
 - Paid school fees for her children (ksh.15,000)
 - Paid the 40% of e-voucher value valued at ksh.6,750 as required by the programme
 - Bought two (2) sheep at cost of ksh.4,000 each (as form of saving)
 - She has enough food to last her upto the next harvest (food security) in 2018.

Beneficiary Testimony

"I would urge all KCEP beneficiaries to keenly follow the trainings given and apply them on their farms, so that they can get high yields like me. I, am happy for KCEP Programme since I can sell part of my produce and still remain with enough for my family ensuring household food security"

