

AHEAD Mozambique

With the aid of the \$45, 550 USD AHEAD Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area Seed Grant, the International Rural Poultry Centre (IRPC) will undertake the project "Improvement of village poultry production by communities in the Limpopo National Park Support Zone in Gaza Province, Mozambique". The project aims to contribute to food security and poverty alleviation through the improvement of husbandry practices and disease control related to village chickens.

Specific project objectives include:

- a) The control of Newcastle Disease (ND) in village poultry;
- b) Improved village poultry husbandry and management;
- c) The development of poultry products suitable for sale to tourist centres; and
- d) Improved household welfare, including improved nutrition and food security.

Rural farmers will be the clients of the ND control program and their participation in the implementation and monitoring stages of the project is critical to its success. The community will be involved with the selection of local farmers who will be trained to be community vaccinators. Community vaccinators will benefit from their work by protecting their own birds against ND and receiving a small fee when vaccinating their neighbour's birds. Special attention will be given to ensure women's participation and that they share in benefits during all stages of the interventions.

A participatory rural appraisal will be conducted at the commencement of the project, and then annually over the next two years, to monitor progress in a participatory way. IRPC training will be based on adult learning processes and use methods that benefit from and respect the knowledge and experience of participants.

The IRPC is a subsidiary entity within the KYEEMA Foundation, a not-for-profit organization based in Brisbane, Australia. It groups specialists involved in village poultry production and the control of Newcastle disease (ND) under village conditions, who offer their services for rural poultry development activities internationally.