

## Erenya Kizito energized by ERI trainings to buy goats and chicken as a journey to achieving his one-year goal.

Men are promoted as the protectors, providers and heads of their families in the African society. There are those providing the resources (money) for subsistence and the economic crisis in Africa today challenges this notion, but there are those who have no personal goals and plan despite an average income and subsequently they cannot afford these responsibilities anymore. Mr. Erenya Kizito from Palorinya Subcounty Obongi district, found himself in the middle of such a crisis.



Mr. Kizito is a 30-year-old man and a member of Amaruma SDC for the last four years and despite being a member of a saving group for that long, Mr. Kizito was not able to save a single coin, neither did he acquire any asset for himself nor pay dowry for his wife who bared him 2 children. For these reasons, Mr. Kizito wife claimed he did not value and love her causing dispute between the couple and Mr Kizito was afraid for losing his family.

**Photo besides: Mr, Kizito (man sitting on a stool holding his first borne girl) poses brightly for a photo with his wife (lady**

**holding a baby) at their humble home during field monitoring at Palorinya.**

*“ ... I was really stressed, here in the camp, you don’t provide for your family well or pay your wife’s dowry she will surely abandon you with the kids and marry another man...”*

In despair, Mr. Kizito started a small business of buying and selling cassava flour in 2019. He would walk about 35 kms to buy 1 basin of cassava at 7,000 UGX in Lefori market and sell it at 15,000 UGX in Omwijo market living him with a profit of 8,000 UXG per basin every week.

*“Good money, right?”* With no plan and a personal long-term goal to guide his expenditure. Mr. Kizito would save between 2,000 to 5,000 UGX per week and eventually spend everything within one week of share out and within no time the business warped *“... I made some money when I was doing the business but I can’t tell where the money went.”* Kizito recalls while narrating his aspiration to RICE West Nile Project Officer SUPREME Palorinya Sub County.

When Amaruma SDC was enrolled in December 2020 and begun attending training on Enabling Rural Innovation (ERI) by RICE West Nile from beginning of 2021 under Security, Protection and Economic Empowerment (SUPREME) project opener for Mr. Kizito eye as a member of the SDC. SUPREME project, is a program funded by The European Union implemented in Obongi and Moyo districts under a consortium with World Vision, SNV and ZOA.

Just like any other member, Mr. Kizito has been faithfully attending the ERI trainings which is one of the methodologies being employed under the SUPREME Project that puts community members in the driving seat of their economic empowerment using the available resources. Mr. Kizito got more motivated after attending the Visioning and goal setting sessions. After attending the training for two months, Mr. Kizito was able to analyze and develop a plan for his earnings and savings.



The plan immediately woke Mr. Kizito up from slumber and started thinking critically on how he could move forward, he increased his saving from 5,000 to 10,000UGX per week that allowed him to borrow 300,000UGX from the group Sacco and bought 5 local chicken and 7 goats in the month of May 2021, to date the chicken have produced up to 30 while 4 of the goats are pregnant.

**Photo above: Mr. Kizito tethering his goats at the homestead during Palorinya field monitoring visit by M&E in September 2021.**

Mr. Kizito used part of the money to visit his in-laws to stable his marriage so that they can work together with his wife without disputes.

Mr. Kizito today is very happy of the trainings and hopeful that in one years' time he will be able to achieve his goals of constructing a permanent house through the savings and increase farming plus the chicken and goat rearing that he has started *".... I don't want to miss any of the trainings because it has opened my eyes to see things of development ..."* Mr. Kizito promised the Project Officer.