



## KCSAP COLLABORATIVE SEED SYSTEM RESEARCH GRANTS

### AWARDED SUMMARY PROPOSALS

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<b>Project No. &amp; Title:</b>	<b>SS02/3/2:</b> Kalro Improved Indigenous Chicken Multiplication and Distribution Among Small Holder Farmers
<b>Lead Institution:</b>	Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO): Non-Ruminant research institute
<b>Principal Investigator:</b>	Ludovicus Okitoi- <a href="mailto:oriamama.okitoi@gmail.com">oriamama.okitoi@gmail.com</a> / <a href="mailto:Ludovicus.Okitoi@kalro.org">Ludovicus.Okitoi@kalro.org</a>
<b>Project Team Members:</b>	Michael Khatsasili, Evans Ilasia, Peter Alaru, Ochieng Ouko, Lilian Mungau, Jonay Lunalo, Michael Mwangi, Daniel Chengo
<b>Project Duration:</b>	July 2020 to December 2022
<b>Budget</b>	15,350,200

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#### ***Background***

Livestock farming is an important direct and indirect contributor to the Kenyan GDP and has significant contribution in the livelihoods of many citizens. The industry is mostly rain fed and greatly influenced by environmental conditions; creating situations of uncertainty in production and future survival/adaptability of today's genetic population. The changing environmental conditions; as a result of global warming poses a more dynamic twist in planning for livestock production systems. This situation has been coupled with drastic environmental catastrophes, including floods, droughts and erratic rainfalls which in many cases hinder optimum production. Meeting these challenges needs highly adaptive animals and husbandry practices that are resilient to the unforeseen conditions in the future.

Indigenous chickens (IC) is a major source of income for the resource constraint communities. Scarcity of breeding stock, low genetic potential, inefficient post-harvesting and value addition techniques and lack of dissemination framework and marketing infrastructure have limited its production to full potential. The project will address these challenges through multiplication and

dissemination of climate-smart IC breed lines to private multipliers in priority Counties. In this case, multipliers and private hatcheries will be capacity built to enable them get full potential out of the improved breed lines. In addition, multipliers will be expected to undertake some minimal level of performance recording and evaluation to enable a community based enhanced breeding scheme.

The subject work will enhance productivity, resilience, generate income, create employment and guarantee food and nutrition security as envisioned in the Big Four Agenda. This will be in addition to increasing farmers' pliability to climate change.