

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF WEST POKOT

PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR COOPERATIVE DEPARTMENT

MINISTRY OF TRADE, INDUSTRY, COOPERATIVES AND ENERGY

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County Monitoring and Evaluation Unit

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ABBREVIATION AND ACRONYMS

A.I	Artificial Insemination
C.D.F	Constituency Development Fund
CGA	County Government Act
CABESI	Camel Bee and Silk
KEBS	Kenya Bureau of Standards
KTBH	Kenya Top Bar Hives
KVDA	Kerio Valley Development Authority
SACCO	Savings and Credit Cooperatives

1.0 CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

The Constitution of Kenya 2010 gives effect to the right of access to information by citizens as provided under Article 35 of the Constitution. Section 47 of CGA 2012 stipulates that the county performance management which shall provide; annual progress reports, citizen participation in the evaluation of the performance of county government; and public sharing of performance progress reports. Pursuant to Public Financial Management Act 2012 104 (1), the County Government is mandated to monitor, evaluate and oversee the management of public finances and economic affairs of the county government. County Government Act 2012 Article 30(j) provide for county to submit annual report on implementation status of the county policies and plans to the county assembly.

The purpose of monitoring and evaluation is to provide the county executive and other stakeholders with a summary of cooperative development project implementations. The purpose of monitoring assessment was to ascertain progress, risks, and challenges facing project implementation and to recommend probable solutions, and adopt best practices.

1.1 Objectives

The objectives of the monitoring exercise were:

- a) Determine the implementation status of the projects supported by the county government;
- b) Undertake monitoring of the selected projects to determine the outputs and outcomes;
- c) Prepare reports on each project highlighting their outputs, outcomes and any challenges encountered during implementation;
- d) Disseminate the findings to county government and other stakeholders.

1.2 Methodology

The monitoring and evaluation exercise was conducted from 30th March to 1st April 2016. The process involved participatory approach between the monitoring team, management and staff of the respective cooperative societies visited. The process entailed assessing the project status, quality and benefits to the community.

2.0 CHAPTER TWO: FINDINGS

Cooperative sector in the County implemented a number of projects on milk chilling plants, construction of coffee factory and honey store. A total of (11) eleven projects were monitored and the findings presented below:

2.1 Milk Chilling Plant

Livestock is an iconic part of West Pokot County. They are a symbol of wealth and status, improving soil fertility with their manure and providing households with a diversified income stream. Records from County livestock office indicate that Milk production has increased by 31.3 percent by end of 2015 and is estimated to have generated income of over 134M to farmers.

The milk chilling plants introduced by the County Government were to achieve the following objectives:

- ❖ To harnessing milk collection and storage, and;
- ❖ To ensure value addition for increased income.

A total of (7) seven milk chilling plants were supported by county government to farmers at various locations; Siyoi, Ring ring, Kaptabuk, Tapach, Sina, Kipkomo and Mnagei.

2.1.1 Siyoi Milk Chilling Plant



Figure 1: Siyoi Milk chilling Plant

The project is located in Siyoi ward, Kaisakat sub-location. It entails providing the milk chilling plant and its accessories, with the main objective of milk value addition. Information from the management indicates that Siyoi Farmers' Cooperative constructed the building that is housing the chilling machine at a cost of Ksh 1.5 Million from the members. The County government provided the chilling plant and its accessories at a cost of Ksh.5.3 Million, water boiler at Ksh. 170,000, and also supported with electricity connection at a cost of Ksh. 202,233.50.

The project status is complete and operational. It started operation on 1st September 2015. The projects support more than 600 farmers from Siyoi, Mnagei and Kapenguria Wards.



Table 1: Siyoi Farmers' cooperative Milk Production data

Year 2015	Milk quantity (Kg)	Gross income(Ksh.)
September	20,595	654,936
October	25,799	704,320
November	28,990	791,440
December	38,531	1,244,573
January	53,127	1,716,009
February	48,965	1,581,403
March	45,150	1,480,920
Total	261,157	8,173,601

From the above table, the society has reached 53,127 Kg as highest production and 20,595 Kg as lowest production per month for the seven months in operation. The average milk

collection per day is 1,244 Kg while the chilling plant has the capacity to store 5,000 Kg per day. However, the cooperative society has a potential to increase production to reach the maximum capacity. Since its inception to March 2016, A total of 261,157(Kg) of milk produced, generating Ksh. 8,173,601 income to farmers.

The monitoring team noted that Siyoi milk chilling plant has a functional management committee. The project has employed (6) six staff who oversees daily operation and (8) eight others who transport milk from various milk collection points to the milk chilling plant.

The management organized farmers' field day on November 2015 at Siyoi Centre to sensitize their farmers on dairy management with a vision of ensuring increased and sustainable milk production. The society's future plan is to organize for a farmers' exposure tour to Eldoret and to start farmers SACCO which will provide savings and credit access to farmers.

Challenges

- Low milk price per litre, the current milk price is Ksh. 32 per litre which is not motivating farmers
- High Generator maintenance cost
- Frequent mechanical break-down of the compressor
- Continuous mechanical break-down of the milk pump
- Poor livestock breeds
- Lack of piped water to the chilling plant
- Lack of septic Tank
- Challenges with the location of the chilling plant, near cattle dip.

2.1.2 Ring Ring Chilling Plant

The project is located in Lelan ward, Kapkanyar sub-location. The project was established by the County Government to promote milk value addition.



Figure 2: Ring Ring Chilling Plant

The field finding revealed that County supported the plant at a cost of Ksh.5.3 million, and housed in a building constructed by Muruny cooperative (the main branch). The project is complete and in use as it started operation in December 2014.

The project supports (156) one hundred and fifty six active farmers of which male are (91) ninety one and female are 65(*women supply milk in the evening and they are paid after two weeks while men supply milk in the morning and are paid monthly*) key initiative to empower women and to ensure gender inclusion.



Donkey returns home after delivering milk to Ring ring Milk chilling plant

Table 2: Ring Ring Chilling plant Milk Production

Year	Milk quantity(KGs)
Year 2014:	
December	19,547
	<u>19547</u>
Year 2015:	
January	41,509
February	24,621
March	18,280
April	14,629
May	26,218
June	34,330
July	37,065
August	32,601
September	26,710
October	37,582
November	39,908
December	42,046
	<u>375,499</u>
Year 2016	
January	47,071
February	35121
	<u>82,192</u>
Totals	<u>477,238</u>

From the above production levels, the branch has produced 14,629 Kg of milk as lowest production and 47,071 Kg of milk as highest production per month. The branch is producing milk at an average of 1,060 Kg per day while the milk chilling plant has a capacity to accommodate 5,000 Kg of milk per day. For the period in operation, the project has managed to produce 477,238 Kgs of milk estimated to have generated over Ksh. 14,317,140.00 income to farmers.

Ring ring branch has functional management structure under Muruny cooperative society. The project has employed (4) four staff to oversee daily operation and have engaged (5) five transporters to transport milk from various collection points. The management has also employed 2 extension officers for a period of one year through partnership of Muruny cooperative and AGRITERRA (NGO) which aims to promote economic activities in rural

areas. The management organized farmers' field day on 18th march 2016 at Kabibich supported by Brookside which was attended by 133 farmers to sensitize them on dairy management.

Challenges

- Low milk price per litre(sh.32)
- Lack of milk Cans
- Poor road network connecting to farmers making it difficult to use alluminum containers to transport milk on donkey.(Ringring-Chesilkich road)
- Low access of A.I services
- Poor dairy breeds
- Inadequate pasture/feeding
- Lack of motorbikes for extension officers

2.1.3 Kaptabuk Chilling Plant



Figure 3: Kaptabuk Chilling Plant

The project is located in Lelan ward, Kaptabuk sub-location. It was found that the county government supported the cooperative with milk chilling plant and its accessories at cost of Khs.5.3M. The County used Ksh 300,000 for building materials and electricity connection. The society supported the construction of the building. The milk chilling plant is complete

and operational, it started operation on January 2015. The project supports 739 active farmers of which 627 are Male and 105 are female.

Table 3: Kaptabuk farmers' cooperative Milk Production

Year	Milk quantity(Ltr)	Price per litre	Income(Gross)
<i>Year 2015</i>			
January	73,537	37.80	2,779,698
February	61,317	37.80	2,317,782
March	46,990	39.80	1,870,202
April	23,614	39.80	939,837
May	46,521	36.80	1,711,972
June	65,695	36.80	2,417,576
July	81,982	36.80	3,016,937
August	85,220	35.80	3,050,876
September	81,765	35.80	2,927,187
October	79,958	31.80	2,,542,664
November	75,020	31.80	2,385,636
December	80,223	36.80	2,952,206
Total	801,842		28,912,573
<i>Year 2016</i>			
January	112,798	36.80	4,150,966
February	107,349	36.80	3,950,443
Totals	220,147		8,101,409
Grand Total	1,021,989		37,013,982.00

From the above table, the highest production level attained by the cooperative is 112,798 Kgs, the daily average production realized during fourteen months in operation is 2,433 Kg while the milk chilling plant capacity is 5,000 litres per day, and the cooperative society has a potential to produce to full capacity of the milk chilling plant.

The cooperative has existing management comprising of 9 committee members. The milk chilling plant has employed 9 direct staff and has engaged 15 milk transporters to transport milk from various collection points. To support their farmers, the management organized farmers' field day on 19th February 2016 at Kaptabuk to sensitize farmers. They also held another field day on 14th march 2016 at Porowo supported by Norbook. The society has opened an agro-vet at Kaptabuk to serve their farmers. It was also noted that the cooperative

was planning to start Kaptabuk Rural SACCO to provide savings and credit access to farmers.

Challenges

- Inadequate water supply to the chilling plant as the spring water source dried. The inadequate water supply is pausing hygienic problem to the milk chilling plant. The management propose construction of *Murkushian-Kaptabuk water supply to solve the water problem*
- Lack of A.I services
- Inaccessibility to loan services
- Lack of boiler and lab equipment for operation
- Lack of training and exposure tours

2.1.4 TAPACH CHILLING PLANT

The project is located in Tapach ward, Tapach sub-location. The project scope entails supply of milk chilling plant and its accessories by the county. It was noted that the milk chilling plant was complete and operational for nine months. The cooperative society with support of CDF, constructed the building that houses the project.

The plant started operation on February 2015 up to October 2015 when it stopped operation. The plant stopped operation due to management challenges and experience of loses incurred caused by transportation problem due to poor road network especially during rainy season. The farmers now take their supplies to Lelan dairies.

Table 4: Tapach Farmers' cooperative milk production

Year 2015	Milk quantity(Kg)	Sales (Ksh)
February	18,713	692,381
March	14,328	530,136
April	9,058.80	339,705
May	24,774.4	978,588.80
June	45,436.40	1,703,865
July	59,079	2,215,462.50
August	53,458	1,897,762.50
September	47,897	1,700,343.50
October	35,617	1,121,935.50
Totals	308,361.60	11,180,179.80

From the production level above, the cooperative was picking up to steady performance; within the nine months in operation it managed 308,361.60 litres and generated Ksh. 11,180,179.80 to farmers.

Tapach Co-operative society used to be vibrant and giant cooperative in Kenya especially in pyrethrum and wool (*producing the highest pyrethrine content in the world*), the milk chilling plant project employed 11 staff for daily operation. The cooperative also owns a tractor for logistical support. It was noted that the cooperative society experienced management challenges caused by lack of experience in financial management which led to suspension of co-operative's dairy operations. Election was held and new management is expected to promote transparency in management of the cooperative and to revive the milk chilling plant and the cooperative agro-vet into operation.

Challenges

- Inaccessible and poor road network
- Disintegration of some members (Kamelei sub-location) to form their own cooperative
- Milk spoilage which resulted to losses
- Stiff competition in the industry
- Delay in payment resulting into liquidity problem
- Weak and poor management
- Poor breeds

Recommendation

- Prioritize road network used by farmers in delivery of Milk
- To strengthen the new management through capacity building and exposure
- Require financial aid to manage liquidity and milk losses incurred by the cooperative
- Train management on record keeping to ensure transparency and accountability

2.1.5 SINA CHILLING PLANT



Figure 4: Sina Chilling Plant

The project is located in Tapach ward, Chebon sub-location. The county supported with milk chilling machine plant and its accessories and Sina cooperative society constructed the building housing the project. The project is complete and in use, it started operation on 18th May 2015 and it supports 280 active farmers.

Table 5: Sina farmers' cooperative milk production

Year		Milk quantity (Kgs)	Gross income(Ksh)
2015	June	32,545	1,067,505
	July	34,473	1,130,718
	August	29,096	954,350
	September	19,729	648,780
	October	26,273	861,150
	November	19,009	623,520
	December	31,350	1,028,280
2016	January	40,199	1,318,540
	February	41,165	1,350,225
	March	37,385	1,226,250
Total		311,224	10,209,318.00

For the ten months in operation, Sina cooperative has managed a total of 311,259.7 Kg of milk which generated Ksh. 10,209,318 income to the society. During the period in operation,

Sina milk chilling plant operates on daily average of 1,037 Kg of milk and the milk chilling plant has capacity of 5,000Kg per day.

Sina cooperative society has functional management, with 5 direct staff employed to oversee daily management of the cooperative and 5 transporters engaged to transport milk from various collection points.

Challenges

- Poor road network, making difficult to transport milk during rainy season from Sina to Chepkorniswo especially at Chemolo, this has resulted to milk losses to farmers
- Lack of steady power supply
- Lack of AI and Vet services
- Lack of training and exposure tours

2.1.6 KIPKOMO CHILLING PLANT



Figure 5: Kipkomo Chilling Plant

The project is located in Chepareria ward; during the field visit it was observed that the project is still ongoing; structures under construction.

2.1.7 MNAGEI CHILLING PLANT

The project is located in Mnagei ward. Land is being procured and structures to be put up.

2.2 OTHER DAIRY MILK PLAYERS

2.2.1 MURUNY FARMERS' COOPERATIVE

Muruny farmers' cooperative is located in Lelan ward. They have four branches; Kabichbich, Kipat and Ring-ring milk chilling plants with a total of 1,682 registered farmers of which male are 979 and female as at 18th may 2016. The farmers' cooperative have engaged 43 milk transporters to collect milk from various milk collection points to Muruny branches and they have employed 15 staff to manage the cooperative.



Figure 6: Muruny Farmers' Cooperative

Muruny farmers' cooperative society Milk sales production

Month/Year	2013	2014	2015	2016
<i>January</i>	125,329	161,823	139,364.40	159,794
<i>February</i>	102,226.50	129,496.90	102,686.10	129,689
<i>March</i>	80,817.70	113,663	67,603.30	102,514
<i>April</i>	76,243	103,571	48,041	88,484
<i>May</i>	98,598	94,888.94	95,639.50	
<i>June</i>	95,600.40	102,605	114,967.50	
<i>July</i>	93,191	125,895	123,489.70	
<i>August</i>	93,097	122,773	108,035.00	

September	107642	123,490	107,548	
October	140,638	148,897	135,879	
November	143,197	159,609	140,366	
December	149,949	200,106	145,136	
Grand total income	1,317,036.90	1,583,817.84	1,398,053.20	480,481

From above table, the cooperative have managed to maintain a steady milk production, for the period since 2013 upto April 2016 the cooperative has managed to collect 4,779,388.94 Kg of milk estimated to have generated income over Ksh.143, 381,668.20 to the society.



2.2.2 LELAN FARMERS SOCIETY LTD

One of the successful pioneers dairy farmer's society in west Pokot County, with Sacco services to its members. During field visit the management was not present to share the society performance data.



Figure 7: Lelan Farmers Society Ltd

2.2.3 KAPSANGAR -KALYA FARMERS' COOPERATIVE SOCIETY

This society benefited from 5000 litres milk cooler worth kshs.5 million, sponsored by KAPAP West Pokot. The equipment was supplied and installed. It started operation in 1st January 2016 and is currently operational receiving around 2000 litres of milk daily. County government of West Pokot supported the society with Ksh 380,000 to construct the milk cooler housing.



Figure 8: Kapsangar –Kalya chilling plant

Kapsangar -Kalya Production

Year 2016	Milk(Kg)	Ksh
January	37,206.40	1,339,430
February	36,179	1,302,444
March	37,807	1,361,052
April	30,912	989,184
Total	142,104.40	4,992,110

For the four months in operation the society has managed to collect 142,104.40 Kg of milk, which generated Ksh 4,992,110 to the society. Kapsangar -Kalya Farmers' Cooperative Society has functional management to run the society, it has 329 milks suppliers, 5 employees (*all men*) and have engaged 5 milk transporters as at April 2016.

Challenges

- High transportation cost
- Late payment from Brookside
- Inadequate access to extension services

2.3 Coffee Factory

Within the Coffee sector, the following projects were supported by the County Government:

2.3.1 Kaita Coffee Factory Construction

The project is located in Siyoi ward, Kaibos sub-location. The project entails construction of new full coffee factory that is expected to support Kaibos, Talau and Tasaptai coffee cooperatives farmers in Siyoi Ward. The monitoring team observed that the project was not fully complete and was not operational.



Figure 9: Kaita Coffee Factory Construction

Issues identified during monitoring:

1. Coffee sorting shade and managers office bears sinking cracks



2. Unfinished work: painting, wiring and leveling managers office, also wiring and power connection to store and boardroom
3. Leakages on the tank
4. Lack of a three-phase Motor
5. Rusting coffee dry beds



Challenges

- Unfenced location
- lack of piped water
- poor waste disposal
- Poor road network connecting to the factory

The factory has management committee in place which needs to be strengthened through capacity building and exposure tours

Recommendation

- The project needs urgent attention to make it complete and operationalized to serve the intended purpose
- Fencing of the factory need to be prioritized
- Connecting piped water to the site is very critical

2.3.2 Tartar Coffee Factory Renovation

The project is located in Mnagei ward. The projects entail renovation works in the factory. The work was completed and the factory was in operation. The factory supports 476 coffee farmers, it was also noted that Coffee production season starts from *August-February* each year, and farmers expect to harvest coffee (Chery) and (Mbuni).



Figure 10:Tartar Coffee Factory Renovation

Cherry- Coffee is processed by a wet method in order to ensure the best quality. Growers pick only the red-ripe cherry. At the factory, the cherries are sorted before processing and unripe, overripe or diseased cherries removed. The cherries are then pulped to remove the outer skin.

Mbuni- is coffee that has not gone through the wet process (unwashed). This grade generally fetches lower prices.

Table 6: Tartar coffee factory production

Year	Type	Coffee quantity(Kg)	Income(Gross)	Total (Ksh)
2015/16	Chery	101,917		<i>At marketing</i>
	Mbuni	8,096		
2014/15	Chery	111,964	4,319,772.00	5,286,438.00
	Mbuni	13,932	966,666.00	
2013/14	Chery	123,878	6,088,917.00	7,436,176.00
	Mbuni	11,866	1,347,259.00	
2012/13	Chery	75,350	2,322,901.00	2,633,770.00
	Mbuni	4,151	310,869.00	
Totals		451,154	15,356,384.00	15,356,384.00

Coffee farming produced 451,154 Kg of coffee for period of five years; it has generated Ksh.15, 356,384.00 incomes in four years to farmers. In year 2015, the cooperative produced 101,917Kg of Chery and 8,096Kg of Mbuni which are at marketing stage.

The factory has functional management. The factory has employed 8 staff to oversee daily management. On continuity and sustainability to increase production, the management initiated to produce their own seedling.



They also introduced tissue culture coffee to increase production, organized field day on 16th march 2016 at Tartar to sensitize farmers to increase coffee production. They continued to promote more productive coffee varieties, Ruiru 11 and Batian

Challenges

- Factory needs additional coffee drying beds
- Disposal for factory waste
- Needs fencing

- The factory needs modern pulping machine
- Desilting of the dam



2.4 Value Addition in Honey

2.4.1 Construction of Kodich Honey Store



Figure 11:Kodich Honey Store

The project is located in Kodich ward, Kodich sub-location. Kodich cooperative was established 1980, went dormant due to insecurity, disarmament, drought which caused movement to Uganda and it was revived in 2013, the cooperative supports 800 bee keepers in Kodich.

The project was to construct honey store, observation made in the field shows that the project is complete but not in use, the windows needs grills, wiring, latrine and fencing. It was also noted that the County government supported the cooperative with 84 Kenya top bar hives.

Table 7: Kodich Honey Production

Year	Semi Refine honey (Kg)	Income(Kshs)
2015:	5,365	Unsold
2014	4,248.271	1,189,516
2013	3,605.5	1,009,544
Total	13,219	2,199,060.00

The honey production level is steadily increasing as a result of farmers adopting modern bee hives (KTBH).KVDA is the only sole buyer of the cooperative.

Challenges:

- Inadequate market access for honey
- Inadequate working capital
- Aging membership
- Store needs fencing
- Transport challenges from collection points
- Middle men challenges preventing collective sale of honey through cooperative
- Needs three phase power connection to run processing machines
- Needs honey Health compliant storage facilities
- Need KEBS certification

The cooperative has Management committee, watchman and one volunteer staff to oversee cooperative management. The cooperative plans to have a farmers training Centre in the future.

Recommendation

Kodich farmers’ cooperative society has high potential to grow but has a management challenges which needs urgent intervention of training, exposure and capacity building.

2.4.2 Other Honey Players

A. CABESI

Cabesi (Camels, Bees and Silk) is community Based Organization based in West Pokot County. It started in 2004 with main purpose of improving pastoralist livelihoods in the arid and semi-arid region in west Pokot County. Cabesi program was sponsored by Biovision Switzerland and Cordaid.

The, Camels, Bees and Silk (Cabesi) project promotes the production and marketing of local honey and wild silk in West Pokot County. The program, specific objectives:

1. To promote camel husbandry as alternative livelihood to persistent drought and climate change
2. To promote bee keeping as alternative IGA and environment conservation
3. To establish a sustainable honey value chain
4. To promote peaceful co-existence in community border regions



Figure 12: CABESI Center

Camel project

Camel project started in 2004-2007 with aim to promote camel husbandry as alternative livelihood to drought and climate change. By the end of 2007 the organization had purchased 30 camels and distributed to the community groups, trained 6 community camel doctors and distributed camel drugs, trained 15 camels for transport and established camel husbandry centre at Orwo(*currently with 28 camels, drug store, and slaughter slab in progress*)

Silk rearing Project

The project was a 4 four year project purely research to study lifecycle of silk moths. It introduced technologies of Wild Silk farming and production for income generating activity in a bid to enhance the production of cocoons to the benefit of the local community. In 2005 the Seito Silk Center in Chesta was opened with the idea of rearing wild silk. Through the specialized trainings from ICIPE on silk rearing and postproduction, Cabesi was able to produce the cloth right up from the cocoons. Within Cabesi, several women were trained in the postproduction of silk, with main goal of adding value to the raw material up to a final product.

Bee keeping project

The project started in 2004 and is still continuing with main aim to transform Bee keeping as agribusiness as alternative income generating activity in West Pokot County. Cabesi has been successful project in promoting the production and marketing of local honey in West Pokot County.

Achievements Since 2004 up to 2016; cabesi has managed to trained over 20,000 beekeepers across the county, distributed, 362 modern beehives to farmers groups, constructed 7 honey collection centres, constructed honey processing unit and developed and marketed bee products.



Cabesi processing unit produces; honey, propolis cream, honey soap and sundried mangoes. The organization engages women on sun drying mangoes as key activity to empower women.

Cabesi honey production

Year	tones	Income(Million)
2013	26	6
2014	48	10.6
2015	85	14
Total	159	30.6

Management and sustainability

Cabesi has well-structured management team, made up of five member management committee, a general manager and other staff. The organization has employed 9 full time staff (Male 6 and 3 Female) with 14 temporary seasonal jobs at honey collection Centre. It has 429 registered bee keeping farmers. The organization has conducted various capacity building trainings to improve beekeeping methods to farmers.

B. Pokot bee Keepers Cooperative society(Kitalakapel)

They transformed from Kitalakapel self-help group to Pokot bee keepers cooperative, it has membership of 25. The Formation of Pokot beekeepers cooperative society in Kitalakapel was to spear head marketing of honey in Kongelai and its environs. KAPAP played important role in continuous capacity building on apiary siting, honey harvesting, processing and marketing.

Kitalakapel group was sponsored by KAPAP to participate in Nairobi trade fare in 2013 where they sold worth over Kshs. 200,000.

Pokot Bee Keepers Honey Production

Year	Tones	Sales KE
2016(Jan-May)	5.5(semi-refined)	1,351,000
2015	9.248(crude)	1,387,200
2014	1.2(crude)	180,000

The cooperative Received grants from DANIDA through ministry of industrialization worth 5 million to construct honey processing plant, the building, and processing equipment's. The structure is complete and processing is functional, the members acquired the land for the plant. Pokot bee keepers cooperative have acquired KEBS certification for their products.

Challenges

- Lack or reliable market
- Inadequate capital
- Needs capacity building on cooperative business model I.e. raising of share capital to facilitate honey business
- Incomplete honey store to store crude honey pending processing
- Challenge of transportation from collection
- Need improved hives
- Expensive renewal of KeBS certification

2.5 Renovation of Talau Farm Input Store

The project is located in Siyoi ward, Kapsurum sub-location. The project was to renovate store, construct toilet, renovate water tank and fence the compound which was done and completed. The store serves Kapsurum, Chepkoti and Talau sub-location.

The purpose of the store was to store maize, coffee and milk collection Centre. The store now operation as milk collection Centre. They daily collect 200kg of milk to be supplied to Siyoi milk chilling plant. The store management committee exists; they bought cooperative motorcycle to transport milk to Siyoi milk chilling plant.

Challenges

- Need wiring to be done on the store
- Selling of milk to hawkers

- Farmers need trainings

2.6 Ortum Farmers' Cooperative Society

Formation of Ortum Farmers' Cooperative Society (OFCS), was formed with an objective of assisting Bulb Onion farmers market their produce collectively to minimize the influence of middlemen exploiting them. The Cooperative has seen its membership rise to 630 in three years of which male are 415 and female 215 as at April 2016.



KAPAP supported the cooperative with 10 Digital Weighing machines connected to Android SMART phones capable of generating payrolls for individual farmers worth Kshs. 1,875,000. The equipment has been supplied, delivered to the cooperative, now awaiting installation of the software to generate payrolls. Previously, farmers used un-calibrated weighing machines belonging to middlemen. For every 100kgs of packaged bulb onions, they used to lose unto 5kgs.

Other benefits of the cooperative include: Bulk purchasing of farm inputs which attract good discounts, members able to access these inputs on credit basis, Agrochemical companies have been able to partner with the cooperative to supply agrochemicals at affordable prices.

KAPAP has supported the cooperative by funding capacity building activities such as: On Farm trainings, Demonstrations, Study tours to Kieni in Nyeri County and Loitokitok in Kajiado County. In 2013-2015, Bulb Onion farmers received over Kshs. 400 million from sale of bulb onions alone. The county government of West Pokot supported this society with over kshs.3 million to purchase 300 kg of onion seeds in the financial year 2013/2014 to increase

onion production. Horticultural Crops Development Authority (HCD) constructed a demonstration onion shades at Chesor at a cost of Khs 150,000.

Ortum Farmers Co-Op Society Production and Income

YEAR	TONNES	INCOME(Ksh)
2014/2015	1,160	40,600,000
2015/2016	1,500	34,500,000

The cooperative receive buyers from various places within the country and outside the country; Nairobi, Eldoret, Nakuru, Thika, Naivasha, Kericho, Kakamega, Kitale, South Sudan, Lodwar. Majority of the buyers come from Thika, Nairobi, Eldoret and Nakuru. The cooperative has employed 4 staff; store manager, clerk and two sales persons. They have centres representatives from; Ortum, Kerelwa, Chipagh, Kapara, Sebit, Kochiy, Psiywon, Simotwo/ Lelan, Kokwotendwo and Muino

Challenges

1. Inaquate capital
2. Poor transport
3. Lack of proper marketing for the products
4. Low production due to climatic change, shortage of water, diseases, blight, pests etc.
5. Poor repayment of loans
6. Poor storage facilities/ office.
7. Brokers/ middlemen

Onion is an important commercial crop widely being adopted and grown in different parts of the county (*Batei, Weiwei and lomut wards*). Onion is one of the important ingredients used in daily meals all over Kenya. The onion is important commercial crop in the county that needs to be supported and expanded to maximize on its incomes to support farmers and create self-employment.

3.0 SUMMARY, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

3.1 Summary:

Milk chilling plants

- County supported 7 milk chilling plants to farmers of which 5 are operational
- Operational milk chilling plants have received a total of 2,346,890.30 Kg of milk up to march 2016
- A total of Ksh. 80,200,424.80 income generated to the farmers up to march 2016
- It has created a total of 35 direct employment
- It has also created income to over 38 milk transporters
- It created over 1900 self-employment to farmers

Coffee factory

- Tartar coffee factory has generated a total of Ksh. 15,356,384.00 in the last five years since 2012

Honey store

- Kodich honey has generated Ksh 2,199,060.00 to honey farmers for two years (2013 and 2014)

3.2 Recommendations

1. *Promote modern pasture farming and storage.* Trainings on improved fodder and zero grazing. Cooperative societies should have demonstration plots for pasture and seedling to promote good pasture farming practice among farmers, to ensure high milk production through enough feeding
2. *Enhance A.I services* for better and high milk producing dairy breeds. Scaling up of AI services in potential areas will enhance milk supply to the investments of milk coolers.
3. *Prioritize and Improve and maintain road network connecting milk chilling plants,* to enhance timely milk access to the market and minimize loses accruing through transportation challenges
4. *Sensitize members on the need for strong Cooperative Societies* to compete effectively in the job market against established networks. Small and disintegrated Cooperatives are vulnerable to vagaries of perfect competitions.
5. *Support to Cooperatives by the County Government should be demand driven.* This is to ensure that the County Government resources are efficiently and fully utilized for the

intended benefit. This also minimizes the risk of white elephant projects and investing in priority areas.

6. *Enhance extension services* to help farmers with technical support, trainings, exposure tours, and field days. Farmers need sensitization on importance of selling through cooperative society to avoid exploitation from middlemen. Societies to be encouraged and trained to enhance and expand Sacco and agro vet services
7. *Strengthen honey cooperatives and enhance honey market access*
8. *Strengthen quality Coffee production and marketing through subsidized seedlings*
9. Strengthen Monitoring and Evaluation services for cooperative officers to enable them play oversight role in all cooperative existing within the county
10. Need to develop county cooperative policy to guide county engagement with cooperatives

3.3 Conclusion

Cooperatives play critical role in the economy; they are economic actors that create opportunities for jobs, livelihoods and income. As social organizations built on a common goal and a common bond, they extend protection and security, and contribute to equality and social justice; and as democratically controlled associations of individuals they play a constructive role in communities. Cooperatives make substantial contributions to the achievement of West Pokot County economy. There is need to harness the powerful potential of cooperatives in the whole County.

Achieving full capacity in milk production and for the installed milk coolers will give the County a demand for a processing plant. So efforts to improve milk production should be a priority in the next fiscal years to allow farmers reap full benefits of value addition.

4.0 ANNEXES

1.0 Production data up to March 2016

a) Milk chilling plant production

Milk chilling plant	Months in operation	Daily milk average(Kg)	Milk(Kg)	Income
Siyoi	7	1,244	261,157	8,173,601
Sina	10	1,037	311,224	10,209,318.00
Tapach	9	1,142	308,361.60	11,180,179.80
Ringring	15	1,060	477,238.00	14,317,140.00
Kaptabuk	14	2,433	1,021,989.00	37,013,982.00
Total			2,346,890.30	80,200,424.80

b) Coffee production (Tartar coffee factory)

Year	KG of both (Cherry and Mbuni)	Income(Ksh)
2015/16	110,013	At Marketing
2014/15	125,896	5,286,438.00
2013/14	135,744	7,436,176.00
2012/13	79,501	2,633,770.00
Totals	451,154	15,356,384.00

c) Kodich Honey production

Year 2015	Refined honey quantity(Kg)	Income(Gross)
2015	5,365	Unsold
2014	4,248.27	1,189,516.00
2013	3,605.50	1,009,544.00
Total	13,219	2,199,060.00

2.0 West Pokot County Livestock Production Statistics (2012-2016)

Enterprise		2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Dairy production	No. of cattle	66,000	68,000	70,000	72,000	74,500
	Milk production (litres, millions)	5.540	6.670	7.744	8.769	8.819
	Income (Kshs, millions)	83.100	100.050	116.16 0	134.189	176.380
Bee keeping	No. of hives	98,400	110,500	121,70 0	129,980	130,000
	Quantity of honey (Kgs)	797,040	895,050	766,71 0	935,590	1,040,00 0
	Income (Kshs, millions)	71.734	80.555	76.671	93.559	104.400
Artificial insemination (AI) services	No. of kits	none	none	none	1 kit, (November ,2015)	1 kit,
	No. of inseminations	-	-	-	13	38
	Source	<i>West Pokot County Livestock Office</i>				