

Q1 2020

QUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

- Nuru's responds to COVID-19 pandemic across the Nuru ecosystem
- Nuru Kenya featured in USAID-funded research study
- Nuru Ethiopia commences scaling efforts to introduce five new kebeles to Nuru programming
- Nuru Nigeria farmers see a 43% increase in income as a result of Nuru's intervention

**ENDING EXTREME POVERTY
IN FRAGILE RURAL AREAS TO
BUILD COMMUNITIES RESILIENT
TO VIOLENT EXTREMISM**



NURU KENYA HIGHLIGHTED IN USAID-FUNDED RESEARCH

by Tacy Layne



The 2015 exit of Nuru International staff from Migori County, Kenya, was recently featured as a case study in the USAID-funded collaborative research project, *“Stopping As Success: Transitioning to Locally Led Development” (SAS)*, a project aimed at promoting *“locally led development by bringing greater awareness to the international community of the multiple dynamics at play when ending a development program and to provide practical guidelines and resources.”* SAS consortium members, Peace Direct, Search for Common Ground, and CDA Collaborative Learning, fueled by their own global experiences and desire to see locally led development and ownership models, reviewed 20 case studies of INGO transitions. To improve family well being, women learn how to make compost, manage water in the landscape, do double digging, and apply locally available organic soil amendments. They also learn about nutrition basics and bio-intensive planting techniques. Nuru engages participants with practical trainings at demonstration plots, which then continue...

KEEP READING 

Nuru Kenya featured in USAID-funded research study, “Stopping As Success.”

QUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

Over the last three months, as Nuru Kenya has set its sights toward scaling to Homa Bay County, it has also benefited from some external analysis and review of its programs and activities.

The Ray Marshall Center (RMC) at the University of Texas at Austin analyzed Nuru Kenya’s 2019 impact data and found that as a result of Nuru’s dairy and agriculture initiatives at its 14 existing cooperatives, Nuru farmers averaged a 70% increase in income and a 25% reduction in under-five child mortality. The additional income can be used to invest in new opportunities on-farm, off-farm, and to use for healthcare and education needs within their households. Here’s a [link](#) to RMC’s full report.

As mentioned in prior reports, Nuru Kenya was featured in a USAID-funded research study called Stopping As Success. In February, Stopping As Success flew Pauline Wambeti to Washington D.C. to participate in a series of workshops as the project reached its endpoint. Pauline also spent time meeting directly with USAID’s Office of Local Sustainability as well as meeting several with several other D.C.-based NGOs and government agencies to introduce them to her work at Nuru Kenya and explore possible areas of future collaboration.

Kenya

Select indicators are updated annually or semiannually rather than quarterly

		Target	Actual
AG	Number of households active in Nuru supported cooperatives	Q2 2,400	2,119
	Repayment rate	Q4 97%	-
	Percent increase in crop yield compared to baseline	Q1 32%	98%
FI	Number of farmer organizations enrolled in dairy program	Q3 14	-
	Number of households enrolled in dairy program	Q2 900	-
	Number of value chain partnerships	Q2 8	-
HC	Percent of health groups meeting monthly	- 70%	46%
	Percent of deliveries in a clinic per quarter	Q2 95%	-
	Percent of farmer families drinking safe water	Q2 85%	-



Nuru Ethiopia is planning to scale to five new communities in Zala Woreda this year.

QUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

This year, Nuru Ethiopia is launching scaling efforts across five new communities in Zala Woreda. To facilitate this expansion, construction is moving forward on five new village aggregation centers (VACs). The VAC is a building where inputs can be stored, cooperative leadership can meet, and where activities can be managed. Nuru Ethiopia has grown to strengthen 31 cooperatives since 2014.

After a preliminary period of support, nine cooperatives established in Boreda Woreda are now ready to stand on their own with strong leadership and financial systems in place. The progress of these cooperatives is a testimony to Nuru's capacity development which leads to long-term sustainability and resilience not only for farmer households, but also for their local cooperatives. Building farmer-owned commercial businesses is a key step on the pathway to prosperity for the communities in which Nuru works.

Nuru is also proud to introduce livelihood diversification activities into Zala Woreda and plans to train 500 more women on savings practices. These successful savers will be able to qualify for a loan to acquire a sheep or goat which can be fattened and sold for a profit to provide families with an additional means of income.

Select indicators are updated annually rather than quarterly

		Ethiopia		
		Target	Actual	
AG	Number of households active in Nuru supported cooperatives	Q2	7,000	-
	Percent increase in crop yield compared to baseline	Q2	32%	-
FI	% Increase in income from Nuru-supported activities	Q4	30%	-
	Number of loans issued this year (cumulative per year)	Q4	1,750	-
HEALTH	Total Nuru women participating in cooperative care groups	Q2	4,831	-
	Percent of women who are on track to attend at least 4 antenatal care visits per quarter	-	75%	100%
	Percent of deliveries in a clinic per quarter	-	65%	100%
	Number of community health workers trained	-	102	49
EDUCATION	Number of children in grades 1-4 reached	Q1	14,365	14,365
	Number of teachers trained in best teaching literacy practices	-	303	142
	Percent of households with children attending tutorial sessions	-	56%	47%
	Percent of teachers implementing best practices in literacy	-	82%	96%



QUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

Amid all of the uncertainty that has been created globally by COVID-19, Nuru donors have been stepping up in a big way to ensure financial disruptions do not create an additional layer of uncertainty for farmers and their families. One donor even offered a \$200,000 challenge match if Nuru can raise an additional \$700,000. Nuru has approximately \$400,000 left to raise to secure the match. Want to help? Contact our team and let them know what additional resources you will commit to Nuru during this unprecedented time.

Additionally, Nuru staff continue to explore additional partnership opportunities with various government agencies and other development organizations in an effort to ensure that the Global Fragility Act is implemented in a way that maximizes effectiveness and efficiency.

NURU NIGERIA

Nuru Nigeria's programming efforts in 2019 led to a 43% increase in income for women farmers across 38 farmer associations. Now, these same farmers are being trained in best practices for growing groundnuts and soy.

GLOBAL FRAGILITY UPDATE

In February, Nuru Founder Jake Harriman joined representatives from Mercy Corps and Peace Direct in a panel discussion moderated by the Alliance For Peacebuilding which was hosted by the World Affairs Council of Kentucky and Southern Indiana. The panel discussed the Global Fragility Act, where conflict prevention and peace building efforts will be critical in the next few years, and how US government and development agencies can reduce violence in fragile states.

ONE.ORG SUMMIT

For the seventh year in a row, Nuru team members Beth Atherton and Billy Williams traveled to Washington D.C. to join Bono's ONE campaign volunteers for a conference dedicated to training on policy and advocacy. Our collaboration with ONE keeps the issues confronting our farmers and their families in front of policy makers.

Nuru International 2020 Q1 Revenues and Expenses

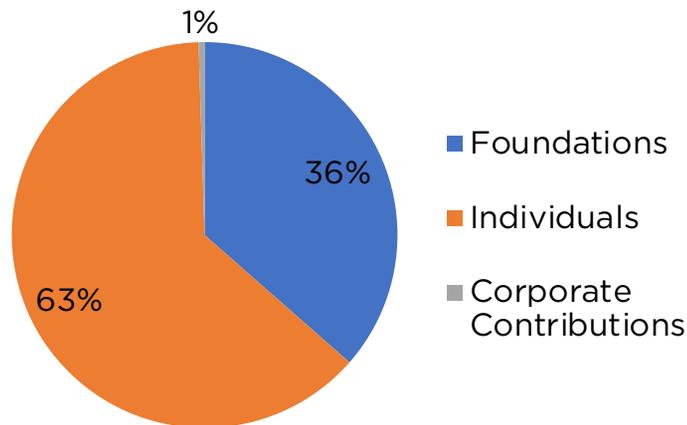
Revenue

Foundations	426,603
Individuals	736,966
Corporate Contributions	5,920
	<u>1,169,489</u>

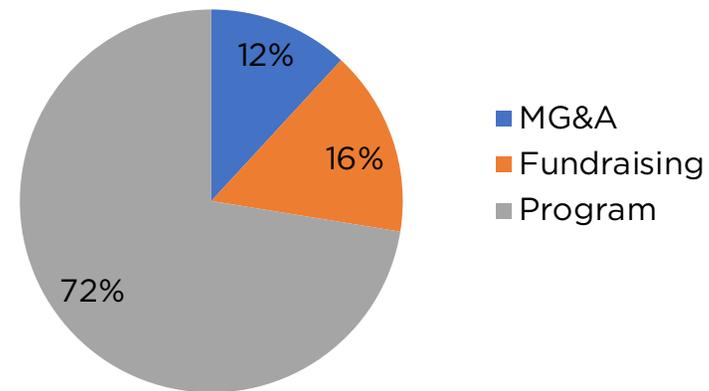
Expenses

	Q1 Actual	Q1 Budget	\$ Variance	% Variance
MG&A	168,107	131,884	36,224	27%
Fundraising	222,509	147,377	75,132	51%
Program	1,026,761	1,291,414	(264,653)	-20%
	<u>1,417,377</u>	<u>1,570,674</u>	<u>(153,298)</u>	<u>-10%</u>

2020 Q1 Revenue



2020 Q1 Expenses



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In Q1, Nuru was on budget overall with no significant variances. We are continuing to focus on careful management of our resources and adding to our pipeline of new and existing donors for 2020 and beyond.

COVID-19 AND NURU FARMERS

Every group in the world has been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, and across the Nuru ecosystem, our teams have worked to ensure that our farmers and their families are able to stand strong in the middle of this crisis. Shelter-in-place orders, states of emergency, and prohibition against large gatherings have become the “new normal” to which we must adapt to prevent the spread of the virus.

There are tragedies unfolding around the globe as COVID-19 has created uncertainty in markets as well as uncertainty with regard to how individuals and communities should respond. In addition to COVID-19, swarms of locusts have been seen in Nuru’s area of operations in Ethiopia. Focusing on food security during the upcoming planting season, and under a watch for locust pest is critical for our farmers. Times like this can create a sense of paralysis and trauma that has an exponentially harmful effect on communities living in extreme poverty. Nuru is working to put several measures in place to ensure that we are able to continue to serve farmers and their families while keeping staff safe and adhering to local government mandates. While Nuru farmers are accustomed

to coping with shocks, whether created by political instability, disease, pests, or drought, but COVID-19 has created a sense of anxiety because of its global reach and the fact that people around the world are still struggling to understand it.

NURU INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE

As a Nuru supporter, you are probably aware that Nuru’s U.S.-based staff have been working remotely since we launched in 2008. This decision has helped Nuru mobilize more financial resources into the field, and now, it has helped us lean into a series of long-established best practices that we can share with our staff in Kenya, Ethiopia, and Nigeria as they adapt to working remotely. In addition, staff in each country are sharing their adaptations with each other as they work to ensure farmers are able to get their seeds into the ground and sustain hope for the future. Every season, the very act of placing a seed in the ground is an act of hope in the face of uncertainty. On the next page are a few additional ways our counterparts are responding in Kenya, Ethiopia, and Nigeria.



COVID-19 UPDATE

Standing together with smallholder farmers in Kenya, Ethiopia, and Nigeria



NURU KENYA RESPONSE

In Kenya, staff noticed that, as farmers were witnessing food shortages and fluctuating costs in local markets, they were becoming paralyzed as a result of the uncertainty. They were thinking about short-term solutions to address immediate needs instead of thinking about long-term possibilities. As a result, Nuru Kenya invested in SMS and radio messages to remind farmers that now is the time to plant. Their fellow Kenyans will be dependent on a strong food supply in the future, and the only way to make sure that happens is for them to continue farming. Farming, by nature, requires social distancing, and so they continue to look out for their neighbors in the short-term by getting back to work on their farms.

NURU ETHIOPIA RESPONSE

In Ethiopia, the government declared a State of Emergency and restricted larger gatherings as well. Since 2016, Nuru Ethiopia has been operating with a central office in Arba Minch along with satellite offices in each woreda where Nuru works. As a result, they have already established strong lines of communication for disseminating messages to farmers across a broad geography, and they are relaying

messages through farmer cooperatives to ensure every farmer is working to get crops planted. Because of restricted movement, some seed packages have not been able to be distributed to every cooperative, but staff are encouraging farmers to plant what they have now and hopefully additional seed will make its way to them soon. Nuru Ethiopia has also worked to help the government distribute soap and establish hand-washing stations throughout Nuru's area of operations.

NURU NIGERIA RESPONSE

In Nigeria, farmers have a different mindset. While they are also experiencing feelings of uncertainty, they are desperate to begin moving forward again after living in the shadow of a caliphate. Staff are encouraging social distancing as they train farmers via demonstration plots and by video on best practices for growing groundnuts and soy.

In an environment like this, we know that now is the time for leadership and decisive action. Our staff are dedicated to adapting and doing all that is within our power to help our farmers stand resilient in the face of COVID-19 or any other threat. Our work is more necessary now than ever, and we are tremendously grateful

that we have the privilege of partnering together with you to help smallholder farmers continue to adapt and move forward for the sake of their families and their communities. Thank you for standing with us!

