

Q2 2021

RESTORING OUR EARTH THROUGH LOCALLY-LED DEVELOPMENT

by Casey Harrison

ECOSYSTEM HIGHLIGHTS

- Nuru International joins an Independent Dialogue during the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit
- Nuru Kenya moves one step closer to launching a new venue for training cooperative leaders from around the country
- Nuru Ethiopia commences work with second cooperative union to increase opportunities for farmers
- Nuru Nigeria wins \$2 million award from USAID's Office of Local Sustainability



To “restore” is to repair, rebuild, or renew.

These words, emotions, and actions are front of mind for the entire global community these days. At Nuru, we believe that local communities and their local economies are the best places to cultivate lasting meaningful choices. These are choices that can build resilience to climate change and restore local environments. To do this, we orient our actions, the Nuru Model, around five dimensions of community climate resilience:

- *regenerative agriculture,*
- *increased incomes and financial inclusion,*
- *food and nutrition security,*
- *agribusiness professionalism,*
- *and community-based dialogues.*

Read on to learn what community climate resilience looks like for farmers: 

Kenya

Select indicators are updated annually rather than quarterly

QUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

A third wave of COVID-19 in Kenya has extended movement restrictions and curfews into Q2 across the country, but Nuru Kenya is gradually and safely resuming program implementation.

While income from crops has lagged due to low demand for produce, diversifying into dairy has enabled many Nuru farmers to weather the storm and augment their livelihoods. Nuru Kenya Social Enterprise is facilitating this effort by assisting cooperatives in the establishment of milk aggregation centers and installation of coolers that are already significantly boosting production.

Fifteen future instructors of Nuru Kenya's Technical and Vocational Education Training Institute (regional center for business, governance, and financial management training) successfully completed the certifications needed for accreditation. The TVET Institute's Board was also formed in June, moving the program one step closer to its fall launch.

The process to scale programming to two additional counties in 2021 progressed in Q2 with the formalization of Nuru Kenya's partnership with the local government in Baringo County, the organization's third intervention area. After months of relationship building, the team signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Governor of Baringo County in late May, outlining future areas of partnership.

AG
FI
HC

		Target	Actual	
AG	Number of households active in Nuru supported cooperatives	Q3	4,100	-
	Percent increase in crop yield compared to baseline	Q1	32%	38%
FI	Number of farmer organizations enrolled in dairy program	Q3	37	-
	Number of households enrolled in dairy program	Q3	900	-
HC	Number of value chain partnerships	Q4	14	-
	Percent of deliveries in a clinic per quarter	-	95%	95%
	Percent of farmer families drinking safe water	-	85%	86%



Select indicators are updated annually rather than quarterly

QUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

Along with persistent high rates of COVID-19, Ethiopia faced delayed rains, prolonged pest outbreaks, national instability caused by conflict in the northern part of the country, and uncertainty due to a postponed election period. Amidst all of these obstacles, Nuru Ethiopia modeled resilience through the achievement of several programmatic goals.

In Zala and Boreda woredas, maize and cash crops seeds were distributed and demonstration plots were planted and maintained to share practical experience of best agronomic practice with farmers.

Cooperative unions – larger groups of primary farmer cooperatives – are critical to Nuru Ethiopia’s plan for scale. Continuing to implement this strategy, Nuru Ethiopia signed a memorandum of understanding with the Isepe Dicha cooperative union in Q2, offering increased visibility and power in the marketplace for Nuru-supported primary cooperatives who join the union. Over the last three months, 31 Nuru-supported primary cooperatives and 2 cooperative unions leveraged this collective advantage to trade over 1,600,000 kilograms of grain, turning over \$650,000 of capital.

Offering additional benefit to the community, Nuru Ethiopia also constructed reading rooms in ten local schools and rehabilitated five non-functional water points in three kebeles to benefit 1,200 households.

		Target	Actual	
AG	Number of households active in Nuru supported cooperatives	Q2	7,500	7,475
	Percent increase in crop yield compared to baseline	Q2	32%	77%
FI	Increase in income compared to comparison group	Q2	N/A	\$233
	Number of cash crop program participants	Q4	2,000	-
HEALTH	Total Nuru women participating in cooperative care groups	Q2	4,844	3,978
	Percent of women who are on track to attend at least 4 antenatal care visits per quarter	-	75%	97%
	Percent of deliveries in a clinic per quarter	-	65%	92%
EDUCATION	Number of community health workers trained	-	55	55
	Number of children in grades 1-4 reached	Q1	15,085	13,384
	Number of teachers trained in best teaching literacy practices	-	345	344
	Percent of households with children attending tutorial sessions	-	60%	56%
	Percent of teachers implementing best practices in literacy	-	85%	99%



QUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

After many months of co-creation and adaptive learning, Nuru Nigeria was awarded \$2 million in USAID funding through the Office of Local Sustainability. This grant will dramatically maximize Nuru's unique poverty eradication approach in building sustainable livelihoods in Northeast Nigeria.

As part of Nuru Nigeria's income diversification activities, the team distributed 125 rams in early May. Through raising and fattening livestock that can later be sold at a profit, women in the community build their capacity for enterprise and income generation.

Also in May, Nuru Nigeria launched its distribution of crop loan packages for the approaching planting season, including seed (groundnut, soybean, and maize options), fertilizer, and seed treatment or inoculant. The group-based loan packages increase social cohesion, building the foundation for cooperative principles in farmers associations.

With the full sequence of interventions underway in its current communities, the Nuru Nigeria team is leveraging scale and replication as part of the Nuru model, conducting community mapping in new communities in northern Adamawa State for the purpose of building the entire region's resilience.

Select indicators are updated annually rather than quarterly

AG
FI

		Nigeria		
		Target	Actual	
AG FI	Number of households registered for Nuru activities	Q1	2,500	1,908
	Percent increase in crop yield compared to baseline	Q2	32%	65%
	Percent increase in income from Nuru-supported activities	Q3	30%	107%
	Number of households enrolled in ram fattening program	Q2	200	125



QUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

Nuru has recently become a formal endorsing organization of the [Principles for Digital Development](#). With this endorsement, we join hundreds of peer organizations (including partners, current and future) in practicing an ongoing commitment to the co-design, testing, and mainstreaming of technology-enabled tools that can reach more people, achieve greater impact, and produce stronger and more sustainable outcomes.

Over the month of April, each Nuru International department held inaugural “roundtable” meetings with our counterparts across the Nuru ecosystem. We intend for these gatherings to not only build rapport and camaraderie across our interwoven organizations, but also to share knowledge and expertise across teams. In the SLT roundtable, by example, longtime Nuru Kenya Managing Director Pauline Wambeti offered insights on navigating election unrest with the Nuru Ethiopia team facing similar circumstances.

NEW PARTNERS

With deep gratitude, Nuru International welcomed the partnership of two European foundations this quarter. This new support, along with catalytic renewals from many current donors, will powerfully advance our shared vision to cultivate meaningful choices in the most vulnerable and marginalized communities in the world.

TRANSFORMING RURAL ECONOMIES

In May, Nuru International joined the Movement for Community-led Development (MCLD) for an Independent Dialogue during the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit on strategies to shift from top-down to localized, bottom-up food systems. Leading up to the event, Nuru International’s Livelihoods and Agribusiness Director Casey Harrison authored a blog on the MCLD platform on how Nuru is measuring progress toward inclusive food systems that create value for farmers and their families, as well as the role of “business” in establishing sustainable food systems.

Continue reading: [➔](#)

IMPACT REPORTS

Since 2016, we have partnered with the Ray Marshall Center (RMC) at the University of Texas at Austin, an applied research and policy institute, to better understand the outcomes of Nuru programs and how those insights might inform ongoing improvements. The RMC’s 2020 analyses of both Nuru Kenya and Nuru Ethiopia were published in Q2, and demonstrated positive impacts amidst a challenging year.

Access Kenya’s report: [➔](#)

Access Ethiopia’s report: [➔](#)

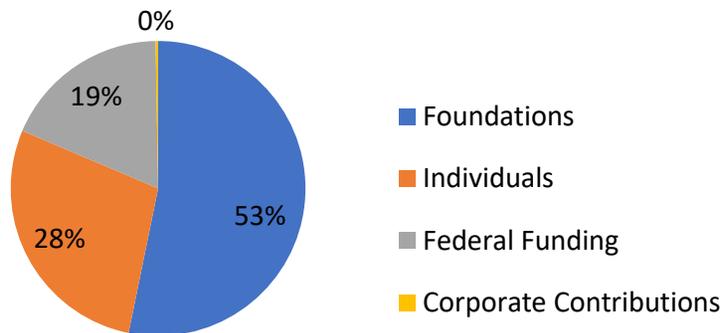
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In Q2, 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 2021 and beyond.

Nuru International 2021 Q2 YTD Revenues and Expenses

Revenue		Expenses	Q2 YTD Actual	Q2 YTD Budget	\$ Variance	% Variance
Foundations	1,074,979	MG&A	136,962	194,963	(58,001)	-30%
Individuals	569,959	Fundraising	144,929	176,785	(31,856)	-18%
Corporate Contributions	5,284	Program	1,955,857	2,445,535	(489,678)	-20%
Federal Funding	370,787		2,237,748	2,817,283	(579,535)	-21%
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2021 Q2 Revenue



2021 Q2 Expenses

