

FOOD FOR PROGRESS (FFPr) Learning Event







CEO of ACDI/VOCA and Team visit Rockland Farms

Rockland Farms Limited

- ► Founded in 2010 by Edith Wheatland in the small village of Ankamadoa near Nsuta-Mampong, with the goal of developing an integrated, mechanized poultry farm while providing the much needed employment for locals.
- Since inception in 2013, Rockland has grown rapidly from bird population of 8,000 to 60,000 in 2017, current bird population stands at 45,000.
- Rockland's primary product is eggs, but company also sells layers as live birds at end of productive life in addition to supplying feed to local farmers
- In 2015, Rockland established the "women out-grower support system" on a pilot basis to help small scale women-owned poultry farms by training farmers, providing poultry feed and, sometimes, acting as an off-taker for their eggs
- AV is currently assisting Rockland to scale up the out-grower scheme to cover about 21 women to enable her meet the demands of her clients.
- Rockland also supports its community in the form of scholarships and free eggs for school pupils. It is also supporting Ghana Prisons Service with a farm to train inmates to help with reintegrate into society.



Interventions Received

- Biosecurity controls : car dip and foot bath, establishment of biosecurity systems on farm
- Brooding: strict adherence to good brooding practices
- > Environmental:
- Business Development:
 - Website Development (Branding and Marketing)
 - Financial record keeping software (Quick Books)
 - Women Out grower development and support system
- Award winner of USAID AWE, received technical assistance for Business Plan development from Open Capital to aid access funding to scale improved poultry products and services



GPP's Youth Skill Development Program

▶ 6 Young graduates given on-farm mentoring on poultry production







Impact of interventions

- Drastic reduced of prevalence of diseases on the farm, this has reduced the cost of vaccines and drugs
- Accessed Environmental Permit
- Strong brand which has given Rockland marketing leverage
- International standard Business Plan
- Accessed funding from AV and other financial institutions with GPP facilitation.
- Provide input service to women Outgrowers
- Migrate from manual books keeping to software quick books
- Streamlined governance structure which is working effectively.
- Networking events by GPP opened a lot of business opportunities resulting in increase in demand for products.



Way Forward

- Consider more in-kind grants driven to provide additional support to poultry farms
- Mentorship reward system should be looked at again to include provision of cheaper pens
- Mentorship program should not just look at graduates but other categories like JHS and SHS leavers with interest in Agric.
- Empower and resource district VSDs to monitor program and work closely with farms

