



NEWS

People with Disability to Benefit from New Project in Vietnam

PiCCA has recently begun a project near Hue in Vietnam to help about 50 families each establish a small chicken farm.



PiCCA's partner, Hearts for Hue (H4H), is a nonprofit that has been working since 2007 to improve the lives of disadvantaged people in Hue through microfinance, water security and livelihood support programs.

All of the families involved have at least one member with a disability. The project is working with each family to build chicken coops, train them in chicken farming and provide the first clutch of chickens to start their farm. Engaging the family member with a disability in the project is a high priority.

The families live in one of the poorest communes in the area (in Vinh Phu, about 30kms from Hue). The chicken farms will increase families' income and provide meaningful and valuable opportunities for people with a disability.

The project was suggested by a PiCCA member who worked with H4H as an Australian Business Volunteer. After an extensive appraisal, including a visit to H4H by two PiCCA representatives in February, PiCCA members voted in favour of this project.

...Continued over

In this issue...

PiCCA's two new projects: chicken farming in Vietnam (p1-2) and chicken vaccination in Congo (p3);

Thank you Dante Brisbane for PiCCA fundraising (p3);

Successful completion of Nepal project (p4);

Continuing PiCCA's program of work in Bougainville (p4);

Swaziland visit evaluated PiCCA's project (p5).



Please 'Like' us:
"piccaustralia"

picca@picca.org.au
0458 799 129

People with Disability to Benefit from New Project in Vietnam (continued)

The project has progressed quickly since starting in June. H4H surveyed potential families to develop a specific plan to suit their circumstances.

Training has been completed on worm farming and coop building techniques. The training is being presented by Associate Professor Dr Nguyen Xuan Ba, Head of Department of Animal Husbandry (Vietnam).

Building the chicken coops has already started. All of the participating families are thrilled to be involved and are grateful for PiCCA's support.

Below: Some of the participating family members attending training. Mr Khanh Truong, Chairman of H4H is in the front row left (black shirt).



Vaccination of Village Chickens in Congo

PiCCA's second new project this year is helping to establish a sustainable vaccination program for village poultry in 10 village zones in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The vaccination program targets Newcastle disease which often result in 90% mortality rates. PiCCA is working with two other Australian nonprofits - Kyeema Foundation (which runs these vaccination programs throughout Africa and Asia) and AusCongo (which is committed to sustainable community development in the Mbuji-Mayi area where the project is based).

The project is already starting to train a cadre of vaccinators who will start inoculating chickens. A community awareness campaign about the disease is



Above L to R: Ms Jukyati Dyunayty (Finance Officer, AusCongo), Mr Costa Mukendi (President, AusCongo), Dr Mary Young (Senior Technical Manager, Kyeema) and Ms Celia Grenning (CEO, Kyeema)

underway. The vaccine is affordable for farmers and some of what they pay goes towards vaccinators' wages. Once farmers see the benefits of the vaccine for their flock (and livelihood), the vaccination program becomes sustainable without outside help. The project is expected to benefit about 250 households.

Thank you Dante Alighieri Society, Brisbane!

Thank you to Dante Alighieri, the Danteatro and the ANFE Italian Club for donating to PiCCA their 'loose change' collections from the recent performances of an Italian play called "150 The Chook Sings". The thematic link between the play and PiCCA's two new projects was a handy coincidence! We hear the Danteatro's production was a fabulous success. The funds raised have been allocated to PiCCA's two new projects.





Continuing PiCCA's Program of Work in Bougainville

PiCCA's project in 2017 continues to reap benefits in Hako, Buka Island, Bougainville (PNG). The Hako Women's Collective reports that their new community centre is very well used by a variety of nonprofits and community groups. The big open space is perfect for training and meetings, particularly with the Collective's on-site catering services.

The centre is used for training (e.g. parenting skills) and planning and implementing services, for example for people with a disability.

PiCCA is trying to source funding for the next stage of work to improve livelihoods for women, children and families in Hako. The Collective wants to establish an agricultural hub to help them diversify their crops, increase their income and improve nutrition in the area.

The project will initially target vulnerable women (e.g. single mothers), young people, adults with a disability or carers of children with a disability. Commissions from rice milling and sales would help the Collective to maintain the hub.

The agricultural hub will comprise:

- a rice mill (the first in the area)
- a demonstration garden
- community gardens, and
- training in better agricultural practices.

Nepal project completed

These students at the Pasang Chok Mhadev secondary school in Tawal are finally back in their classroom after about 3 years of painstaking rebuilding work, following the April 2015 earthquakes. The community have worked so hard to make this happen, and building work was delayed with each monsoon season. The rest of the school at Tawal (which has 450 students) is still being finished, but at least the Year 10 students have a proper learning environment leading up to their all-important exams. PiCCA contributed the cost of rebuilding this classroom.



PiCCA representatives will attend the school's grand opening ceremony in February 2019. The school's earthquake-resistant design (including a gabion wall) have already protected it from a recent landslide caused by heavy monsoon rains.

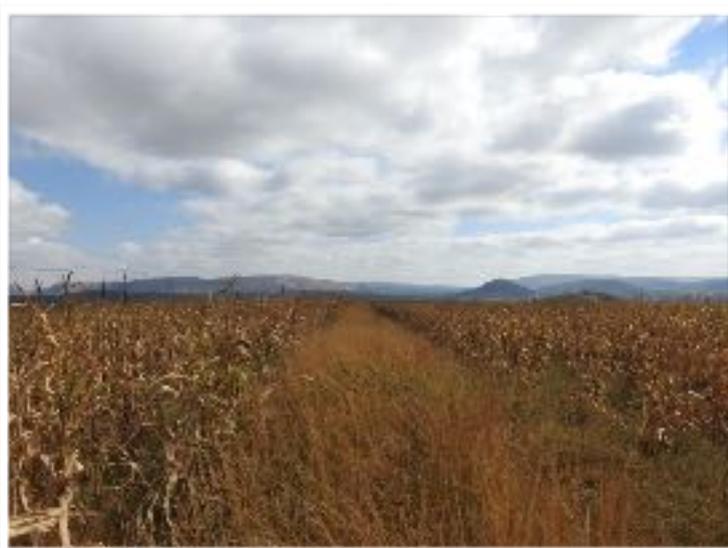
Swaziland Visit Evaluated PiCCA's Project



The Nhlangano farm which PiCCA helped its local partner AMICAALL to establish, is producing an annual crop of maize to feed vulnerable children in Swaziland. In June, PiCCA Chair Stephanie and Secretary Steve visited the farm and some of the social centres providing 1-2 meals/day to abandoned, orphaned or vulnerable children. Centres also provide basic registration, preschool and some health care. There are 49 social centres which benefit 4,000 children/year.

Last year's crop provided 150 bags of maize which fed about 400 children in four of the neediest towns for 4-6 weeks. A similar sized crop is about to be harvested. The farm is secure and well supported by the local council.

The need to provide ongoing supplies of maize, beans and vegetables for social centres in all 13 municipalities is still very high. So PiCCA is working with AMICAALL on a proposal to connect the current borehole to an irrigation system. This will enable the farm to be expanded in crop diversity and size. It was very pleasing to see the progress to date!



From top left: AMICAALL and social centre staff at the Moreni centre in Mbabane; Nhlangano Mayor Deon Anderson, AMICAALL National Director Benedict Xaba and PiCCA Chair Stephanie Boldeman; children playing; the farm near Nhlangano.

[Join PiCCA](#)

[Donate to PiCCA](#)

['Like' PiCCA on Facebook](#)