



## Summary

The ENAM project started out as a vision to create a locally sustainable, effective and reproducible malnutrition protocol for a developing rural area. This was achieved by building a local and sustainable community poultry farm to provide a cheaper source/free animal protein to mothers and children. The ENAM project team is grateful to the Cornell University Engaged Learning and Research Travel grants for contributing financially to the project.

All the assigned phases but one, of the ENAM project scheduled for the summer was successfully carried out to completion. It is unfortunate that we had to create short term and long term goals as to guide the successful completion of the project since all of the expected outcomes were not feasible considering the timeline. As my mentor used to say, 'preparation always takes longer than expected'. Phase 1 (Land acquisition) was successfully met, but with great challenges that pushed back the timeline for all the other phases. The challenges we faced were numerous, but below I will state the major ones- the nature of the project required the land to be in a rural community, the ENAM project team did not anticipate this will pose a transportation problems and litigation issues. The one acre land we acquired was not accessible to trucks and cars; this meant we had to make a road for our cars to transport the construction material to the site. This involved money and manpower which had not been planned earlier in our budget. Another big challenge we faced in implementing the project is the ailing economy of Ghana. The country has been hit by a major inflation and dollar to cedi conversion rate which makes foreign investments and projects unfavorable, it is unfortunate we had to press forward in such an economy, this posed so many budget constraints and delayed construction.

Another major setback which is still occurring and has currently halted construction is the shortage of Diesel and other petroleum products. Although we have purchased all the needed construction materials and made reservations for our day old chicks, we have neither been able to transport the chicks nor the construction material to the construction site, since most of the trucks in the country run on diesel and as such cannot move in a diesel shortage crisis. This posed a big challenge to the team but we learned a lesson "dream big and dare to fail". We are still awaiting the completion of the structure so we can move the chicks to the site to see the successful completion of all scheduled phases.

One success the team chalked over the summer was with the research we did with the natives of the community to determine which factors lead to malnutrition, in an effort to better tailor the project to the needs of the community. Our on-going research has confirmed findings from already existing literature that empowering women in malnourished communities goes a long way to improve child and family nutrition. We look forward to publishing the results from our study.

We anticipate that about 250 families can benefit from the project. The ENAM project will be a self sustaining project as we will try to generate some profit to run the farm as we keep on providing means for families to have an enhanced nutrition. The ENAM team plans of a future expansion of the project to other communities that can benefit from such a program.

## SECTION II

In my perspective, peace is not the antonym of war, to understand peace, one must fully understand war. War is not just limited to conflicts with bombs raining down on civilians but also extends to crippling sanctions and policies that target and maim un-protected civilians who become hungry for food to fend off starvation. War and peace can co-exist- In such a light, what is peace? Peace is a siren state where all men enjoy the basic human rights of good and affordable education, accessible and quality healthcare, access to nutrition and potable water.

The ENAM project seeks to bring peace to a troubled community faced with starvation and malnutrition. Quality nutrition is a fundamental prospect that paves way for other human rights like quality education and healthcare to be met. My involvement with the ENAM project has taught me to be slow to judge NGOs and other proponents of change; I have experienced firsthand the challenges most of these organizations face, but I still believe that with the right mentality and attitude from both parties (beneficiaries and benefactors), we can end all wars against humanity and ensure world peace and tranquility.

Dream big and dare to fail; remember to turn your wounds into wisdom and failure into lessons. (Edgar Akuffo-Addo'16)



Implementation of the egg a day school feeding program- School children are given free complementary protein all by the ENAM project.



Construction finally began in late august after a month of temporary hold due to national shortage of diesel (gas) for trucks conveying materials.



One of the ENAM researchers exploring what causes malnutrition in the community and the challenges mothers face in meeting recommended dietary values