

## A worthwhile Investment for a Retiree

Meet Crispus Mwaluma, a resident of Taita Taveta County who is 61 years old. Having worked for about 40 years in various companies in Mombasa, Crispus decided to retire at the age of 50 years and start his own business at his town- Voi town. In 2014, Crispus bought land at Kasarani area in Majengo and decided to construct a slaughter house on that land. The decision to construct a slaughter house was brought about by the fact that the slaughterhouse which served Voi town were few and far apart decided to open a slaughterhouse. First of all he wanted to open a slaughterhouse near his home in NDII along the Nairobi Mombasa highway but because there was another one in Canaan B which was far from Voi town he decided to buy a piece of land in kasarani majengo area in 2014 and started operations in 2014 September. In September 2014, Kasarani slaughterhouse was completed in and it began its operations. Situated at only about 7 kilometers from Voi town, it the most convenient facility for most butcheries in the area. The slaughterhouse serves about 10 butcheries as well as individual slaughters once in a while.



Figure 1: Mr. Crispus Mwaluma (in shorts) with Direne Packaging trainers

Over the years, the operation of the slaughter house has deteriorated and due to lack of water (Hot Water), lack of electricity, poor infrastructure i.e. chipping floor, lack of manure shed, poor hygiene.

The Kasarani slaughterhouse was one of the slaughterhouses that received infrastructural improvements under the K-SALES project. Some of the areas that were renovated by the project include: Biogas plant, manure shed, Terrazzo floor, cradle etc

Through the Kenya- Semi Arid Livestock Enhancement Support (K-SALES) Project, Crispus together with his employees have received training on postharvest handling

which included training on proper hygiene, meat processing techniques, customer care, business management skills, book keeping,

financial management and value addition. Crispus also got a chance to attend a Business-to-Business linkage forum where various stakeholders are brought together for market linkages and this included: financial institutions i.e. Banks, microfinance institutions, schools and colleges, butcheries. Through this forum, Crispus got necessary knowledge to develop, secure and sign 8 slaughter contracts with some of his clients. Though he has signed slaughter contracts there hasn't been a notable increase in the sales for his business due to the current political environment and harsh environment conditions .

“I have learnt a lot of things particularly in business management and have even adopted a business plan to help in the running my slaughterhouse,” states Crispus. “I plan on particularly buying fillets for processing and keep them in a cold house then start selling them to hotels. All this I learnt from the value addition training.”



*Figure 2: Mr. Crispus Mwaluma (4th from left) During Business management training*

Crispus is yet to build a cold store but has plans to embark on it in the next 2 years as the demand for chilled meat is on the rise from his customers.

Since the training, Crispus has been very instrumental in capacity building other butchery employees on proper hygiene and value addition to ensure his clients get the best value for their money.



*Figure 3: Biogas plant(on the left) and Mr. Crispus Mwaluma (on the right with shorts) with Direne packaging consultants*