



German- African Trainee Program

Success Story

Transferring farming experience from Germany to Kenya

It all started with Grandmother Ariso. She had a farm in Chemelil, Western Kenya, where she grew traditional vegetables to help feed her family. Today, her grandson **Moses Jamwa** runs an agricultural business named after her. On the Ariso S.S farm he keeps four cows and three dairy goats, grows napier grass to feed them and produces honey in his five beehives.

Jamwa has been passionate about agriculture for a long time, observing and helping his father in the vegetable farm and with the animals. In 2021 his zeal for improving his farming skills and making a good living as a young farmer got another boost: During his studies at Bukura Agricultural College he participated in a practical exchange program with farms in Southern Germany, organized by AgrarKontakte International (AKI). Jamwa was placed on an organic dairy farm. "My favorite job was hay making. I cut a hectare of grass in one day with the tractor mower and turned it all the next day. In Kenya, we still do this manually and can't even manage a tenth of this in the same time," says Jamwa.

When asked about one key learning field, Jamwa responds: "My host farmer is very committed to his work, he does everything by himself. I've learned from him how to plan my working day ahead of time and make full use of the hours. He always said he wants me to be a good farmer after my traineeship and has taught me a lot of his farm management skills." Together, they planned the design for Jamwa's goat barn in Kenya. Jamwa is very keen on transferring what he observed and learned in Germany to his level of agricultural system at home. He is working on modifying his initial business ideas, using locally available materials and simple methods inspired by what he learned on the technologically advanced German farm. One of the first changes he implemented upon his return was to plant a more productive type of napier grass on his farm. "I saw how short the grass in Germany grows, and it still provides good feeds for the cows. Our traditional grass grows tall but isn't very nourishing. When I got my hands on an improved variety of napier grass, I decided to try it out and so far, I am very happy with the result," says Jamwa.

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His father has been very encouraging and is happy to hand the farm over to Jamwa. He says: "I started farming to generate some income besides my teacher's salary. I wanted to be able to send my children to a good school. Education is very important, and I am proud to see my son farm on a different level than me thanks to his rich professional knowledge." Jamwa is thanking his father and the German farm manager by stepping in their footsteps: Once he has built his goat barn and added some animals, he wants to invite others to his farm for teaching and demonstration purposes and supply the small-scale farmers in the area with good animal breeding stock.

The traineeship program in Kenya at a glance:

- Motto „Learning by doing“
- Agricultural sectors: Livestock farming, crop farming, fruit and vegetable farming
- Trainees are agricultural students (ages 18–26) from Bukura Agricultural College
- Part of the special initiative “One World Without Hunger” of the German Ministry for Economic Development and Cooperation; implemented as part of the cooperation with Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and its global project “Green Innovation Centres in the agriculture and food sector”
- Goal: To improve the economic and social perspectives of young people in Kenya by promoting self-help



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