



# Abdillahi's Fowls of Fortune

A 41-year-old resident of Darussalam village in Wajir South Sub-County, Abdillahi Rashid Haji found himself at the mercy of nature's wrath when a severe drought struck his community.

Facing the harsh realities of the 2023 drought, Haji, like many others, struggled to meet the basic needs of his family of two wives and 11 children.

With the support from Wajir South Development Association's (WASDA) cash transfer project, funded by USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), Haji embarked on a recovery journey of resilience that embraces entrepreneurship.

Haji is among the 5,140 vulnerable households that received assistance from WASDA to enable them build their lives once again. With the KES 8,190 as part of the project support he received for six consecutive months,

Haji was determined not only to survive but thrive. He utilised the funds wisely in rearing chicken, a business that is giving him good returns.

Haji who begun poultry farming with a few birds now boasts of an ever-growing flock of chicken. Through hard work and perseverance, he transformed adversity into opportunity. Today, he proudly sells eggs from his growing flock, generating a sustainable income to support his family.

When his flock grew to 55, he made a total of KES 39,000 after selling 26 roosters at KES 1,500 each at Daadab Refugee Camp. Besides spending the proceeds to purchase chicken feed, he used the remaining amount to meet the needs of his family.

His ambition is to be an accomplished poultry farmer with over 100,000 chickens.



*Haji attends to his flock of chicken at his Darusalaam village home.*



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Haji's journey to resilience has not been devoid of challenges. At one point, he lost 70 chickens to what he described as a mysterious disease. He actually confesses: "My only barrier is a lack of skills to run a successful poultry venture."

WASDA has since linked up this budding poultry keeper with the department of livestock so that he is empowered with knowledge and necessary skills in poultry farming.

Haji's tale is a testament to the transformative power of multipurpose cash programmes and the resilience of individuals in the face of adversity. Through strategic interventions and continued support, individuals such as Haji can not only overcome crises but also create hope by picking up pieces of their shuttered livelihoods and re-build their lives.



*Haji feeding his chickens.*



*Haji displays a burgeoning rooster.*



Field office  
P.O. Box 209-70200  
Diif Road, WASDA building, Wajir.  
E-mail: [info@wasda.or.ke](mailto:info@wasda.or.ke)  
[www.wasda.or.ke](http://www.wasda.or.ke)

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