

**WELT HUNGER HILFE – RURAL OUTREACH PROGRAM AFRICA****DAIRY PROJECT PARTNERSHIP**

by

Njeri Karanu

[knjeri2003@gmail.com](mailto:knjeri2003@gmail.com)**Njeri Karanu**

Rural Outreach Program (ROP) Africa is partnering with Welt Hunger Hilfe (WHH) to identify opportunities for enterprise activities in the dairy value chain, to strengthen practical skills of smallholder women and youth by disseminating and promoting good practices in dairy farming for improved household nutrition and incomes in Vihiga County.

Through project activities, targeted farmers, mostly women and youth in dairy farming, will receive training in feed and breed management, milking practices, disease prevention, quality, hygiene, processing (value addition), record keeping, business and marketing. 13 Trained trainers (ToTs) will receive training from a County livestock officer and thereafter, conduct outreach to at least 10 farmers each. They will help dairy farmers in Vihiga County improve their processes and monitor progress weekly over a period of 4 weeks. The main aim is to improve production first.

The ToT training was held on November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at Bukura Agricultural Training Centre. Mr. William Alinda Opilo, Hamisi sub-county Livestock Development Officer gave instruction on dairy cow management, and Ms. Marianna Kachi took the class through yoghurt making. The training involved demonstrations and hands-on practicals in breed identification and selection, feeding regimens and feed formulation, silage making, hygiene and yoghurt preparation.

With this partnership, ROP and WHH hope to have more farmers who are knowledgeable in dairy management, empowered farmers linked to financial institutions/sources of financing for their operations and an increase in enterprise activities in the dairy value chain in Vihiga County, for example, in feed preparation, breed management, milk transportation, milk sales and value addition.