

*One wise man once said “When you **Empower people**, you are not just influencing them; you are influencing **ALL** the people they influence”*

Milima Mitatu Jubilee Youth Group, Nakuru County

We are a young group as well as being young in age. We individually used to plant any crop any just because we had heard or imagined it was going to give us profits. When the crops were ready we had no specific market. Some farmers made loses while others had marginal profits..



Chairperson of the Group at his farm

Then we were introduced to the SHEP Approach where we were told that the first thing needed was mindset change, then we were linked to service providers through the Farm Business Linkage Stakeholder Forum (FABLIST). The next training was on Market Survey. We started by conducting Market Survey in the neighbourhood but later on we were able to get a reliable buyer from the Capital city. The buyer wanted more produce than we could produce. We truly felt empowered by SHEP PLUS. And since there is a saying which goes like **“If you want to go fast, go alone but if you want to go far, go as a group”**, we decided to empower our neighbours by letting them sell through our group so as to maintain quantity as well as quality. Our livelihoods have been improved. We are now confident to approach any service provider without the help from the Agricultural officer.

Money transfer shop by the group member



I can liken farmers' implementation of the SHEP Approach as “giving a push to a stalled vehicle”.

Once it starts, there is no need to push it again.

***--Francisca Malenge,
National Project Coordinator, SHEP PLUS***

