

2000 households in rural Lesotho adopt uncaged chicken farming



Moferefere Makutlu has a vision for the rural children of Lesotho. It's a vision of children with full stomachs growing up in an environment of Nature's abundance. For this, he says, he has turned to the indigenous Boschveld breed of chicken.

As World Vision International's man in Lesotho, Moferefere told Animal Voice: "We want life in all its fullness to be available to the most vulnerable and underprivileged of all — the children in rural communities. World Vision has different programmes for different vulnerabilities, be it education, child protection, health, water, economic develop, or, as is the case in my own sector: food security. My challenge is to get enough animal protein to as many households as possible."

Speaking from Maseru, Moferefere says he was introduced to *Boschveld chickens* when he visited an agricultural show in Bloemfontein last year.

"I immediately set about getting these chickens into Lesotho. As of now, roughly 2000 rural households each have the benefit of five Boschveld hens and one Boschveld cock. They're strong and hardy enough for outdoor conditions; they're robust enough to be dual purpose — good for eggs and good for meat too; they're resilient to disease and they're not dependent on commercial chicken food only, but feed themselves to a large extent like normal chickens do. They breed in a normal way in the care of the mother hen, and the young are passed on to other households so that this programme is extended naturally. We have very positive feedback from the families involved."