

Bekelech

Bekelech has built a thriving business to support her family – thanks to two goats and some training courses run by FARM-Africa.



31 year old Bekelech lives in a poor district of south west Ethiopia with her husband Yohanis and their 6 children aged between 4 and 18. Bekelech's family is one of many in the area who have benefited from FARM-Africa's work with their local women's group.

Until Bekelech joined her local FARM-Africa women's group her family was struggling to survive and lived in poverty. They had no livestock or resources and were getting further and further into debt just trying to feed themselves.

As is the way with many of FARM-Africa's projects, Bekelech was selected by her women's group to receive two FARM-Africa goats. They don't cost a lot in English pounds but to Bekelech their value was beyond measure.

Within 6 months the goats had two kids, which Bekelech 'repaid' to the group, ready to benefit another impoverished family. Bekelech's first priority was to use the milk the goats produced to feed her children – it's full of nutrients and quickly helped her children become healthier.

But the benefits didn't stop there. Enterprising Bekelech sold the goats' next offspring and used the money to buy some seeds and fertiliser to grow more food for her family. Feeling more motivated than ever, Bekelech attended classes in book-keeping and basic business management run by FARM-Africa. With her new found skills, and the money she earned by selling more kids, Bekelech set up a coffee business.

With just a little help from FARM-Africa Bekelech has turned her family's fortunes around and her children now go to school with full tummies, smart clothes and exercise books!