

Improving Storage, processing and marketing of African indigenous vegetables (AIVs) in Western Kenya

Joseph Alulu, University of Nairobi

Introduction

- PHLs and climate change are threatening the existence of AIVs (Spider plant, Amaranth, Cow peas, Black night shade).
- Farms experience up to 50% loss in vegetables through PHLs.
- Low prices due to poor quality.
- This calls for an innovative intervention to offset these constraints.



Implementation steps

- Solar cooling chambers to address storage issue.
- Solar drying technology for processing.
- Developing an innovating online app targeting the busy working urban class.

Objectives

- To improve storage of AIVs.
- To improve the shelf-life of AIVs to at least 2 weeks.
- To profitably meet the convenience needs of urban consumers.

Conclusion

- Increasing demand
- High PHLs
- Inconsistency in supply to high value markets
- Need to improve:
 - Storage (Solar cooling)
 - Processing (Solar drier)
 - Marketing (Online App)

Expected costs

Item	Units	Cost (Euros)
Solar cooling equipment	1	4000
Solar drying equipment	1	2000
App development	1	2500
Labour costs	-	4000
Transport Services	-	4000
Advertisement Costs	-	1000
Business registration and certification	1	200
Packaging	-	1000
Certified Seeds/other inputs	-	100
Total		18,800

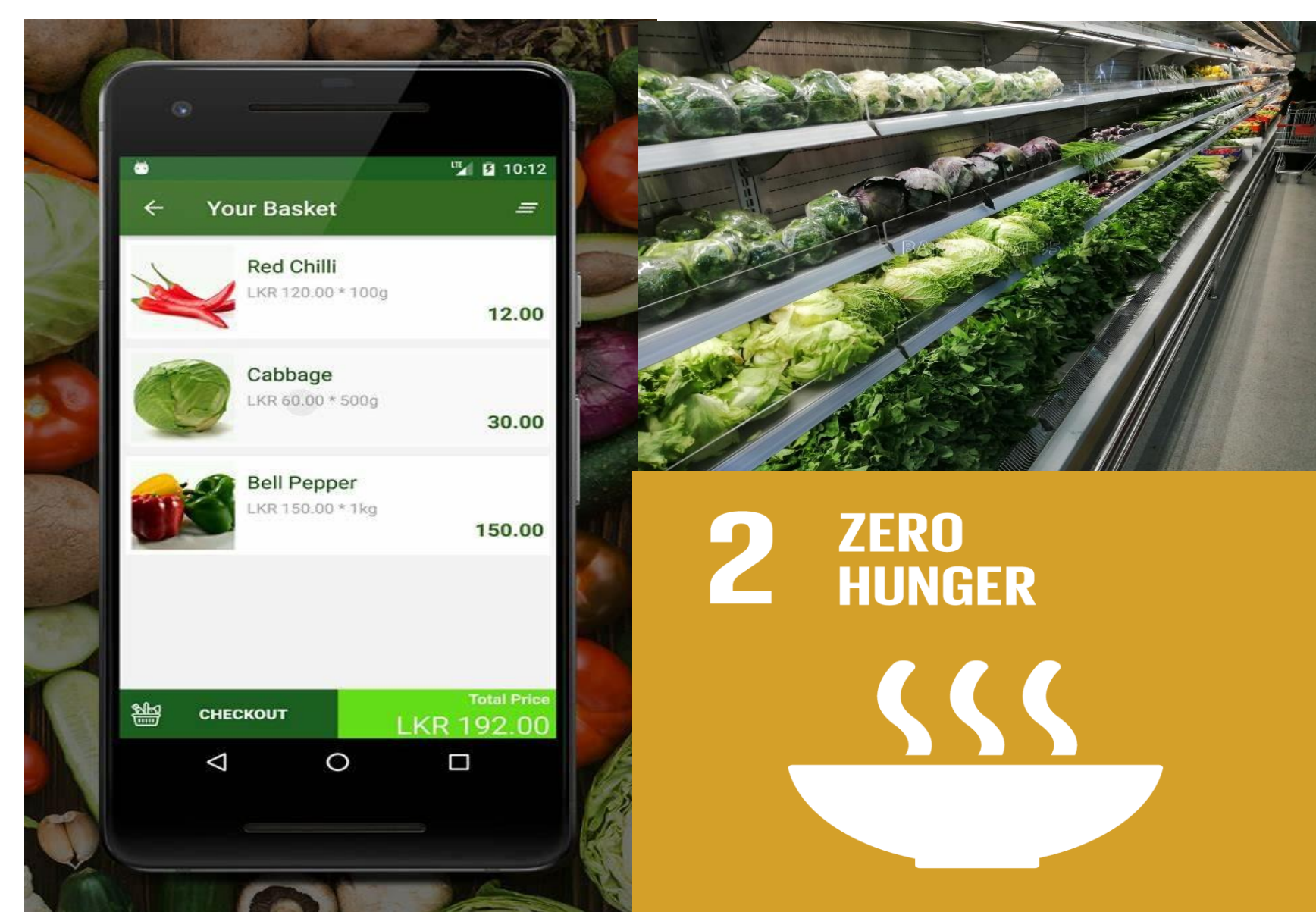
SWOT

Strength	Opportunities
Capacity to produce	High demand
Weakness	Threats
Post harvest losses	High inflation



Possible risks

- Fluctuation of market prices
- Climate change
- Change in consumer behavior



Expected outcomes

- Contribution to improved incomes.
- Contribution to improved food and nutrition security

Contact details:

e-mail: alulujay@gmail.com

Cellphone: +254700280481