BEEKEEPING FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Beekeeping against poverty: achieving beekeeping extension

A UGANDA CASE by Ramsey Owot

The Uganda Honey Bee Keepers Association programme takes into account Uganda’s broad development objectives which focuses on poverty eradication. The Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP) launched by the government encompasses several measures with the term goal of reducing poverty levels from the current 66.3% of the population to 10% by the year 2017. To complement this plan, Uganda Honey Beekeepers Association is promoting the development of apiculture. Both PEAP and Api-Agriculture Modernization (development) Plan recognize the role of micro, small and medium scale api-agro-based enterprises (MSEs) in achieving their objectives and at the end of the programme it is anticipated that the following major objectives would have been realized:

- A structural and co-ordinated honey and food safety production capacity and quality assurance system established;
- Links and Liaison be established with the beekeepers /farmers, extension link agencies, businesses, the government, donor agencies and Uganda Honey Bee Keepers Association on the issues of overall up-grade production capacity, quality assurance and standardization for the entire api-agro industrial sector in Uganda;
- Processing technology upgraded and clean user-friendly technology principles introduced in the honey and food sector;
- Post – harvest and micro-scale honey and food processing technologies introduced in the rural areas;
- Technical training on product development of the honeybee keepers in the rural areas;
- Existing training and production facilities for honey and food sector strengthened;
- A master craftsman programme for development of MSEs will be in place;
- Study on value added contributions for honey and other food products finalized, and;
- 794 Collection /Outreach Centers at sub-county down to village levels established and fully refurbished throughout throughout Uganda.
Uganda Honey Beekeepers Association

“Discover Nature’s Golden Treasure

And

HOW SWEET IT IS of bees and honey”