

PROJECTS: KENYA

CABESI: PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABLE SMALL TRADE AND PROTECTION OF BIODIVERSITY IN SEMI-ARID AREAS OF WEST KENYA



Project

The „Cabesi“ project promotes the production and marketing of local honey and wild silk. The local population is supported in professionally expanding their sources of income and knowledge of honey production and marketing of wild silk. Important topics such as business management and environmental protection are thematised and addressed through local partner organisations. In this phase the focus is on establishing an adapted enterprise format for the „Cabesi Market Place“ which will ensure the continuation of the Cabesi-initiative after phasing out of the project. For this purpose a mid-term business plan for Cabesi is being drafted with all stakeholders in a participatory way.

Relevance

The Pokots are pastoralists. They traditionally keep sheep, goats and cattle, and more and more frequently they cultivate crops as small scale farming families. Due to the increasing occurrence of drought, food regularly becomes scarce and leads to conflict between neighbouring tribes. Soil degradation is already well advanced due to the traditional use of land for grazing and collection of firewood.

Cabesi offers small-scale farmers the opportunity to increase their income in a sustainable, environmentally sound manner. Income generation that does not tax natural resources further is important for survival. The status and reputation of Pokot women has already been very effectively improved by their active inclusion in the project work and participatory decision making processes can be improved.

Beneficiaries

4000 farming families that keep bees, 350 members of the self help organisation and their villages, 20 direct employees and their families – more than 20,000 people in total.

Development Goal

Sustainable improvement of the living standard of communities in Pokot through practice-oriented knowledge dissemination and income generation through sustainable use of natural resources.

Project number:

BV EH-02

Project active since:

December 2003

Project duration:

until December 2012

Budget for 2011:

140'000 USD

Project coordinator:

Rolf Gloor, Biologist and marketing specialist *icipe*

Program responsibility:

Verena Albertin



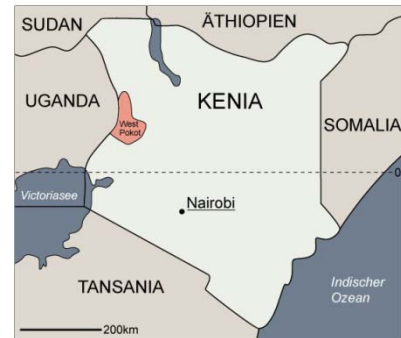
Beeswax used to be seen as a useless byproduct of honey production. Now it is being used to produce candles in the „Cabesi Market Place“.



The project helps to generate new sustainable income sources in the region which enable families to pay the school fees for their children.

Goals

1. Sustainable increase in production of honey and other bee products: geographic expansion to bordering districts (Baringo and Marakwet) for the construction of 3 new honey **collection centres**, training of 6 additional people in the management of the new centres, training of the local population in beekeeping, production and **marketing**.
2. Promotion of **wild silk production** and establishment of 30 beehives with **stingless bees** for the production of **medicinal honey**. Training of 2 additional trainers for the production and processing of the honey.
3. Participative development of an adapted business format for „**Cabesi Market Place**“ and gradual handover of responsibilities, with corresponding coaching, to local collaborators.



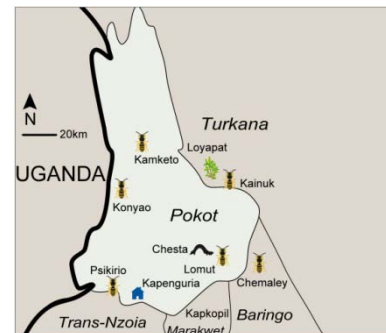
Project area West Pokot

Partner Organisations

International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology *icipe*
www.icipe.org (implementing partner), Bio Food Product Ltd.,
Cabesi Self Help Group.

Local project partners

Nine grass roots organisations (3 new ones) which operate the collection centres for bee products as well as two local community based organisations that specialise in the production of wild silk; Beekeepers/wild silk producers, secondary schools running Cabesi Clubs (honey production, awareness creation for malaria prevention and environmental protection).



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