

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. Additionally, important health topics (such as malaria), and business studies are thematised and addressed through local partner organisations. A promising pilot study on possibilities for supplementary income generation and energy conservation using the Barbados nut (*Jatropha curcas*) has also begun. In this phase the focus is on a sustainable increase in production of bee and wild silk products. Further, a mid-term business plan for Cabesi is being drafted with all stakeholders in a participatory way.

Relevance

The Pokots are small-scale farmers. They traditionally keep sheep, goats and cattle, and more and more frequently they cultivate crops. 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.

Beneficiaries

3000 beekeepers and their families, 350 members of the community based organisations, 20 direct employees of the Market Place, 4 schools and 200 farms through the campaign for malaria prevention, 200 families (around 2000 people) through the production, sale and individual use of jatropha oil.

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 2009

Budget for 2009:
150'000 USD

Project coordinator:
Rolf Gloor, Biologist and marketing specialist *icipe*

Program responsibility:
Verena Albertin



New beehives improve the harvest and the quality of the honey.



Honey is very popular in Africa, and is an important health food for the prophylaxis of diseases.

Goals

1. Establishment of 3 new **honey collection centres**. Training of the local population in beekeeping and in production and **marketing** of honey and other bee products.
2. Promotion of **wild silk production** by the establishment of 2 new wild silk production centres and training of the local community.
3. Information campaign on **prevention of malaria**. Education and sensitisation to the ecological treatment of the malaria carrier (the anopheles mosquito) in local secondary schools.
4. Pilot study on the use of the Barbados nut (*Jatropha curcas*) as an opportunity to increase income and save energy: to plant fields in semi-arid areas with **Jatropha plants** and to provide equipment to produce oil from the nuts.

Partner Organisations

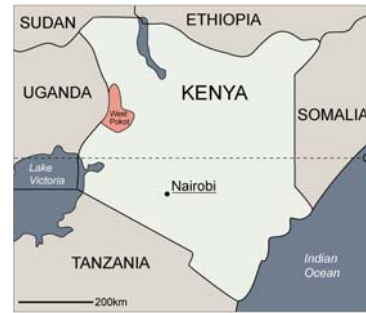
International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology *icipe* www.icipe.org; Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development; Arid Lands Kapenguria; Kerio Valley Development Agency (KVDA)

Local project partners

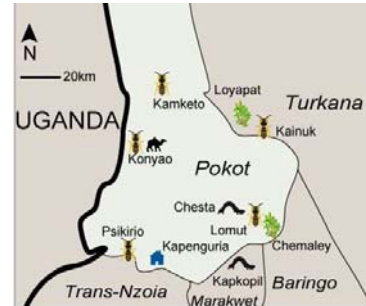
Six community based organisations which operate the collection centres for bee products as well as two local community based organisations that specialise in the production of wild silk; beekeepers, wild silk producers, camel keepers, common-interest group on test studies with *Jatropha curcas*, secondary schools that run "Cabesi-Clubs" (honey production, malaria-sensitisation).

Sustainability

Sustainability calls for a holistic vision: healthy people, animals and plants in a healthy environment. (4x Health, 4-H Strategy). Every project supported by Biovision effects considerable improvements in at least one of the four health areas. The key to effectively replicating the success of the project is the availability of specific information on the methods applied and the results achieved. With this approach and its 'helix of effects', living conditions are improved and the poverty of the people is gradually overcome while the environment is protected.



Pokot



Project areas in and around Pokot.

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