Wafula Isaac Wasike

Chair

Wema Community Youth Apiary

Matete Sub-county, Chevaywa Location

Sitavita Village.

Mr. Wasike,

I represent the Wema Community Youth apiculture Project.

We are a group of ten individuals committed to developing a jointly owned beekeeping farm

that will empower youths' economic situation through sales of bee produce including honey, bee wax, propolis, pollen and venom. Our community based youth is exclusively non political and legally owns 1 acre of land that was acquired through member donations; onto which we installed 14 colonised hives since 2023 June.

We intend to expand our apiary to 200 hives in two phases; 120 then 80, plant atleast 400 tree seedlings per week and now we seek Ksh 650,000 ($5074) in addition of our contribution for funding the purchase bee hives, stands, modern bee equipments, tree seedling sockets, transport logistics and paying agricultural extension assistants.

All members are keenly committed in group operation of the hives, conservation of indigenous trees, flowers and controlling soil erosion to ensure a beautiful, sustainable ecosystem.

We have strong community support, investors from the local area, and the pledges of

restaurants and farmers markets to accept our produce after harvest.

We strongly believe our business plan has been thoroughly outlined and will meet or

exceed all of your funding requirements. We look forward to meeting with you to show

you our plans and answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,Wafula Isaac Wasike

Representative

Wema Community Youth Apiary Project.

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Prepared by: Wafula Isaac Wasike

1 TABLE OF CONTENT

Market Demand ................................................................................................................................... 2 Return on Investment ......................................................................................................................... 3 Support .................................................................................................................................................. 4 Property .....................................................................................................................................6

Membership .......................................................................................................................... 7

Summary............................................................................................................................................

MARKET DEMAND

There is already a large market demand in Kakamega County, Vihiga Kisumu City, where urban dwellers consume honey on daily basis ; and through subscriptions to Bee Care International Apiary programs, where they buy wax in bulk from local farmers on a regular basis. In addition, demand from local restaurants for fresh produce. We’ve provided some details below.

In the previous year, the youth community apiary program produced 90kg of honey (three harvest) from the initial 10 hives. This year, despite of inflation and economic hardship, our April harvest alone produced 67KG (Ksh40,00). Clearly the youth needs more sponsorship for the expansion of this community project.

We plan to make beekeeping a reliable source of income if we increase the apiary yields to 150kg of honey and 60kgs of wax per harvest.

The booming market is majorly gained through online social media including Whatssup, Facebook, X and online marketing platforms such as jiji.com and Copia.

Our research shows that majority of honey consumed in local market is tempered with by poor harvesting, diluting or contaminating it. That's why many consumers prefer buying from farmers raw honey or few trusted sellers. Indeed most restaurants pressurize Wema Apiary to produce even more honey. Local restaurant owners need more suppliers of fresh honey for their businesses.

The trends of eating fresh honey a locally and internationaly is expected to continue to grow over the next decade. Our cooperative farm plans to cash in on these trends and deliver what the market wants.

RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Detailed below is the Return on Investment (ROI) analysis for the project. The costs for the development, operations, and ongoing maintenance of the project vs. the benefits are summarized for a 5-year period.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Farm equipment | Annual maintenance  Cost | Non recurrent Input cost of youth group made hive | Non recurrent Input cost (purchasing item) | Expected Return each harvest | Annual Return  (Three harvests) | Tax Levy and county licence certification | Net profit minus intial cost |
| One loungstroth bee hive | 1,000/- | 3,250/- | 6500/- | 5kg @600/-  3000/- | 9000/- | 400/- | 7,400/- |
| 14 hives | 14,000/- | 45,500/- | 91000/- | 42,000/- | 126000/- | 5,600/- | 103,600/- |
| Top bar hive | 600/- | 2,800/- | 4,000/- | 4kg @600/-  2,400/- | 7,200/- | 400/- | 6800/- |
| 120 loungstroth | 120,000/- | **390,000/-** | 780,000/- | 360,000/- | 1.08M/- | 48,000/- | 1M/- |
| 200 hives | 200,000/- | 650,000/- | 1.3M/- | 600,000/- | 1.8M | 60,000/- | 1.76M |
| Bee suit | 500/- | - | 4,000/- | \_ | \_ | \_ | \_ |
| Smoker | 200/- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4 frame Honey extractor | 4000/- | \_ | 78,000/- | \_ | \_ | \_ | \_ |
| Bee brush | \_ | \_ | 2,000/- |  |  |  |  |
| Bee knife | \_ |  | 800/- |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| TOTAL INTIAL INPUT COST FOR 200 hives | MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS | DEFICIT | IMMEDIATE/BASIC REQUIRED COST |
| 1650,000/- | 220,000/- | 1,430,000 | 650,000/- |

FINANCIAL BENEFITS

As you can see by the chart above, the initial startup cost can be earned back within only a few years. Within ten years, we can easily sustain the farm project, pay back our investors, and make a healthy profit each year. All the profits earned by the farm will stay in the local community, thus supporting local youths, schools and other small businesses.

NON-FINANCIAL BENEFITS

The non-financial benefits of our communal farm project are immeasurable to the Sitavita village and Kulumbeni community. We will provide healthy honey, wax, food for the community, bees that will help pollinate nearby crops, and educational and recreational opportunities.

4 SUPPORT

We have broad local support for our communal farm project.

4 members of the Wema Youth apiary donated the land currently under use and 4 others have each pledged to donate quality timber in workshop plus 50,000/- to be paid back in 10 years at 5% interest.

The Member of county Assembly is enthusiastic about our farm and expressed desires to purchase produce fetch international market from us as soon as our major harvest is in.

Our state association of beekeepers was excited to learn that we plan to establish our bigger bee colony on our farm. They will add our farm name and address to their literature, help us create a healthy, thriving bee colony, and assist us in selling honey and beeswax products.

This state council will assist us with gaining and maintaining our organic certification, and will also assist us in marketing our bee products.

Our local community college wants to use our farm as a teaching example of beekeeping. They plan to bring groups of students to see our farm, and agriculture students at Makhukhuni and Chenjeni Secondary schools.

OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY

Generally, the Wema Youth Apiary is community owned property of 10 members. Other youths are encouraged to join progressively as the project expands.

Land - jointly owned by 4 members ( Wafula Isaac, Lilian Lusweti, Ainea Wawire and Mary Magdalene.

Bee farm Shade - equally owned by all the ten members. After contribution and cooperation during construction.

Utilities - free water from the passingby river.

Machinery and bee equipments are co-owned equally by group members.

MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | National ID card no. | Contact | Residence | Responsibility |
| Wafula Isaac | 28608719 | 0712500652 | Sango estate | Chairman |
| Lilian Lusweti | 31563827 | 0727344507 | Sango estate | Treasurer |
| Magdalene Wasike | 71548691 | 0725662444 | Sango estate | Assistant treasurer |
| Ainea Wawire | 2374533 | 0711453220 | Kulumbeni | Member |
| Joshua Shem | 39542986 | 0787453876 | Sango estate | Secretary |
| Abel Wasike | 31769877 | 0111342995 | Sango estate | Member |
| Jackson Kimano | 41615983 | 0739654380 | Sango estate | Member |
| Reuel Psalms | 2946433 | 0721005389 | Kulumbeni | Member |
| Reign Wafula | 2853258 | 0737677606 | Kulumbeni | Member |

Summary

In addition to all the organizations listed above, the community at large is enthusiastic about the possibility of bigger bee farm and community garden. There is currently an unmet community demand for Wema Youth Apiary subscriptions by many more youths.