

# Supporting of Beekeeping for income earning and Coastal Forests Conservation in Tanzania.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION ACTION  
**Weltweit e.V**

## PROJECT REPORT

**Project supported by:** Schmitz Foundation, Hand in Hand Fonds, One Team gUG

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### 1. Background

Activities on beekeeping have been undertaken as part of environmental conservation particularly coastal forests in Tanzania. This involved mainly supporting the groups of experienced and new beginners of beekeeping through provision of education and necessary equipment for beekeeping. Teachers and students from the selected three

schools of Mwambisi, Accacia and Kidogozero were involved. Community groups of Kibaha Nature Conservation Initiative also participated in collaboration with the Environmental Conservation Action under the support of Weltweit from Germany.

## **2. Objectives & Activities of the project:**

The overall objective of this project was to support the Coastal Forest Conservation through beekeeping and providing the necessary environmental conservation education.

Specific objectives of the project include,

- To provide necessary environmental and beekeeping education
- To support beekeeping activities by provision of beehives and necessary equipment
- To support tree nursery activities in the selected schools
- To raise community awareness on environmental conservation through sports events

This project started in November 2019 whereby the following activities had been implemented to fulfill the project objectives. They include the following activities.

1. 10 Seminars were conducted with the community group Environmental Conservation Action under Mr. Ibrahim Hussein in collaboration with the experienced beekeeping expert Mr. Zahir Liana. The seminars involved groups of beginners and experienced beekeepers in Mwambisi, Accasia and Kidogozero

schools in Kibaha. Seminars had a varied number of participants from 16 to 40 participants where in the schools the number was above 100 participants including students and teachers. Each groups and school had its own seminar and there were seminars for knowledge sharing between experienced and new beginners on beekeeping.

About 120 people were effectively involved in the training where 40 came from a group of experienced beekeepers, 65 from unexperienced ones and 15 school teachers. About 200 students participated through sports and awareness on beekeeping.



Mr. Liana in the beekeeping training with the group experienced beekeepers in Kibaha.

Beekeeping training seminar with beginners of Kibaha Nature Conservation Union/ Initiative



On site beekeeping training and hanging of the beehives with experienced beekeepers in Kibaha.

A combined seminar meeting between experienced and beginners of beekeeping in Kibaha

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2. Distributing 110 beehives to the groups of beekeepers and schools where 10 went to Kidogzero School, 10 to Mwambisi school, 10 to Accasia school, 50 to Kibaha Nature Conservation Union experienced beekeepers and 30 Kibaha Nature Conservation beginners. However additional 10 beehives were made from left-over available materials making a total of 120 beehives so far. These additional 10 beehives were given to small groups of beekeepers which are part of the Kibaha nature Conservation Union located in the village of Bamba and Pangani in Kibaha. The groups were supplied with the necessary protective clothes and other equipment. Of the 120 beehives 80 are commercial (Langstroth) beehives while 40 are normal (traditional) beehives.



A stock of the collected beehives before distribution to groups in Kibaha



Transferring of bees from hives and inspecting them by Mr. Liana



Training on how to use the protective clothes by Mr. Liana to teachers at Acacia school



Distribution and training of protective clothes by Mr. Liana to different groups



Honey harvesting training to students and teachers



On site training on honey harvesting and bees management

3. A tree nursery to yield 5000 seedlings was established at Accasia Secondary school. Other two existing tree nurseries at Kidogozero and Mwambisi were supported to produce seedlings and provide environmental education to students and teachers. The matured seedlings were transported and planted on the school farms and in other designated areas (in total 5000) while another 5000 seedlings were handed over to the pupils and their families to be planted on their farms. The planted trees at schools are already contributing to the environmental wellbeing. There is already a better environment for the school campus and hopefully students and teachers will have a suitable environment for learning.



Seedlings at Acasia school tree nursery



A tree nursery at Mwambisi Secondary school

	
<p>Tree nursery preparations at Kidogzero school</p>	<p>Students taking seedlings from the school tree nursery at Mwambisi School</p>

4. Sensitization and awareness creation on tree planting and beekeeping through sports events. Three (3) sports events for awareness creation have been already hosted at Mwambisi Secondary school and other schools including West Gate Girls School, Tanita Youth Football Club based in Kibaha. The event at Mwambisi had the support and presence of ONE TEAM from Germany. The events have brought the attention of the students, teachers and the surrounding community about how best our environment can be conserved through tree planting and how income can be earned sustainably through beekeeping as well as understanding other health and environmental benefits of beekeeping.

	
<p>Distributed beehives during the seminars at Acasia school</p>	<p>Photo taken during the seminar at Mwambisi Secondary School between teachers and students</p>
	
<p>Sports event for awareness creation on beekeeping for schools in Kibaha.</p>	<p>Students who participated on awareness creation at Mwambisi Secondary School</p>

### **Project progress and sustainability**

Many of the beehives are already with bees and some farmers are expected to start harvesting the honey while others have already harvested honey from the hives provided by the project. To increase the productivity and quality of the harvested honey harvesting equipment has been ordered from China by Mr. Liana with the support of the Bad Sodener Imkerverein in Germany. The centrifugal harvester will be kept and maintained by Mr. Liana while all the participants of the beekeeping trainings from the project are eligible to use it once their hives have produced enough honey. The new and experienced beekeepers are encouraged to form an association that would then obtain and manage the equipment like the harvester. The Bad Soden Imkerverein can

hold as an example for the organisation of communal beekeeping with individual benefit whereas it has of course be adapted and follow the local Tanzanian rules and customs.

There is a big impact brought by the project at the selected groups as there is an interest from members to have additional beehives and expansion of the activities and the need for creation of market opportunities for honey, wax and related bee products.

There is always a demand from other community members to be involved in the trainings and receiving of the beehives and materials to start the beekeeping exercise also.

Mwambisi and Acasia schools are well managing their tree nurseries although they were affected by the global COVID 19 pandemic. Sustainability of the tree nursery activities in these schools is supported by the presence of school environmental cleanness and programs as well as the needs for trees by teachers and some community members.

Due to awareness creation of tree planting it is expected that bare land will be covered by trees and students will have an environmental friendly studying compounds.



Harvested honey from one of the experienced beekeepers in Kibaha



Harvested honey from another experienced beekeeper in Kibaha



Honey harvesting training with the protective clothes brought by the project



Honey harvesting training and rearranging of the beehives by Mr. Liana

	
<p>One of the beehives which needed reinstalling after realizing that there were no bees</p>	<p>Beehives reinstallation at the site of the farms in Kibaha</p>
	
<p>Harvested and packed honey by Mr.Liana and his group of experienced beekeepers</p>	<p>Honey harvesting by expert</p>

### Links with other organization

The project already linked with the Kibaha Nature Conservation Initiative which holds the majority of the beginners of the beekeeping activities.

There is also a link with the ONE TEAM from Germany for supporting on sports as part of environmental conservation awareness creation.



In Germany there is already a link with the beekeepers association from Bad Soden.

## **Expenditures**

The project has total cost of about 24,000 euros which is equivalent to 61,000,000 T.shillings.

All the expenditures for the project have been attached to this report.

## **Challenges**

A big challenge emerged during the project implementation where with the eruption of the Global COVID 19 pandemic it was not possible to conduct two planned seminars at that time. Hence the project had to opt for visiting each beekeepers and provide the necessary education and basics as well as assessment for the site conditions for the beehives and bees.

Another challenge was noted as not all the beehives had bees on time. Mr.Liana used his skills and experience which helped us deal with this problem and we managed to have bees in many beehives. The attraction of wild bees to settle into the hives installed in the trees depends very much on season and weather conditions. We expect that most of the hives will be occupied (or have at least once been occupied) by beginning of next year.