OP-209 [Beekeeping for Rural Development]
Inclusive Beekeeping for Persons with Disabilities and women in Uganda

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Beekeeping is considered to be an appropriate poverty reduction intervention for the vulnerable and resource poor people including persons with disability (PwDs) because of its relatively low starter-up costs and labour requirements (Amulen et al., 2019). However, worldwide, persons with disabilities and women face significant barriers to participation, including limited access to training, information and land, lack of adaptive beekeeping approaches and technologies, socio-economic exclusion. To bridge this gap, Bees for Development (BfD) and The Uganda National Apiculture Development Organisation (TUNADO) piloted 2- year projects on beekeeping, for persons with disabilities and women. The lessons learnt provided invaluable insights on the strategies and adaptations needed before and during implementation of beekeeping programs aimed at empowering PwDs and women.

This paper shares the adaptations in training approaches and practical steps that have led to an increase in the number of persons with disability and women interested and economically, socially benefiting from the apiculture value chain. Key strategies include; disability and gender inclusion trainings and awareness among the stakeholders on the unique needs of the participants, application of Gender Action Learning Systems (GALS) methodologies, tailored and accessible materials and disability-friendly training approaches. Findings indicate that these deliberate efforts are enhancing economic independence, improving family and community dynamics, and promoting sustainable development.

The paper also highlights what is working, challenges, and recommendations to scale up inclusion along the value chain in Uganda and elsewhere. There is need to heighten our advocacy for an inclusive apiculture sector, we can set a precedent for disability-friendly and gender sensitive agribusiness models aligning with global sustainability and social equity goals.

Inclusive Beekeeping

For Persons with Disabilities and Women in Uganda

An ongoing Partnership between Bees for Development (BfD) and The Uganda National Apiculture Development Organisation (TUNADO)

Speaker

HOPE AGWANG

Inclusion officer

What we'll cover

Brief background on the disability Inclusion Journey

Accessibility, adaptations and trainings for Persons with Disability

Women empowerment through beekeeping- Lessons from the field

Progress so far

Brief background on the Disability Inclusion Journey

Timeline of Key Events

Scoping study

2-year pilot project (BeePwDs) for Deaf persons and persons with visual impairment

2016-17

2017

Project Inception

Disability inclusion trainings for Board and staff, recruitment of Inclusion Officer, Development of the Disability policy

Pilot Project implementation

Adaptation of beekeeping training manual and approaches, constituting the PAC, Disability inclusion trainings, documentation and learning

2018-21

2021 to date

Mainstreaming Inclusion

TUNADO disability Inclusion strategy developed (targets & budgets), Inclusion trainings for members, partners, MEAL

Accessibility for Persons with Disability

ESTABLISHING AN APIARY
Site selection
Different ways of placing hives
DOs and DO NOTs
Supported by:
Bees
MAKING LOCAL-STYLE BEE HIVES
Supported by:
Bees

AM
12:18
Ratakee
AM-FM Dual Band Receiver
ON/OFF
PRESET

TUNADO

Support network for disability inclusion

Value addition and Market access

Disability Inclusion trainings

Beekeeping in vocational schools

Women and beekeeping: Lessons from the field

Women and value addition

Gender Action Learning systems (GALS) methodology

Use of protective gear to address phobia

Cumulative figures of project reach

	Women	Men	Total
Persons with Disability	241	385	626
All Projects	2168	3881	6049

Together, we create opportunities for all.

Thank you for your attention!

Do you have any questions?

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