



Transforming the community Through Capacity Building

HIVE Uganda from August 2016-October 2016.

HIVE Uganda is a registered organization working to improve the lives of rural people with disabilities through participation in agricultural livelihood of bee keeping and honey processing. Members are trained in introduction to beekeeping, bee hive management, honey harvesting and marketing. After the training they get start up kits like bee hive, harvesting suits as they start their own bee farm in their community.

Vision: To see marginalized people in rural community of East Africa becoming great entrepreneurs.

Mission: To enhance livelihood and independence of people with disabilities in East Africa through training on bee keeping and marketing of honey products.

I participated in a six weeks leadership training called Young African Leaders Initiatives in USA and was posted in the University of Wisconsin Stout in Wisconsin State, Menomonie town. The program provided an opportunity to meet with Subject Matters Experts (SME) who potentially can help us to reach out to more communities and people with disabilities.

Gene Hatfield, Owner/Franchisee (COACH'S FAST FOOD. EAU-D. DEROSA DEVELOPMENT) became a supporter as he managed to raise \$5000 (five thousands US dollars) to support HIVE Uganda.

The money was then transferred to the account of HIVE Uganda and the deduction of \$100 was made as the cost of transferring so \$4900 was received in the organization account in Uganda.

Main achievements with funding received:

1. Construction of Roof: Total costs 3410 US\$.
2. 20 Kenya Top Bar Bee Hives: Total costs 1490 US\$.

Detail of each achievement;

1. Construction of roof;

In 2013 we constructed the walls of a building that is going to be used as a resource centre for the beekeeping training centre. Unfortunately, due to a lack of funds, we were not able to complete the roof.

With the funds that were raised by Gene Hatfield we used 3410 US\$ to buy timbers 480 pieces, nails 120 kilograms, iron sheet 4.4 meters long 45 pieces, hoop iron 5 roles, cement 2 bags, wire-mess 6 roles, building suns three trips, labor and transportation of materials. Now the house is protected against bad weather such as strong rain. The training room has space for 25-30 participants.

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Building of resource center

2. Building of 20 Kenya top bar bee hives (KTB);

We used \$2000 to build 20 top bar bee hives using the local available materials such as wood, nails and iron sheet. We had qualified carpenters building the hives. Ten participants were trained and each of them received bee hives when they went back home to start their own bee farms.



Blind people receiving their bee hives Ojok Talking to blind people

3. Mobility appliances;

To promote their independence and movement in the bee farm, each members received white cane and mobility appliances used by the blind. We got the white cane from Oysters & Pearls-Uganda a local organization working in Gulu to improve the mobility of people with visual impairment. Each member received one white cane which will help them to move around their bee farm.

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Mobility training people who got white cane

Planned activities for 2016;

- Complete construction of house for training centre.
- Provide training for master trainers (ToT)
- Purchase honey processing equipment.
- Produce top bar bee hive and distribute them to experienced bee farmers.
- Production of solar box wax using local available materials.
- Training on value addition to the experience blind bee farmers.
- Follow up of trained beneficiaries.
- Continues marketing of bee products.
- Develop Training curriculums and five years business plan.

Budget breakdown

| Items | Total in \$ USD |
|---|-----------------|
| Complete the construction of house | |
| | 2500 |
| Training of 8 master trainers (ToT) | |
| Accommodation, feeding, materials and training allowances for trainers. | 1800 |
| Production of top bar bee hive for beneficiaries using local materials. | 2500 |
| Production of 4 solar box wax melita (labour, Timber, glass, nail and glue) | 1000 |
| Administrative expenses | |
| Staff salary, rent, electricity, water and stationaries. | 3500 |
| Machines and equipment. | |

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| | |
|--|--------------|
| Honey filters, air tide containers, packaging containers, honey testing kits | 3500 |
| 1motorcycles | 1500 |
| TOTAL | 16300 |

This budget has been prepared on the basis of a fixed exchange rate of 3.100 Uganda Shillings / \$1.

The total own contribution and contribution of the of beneficiaries are in kind through land and their time to look after their farm.

Key learning.

Supporting people with disability in a sustainable livelihood can only have impact when they have other assistive devices like white cane. This is because majority needs such aids to promote their independence and freedom in performing their work while in their local environment.

Challenges faced and the solution;:

1. Other local carpenters were charging expensive labors to build the top bar bee hive so we waited for our trained carpenters who were engaged in other constructions and this late to delay in the implementation.
2. Limited source of revenue to support our activities so we had to implement two key activities while looking for funds to implement others.
3. There were many people with disabilities who want to start their bee farms. So we only concentrated on the few who were trained before in beekeeping and are doing well, and we hard to build their capacity by providing improved bee hives alongside the local hollow hives.

Word of thanks:

I wish to thank YALI and the University of Wisconsin Stout for providing such a fruitful opportunity and training. I want to thank Gene Hatfield for the financial and other support. And I want to thank all others who have contributed to HIVE Uganda. Without your help, we would not be where we are today.

In case you have any questions or if you wish to receive more information, pls do not hesitate to let me know.

Yours sincerely,

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