

A project proposal on



Establishing an Income-Generating Beekeeping Project for the Visually Impaired People in Rural Uganda

Submitted to Girls First Hive

**Submitted By
Hold my Hands Hive**

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PROJECT PROFILE

Name of the organization:	Hold My Hands Hive
Title of the project:	Establishing an income-generating beekeeping project for the visually impaired people in rural Uganda
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The project is for the establishment of an income-generating beekeeping project for unemployed visually impaired people in rural Nepal. The primary aim of the project is to improve living condition of the marginalized visually impaired people in rural communities.

During the 12 months of training, beneficiaries will learn the basic tools of beekeeping such as Bee Hive Components, Honey Production, Packaging/Honey processing, Marketing/Pricing, Money Management. In short, the project wants to create courageous and confident beekeepers.

At the end of the training, beneficiaries will be supported with bee making equipment, the strategy of marketing and guidance to start and run own profitable beekeeping business.

1. PROJECT BACKGROUND

Uganda has a population near to 36 million¹. About 1 million Ugandans are blind and 90% of partially sighted people live in the rural communities.². People are born blind or become blind due to violence, health issues or simply through aging. Visually impaired people are hugely affected by unemployment because many lacks the skills and confidence that are required to proactively engage in generating income. Thus, blind people belong to the poorest of the country.

Intervention programs of the Ugandan government and several local NGOs have provided little or no adequate opportunities to empower the rural blind. Most of these programs are focusing on prevention and treatment of blindness and on rehabilitating persons who become blind at

1 http://www.indexmundi.com/uganda/demographics_profile.html

2 <http://ugandaradionetwork.com/a/story.php?s=24494>

a later age. In addition, these programs are limited to the urban areas.

And vocations that would be suitable for blind people in rural environments, such as agriculture and animal husbandry, are often not considered to be suitable for the blind. The lack of opportunities to learn adequate skills, and a lack of resources to start businesses, results in dependency, low income, poor self-esteem and social isolation.

The neglect the rural blind experience contributes to migration to the main cities where blind and partially sighted often end up as beggars in the streets.

2. OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE RURAL BLIND PEOPLE IN UGANDA

There is hope! There are several livelihood opportunities for the rural blind that can get them out of poverty and frustration. However, they need suitable training in certain skills and they need to gain confidence.

In 2000, after conducting a study by The Uganda National Agriculture Development Organization, which showed that the country has the potential of producing 500,000 metric tons of honey annually³, the government identified bee keeping as a lucrative enterprise that could get Ugandans out of poverty.

Agriculture is one of the major economic activities of the rural communities in Uganda. And I see a lot of potentials in agriculture for the blind, especially bee keeping.

3. ABOUT HOLD MY HANDS

Hold My Hands is the non-profit organization that provides the great platform for the blind people all over in Uganda.

3.1. VISION

To see blind and partially sighted people in rural community of East Africa becoming great entrepreneurs.

3.2. MISSION

To enhance livelihood and independence of blind and partially sighted people in East Africa through training on bee keeping and marketing of honey products.

3.3. PRIMARY OBJECTIVE

- To provide new vocational skills and income-generation opportunities for visually-disabled people in rural areas. This project is designed to set up the beekeeping initiative in rural Uganda, and once this has been achieved, HIVE plans to expand the project to other rural communities of East African countries.

3.4. TARGET GROUP

The blind people and partially blind people above 20 years will be our target group of the project.

During the 12 months start-up phase, 25 beneficiaries will be trained to become income-

3 [Wwww.afrisa-africa.org/meatandmeatbees.html](http://www.afrisa-africa.org/meatandmeatbees.html)

generating bee-keepers and Hold my Hands Nepal will help these bee keepers with developing the market for honey and wax products.

4. HIVE TRAINING CONTENT

The project will provide training and equipment for beneficiaries to become income-generating bee keepers. Beneficiaries will go through 5 months training in the following phases:

Phase 1: Basics to Bee farming

Beneficiaries will learn bee keeping tools that will help them to start their own bee farms. The training will take place on the HIVE Bee Farm which already exists. The HIVE Bee farm currently has 15 Bee Hives of different types varying from 1 Kenyan Top Beehives to local bee hives. This is located at the training location.

Phase 2: Starting your own Bee Keeping Business

HIVE will guide participants to start their own bee keeping business through providing necessary equipment such as bee hives, bee protective suits, bee smoker etc. Beneficiaries will pay in installments for this equipment once they start generating income from their bee keeping business. And part of the training costs will also be paid back once the beneficiaries have their first income through honey harvesting. HIVE will also teach beneficiaries to create markets for their products in the cities. (See Appendix 1 for training curriculum)

5. EXPECTED IMPACT

At the start-up phase, HIVE will train 25 unemployed visually-impaired people (females and males). The following results are expected from the training:

- 25 visually impaired people will gain new skills in beekeeping, which will enhance their independence and confidence
- The 25 beneficiaries will start their own beekeeping businesses that will generate income for them, their families and at least extra 25 people they employ to work with themselves
- HIVE training project will impact positively on the vocational, psychological and socio-economic aspects of the beneficiaries' lives.
- Awareness about these new opportunities will be done through involving the media.

The training will be monitored by Hold my Hands Hive. The basic success of the project will be measured by the number of beneficiaries that start and successfully manage their beekeeping businesses or use the skills to start other businesses. (Check appendix 6 for action plan and appendix 7 for sustainability plan)

4. ANNEX

1. TRAINING CURRICULUM

Below is an overview of the training curriculum for Phase 1 (Basics to Bee farming) of the training which starts first week of March 2013:

- Introduction to placement and Hive Components
- Basic Hive components
- The Honey Bee
- Feeding bees
- Inspecting the Hive
- Controlling pests and disease on the bee farm
- Honey production/Harvesting
- Packaging/Honey-processing
- Selling Honey/Pricing
- Money Management/Keeping detailed records
- Courageous and Confident Beekeepers
- Goal setting for bee keepers

2. POTENTIALS PARTNERS

Hold my Hands Hive will partner with different foundations, organizations, institutions, technical and vocational schools, bee farming governmental and non-governmental organizations

Ministries and individuals interested in visually impaired people, bee farming and agriculture at large. HIVE will apply to them for funding, donation of farm equipment and other materials.

3. ACTION PLAN

Activity	Time Frame
1. Project Preparation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning of the project • Development of curriculum • Send proposals to potential donors • Follow-up on proposal sent. 	November 2017 to January 2018
2. Project Registration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compilation of registration with Ugandan government. • open postal box number • Develop letterheads and website. • Opening of bank account signature. 	August 2017 to February 2018
3. Preparation, training and follow up: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of curriculum through consultation with entomologist, agricultural extension workers, blind institutes and agricultural workers. • Identification of beneficiaries through meeting with local authorities, visiting blind families and consultation with blind schools. • Establish relationship with local bee keepers for sharing information on bee farming, resource persons/facilitators • Preparation of training documents such handout brailing, Agreement form, etc • Purchase Bee hives and ICT equipment, training and office materials, chairs, etc • 2. Training program first is from HIVE farm and second is follow up with mobile hand-on training • Stages 1-2 of the training • Raise fund for the next programs. • Prepare and send monthly report to partners and funders 	February to November 2017
4. Evaluation and expansion to other countries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of the bee projects through meeting with the beneficiaries, other partners etc. • Prepare and send detailed project report to partners and funders • Begin plans for outreach to other East African Countries from 1st March 2014 	December 2013 to February 2014

4. DETAILED BUDGET

ITEM	QUANTITY	UNIT COST (USD)	TOTAL COST (USD)
Printer and scanner.	1	X	X
Camera.	1	X	X
Backup power (UPS)	1	X	X
Desktop.	1	X	X
Office furniture: 2 desks, 5 chairs, 2 cupboard			X
TOTAL			X
ADMINISTRATIVE RECURRING COSTS			
ITEM	QUANTITY	UNIT COST (USD)	TOTAL COST (USD)
Office rent 30m2	12 months	X	X
Lunch 34 people 60 days	60 days	X	X
Salaries:			
1 director	12 months	X	X
1 part time book keeper 2 days in 1 month	12 months	X	X
2 trainers	2 months	X	X
Electricity	12 months	X	X
Internet connection.	12 months	X	X
6 months transport to follow up farmers	6 months	X	X
Miscellaneous of 5%			X
COURSE RECURRING COSTS			
Local bee hives to 30 people each 5	150	X	X
Bee harvesting suits	30	X	X
Protective hats	30	X	X
Bee smokers	30	X	X
Air tide containers	31	X	X
Foot protective wears like gumboots	30	X	X
Pair of gloves	30	X	X
TOTAL			XXXXX
GRAND TOTAL			XXXXX

4.1. Budget explanatory notes:

- The currency use in budgeting is United State of America Dollars.
- The budget is for one year starting from February 2017 to end of January 2018
- Office furniture is given block figures because it will be purchase at once to cut other expenses in term of cost, transportation on time.
- Recurring cost is divided into two, administration recurring cost of rent, diesel, salaries and internet. And course recurring cost to the beneficiaries in form of bee farming equipment like hives, bee-harvesting suits, bee smoker etc.
- Course recurring cost is for two group training of 15 members each in a year.
- All items budgeted under beneficiaries recurring doesn't include their contribution inform of land and other equipment like knife, brush etc. because it is common in every home stead and have the same use as factory made materials.

4.2. Contribution from the founders of HIVE:

- Formulation of legal policies in consultation with law firm in Uganda USD X.
- Registration of the company as per the Ugandan law worth USD X.
- In-kind contribution of beneficiaries through working as free volunteers on a monthly basis.

5. SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

- Agreement between HIVE and beneficiaries will be developed and signed by both parties and beneficiaries will commit themselves to giving 10% of their first investment that will be used to sustain project running cost.
- Beneficiaries will keep the bee hives in their own land which will help them take charge of their project.
- A forum of blind bee farmers will be created future decision maker for the betterment of the project.