

PROGRESS REPORT ON BARINGO BEEKEEPING PROJECT



Reporting period: 8th November 2017

Project implemented by: Kujenga Maisha East Africa



PROJECT PROFILE

Project title:	Baringo Beekeeping Project
Duration:	Six Months (6Months)
Geographical coverage:	Moinonin, Kamenjo, Kapkomone, Martabwa and Arbaal county in Baringo.
Intended Participants:	Farmers.
Indirect Beneficiaries:	Family Members.
Project Proponents:	Kujenga Maisha East Africa (KUMEA), Universal Entrepreneurs and Consultants.
Contact Persons:	Dr Simon Maina Chief Executive Officer (KUMEA)
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Table of Contents

1. GENERAL INFORMATION 4

Progress report on Beekeeping project in Baringo

1.1 PROJECT INFORMATION 4

1.2 PROJECT OBJECTIVE & PURPOSE 5

2.0 PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION 5

2.1 GROUP FORMATION **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

2.2 TRAINING OF THE GROUPS 5

2.3 BEEHIVES DISTRIBUTION..... 6

2.4 NAMES OF THE GROUPS GIVEN BEEHIVES..... 6

2.5 HIVES HANGING 6

3.0 KUMEA OFFICE VISIT 6

4.0 ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROJECT..... 6

5.0 RESULTS ACHIEVED..... 7

6.0 ONGOING PLANS..... 8

7.0 CHALLENGES..... 8

8.0 PROJECT PHOTOS..... 9

8.1 PICTURES SHOWING ACTUAL DISTRIBUTION OF LANGSTROTH BBEHIVES TO THE
BENEFICIARIES..... 9

8.2 PICTURES SHOWING TRAINING OF BENEFICIARIES IN THE FIVE CENTRES..... 10

8.3 PICTURES SHOWING HIVES THAT HAVE BEEN HANGED..... 11

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Partner	Kujenga Maisha East Africa
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Project Name	Baringo Beekeeping Project 2017	Project Duration	6 Months
Project Leader	Dr Simon Maina	Reporting period:	3 Months

1.1 PROJECT INFORMATION

Kujenga Maisha East Africa (Kumea) was established and registered in Kenya in June 2010 as an NGO for the new Apostolic Church; East Africa District, It grew out of the relief and humanitarian efforts of the church that had been going on for five years. KUMEA is a faith based NGO; it operates beyond the boundaries of the New Apostolic Church. It brings together people of all faiths and persuasions without discrimination.

Farmers in Baringo face many problems in trying to make a living. In general, the causes of poverty are low farm productivity and low literacy rates. They are short of cash and credit to invest in their farms and to buy inputs. This makes it very difficult for them to pull themselves out of poverty, thus KUMEA targets to pull them out of poverty by introducing them to sustainable commercial beekeeping. Training of farmers in the processes of commercial beekeeping will further augment their ability to provide practical skills to the young people in the communities.

The beekeeping project in Baringo has been implemented in Bartabwa, Kapkomon, Kamenjo, Moinonin and Arabal.

1.2 PROJECT OBJECTIVE & PURPOSE

Overall Objective

The overall objective of the project is to support small scale traditional beekeeping groups in Baringo county to engage in the production of high quality honey.

Specific objectives

The specific objectives of the project are:

- Strengthen farmers groups in suitable agro – ecological zones to establish production of high quality honey.
- Introduce farmers to user – friendly honey production technology that ensures quality honey production to targeted groups.
- Create honey market linkages to new beekeepers in order to eliminate intermediaries.
- Train farmers in hive management, honey production, processing, packaging and marketing.
- Increase household incomes for the participating households.

2.0 PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

The project was implemented in the following phases:

- Group formation.
- Training of the groups.
- Beehives distribution
- Beehives hanging.
- Monitoring and evaluation.

2.1. Group formation

- The groups were identified by Kumea Liason officer.
- The groups identified were of 20 members each from Moinonin, Kamenjo, Bartabwa and Arbaal.

2.2 Training of the groups

Training of the beneficiaries was done in October 2016 in the five centres after the identified groups received the beehives.

The groups received training on:

- Basic Beekeeping.
- Hive management.
- Honey harvesting and marketing.
- Value addition and product development.

2.3 Beehives distribution

During hives distribution (October 2016), **all the five targeted groups** received the following in good condition:

- 20 Langstroth hives.
- 20 Super boxes
- 20 queen excluders
- 1 complete kit with extra bee suit & gloves.
- 1 (one) honey extractor was strategically placed at Moinonin community - to be shared.

2.4 Names of the groups given Bee hives.

1. Bartabwaa/Kesumet: 20 Beehives.
2. Kapkomon : 20 Beehives.
3. Kamenjo: 20 Beehives.
4. Moinonin: 20 Beehives.
5. Arabal/Sinoni: 20 Beehives.

2.5 Hives Hanging

Immediately after training, beneficiaries were required to hang hives to harvest bees. This entailed constant mobilizations and follow up by the community liaison person. In November 2016, all hives in the five centres had been hanged.

3.0 Kumea office Visit/monitoring

The visit entailed general monitoring in the five centres targeted. More concern was attached to confirmation of the distributed hives and targeted beneficiaries per centre.

4.0 Acceptance of the project

The whole community is very receptive of the project. The project has really changed their lives and will definitely have long term benefits to the community.

5.0 Results achieved.

Name of the Group	Total Hives colonized	Migrated during	Currently remaining	Harvested Honey (in	Other comments
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Progress report on Beekeeping project in Baringo

	from start	hot season	Colonized	kg)	
Arabal/Sinoni	12	3	9	Not Yet	Late rains led to late flowering/ nectar.
Moinonin	4	2	2	Not Yet	Late rains led to late flowering/ nectar.
Kamenjo	10	1	5	Not Yet	Late rains led to late flowering/ nectar.
Kapkomon	2	-	2	Not Yet	Late rains led to late flowering/ nectar.
Bartabwa	4	2	2	Not Yet	Late rains led to late flowering/ nectar.

6.0 On going plans

- Bee hives cleaning and inspection.
- Transferring some to more conducive areas.

7.0 Challenges

- Prolonged drought and famine experienced during the year interrupted bee swarming seasonality calendar, thus many beehives remained idle and uncolonized for the entire period since bees migrated to highland and cooler areas.
- High temperatures during the year and migration of bees in some already colonized beehives.
- **Presence of Fall Army worm in the area:** This hindered bee swarming activity again after experience of rains. The worm is disastrous/unfriendly to bee activities.
- **Experienced Insecurity incidences:** During insecurity cases, some areas couldn't be reached thus affected beehives cleaning and inspection.

8.0 PROJECT PHOTOS

8.1 Pictures showing actual distribution of Langstroth beehives to the beneficiaries.

Progress report on Beekeeping project in Baringo



Hives distribution at Moinonin



Hives distribution at Kamenjo



Hives distribution at Kamenjo



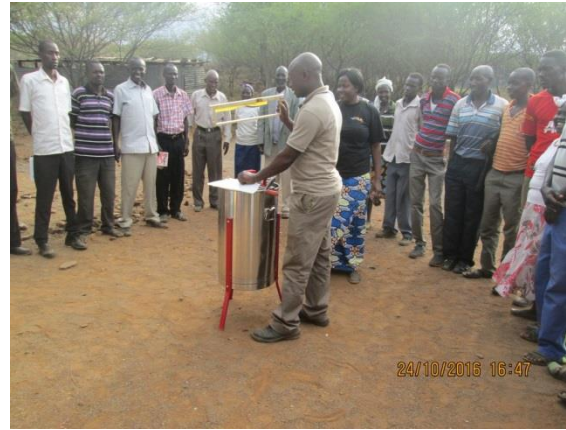
Hives distribution at Kapkomon.

8.2 Pictures showing training of beneficiaries in the five centres.

Progress report on Beekeeping project in Baringo



Bee keeping training at Moininin.



Demonstration training at Moininin.



Demonstration training at Bartabwa.



Demonstration training at Arabal.

8.3 Pictures showing hives that have been hanged.



Kumea Head office visit – Moinonin.

Kumea Head office visit – Bartabwa.



Project monitoring exercise at Arabal.



Project monitoring in Sinoni.