

IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR IGATI CREATIVE AND INNOVATORS NGO (2024)

1. Introduction

Following the successes of 2023, Igati Creative and Innovators NGO intensified its focus on beekeeping as the flagship mission project for 2024. Through extensive community outreach programs, the organization expanded its impact across all nine constituencies of Meru County, empowering thousands with beekeeping knowledge and skills. The primary objective remained poverty alleviation through social entrepreneurship, with a strong emphasis on sustainable beekeeping practices.

2. Mission Implementation and Geographic Reach In 2024, Igati's beekeeping initiative reached new heights:

- Over 2,500 self-help groups received training and empowerment in beekeeping.
- More than 100,000 individuals were impacted through capacity-building workshops covering:
 - Beehive innovation and construction.
 - Hive colonization and inspection.
 - Honey harvesting and value addition.
 - Branding, marketing, and distribution of beekeeping products.
- Over 180 community training and mentorship workshops were successfully conducted across Meru County.

3. Key Milestones Achieved 2024 marked significant progress for Igati Creative and Innovators NGO, with the following major achievements:

- Legal Registration: Igati was officially registered with the NGO Coordination Board, enhancing its credibility and ability to form partnerships.
- Launch of the Igati Mission One Million Bee Hive Project: A landmark event on August 19, 2024, graced by reggae icon Pato Banton from England.
- Formation of Five New Beekeeping Cooperative Societies: These societies now support local beekeepers in aggregating and branding their honey for better market access.
- Establishment of Over 100 New Self-Help Groups: These groups focus on spearheading beekeeping projects and integrating vulnerable community members into economic activities.
- Participation in MUSTIEW 2024 Exhibition: Strengthened ties with Meru University of Science and Technology and secured partnerships with Meru County Government, Soddo Kenya, and Ubuntu International.
- Distribution of Over 2,700 Beehives: Provided to community members for setting up apiaries, with over 1,000 successfully colonized.
- Procurement of Beekeeping Equipment: Benefiting local beekeepers by enhancing their efficiency in honey harvesting and processing.

- Incubation of 10 New SMEs: Empowering local entrepreneurs with business support and market linkages.
- Economic Impact: More than 1,000 kilograms of honey were harvested and sold, generating over KES 600,000, benefiting over 200 households.
- Community Success Stories: Numerous testimonials from beekeepers highlight the transformation in livelihoods through the Igati Mission.

4. Challenges Encountered Despite the progress, the mission faced several challenges:

- Limited Training Equipment and Logistics: Expanding outreach programs required additional resources.
- Financial Constraints: Need for increased funding to support beekeeping infrastructure and expansion.
- Ignorance and Skepticism: Some community members remained hesitant about adopting beekeeping.
- Hive Colonization Challenges: Some hives remained uncolonized or experienced bee migration issues, requiring more technical support.

5. Future Plans and Way Forward Building on the 2024 successes, Igati Creative and Innovators NGO has outlined the following future plans:

- Strengthening Partnerships: Seeking more collaborations with stakeholders to expand training and resource mobilization.
- Completion of the Organization's Profile: To support fundraising and attract more donors.
- Development of Additional Socioeconomic Transformation Models: Expanding beyond beekeeping to integrate more sustainable economic activities for community empowerment.

6. Call to Action

Igati Creative and Innovators NGO invites government agencies, private sector partners, and development organizations to collaborate in scaling up this impactful mission. With the right support, we can create a sustainable ecosystem that fosters economic resilience and community transformation.