



## Silvo-fishery Enterprises in Coastal Communities : Kenya

Conserving coastal resources and eradicating poverty through community-based entrepreneurship

### Project description

The initiative encourages community stewardship and conservation of coastal environmental resources by promoting nature-based enterprises that are economically beneficial. It does so by providing training in aquaculture, mariculture, mangrove cultivation, bee-keeping, and more, by organising beach clean-ups, and establishing "Community Forest Associations".



### Business model

The initiative promotes environmental conservation by developing community-based, economically sustainable businesses. We work closely with community-based organisations to provide the right alternative livelihoods training for women, young people and artisanal fishermen. Trainings include aqua-silviculture – aquaculture, mariculture and mangrove cultivation – bee-keeping and neem production.

By using adaptive management the initiative ensures that feedback from all partners is taken into account in its growth and development. At the same time it supports community development through active follow-up activities.



### Scaling up activities in 2012

- Increase production by identifying and eliminating bottlenecks and improving the use of technology
- Strengthen community links to research facilities
- Increase added value by creating a centralised honey depot and cold storage facilities for fish products
- Establish links with retailers, introduce standardised packaging and carry out business and marketing planning

### Immediate needs

- Address production bottlenecks by improving the quality of inputs (e.g. fish feed, beehives, fish seedlings)
- Improve access to credit for community-based organisations and establish access to capital and financing for Kwetu
- Enhance the business management and other skills of Kwetu and the community-based organisations
- Improve access to markets and product marketability through certification and links to industry



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## WINNER

### Partnership

- **The Kwetu Training Centre for Sustainable Development ("Kwetu")** pioneered community mariculture ten years ago and leads the implementation of the initiative's activities
- **The Upendo Shika Lako Women's Group** is a community-based organisation, beneficiary of the initiative and project implementer
- **Act! Kenya**, a national NGO which supports organisational capacity building, has partnered with Kwetu to introduce beekeeping activities in Msambweni District
- **CORDIO East Africa** conducts supporting research into community mariculture and artisanal fishing
- **The African Insect Science for Food and Health (ICIPE)** conducts supporting research into beekeeping and honey production



### Social, environmental and economic impacts

**Social impact:** The initiative helps diversify household income for coastal communities by providing targeted trainings and working together with research institutions, NGOs and community-based organisations. Through this exchange of knowledge and experience community members are able to learn about and pursue a wider range of alternative livelihoods.

**Environmental impact:** The initiative aims to plant one million mangrove seedlings in four coastal communities,

organise beach clean-ups and establish "Community Forest Associations" for mangroves. This will help to conserve coastal environments and protect local biodiversity.

**Economic impact:** The initiative will train 100 bee farmers and 200 community fishermen in mangrove cultivation. This will enable community members to expand their income-generating activities using newly learned skills.

### Contact

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### SEED Partners

SEED's founding partners are the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) and SEED is hosted by UNEP-WCMC. Other current partners are the governments of Germany, India, the Netherlands, South Africa, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States of America; the European Union; Conservation International; and SEED's corporate partner, Hisense.

### About the SEED Initiative

The SEED Initiative identifies and supports promising small scale social and environmental entrepreneurs around the globe, entrepreneurs that while working towards a greener economy also tackle poverty, marginalisation and social exclusion.

SEED provides these social entrepreneurs with know how and networks, taking the lessons learnt at local level up to decision-makers to promote evidence-based policy making.

More information: [www.seedinit.org](http://www.seedinit.org)

### SEED Secretariat

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