



Engaging men in women's economic empowerment and entrepreneurship development



WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN APICULTURE VALUE CHAIN

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Introduction

Women empowerment in apiculture is a transformative force for sustainable development. It is increasingly recognized that women are vital contributors to this industry, from hive management to honey processing and marketing. Empowering women beekeepers involves providing access to training, resources, and technology, enabling them to enhance bee colony health, increase honey production, and diversify hive products. Through entrepreneurship opportunities in apiculture, women stand to gain economic autonomy, improve livelihoods, and contribute to food security. In addition, women's participation promotes gender equality, environmental stewardship, and rural development, fostering resilient communities and creating a more inclusive and prosperous society.

Market

Linking bee keepers to local, regional and international markets act as outlets for their hive products and ensure high incomes.



Access to markets

Building women's organizational and strategic skills

True empowerment starts when women have more income and are valued as decision-makers at the household, producer organization and other community and strategic levels. By bringing women together who share the same needs, concerns and experiences into a group could help introduce them to the public sphere that provides an effective entry point for information dissemination and technical support. They are also ideal for developing women's leadership skills and enhancing their capacities to negotiate prices and influence decision-making bodies.



Building women's organizational and strategic skills



Strengthening women-owned enterprises

Engaging men in women's economic empowerment and entrepreneurship development

Engaging men at the household, community and policy levels in interventions on women's economic empowerment (WEE) and women's entrepreneurship development (WED) contribute to women empowerment. This could be done through various ways including: (a) targeting men as "gatekeepers" to gender equality or as potential agents of change in challenging established gender norms, (b) providing capacity-building activities encouraging men to adopt positive masculinities, (c) inviting men to the trainings targeting women (d) identifying and supporting gender champions, (e) campaigning.