

## Project format

Describe a one-year project that you want to showcase at the website and want to raise donations for. Possibly this is your main work. Especially for those who will have a first project online, we require you to showcase a successful project you already run, and whereby extra income leads to reaching more people.

Projects must focus on SDG1 (income / poverty reduction); SDG2 (food security and/or climate); and SDG4 (advanced education).

Once you managed to reach the target amount with us, you can choose to showcase another project on our website. We can then further discuss together what is the best way to go.

## Project details

### 1. What is the project title?

Sustainable Commercial Beekeeping training for small-scale farmers

### 2. The project contributes to

- SDG1 (poverty reduction/economic development)
- SDG2 (food security)
- SDG4 (advanced education meaning adult, vocational or secondary education)
- Other, ....

### 3. What is the project you want to showcase at our website? Please summarise:

The project is about establishing an income-generating beekeeping for farmers within Nkwanta south municipality to alleviate poverty. This project is one of the projects under VAO's 'gender transformative change for women's sustainable livelihoods programme' (GTCWSL) that seeks to include traditional women in income-generating activities with higher profits that is always done by men. Under this project, we want to bridge the gender disparity that exists between the traditional men and women within the municipality and beyond.

The primary aim of the project is to improve living conditions of marginalised farmers in rural communities. Beneficiaries are expected to learn the basic skills 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 as a sustainable business venture to alleviate poverty among farmers.

The training would be open to individuals and groups from the municipality within the proposed time frame. However, 25 beneficiaries made up of eighteen (18) women and seven (7) men will be supported with bee making equipment, the strategy of marketing and guidance to start and run their own profitable beekeeping business. Soft loans would be provided for these participants which will be payable without interest in order to support other interested groups.

#### VAO TRAINING CONTENT

The project will provide training and equipment for participants to become commercial beekeepers. Participants will go through 5 months training (3 times in a month) in the following phases:

### **Phase 1: Basics to Bee farming**

Participants will learn beekeeping skills that will help them to start their own bee farms. The training will take place in Brewaniase where experts from Ghana Permaculture institute would be invited to take participants through the training manual. The training manual would be distributed to all participants to serve as a reference document to guide them in the business.

### **Phase 2: Starting your own Beekeeping Business**

Vulnerable Aid Organization will guide participants to start their own beekeeping business through providing necessary equipment such as bee hives, bee protective suits, bee smoker etc. Participants will pay in instalments for these equipment once they start generating income from their beekeeping business. This will help the organisation assist other farmers in subsequent years without relying on donor funding. However, no training costs would be paid by participants.

### **EXPECTED IMPACT**

At the start-up phase, VAO will train 25 farmers (females and males). The following results are expected from the training:

- 25 farmers made up of 18 women and 7 men will gain new skills in beekeeping, which will enhance their financial independence which boosts their confidence in decision making.
- The 25 participants will start their own beekeeping businesses that will generate income for them, their families and at least employ 25 people to work with them.
- VAO training project will impact positively on the vocational, psychological and socioeconomic aspects of the beneficiaries' lives.
- Awareness about the training opportunities will be done through involving the media.

The training will be monitored by VAO. The basic success of the project will be measured by the number of participants that start and successfully manage their beekeeping businesses. The success rate is expected to be 75%.

## **4. What is the problem? And how is it addressed in this project?**

Despite strides being made in the development status of Ghana, there are still huge inequalities in income, education and food security in the Nkwanta South Municipality, a predominantly agricultural municipality in the Oti Region of Ghana.

Nkwanta South Municipal is one of the poorest areas where nearly half the households are food insecure, and where over 23% of people are living below the national poverty line (which is less than USD 0.70 a day). It also has one of the lowest literacy rates, with 65% of the region being non-literate

([https://www.citypopulation.de/en/ghana/admin/oti/1506\\_nkwanta\\_south\\_municipal/](https://www.citypopulation.de/en/ghana/admin/oti/1506_nkwanta_south_municipal/)).

Poverty, food insecurity and low literacy levels impact women and children more severely in the district.

About 99% of women in the villages within the Nkwanta south municipal assembly engage in subsistence farming using outmoded farming practices. They over-depend on crops such as cassava and maize that have low market prices. These farmers do not have any skills to augment their farming and also diversify their sources of income.

The rate of poverty in the district is alarming which calls for attention. Women who depend solely on their husbands for every need are abused and deprived of certain rights

There is the need to explore avenues to diversify the income source of farmers, taking advantage of products with high profit margins. This automatically would help fight poverty in our society making farmers live better lives.

Beekeeping and honey production is one of the lucrative businesses for the farmers following the high demand ready market for its products. It is one of the easiest ways of making money as a farmer and also protecting the environment. Introducing beekeeping to farmers would help diversify the source of their income.

Beekeeping is also crucial for pollination, fostering biodiversity, and ensuring food security. It is imperative to note that bees play a vital role in pollinating crops, contributing to the production of fruits, vegetables and nuts. The enhanced pollination from bees activity often leads to increased crop yields that results in larger harvest for farmers, translating into higher profits.

#### **5. Explain why this solution works best:**

The solution works best because honey can be harvested twice in a year which brings more income to the farmer. A gallon of pure honey now sells at GHS 1000.00 which is very difficult for farmers to make from the sale of their farm produce.

Again, it is sustainable and low maintenance: Beekeeping requires relatively low investment and maintenance costs compared to other agricultural businesses. Once the initial setup is done, bees take care of themselves and require minimal intervention by the farmer. Also, there is growing demand for honey which means that farmers sell their produce at ease.

**6. Who are the recipients of the project? And how many?**

The project would be implemented in the Nkwanta south municipal assembly. The training program is open to individuals and groups that are interested in acquiring knowledge in beekeeping. However, 25 participants made up of 18 women and 7 men are the primary beneficiaries of this project. They would be trained in beekeeping and also provide them with the necessary tools needed to start their own beekeeping business.

**7. Are recipients engaged in the project?**

Yes | no

If yes, how?

In our innovative women farmers' project, we engaged many farmers to discuss different ways to diversify their income source. The outstanding project proposed is the beekeeping project and this was not imposed on them by VAO.

**8. How will their lives be improved in a short-term?**

1. The enhanced pollination from bees activity often leads to increased crop yields that results in larger harvest for farmers, translating into higher profits
2. Participants will have a change of mind from sticking to one crop production to and not exploring other alternatives to ensuring financial sustainability. Their income sources would be diversified
3. Women would understand that no economic activity is prescribed for men only.
4. They would be able to generate about five times of what they make from crop production.

**9. How will their lives be improved a long-term?**

In the long term, our project envisions the following:

- I. Poverty eradication
- II. Money generated from the sale of honey can be channelled to other businesses of their choice to ensure financial sustainability.
- III. As a result of increased income, the women can ke decision on their own, fight for their rights and be free from the rampant abuse from their husbands.

**10. Which 1 or 2 of these long-term effects would you really like to measure?**

We would like to measure long term goal I&II to know the impact the project has brought to the participants.

1. The percentage reduction of poverty: This will be determined by how much they generate, how they are able to pay for hospital bills, school fees and amount of savings they make.

2. Money generated from the sale of honey would be channelled to different businesses: The number of investments they make after starting a beekeeping business.

**11. What is the best testimonial from a beneficiary of your NGO (best related to this project):**

"I struggle to afford vegetables like pepper, garden eggs and tomatoes due to limited income. In the previous season, I managed to earn approximately GH4,200.00 from my vegetable farm, which I use to cover my daughter's nursing school fees, Francisca Dugah. This is a beneficiary from our innovative women farmers project.

## 12. When would you consider the project successful?

What are the results you have seen before? Or imagine 1 year from now. What does the project area look like? What should have changed? When are you satisfied? And when do community members consider the project successful?

*Concrete and measurable example: Pinasol mentions that they want to increase the production of 100 farmers and income by 50% as a result of the project.*

It is expected that the impact of this project will last beyond the life span of the implementation due to the skills acquired. The project would be considered successful if the 25 participants are economically empowered.

- Their income would have increased by at least 68% in a year's time.
- At the end of this project, participants should be able to raise at least GHS8000.00 from the sale of honey.
- We expect that participants use the said amount to explore other business opportunities.

## 13. What could be (unexpected) challenges the project could run into?

- I. Bushfire– there can be bushfires that will destroy the beehives. However, this can be mitigated by creating a fire-belt for each bee hive.
- II. Funding – lack/inadequate funds can bring the project to a halt.

## 14. What is the budget needed for this project? (in your own currency)

The total cost of the project is estimated at GHC **126,232.00** (€9.594)

*Note: Please consider that projects (or parts of projects) between €2,000 and €3,000 are most realistic to be successful.*

## 15. Are there other sources of income used for this project?

**yes | no**

If yes, please elaborate:

**Not applicable**

## 16. What is the start and end date of the project?

Start date: 01/02/2024

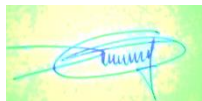
End date: 31/01/2025

**I completed the application questions fully and truthfully and signed in accordance with the Terms & Conditions:** <https://impactdirect.eu/terms/>

**Summary of terms on what is required from you:**

- Monthly updates on the website about the project that you are trying to find funding for, that can also be in the form of participating in an online event.
- Output reporting within 2 months after receiving the final payment of a campaign.
- Outcome reporting twice year in a video and in call.

Date / Location: 14/02/2022 Brewaniase



Signature:

Name: Tsakpa William

Role in organisation: Executive Director

Please, send your project format to [info@impactdirect.eu](mailto:info@impactdirect.eu) by indicating in the subject line: 'application + name of your organisations'.

**And please don't forget to send some pictures for the website and socials:**

- 3-5 pictures that represents the project
- The NGO's logo
- Links to videos you already have and can be relevant.
- If there will be someone else then you doing the updates at the website, please let us know his/her name and contact details: ....

Pictures should be around preferably around 1MB.

Please send it through WeTransfer to [info@impactdirect.eu](mailto:info@impactdirect.eu)

**Thank you very much for your efforts!**

**Budget:**

<b>Organisation name: Vulnerable Aid Organization</b> <b>Project name: Commercial Beekeeping by small-scale farmers</b> <b>Period: 01/01/2024 - 31/12/2024</b>										
Description	Duration	of	Unit Cost	Frequency	Total costs	Subtotal GHC	Subtotal €	Exchange rate:	0.076	
								Date:	30.11.2023	
<b>Activities</b>										
<b>Tools/equipment</b>										
Bee hives boxes	8 weeks	125	293	1	GHS36,625					
Bee suit ad veil	1 week	28	344	1	GHS9,632					
Smoker	1 week	28	153	1	GHS4,284					
<b>subtotal</b>						<b>GHS50,541</b>	<b>€3,841</b>			
<b>Tools/equipment</b>										
Bee brush	1 week	28	51	1	GHS1,428					
Queen Excluder	1 week	28	204	1	GHS5,712					
Hive entrance reducer	1 week	28	64	1	GHS1,792					
Feeder	1 week	28	216	1	GHS6,048					
<b>subtotal</b>						<b>GHS14,980</b>	<b>€1,138</b>			
<b>Tools/equipment</b>										
Extrator	1 week	28	102	1	GHS2,856					
Beekeeping tool kits	1 week	28	64	1	GHS1,792					
Bee Feeding Equipments	1 week	28	51	1	GHS1,428					
<b>subtotal</b>						<b>GHS6,076</b>	<b>€462</b>			
<b>4 Training</b>										
Beekeeping manual	4 weeks	28	51	1	GHS1,428					
Lead training officer fee	8 weeks	2	3972	1	GHS7,944					
markers and charts	2 weeks	33	64	1	GHS2,112					
Loan scheme for participants	8 weeks	25	1000	1	GHS25,000					
<b>Subtotal</b>						<b>GHS36,484</b>	<b>€2,773</b>			
<b>Administration/monitoring/Evaluation</b>										
printing	9 months	1	1273	1	GHS1,273					
communication	9 months	1	2928	1	GHS2,928					
fuel	9 months	1	7638	1	GHS7,638					
<b>subtotal</b>						<b>GHS11,839</b>	<b>€900</b>			
<b>PROJECT TOTAL</b>					<b>GHS119,920.00</b>	<b>GHS119,920</b>	<b>€9,114</b>			
solutions (covering our costs for the website, financial costs of						GHS6,312	€480			
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>						<b>GHS126,232</b>	<b>€9,594</b>			