

ANNUAL REPORT 2011-01-24

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| Member organization's name: | Uganda Export Promotion Board (UEPB) - BioTrade desk |
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COMPANY DESCRIPTION

VISION: "to brand Uganda on the world market as a reliable supplier of quality export products with a view to earning substantial foreign exchange to enable the country achieve and sustain its growth and development goals".

MISSION: "to facilitate the development, diversification, promotion and coordination of all export related activities that lead to export growth on a sustainable basis"

FUNCTIONS: Provide trade and market information, promote the development of exports, formulate, provide trade promotional services, provide customized advisory services and training, and recommend to the government export plans, policies and strategies

OBJECTIVES

- Encourage companies know the importance of conservation of biodiversity by knowing the characteristics of ecosystems and natural habitats of managed species and how to maintain them. Generally how the genetically variability of flora .fauna and micro-organisms.
- Support SMEs to commercially produce natural ingredients based on social and ecological sustainable principles so that the agricultural practices contribute to sustainable use of biodiversity.
- Improve fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from the use of biodiversity such that incomes generated at all levels in the market, are shared under transparent conditions..
- The organizations should demonstrate socio-economic sustainability so that employment should be generated and the quality of life improved.
- Promote compliance with national and international environmental regulations so that clarity about the land tenure system ,use and access to natural resources and knowledge.

UEBT MEMBERSHIP OBLIGATIONS

| Steps | Dates <i>Historical/expected</i> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Membership status granted | 2007-05-08 |
| Annual report 1 | 2011-01-24 |
| Annual report 2 | |
| Annual report 3 | |
| Annual report 4 | |

Documents annexed for public use?

Yes

No

If so, number of annexes:

Description of the annexed documents:

PROGRESS IN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO PROMOTE UEBT

Through the UEBT membership Uganda Export Promotion Board (UEPB) is committed to the Ethical BioTrade Principles and Criteria.

Implementation of the commitment to the Ethical BioTrade Principles and Criteria

- UEPB as a member of the Union of Ethical BioTrade (UEBT) has developed a proposal with UNCTAD and UNDP to address the Natural Ingredients sector in Northern Uganda for three (3) products: Gum Arabic, Shea and Aloe.

- There are some available traders, processors and exporters and NGOs e.g. Nile botanicles, Guru Nanak, KFP, COVOL Uganda, Alcode, SIMKT, Individuals and Saloons who are acting as key players in the sector.

- The sector is community-rural based and supporting livelihoods for food, cosmetics, medicine and income for poverty reduction.

- There is increased demand for natural ingredients for both local and international markets.

- Available traditional knowledge concerning the species is documented and profiled

- Climatic conditions are still favourable for the growth of native biodiversity.

- The sector is addressing gender responsiveness as the collection and harvesting is involving all gender.

- There is a Sector support initiative under the Bio Trade programmed linked to UNCTAD, NEMA(National Environment Management Authority), UEPB and(Local Governments) LGs.

- Increased pressure on companies and suppliers to document processes along the supply chain, including healthy and safety, quality standards, social and environmental responsible. As a result, producers must adhere to global market standards and certifications to be competitive for future opportunities.

- Lack of GMP and GACP (Good Manufacturing Practices and Good Agricultural and Collection Practices) which ensures that products are consistently produced and controlled according to quality standards and reliability of supply.

- Ecological processes are not maintained due to Cutting down of trees for charcoal burning, farm lands and local construction.

- Lack of certification – several types of certification such as organic, Fair Trade are available in the market-need for certification scheme that focus on ecologically sustainable and ethical trading are the Union for Ethical BioTrade (UEBT).
- Bush fires affecting the growth of young trees especially during the dry season.
- Uses of natural resources are not being supported by management documents at local levels and therefore, there is no proper balance between extraction and regeneration.
- Currently, there no respect for the rights of actors involved in Bio Trade activities as there no intellectual property rights for the sector.
- There is unfair sharing of benefits derived from the use of biodiversity as the information and knowledge of target markets are shared among actors.

Activities undertaken to promote UEBT and Ethical BioTrade

2 Workshops held for 20 participants to pave way for formation of Bio Trade Association of Uganda to embrace both sectors of Natural Ingredients and Wildlife one of which was in collaboration with UNCTAD.

Companies in the sector of BioTrade have been linked to markets for example Guru Nanak which deals in shea butter is exporting to USA, Canada and Japan.

To create awareness and sensitization of the sector, we have brought on board other stakeholders like Universities, National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA) and Local Governments (LGs) of the Districts where Ethical BioTrade is viable and we are moving on the same pace. We have also held district workshops to promote Ethical BioTrade.

Funds invested in Ethical BioTrade Projects

Approximately \$20,000.

SERVICES OF UEBT AFFILIATE MEMBERS

One of the objectives of UEBT is that Affiliate Members provide support, technical guidance and advice to UEBT Trading Members in their particular area of expertise.

- Trade and market information on BioTrade
- Knowledge on Trade, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity
- Creation of awareness of the principle of fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from the use of biodiversity.
- Respect for the rights of actors involved in BioTrade activities.
- Knowledge of compliance with national and international regulations.
- Recommend companies for BioTrade fair trade
- Have all companies involved in BioTrade registered for proper follow-up.
- Do monitoring and evaluation exercise basing on the BioTrade principles and criteria.
- Guide companies towards becoming members of the UEBT
- Work as a link between UEBT and Companies

Delivery mechanism

A desk for BioTrade has been set up to handle issues concerning how such services may be accessed by Trading Members: e.g. grant opportunities, membership based services, consultancies, etc.