

Achievements and Challenges in Boosting Intra-Africa Trade for Beehive Products



NEGASH BEKENA; GENERAL MANAGER, ETHIOPIAN APICULTURE BOARD; EC MEMBER, AAP

Presentation Outline



- Potential of the country
- Policy environment in the country
- Production
- Hive products marketing
- Hive products export
- Policy frame works
- Export performance
- Challenges
- Opinion and Recommendation

Country Potential



- Over 10 million honey bee colonies
- Over 1.8 million smallholder beekeepers
- Diverse & conducive agro-ecology
- Good policy environment
- Production potential of 500,000MT for honey
- Production potential of 50,000 MT for beeswax
- Organized youth groups joining the sector

Policy Environment

- ❖ **Registration and control of pesticides, special Decree No. 20/1990**
 - provisions of this decree is to lay a scheme of registration and control of hazardous chemicals to life of honeybees and their products

- ❖ **Apiculture Resources Development and Protection Proclamation, No. 660/2009**
 - Proclamation for apiculture resources development and protection of honeybees from devastating honeybee diseases and pests, and ensure product quality and safety

- ❖ **Food, medicine and health care administration and control proclamation – No. 661/2009**

Policy Environment



- Regulation 372/2016 from Council of Ministers to implement Proclamation no. 660/2009
- Honey and Beeswax standards – ES 1202 and ES 1203 – in comply with ISO and CODEX standards
- Establishment of the competent authority, MoLF, and a Directorate position for apiculture sector development
- Draft Policy on hive products marketing system

Production



- Current production for honey – 53,000MT
- Current production for beeswax – 5,000MT
- Propolis production is at eve to make its way
- Other hive products are not well known by most of, if not all, the beekeepers

Hive Products Marketing



- Over 90% of the honey production is expected to be marketed
- Local consumption as medicine, table honey and for Tej (honey wine) making
- Annual RMP - for EU Third Country Listing
- Formal export is about 1% of the production
- Informal boarder smuggling is common in all directions and, tends to be a real challenge for the formal export market

Hive Products Export



- Major importing countries for Ethiopian honey are:
 - ✓ Sudan
 - ✓ Norway
 - ✓ UK
 - ✓ Germany
 - ✓ Japan
 - ✓ Italy
 - ✓ Others

National & Regional Frameworks

- National Policy FWs – Ok to enhance quality production and marketing
- Number of experienced companies for processing and exporting
- Organic & ISO certifications are well adopted
- Annual RMP and sample tests for EU market
- Growing infrastructure for quality tests
- Regional policy frame works to enhance intra Africa trade are non-existent/not popularized to put them in action

Performance of Intra Africa Trade



- Ethiopia is one of the few African countries to export pure organic honey to Europe & other developed countries, but to a few in Africa
- Many African countries (northern ones) import honey from Europe and others
- The only African countries that import Ethiopian honey formally are Sudan & Somalia
- Other East African countries receive Ethiopian honey in informal way (smuggling)

Export Performance – Total – Last 3 yrs



Hive Product	2013	2014	2015
Honey (MT)	839	742	681
Beeswax (MT)	385	335	520

Export Performance – Honey– Last 3 yrs

East African Countries

Country	2013	2014	2015
Sudan	257	194	116
Somalia	35	40	57

Challenges for Intra Africa Trade



- Attitude of the main actors & consumers
- Lack of harmonized and/or well popularized African standards for our products
- Weak policy directions in member states to develop & boost intra Africa trade
- Lack of strong and consistent advocacy work for intra Africa trade development & expansion

Opinion and recommendation



❖ **Opinion**

- Though more regional policy frameworks may be required, quality hive products and doable policy frameworks existing, to expand intra African trade, which, even worked for export to Europe & America

Opinion



- Intra Africa Trade is not well developed may be because of less commitment from the African states and market actors to push boosting of intra African trade
- May be lack of deep understanding on role and multiple advantages of boosting intra Africa trade become a limiting factor

Opinion



❖ **Recommendation**

- Develop harmonized quality standards
- Popularize and familiarize the standards to win political will & consumers interest in African states
- Put clear directives to enhance intra Africa trade
- Put regulatory mechanism/inspection
- Plan expos, tasting events and conferences in major importing countries
- See ways to enhance market linkages



*Let us learn from our **BEEES** to work hard and collaboratively, to ensure well developed intra Africa trade for common benefits.*



Many Thanks