

A stylized illustration of a tree with a thick, dark brown trunk and a large, bright orange circular sun behind it. The tree's canopy is composed of green, brush-stroke-like foliage. A swing hangs from the branches of the tree. The background is a solid light green color.

# Bees for development

UK charity 1078803

## IMPACT REPORT <sup>2015</sup>

Bees · Beekeeping · Education · Poverty alleviation

## Why beekeeping?

It may seem a bold claim to suggest that beekeeping can change lives – however we know that it can.

With your support, beekeeping can help the poorest, most isolated communities.

- Honey and beeswax find ready markets and support income generation
- Bees ensure good pollination, improving crop yields and profits for farmers
- Bees maintain biodiversity: by taking care of bees we take care of the environment
- Beehives can be made from low-cost, local materials
- Beekeeping provides medicines – honey and propolis are used in many societies.

As the world faces up to climate change, the need for economic activity that supports environmental well-being is ever more essential.

Beekeeping improves human lives without harming the environment, indeed it sustains it.

In many developing countries beekeepers lack the assistance that they need.

With the right support beekeeping can sustain whole communities. Selling honey and beeswax can help beekeepers to pay for children's schooling and cover hospital bills.

**Bees for development** provides people with the means to be economically self-reliant. Your support makes a difference – helping people to obtain assets, skills and know-how to support their livelihoods. Our work enables people to access market opportunities and to earn income while maintaining environmental integrity.

## Why beekeeping?



*Our training materials in use in Uganda*

## Our mission

**Bees for development** promotes sustainable beekeeping to combat poverty and to build resilient livelihoods. We conserve and maintain the environment for people and for bees.

### What we do

We help some of the poorest communities to improve their well-being by investing in skills and knowledge and by building their capacity to help themselves. We do this through:

### Skills for life

We deliver practical training in beehive making, honey harvesting and marketing of products. These skills lead directly to new income for small-scale farming families.

### Access to fair markets

We help poor people to access markets, negotiate fair deals and to engage with good markets.

### Address underlying barriers

Problems such as misuse of agrochemicals and poor land rights can harm bees and hinder beekeepers trying to earn a living – we help to facilitate change.

### Providing information and expertise

To unlock the potential of beekeeping and achieve impact on a wide scale, we provide information to beekeepers all over the world.

### Connecting people worldwide

We enable people to share experiences and knowledge. Our support for regional associations enables beekeepers to have a voice and to be represented.

We run practical, community-based projects to develop skills and knowledge. We enable families in poor areas to create reliable income from bees, while protecting their environment.



**Bees for development**

# Our mission



*In Ethiopia we are developing a farmer-to-farmer training model*

## Overview 2015

**Bees for development** is a small organisation with big ambitions – when people ask us what we do and where we work we find it challenging to give a brief answer!

In February 2015 we conducted a survey of our Information Service users and received **625 responses from 84 countries**.

91% of respondents said that they used our Information Services to educate others.

Our Information Services reach people in difficult, remote and marginalised locations and our quarterly *Journal* is read in 120 countries – **from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe**.

Our strategic direction is focussed on developing **Apiculture Centres of Excellence** – building and embedding local expertise where most needed. In 2015 we have made great progress in **Ethiopia, Ghana and Uganda**.

In 2015 we commenced our DFID-funded **Global Poverty Action Fund** project in **Ethiopia**. It is an ambitious project aiming to reach 4,000 of the poorest people.

In 2015 we provided apicultural advice to governments, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), international organisations and businesses on bee-related issues including trade, project design and management. We work closely with Apimondia, the World Federation.

In July 2015 we held our fundraising Bee Garden Party in the grounds of Marlborough House, the London home of the Commonwealth Secretariat.

Based in Wales, we play our full role as citizens in a globally responsible nation: we work in partnerships with Size of Wales, Hub Cymru Africa, the Welsh Government and Monmouthshire County Council.

## Overview 2015



*“The sustainability of this project is undoubtedly one of its key successes”.*

*External evaluation of our DEFRA-funded, Darwin Initiative project in Kyrgyzstan*



# Ethiopia

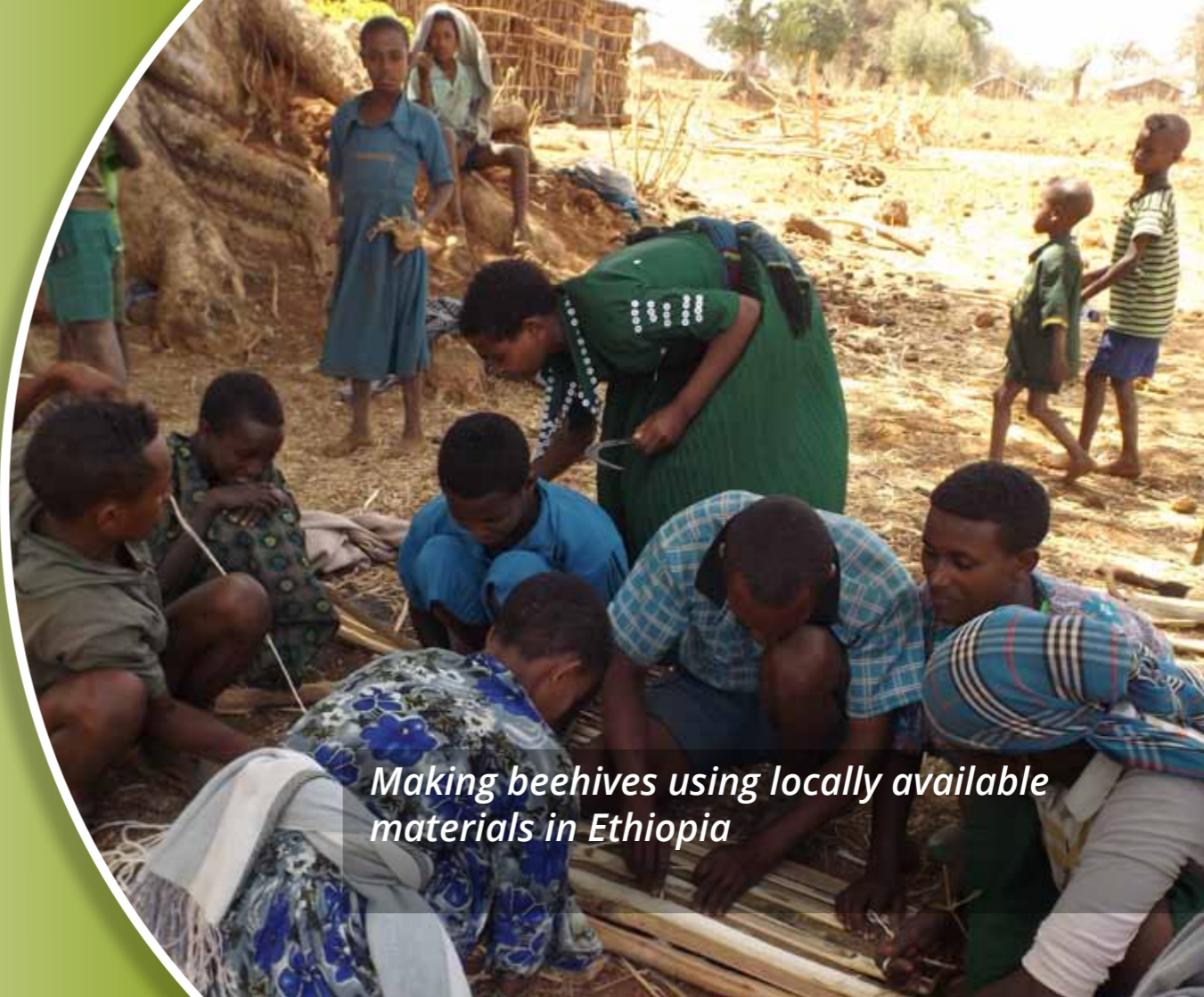
Bees for development Ethiopia (BfdE) was established in 2012 and has made great progress.

## Successes

- A well-established NGO specialising in beekeeping development in Ethiopia
- The local Livestock Agency have embraced sustainable beekeeping and have shifted their emphasis from expensive inputs to approaches using local resources
- Drawing attention to the problem of pesticides harming bees has led to the emergence of a determined response among local stakeholders
- The **BfdE** Board of Trustees are providing good governance and help with funding applications
- The organisation is becoming established as the 'go to' hub for beekeeping support.

Project	Donor	Helping
Poverty alleviation through beekeeping	DFID, UK	4,400 people
Support for honey trade	ASPIRE, Ethiopia	800 people
Tree-planting and watershed conservation - with bees	CEPF, International	400 people
Training religious students in church forests	CSSP, Ethiopia Didymus, UK	150 people
Beekeeping for youth	NABU, Germany	60 people

# Ethiopia



*Making beehives using locally available materials in Ethiopia*

# Uganda

We have been working in Uganda for 15 years and have witnessed outstanding changes to the beekeeping and honey sector.

The Uganda National Apiculture Development Organisation – TUNADO – was established in 2003 as the first national member-organisation serving the interests of beekeepers. After years of hard work, TUNADO now has an established membership base, a sustainable finance strategy and an excellent record of accomplishment.

TUNADO runs *National Honey Week* each year. In its first year the event ran at a loss and attracted less than a dozen exhibitors – in 2015 the event yielded a profit (funds to help run the organisation) and featured nearly 200 exhibitors.

In the east of Uganda we are working with TUNADO member – Mbale Coalition Against Poverty – a community-development NGO based

in the foothills of Mount Elgon. In 2015 we secured funding to train Community-based Beekeeper Trainers in three districts.

Beekeeping is welcomed in Mbale because it creates an added income stream from tree planting. As the trees mature they produce nectar for bees.

**New beekeeper Stephen Walimbwe explains,**

**“ I was taught how to make beehives from local materials. Honey bees occupied the beehives by themselves – they cost me nothing. The bees feed on my trees and give me honey. I have invested little and gaining much. Now my neighbours want to copy me. I will plant more trees. ”**

# Uganda



**Bees for development has been working in Uganda for 15 years**

## Cameroon

The remote forests of north-west Cameroon are under threat and the lives of those who live there are hard. Our **Trees & Bees Project** addresses both issues through beekeeping and honey trading.

We have been working with the Apiculture and Nature Conservation Organisation to support the community of Nkor in Bui Division where villagers are replanting forest to restore a water catchment area.

The region is rural, mountainous and poor and many young people migrate to urban centres and other countries. Beekeeping offers young people local employment and a livelihood.

Our Project includes encouragement to place beehives in the forest so that bees can forage on growing trees. The outcomes are new income opportunities and clean, fresh water.

*Size of Wales* provided follow-on support for the Project in 2015.

### Successes

- 2,834 tree seedlings planted – including endangered species – to restore the water catchment area
- Successful bee farmers and tree nursery trainees now help spread knowledge through the local community
- Communities adjacent to Nkor have seen the success of the Project and requested support for their own beekeeping projects.

### Tree species planted:

*Prunus africana*

*Eugenia gilgii*

*Allophyllus ujori*

*Newtonia camerunensis*

*Psychotria moseskemei*

# Cameroon



*In Cameroon, beekeepers are highly skilled in making local-style hives*

Photo: Fernando Vidal

# Education

We believe in giving people the means to prosper independently. Our aim is to educate and inform beekeepers and organisations.

Every year we publish and distribute our quarterly *Journal* and send out **Resource Boxes**. In 2015 we continued to send out our regular email bulletin **Technical Bee Notes** and published two further **Beekeeping Development Guides**.



## Journal

Our *Journal* focusses on simple and sustainable beekeeping. Paying subscribers (£26 for 4 editions) support free distribution to readers in the developing world.

## Resource Boxes of training materials

containing posters, booklets and training modules are sent to trainers, group leaders and extension workers.

## Survey of beneficiaries

We received responses from 84 countries:

- Roles of users: 44% beekeepers, 35% trainers and 31% project workers
- *Journal* readers: 92% use our *Journal* to educate and train others
- Resource Box users: 95.8% use the materials to train and inform others.

Resource	Reach
1,800 <i>Journals</i> per quarter	684,000 readers (average readership per copy = 38)
200 Resource Boxes	7,000 benefitted (average beneficiaries per box = 35)
Technical Bee Notes	3,500 readers per edition

# Education



*Honey bees ensure optimal pollination of coffee: 50% more berries*



## Capacity building

For the beekeeping sector to grow and deliver economic benefits to poor communities, the industry must have leaders and champions. This is why we invest in building the capacity and professionalism of community leaders, trainers and project workers.

Through our network we enabled 50 developing country participants to take advantage of Korean Travel Awards for the APIMONDIA International Apicultural Congress 2015 – the attendance of developing country participants enriched the event and gave them exposure to the latest and best beekeeping science.

*“The fellowship programme gave me an exposure that upgraded my knowledge and experience in my field of apiculture. I attended workshops and interacted with other practitioners in the field.”*

**Kwame Aidoo**

In 2015 we hosted Commonwealth Professional Fellows, Dr Kwame Aidoo and Dickson Biryomumaisho. Both followed a programme of continuing professional development during the months that they spent working with us at **Bees for development** in the UK.



Kwame Aidoo

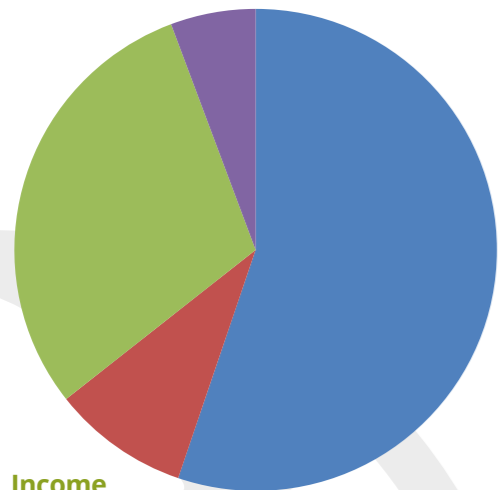


Dickson Biryomumaisho

## Capacity building



*Shiny Rehel explains the value of pollination*



## Income 2014/15

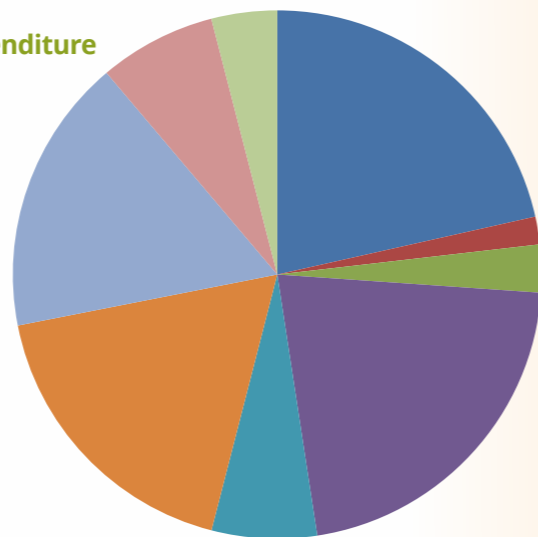
Restricted grants	£83,767
Charitable trusts and foundations	£13,918
Donations	£45,408
Bee Garden Party	£8,649
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£151,742</b>

## Income

## Expenditure 2014/15

Project work Ethiopia	£33,000
Project work Cameroon	£2,603
Project work Uganda	£4,497
Apiculture Centres of Excellence	£33,000
Organisational development	£9,868
Worldwide Information Services	£27,500
Journal and Resource Boxes	£26,000
Project management	£11,000
Cost of generating funds	£6,165

## Expenditure



**Bees for development's** strategy is to establish centres of excellence for beekeeping development, where trusted partners are supported to implement high quality, effective and measured work. We provide also abundant information and education to help beekeepers where such resources are scarce. We know that our approach works, and that the funds that we give are used directly for the cause.

It is good therefore to see year on year increase in support for this work, as **Bees for development's** expertise and devotion are increasingly recognised.

Our income in 2014/15 was £151,742. This was lower than the 2013/14 total because of the conclusion of long term project work in Uganda funded by Comic Relief. Our unrestricted funding support has increased this year.

We are a very small charity and consider carefully before spending money on fundraising. We always seek sponsorship to cover the costs of fundraising events: for example our Annual Bee Garden Party was fully sponsored, and we were delighted by the success of this event in 2015.

**Robert Spencer**, Honorary Treasurer  
**Bees for development Trust**

# Looking forward

We plan to reach more people and more farming families in poor and remote areas of the world.

## Our aim is to:

- **Establish Bees for development Ghana**, to deliver services, training, support, information and advice to the beekeeping sector in Ghana.
- **Launch a new beekeeping Knowledge Base** on our website to provide access to resources needed by learners and trainers to achieve good beekeeping goals – a comprehensive, easy to use source of reliable help and information.
- **Consolidate our work in Ethiopia** with a new emphasis on market development. We will address the misuse of agrochemicals to safeguard honey bee health in Amhara.
- **Reach more people in Uganda and Cameroon**, especially concerning the integration of beekeeping and forestry. Our aim is for rural communities to use bees to make conservation pay financially.

## Thank you

Our work is supported by generous donations from many individuals, groups and organisations. We thank everyone, and particularly acknowledge:

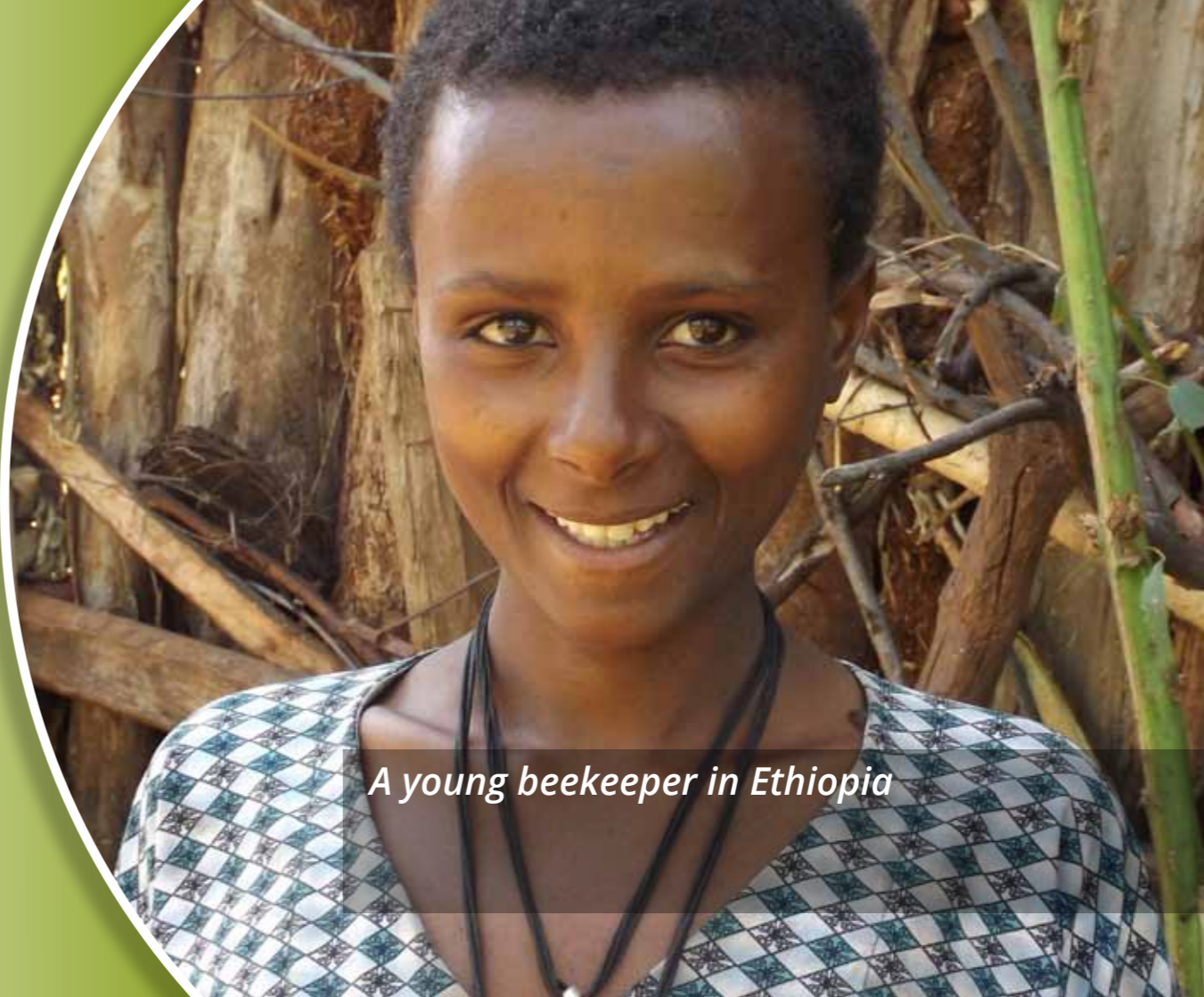
The British Wax Refining Company Ltd  
Charles Hayward Foundation  
Champlain Valley Quilters' Guild and the  
Tucson Quilters' Guild  
Conwy Beekeepers' Association  
The Daylesford Foundation  
DFID  
Didymus  
Dr Beekeeper Ltd  
E.H.Thorne (Beehives) Ltd  
Eva Crane Trust  
Fortnum & Mason  
Hub Cymru Africa  
Jerry Poelman  
John Rhodes  
John Russell

Margaret Williams  
Monmouth Charity  
Neal's Yard Remedies  
Open Gate  
Rowse Honey Ltd  
Size of Wales  
Stroud Beekeepers' Association  
Vita (Europe) Limited  
The Waterloo Foundation  
Yasaeng Beekeeping Supplies

“ **Bees for development** works with some of the world's most disadvantaged people helping them produce honey and beeswax using local bees. Their work helps to protect and maintain healthy honey bees which are so vital for crop pollination and maintaining the whole environment. ”

**Professor Tom Seeley Patron**  
Horace White Professor in Biology in the Department of Neurobiology and Behavior, Cornell University, USA

# Thank you



*A young beekeeper in Ethiopia*

## About us

Bees for development was established in 1993 and is now the leading international organisation specialising in sustainable beekeeping for poverty alleviation and biodiversity maintenance.

In addition to our international work, in the UK we provide courses on sustainable beekeeping, and participate in local and national efforts for the protection of bees and their habitat.

Our offices are in Monmouth, South Wales where we have also a shop whose revenue supports our work.

### Trustees

Paul Smith *Chairman*  
Robert Spencer *Treasurer*  
Ole Hertz  
Peter Kenworthy  
Suzie Shaw  
Gladstone Solomon

### Patrons

Monty Don  
Baroness Anita Gale  
Martha Kearney  
Professor Tom Seeley  
Sting, Gordon Sumner CBE  
Bill Turnbull



Martha Kearney



Bill Turnbull

**Bees** for development 

About us

Bees for Development  
beesfordevelopment.org



*We specialise in sustainable beekeeping for poverty alleviation and biodiversity maintenance*



# Leave a lasting legacy

With **Bees for development Trust** your legacy will keep on giving. We owe thanks to those who kindly remember the work of **Bees for development Trust** in their wills.

Gifts in wills provide vital support to the families with whom we work, and make a lasting difference for future generations. However big or small, your donation will be used wisely and every single gift makes a real difference.

After you have taken care of your family and friends please consider remembering **Bees for development Trust** in your will and create a lasting legacy by helping to combat poverty through beekeeping and environmental conservation.

To find out more about leaving a gift to **Bees for development Trust** please contact us on 01600 714848 or email [trust@beesfordevelopment.org](mailto:trust@beesfordevelopment.org)

## **Bees for development**

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Bees for development Trust. UK charity No: 1078803



[www.beesfordevelopment.org](http://www.beesfordevelopment.org)