

Newsletter no.1

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Talk is cheap?

The forthcoming G8 summit due to be held at Gleneagles in July has generated much media coverage, heightened by Bob Geldorf's announcement of the 'Live 8' concerts planned to coincide with the summit to raise awareness of poverty in Africa.

While raising the public consciousness of the terrible effects of poverty can be a positive step forward, the inherent problem is that the very people it is intended to help once more become overlooked in the debate raging around the issues of aid, debt relief, fair trade and governance

HSLA maintains the best way to tackle poverty is by helping people to help themselves. Direct support to those who need it most, not in the form of aid and continuing dependency, but by providing the means to earn their own living.

The cost of hosting the G8 summit in Gleneagles is estimated at £100m. This is expensive talk, and it remains to be seen whether any positive outcome will actually filter down to the aids orphans, teenage mothers, street kids, disabled groups, and the dispossessed of Africa who simply want the opportunity to work their way out of poverty.

News from Uganda

This is Mercy with some of our hives ready for dispatch. These particular hives are destined for the Uganda Gospel Rehabilitation Centre in Nakaseke, a school which supports 78 orphaned and needy children (www.ugrc.org).



The hives are being made by the carpentry workshops at the Nakasongola Training Centre, and the protective clothing is also made here by local women who are students in the tailoring section.

The only item which has to be imported into Uganda at the moment is the wire needed for the frames in the hives. Everything else is sourced and manufactured locally, creating more employment and developing skills.

EU Licenses Ugandan Honey for Import

The Uganda National Apiculture Development Organisation (TUNADO) recently announced that Ugandan honey had met the quality control standards required to gain entry into the EU market. This is very encouraging news for projects supported by HSLA because it widens their market considerably. Production does not currently meet market demand and the processing facilities in the country are running well below capacity, so there is plenty of scope for growth. The challenge will be to ensure that the quality of the honey is maintained to sustain the export potential and keep demand and prices strong for our producers.

Out with the old



This is a log hive, which has been the traditional method way of beekeeping in many regions of Africa. The problem with such hives is that of management and quality control. To access the combs, the bees have to be heavily smoked, and the combs crushed to extract the honey, which consequently retains a high percentage of impurities and often a very smoky flavour.

In with the new

This is the HSLA hive, based on the Langstroth design, which HSLA is manufacturing in Uganda. Both quality and quantity of honey are vastly improved through the use of the removable frames which make management of the bees and collection of the honey much more efficient.



Online Shopping?

Don't forget, if you are shopping online, please start by logging on to www.buy.at/hivessavelives. With the support of some top retailers, we can earn a commission while you shop from the comfort of your home!

HSLA would like to thank all their supporters without whom our work would not be possible.

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