



Association for Small African Projects

Investir dans un développement durable

Beekeeping report 2014- 2019



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Background of the beekeeping project

Revenue generating activities (outside the traditional agriculture activities) are essential for the economy of the families.

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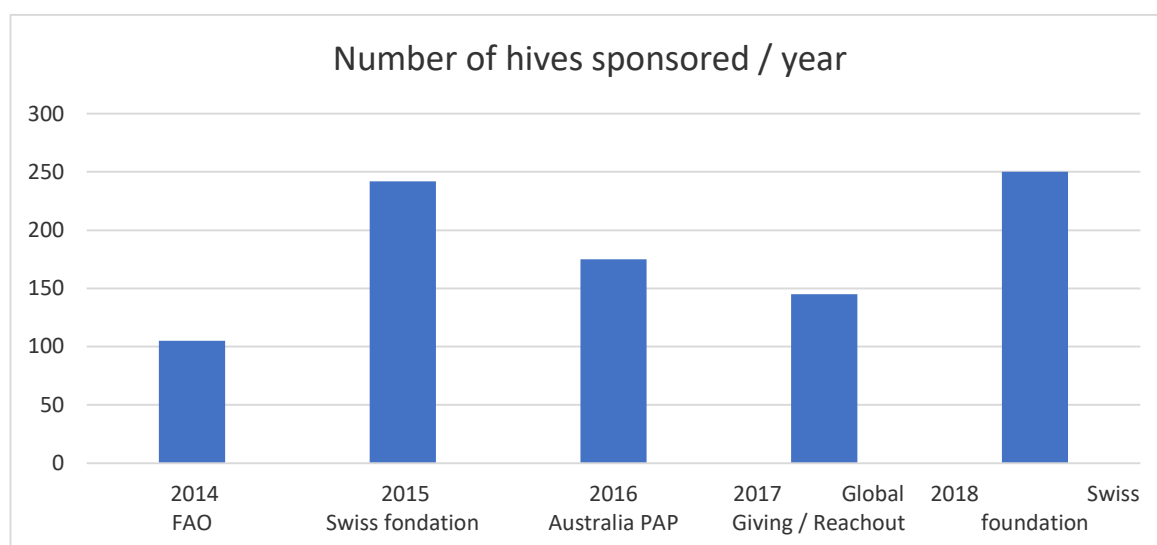
Most of the time it is the women who are busy with such activities: small trading, processing of local production.

One of the activities we have been asked to develop by some villages is beekeeping. This activity has many advantages:

- It does not ask for a lot of work
- The work happens in the dry season. There is no conflict of time with other field activities.
- The bees help pollination of the plants and fruit trees

Beekeepers and hives:

The project started in 2014 with a sponsoring of the FAO for 100 hives. There are now 915 modern hives in the villages





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Number of beekeepers per village and per gender



There are 172 beekeepers in our program today.

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% of women beekeepers:

0%

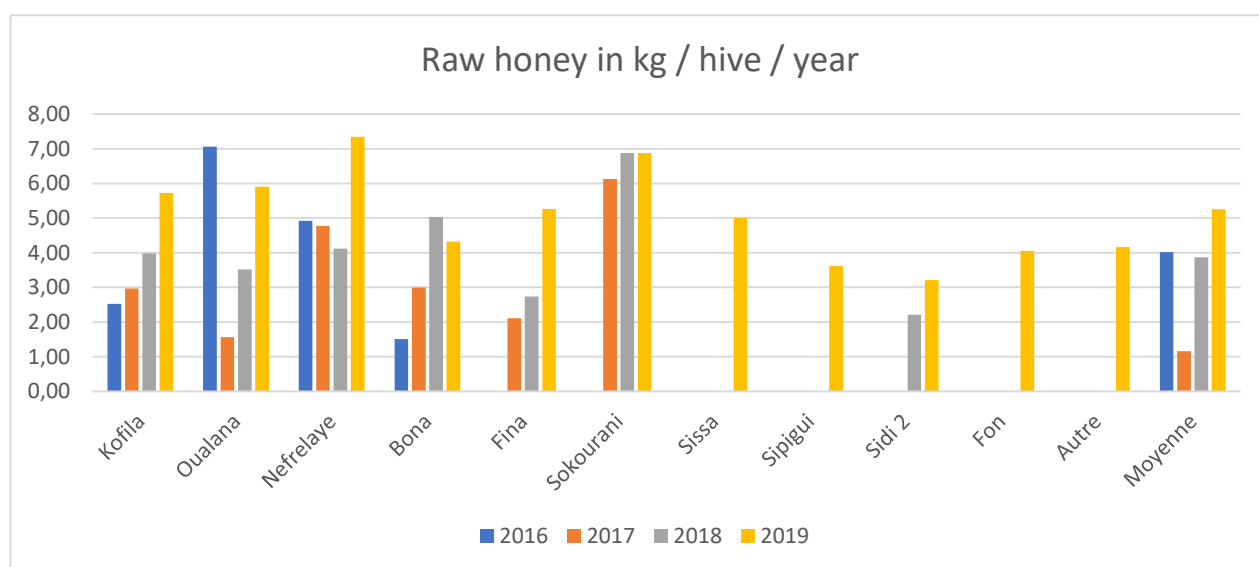




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Harvest information per year:



We can see a major improvement in 2019 for the volume harvested per hive.

We can try to explain this improvement because we had:

- A major training program we put in place during 2018
- An increase of swarms available for hives. Until 2018, most farmers were cultivating genetically modified cotton. Bees have been very much affected by this type of cotton.
- Advised as of 2018 to harvest the hives only once per year in April. The little amount of honey in the hives which could be also harvested in October is left for the bees.





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Volume of raw honey purchased by APPA:



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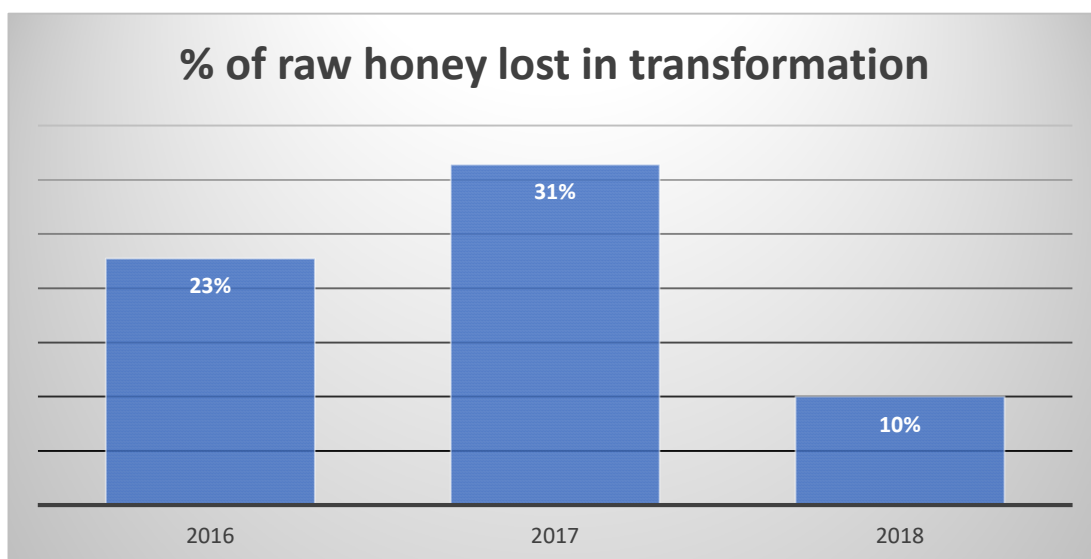
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APPA is going to the villages to control the quality and weight the raw honey. It is bought at 950 FCFA /kg (1,45 euro) which is above the price on the market. On average a beekeeper with 5 hives will earn around 45 euro per year.



The numbers for 2019 are not yet known.

In 2017 we had a lot of purchased raw honey with little honey.





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Sales of the wax and honey

The wax is sold locally to local artists using it to make models for bronze statues. Conditioned honey is sold on the local market so far. It is very much appreciated because of its quality. The packaging and labels differentiate APPA honey from other producers.



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Lessons learned:

- Repetitive training is needed in order to have good beekeepers
- Control of the quality of the purchased raw honey is essential in order to have a positive bottom line.
- Price offered to the beekeepers motivate them for this activity and to sell their honey to APPA.

Development of the project:

- **Organisation:**
We are helping the beekeepers to gather in “SCOOPS” (société cooperative simplifiée) at the level of the village.
The SCOOPS have an agreement with APPA for honey sales, equipment availability and training.
This organisation should help to have access to funding for beekeeping projects coming from large finance organisations.
- **Equipment for beekeepers:** there are still a lot of demands and we are looking for funding for at least 1.000 new hives. Existing and new beekeepers will need training.
- **Gender:** our goal is that 50% of the beekeepers are women (today we are at 38%) .
- **Processing facility and equipment of the raw honey:** with the increased volume of honey purchased, we will need to upgrade our facility for its processing. The plan is to decentralise it to the site of the “LAP” (Lycée Agricole Privé). This will also create local employment.
For the equipment we will need incubators, presses and transport mean to bring the processed honey to the city of Bobo Dioulasso for conditioning.
- **Selling of the conditioned honey and wax:** the wax will still be able to be sold in Burkina Faso. For the honey we will need to find an export market for direct sales and/or company using honey in their process.



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There are still a lot of wild swarms which can use modern hives.