

Measuring the Success of Beekeeping Projects

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Our Definition of Success

*Achieving What Our
Project Participants Want*



A Case Study of a Cluster of Three Diverse Poverty Relief Projects and their Local Lead NGO in Kasese, Western Uganda

Two Day Workshop February 2019



1. To investigate the criteria which the beneficiaries consider to be most important for a successful project
2. How to measure the criteria of success

Do Beneficiaries' criteria match those of the Project Managers/Deliverers & do they differ from each other?

Workshop Participants

Four Groups representing different Project Niches.
Our local NGO & Three Newish Projects- assessed February 2018

Kiringa United Beekeepers



Women's Resource Centre, Kagando



LIDEFO



Kinyamaseki Youth in Development Group

Environment

- Accommodation, food & travel provided
- Non-classroom set up/informal as possible
- Conducted in English and local language
- Good cross-sectional representation – young/older; male/female; less/more education & beekeeping experience



Ice breakers afternoon & evening

Introductions; Discussions; Break out groups, video in the evening

Established atmosphere of
Discussion not learning



Key Questions

1. 'What changes do your members want for their lives from beekeeping?'
2. 'How can your group find ways to assess this so that it can be shown to Bees Abroad supporters in UK?'



1. What is success? What was decided?

- 'Get lots of honey' (To eat and to sell)
- 'Become trained'
- Agreement across the four groups as to main benefits was easily reached:-
 - Money for education/medicine
 - Food/clothing/home improvement
- - love, unity, co-operation etc
 - Job opportunities/ other transferable skills
 - More communities helped
 - Crop pollination
 - Communities educated to protect bees
 - Empowerment & status

2. What to assess?

'you must ask and observe' NGO

- Statements/observations of 'purchase' – education, chickens, more hives, value added products in evidence
- Statements of satisfaction/pleasure/achievement
- Measurement?
 - Hives, Colonies, Honey
 - Numbers of people 'not dropped out'

Their Suggestions

- A qualitative questionnaire generated for interviews and carried out beginning and end of project
- Simple quantitative measurements to be made



Conclusions

Reinforces previous premises:-

- Definitions of success for the group and ways to measure it should be discussed and agreed
- Each group must own their own assessments/measurements

For our future projects

- A combination of quantitative and qualitative measurements best serves the purpose – devised by beneficiaries
- Objective Measurements - reliability and accuracy problematic– timing of measuring, recording & reporting - Straight after each harvest?
- Include measurements in the M of U. Needed and expected
- ‘Becoming trained’ a high priority – more skill assessment and certification offered

Finally.....

- The process must be carefully set up – we spent longer establishing a discursive relationship than asking the 2 questions
- Beneficial factors:-
 - We had an established relationship - we were already helping the groups
 - The translator was a beekeeper
 - Having 3 project groups together
- Easier than anticipated!