



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



Business development and sustainable job creation for youth, women and people with disabilities in Iran (140137)

CONTEXT

Iran is one of the largest economies in the Middle East and North Africa region with a population of more than 80 million people in the third place among 24 countries in the region and despite the wide fluctuations in per capita production, Iran ranks 6-7 in the region. Iran has experienced stagflation in recent years, and the country's growth rate has been among the lowest in the region. Iranian Beekeeping in 2016 was focused mainly on the production of honey for the domestic market. There were about 74,000 beekeepers and 6,6 Million beehives (95% Modern and 5% traditional), in Iran. Accordingly, the per capita production of natural honey was around eight kg (18 percent of the world). The production of honey in Iran was about 53 thousand tons. Notably, the production of by-products with high added value in Iran was not in practice at that time.

STRATEGY

UNIDO In cooperation with the Ministry of Cooperatives, Labor and Social Welfare and with the participation of the private and public sectors, launched the "Beekeeping Sector Development" subproject with the aim of building successful cases in aspects of skills improvement, development of value chains, and institutionalization in provincial and national level.

WORKING TOWARDS



Honey used to be the sole product of the beekeeping industry in Iran for decades. Moreover, sufficient attention was not paid to different aspects of the ecosystem, particularly high value-added by-products. In order to improve the value chain of by-products, various activities have been designed and implemented with a special approach as follows:

- Knowledge sharing and localization,
- Skills development,
- VC investment,
- Private sector participation in research and development activities.

Also, to overcome the mentioned challenges. The "National Beekeeping Foundation for Productivity and Skills Improvement", a private-public institute, started its formal activities within the framework of an institution supporting business development in 2019.

IMPACT

- Recognized and allocated the resources for the sustainable development of the beekeeping industry with the transfer of modern technologies,
- Improved the specialized Skills, in the beekeeping sector
- Value chain of the high value-added product (Royal Jelly) fully created and developed,
- Increased the volume of the product market to USD 2.5 million regarding by-products,
- Developed global market (Exported the first shipment of bee venom to Georgia)

ASIA



GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN



DURATION

2015-2021



TOTAL BUDGET

USD 3,114,605



GOVERNMENT COUNTERPART:

Ministry of Cooperative, Labour and Social Welfare (MCLS) of Iran



CONTACTS

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London International Honey Award 2020

A Significant Milestone in the history of Iranian Honey

Achieving 2 Gold Medals for Quality



Winning two gold medals for quality in the London Competition Honey Awards 2020 and bronze medal in the commercial class category in the 45th Apimondia, Turkey 2017



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of the beekeeping industry with the transfer of modern technologies



Improved the specialized Skills in the beekeeping sector

50+ courses for 4,500 beekeepers, among whom 10% women



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STORIES FROM THE FIELD

“With the development of the value chain of value-added products (royal jelly and bee venom), iran’s beekeeping industry has gone beyond one single product and has managed to enter the international market.”

*Behzad Bankipour
Managing Director of Agriculture Industry
Development and Advocacy Fund*

Economic impact in improvement of beekeeping value chain

Description	Unit	Product price (USD)
Bulk/Wholesale Raw Honey - Local market	kg	3
Bulk/Wholesale Royal Jelly - Local market	kg	50
Bee venom - Global market	gr	50-80
Melittin (main & essential compound in bee venom)	gr	100,000

By improving productivity: Increasing from 10 up to 300 gr Royal jelly from 1 up to 10 gr Bee venom

Beekeeper’s income: Increasing by around 1000 USD per one beehive



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