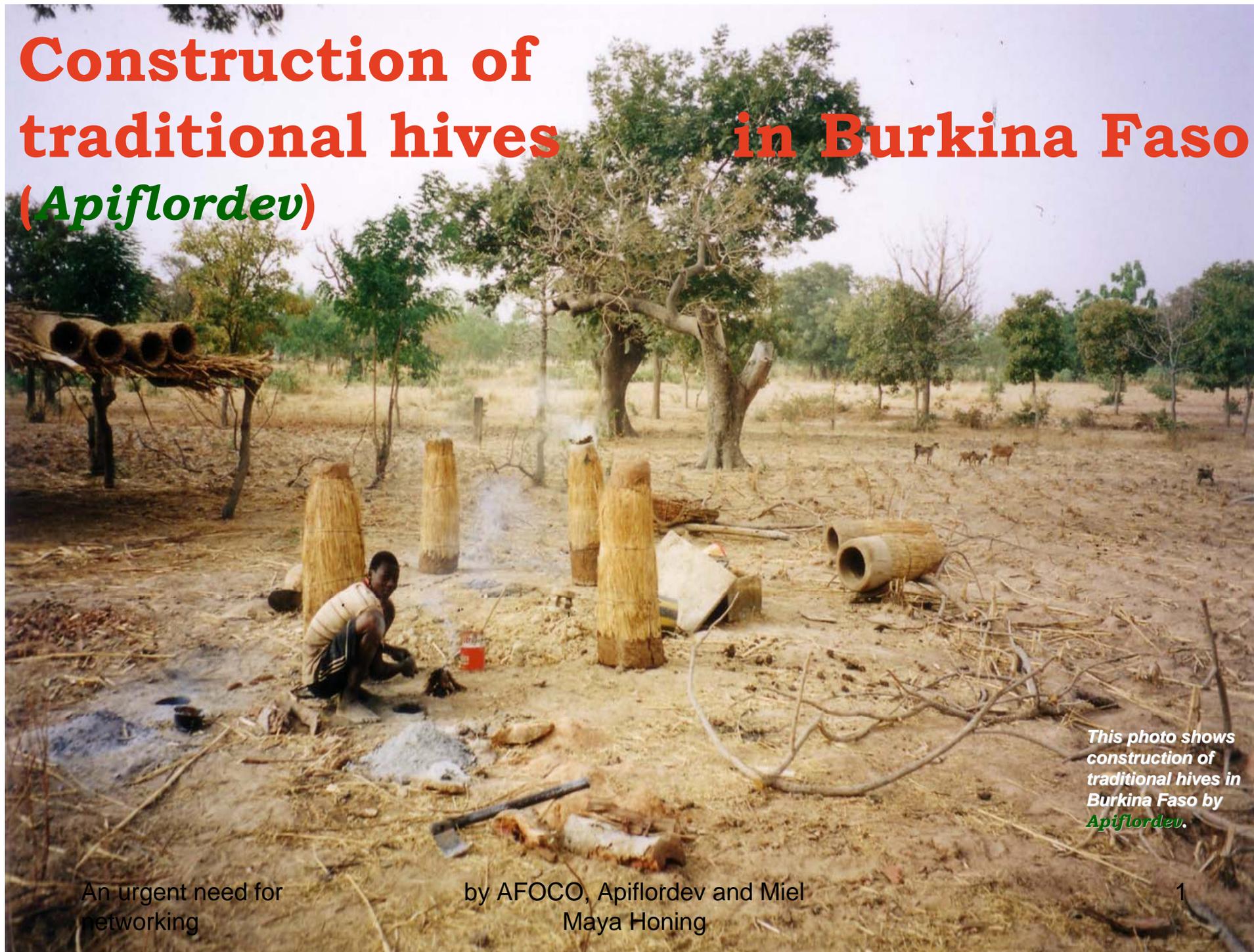


Construction of traditional hives in Burkina Faso (*Apiflordev*)



*This photo shows construction of traditional hives in Burkina Faso by **Apiflordev**.*

An urgent need for networking

by AFOCO, Apiflordev and Miel Maya Honing

**BEE-KEEPING AND
DEVELOPMENT
IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES:
AN URGENT NEED FOR
NETWORKING**

by

AFOCO (Belgium)

***Apiflordev* (France)**

Miel Maya Honing (Belgium)

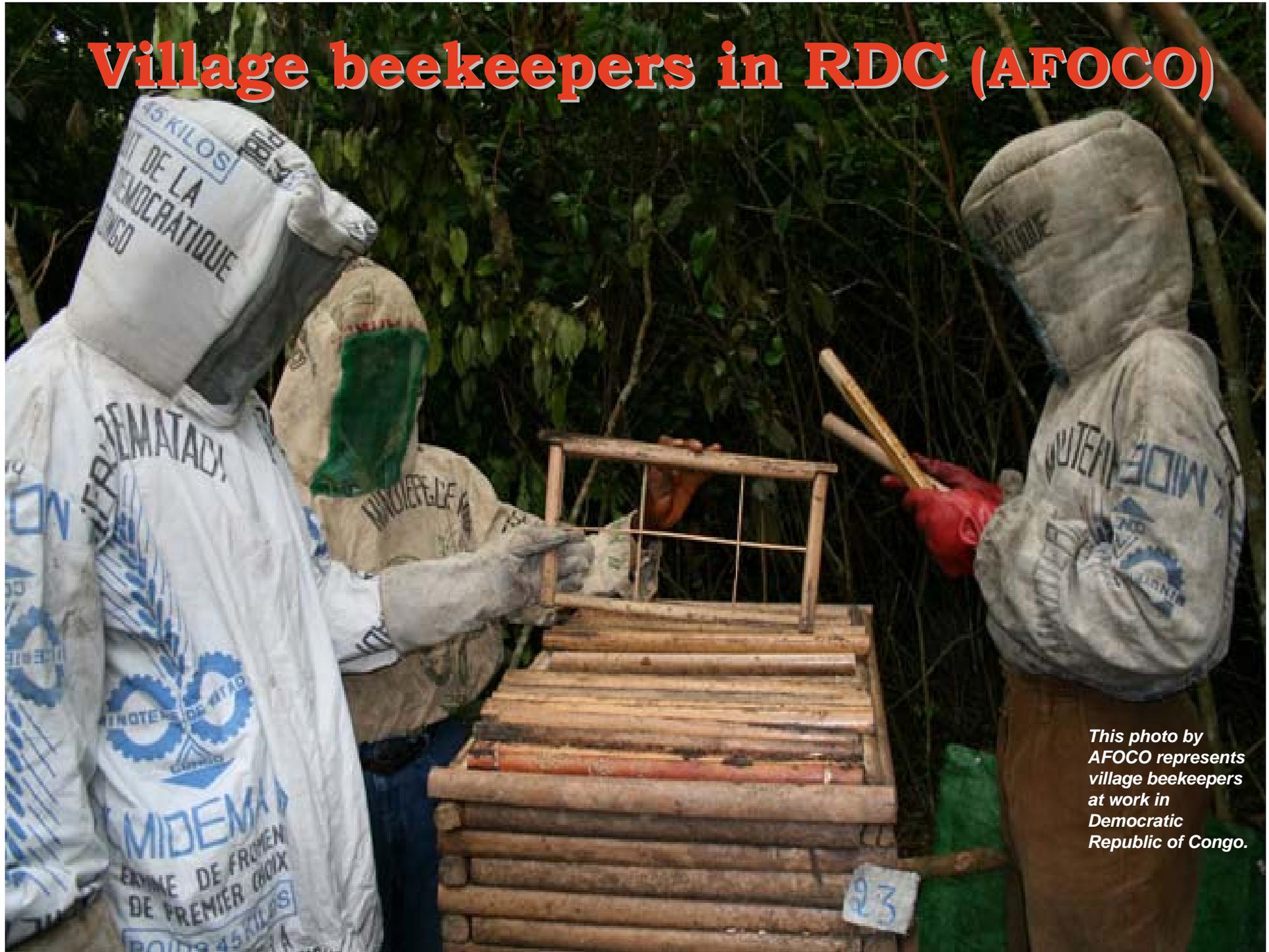
APIMONDIA 2009 – RURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

SYMPOSIUM n°2 « Cooperatives and networks »

September 19

“Here in this room we are Benoit Olivier from the Belgian NGO Miel Maya Honing and me Alain du Chaxel from the French NGO *Apiflordev*. Nathalie Carazzai from the Belgian NGO AFOCO, who is not here, was fully involved in preparation of this presentation. We shared our field experience of villager’s beekeeping projects, mainly in sub-Saharan Africa and Central America. Benoit is going to answer your questions at the end. All together concluded achieving a beekeeping project in developing countries is not easy. The matter of the following presentation is to give you our views how to keep everybody, in the North and in the South, informed of all information in various beekeeping domains for avoiding project failure in some cases and having better performance in the other cases”.

Village beekeepers in RDC (AFOCO)



This photo by AFOCO represents village beekeepers at work in Democratic Republic of Congo.

AFOCO

BEE-KEEPING, TRAINING, CO-OPERATION NGO based in Belgium

Intensive training, in Belgium, in tropical and subtropical beekeeping: **96 persons** trained of which **37 from South**

Basic beekeeping training in three developing countries: **133 persons**

In Belgium, **sensitization** of various people on **the positive effects of beekeeping for development**

Technical and financial support to **5 projects**

Congo DR: on-going project

- The previous name (until 2004) of AFOCO was « Apiculture sans Frontières ».
- Intensive training duration is 6 weeks.
- In the Cameroon's case, schools and groups were concerned.



**Pygmy
collecting
wild
honey
in RCA**

(Apiflordev)

An urgent need for
networking

by AFOCO, Apiflordev and Miel
Maya Honing

*This photo by
Apiflordev shows a
pygmy collecting
wild honey in
Central Africa
Republic.*

APIFLORDEV

NGO specialized in bee-keeping in emerging countries

Created in 2003 in France

About 40 benevolent bee-keepers and others

Field projects adapted to local conditions

3 years duration

Very limited beekeeping equipment importation

About 15 projects

In 10 French speaking countries

- **Apiflordev** answers requests coming from villagers.
- A feasibility study is done before decision for supporting a project.
- Most of projects concerns all beekeeping stages: training, monitoring and honey collecting, processing and commercialization.
- Projects realizations are funded by international development organisms or foundations.

This photo by Apiflordev shows the honey house built by the CAR Association supported by Apiflordev.

BEEKEEPER FROM GUATAMALA



This photo by MMH shows a beekeeper from Guatemala.

MIEL MAYA HONING asbl – MMH

NGO in development based in Belgium

**Support given at 7 Mexican and Guatemalteque
beekeeping organizations: 1.000 villagers**

**Sensitization of Belgian people on development:
325 teachers and 3.600 students**

www.maya.be and www.fair-kids.org

**Very closed relationship with Maya Fair Trade
scrifs, an honey fair trade co-operative:
300t/year importation**

- Agreement has been given by the Belgian Cooperation Ministry in 1997.
- Strategic decision has been taken for diversifying towards Africa as from 2011. Projects proposals have to be submitted before the end of 2009.
- The pedagogic approach is based on animation films realized by primary schools children.

This photo by Apiflordev shows the honey house built by the CAR Association supported by Apiflordev.

Fair trade Mexican honey (MMH)



This slide shows fair trade Mexican honey sold by Maya Fair Trade in Europe (MMH photo).

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BEE-KEEPING CONTRIBUTIONS TO DEVELOPMENT (reminder)

Revenue (could be very important)

Nutrition (for village people, mainly children)

Health (honey is very utilized by male nurse and tradi-theraputists)

Crops increase (concerning both subsistence and revenue cultures)

Environment (trees and swarms)

Jobs for women, young and disabled people

Work for local artisans (joiners, couturiers, metal workers)

- **Title:** as you know beekeeping contributions are both numerous and not much expensive.
- **Revenue:** by example, in Dioïla area (Mali), we calculate the revenue from only one modern hive would be equal to the revenue from about 80 traditional hives through increase of both quantity and quality (and consequently selling price).
- **Nutrition:** the true problem is to convince villagers (and their family, firstly their children) to eat a part of their honey production and not to sell it.
- **Health:** honey is very utilized by nurses and tradi practitioners; the **Apiflordev** member Professor Bernard Descottes thinks honey could be useful for Buruli ulcer treatment.
- **Crops increase:** in Sahel countries, crops increase could be very important during the bridge period between the end of dry season and the beginning of the rain season.
- **Environment:** there is an important environment impact in case of honey hunting almost and traditional hives utilization.
- **Others:** other contributions are limitation of rural depopulation; training of villagers to development projects design, funding searching and realization.

This photo by Apiflordev shows the honey house built by the CAR Association supported by Apiflordev.

Traditional honey in RDC (AFOCO)



This photo by AFOCO shows traditional honey sold at road side by villagers in RDC.

WHY A NETWORK TO ISSUE SUCCESSFULL DEVELOPMENT BEEKEEPING PROJECTS?

Lack of communication between all actors from the North and from the South involved in development in developing countries via bee-keeping

In most developing countries, **lack of information** regarding actors in bee-keeping

- Honey utilization mainly for revenue is usual everywhere in the world.
- In developing countries, villagers collect either wild honey in cutting trees and burning swarms or more often in pressing honeycomb put off traditional hives; use of Kenyan hives (without frame) is quite frequent in sub-Sahara Africa and cement hives in Senegal; modern hives use is uncommon.
- Villagers are in permanent demand for information and help for producing more honey in the view to increase revenue.
- In most countries the local authorities are not able to support the beekeeping development in terms of technical assistance and funding.
- NGOs from the South are interested to promote beekeeping in their countries but they are not well equipped for assistance in this domain.
- NGOs and individuals from the North are quite numerous in assisting villagers in beekeeping.
- They are not coordinated between them, sometimes in the same countries, sometimes in the same areas; they are not always covering all beekeeping aspects (from training up to honey commercialization); they are not necessarily aware of best practices.
- Therefore, we think there is a need for networking aiming to give information concerning best practices, equipments, technical support, funding, etc to people from the North and the South who want to improve beekeeping practices in favour of developing countries villagers through small field projects.

photo by Apiflordev shows a house built by the CAR Association supported by Apiflordev.



Arranged hive in Madagascar (*Apiflordev*)

This photo by Apiflordev shows an arranged modern hive in Madagascar.

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FIRST STEP

WEB SITE AND FORUM

THEMATIC INFORMATION
INFORMATION ON COUNTRIES
FRENCH SPEAKING AFRICA
TEST COUNTRY: SENEGAL
LINK WITH BEES *for*
DEVELOPMENT SITE AND JOURNAL
FUNDING

The purposes are :

- First, to provide all actors from the North and from the South with all kind of information allowing them to successfully undertake a beekeeping project in developing countries.
- Second, to exchange information between them on best practices.
- The information under the following headings will be given in the form of a synthesis rather than lists.

This photo by Apiflordev shows the honey house built by the CAR Association supported by Apiflordev.

Thematic information

- Introduction to the North and South associations specialized in development aid through beekeeping.
- Available teaching aids for beekeeping training and the transfer of technologies.
- Available beekeeping techniques adapted for the South.
- Typical/classic development beekeeping projects.
- Lessons drawn from experience.
- Potential funding actors (institutional, foundations, private sector, etc.) for development beekeeping projects (terms and methods of funding).
- Software help in drawing up applications for financing and managing projects.
- List of melliferous/nectariferous and polliniferous species with all the necessary details (name, area, local name, flowering period).
- Reference books.
- List and links to suppliers of tropical beekeeping equipment, honey analysis laboratories, importers, fair trade or not, of tropical honey, apitherapists, etc.
- etc.

This photo by Apiflordev shows the honey house built by the CAR Association supported by Apiflordev.

Country information

- The emphasis will be particularly put on all the information and local contacts which will enable the development of synergies between the people active in the field.
- National beekeeping authorities.
- Beekeeping statistics and information.
- Available government financing.
- National beekeeping NGOs.
- Beekeeping training organizations (or individuals).
- People active nationally in the marketing of products from the hive, particularly honey.
- Assessment of the beekeeping sector (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats).
- Projects finished or in progress.
- etc.

French speaking Africa

- In willing cover too many countries and languages we will fail: being French speakers we chose sub-Saharan Africa we know quite well.

This photo by Apiflordev shows the honey house built by the CAR Association supported by Apiflordev.

Senegal

- To be more cautious we need to begin with a test country; all together we know particularly well Senegal: we trained some Senegalese beekeepers, we have projects in progress and some others at the funding stage, two members are partly living in Senegal.
- We are thinking Cameroon as an other test country.

Bees *for* Development

- Taking into account the quality and the interest of BfD site and journal we will install a link with them.

Funding

- Aiming a good quality site with the possibility of expanding the site to all other emerging countries and languages (English, Spanish, and Arabic) we need to find money for designing, building up, maintaining and managing the site.

This photo by Apiflordev shows the honey house built by the CAR Association supported by Apiflordev.

A photograph of a traditional beehive made of woven palm leaves, hanging from a tree branch in a lush green forest. The beehive is cylindrical and made of many layers of dried palm leaves, secured with thin twigs. It is suspended from a thick, light-colored tree trunk. The background is filled with dense green foliage, including large, broad leaves and smaller branches. The lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day.

**Traditional
hive in RCA
(*Apiflordev*)**

*This photo by
Apiflordev shows a
traditional hive in
GAR.*

WHAT COULD YOU DO?

LET US KNOW **OTHER INITIATIVES**
IN THIS AREA

JOIN US IN “AMA” NETWORK

- We are aware about the BfD web site. It probably exists other sites, free of charge sites, in any language. It is very important to us to know about them for drawing experience, avoiding redundancies and linking with them.
- As we mentioned before we are three NGOs willing to promote beekeeping best practices in favor of villagers in developing countries. We are sure there are other organizations interested in the same objective. If yes, we suggest you to get in touch with Olivier Benoit. On the table there, you would find a flyer with all information concerning our three NGOs and their leaders.

This photo by Apiflordev shows the honey house built by the CAR Association supported by Apiflordev.

Honey house in CAR (*Apiflordev*)



This photo by Apiflordev shows the honey house built by the CAR Association supported by Apiflordev.

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ANY QUESTION?

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**

**CENTRAL AFRICA REPUBLIC
EXAMPLE FILM**

- As an illustration, is coming a seven minutes amateur film concerning a villager's project in Central Africa Republic. This project lasted three years (from 2006 up to 2008), covered all beekeeping aspects from training to honey commercialization, including monitoring on the field. Results are quite good.
- During the film Benoit Olivier would be very keen to answer your questions.
- Thank you very much for your attention.

This photo by Apiflordev shows the honey house built by the CAR Association supported by Apiflordev.