

# BEEKEEPING

in Xiengkhouang Province

*A Significant potential for Lao honey exists if marketing, quality control and expansion of beekeeping can be achieved*

## Production

- There are approximately 500 beekeepers active in the province organized in 15 groups.
- There are 3,163 beehives in the province, with Apis Cerana bees.
- Total provincial honey production is approximately 12,000kg worth over 500 million Kip per year.
- Only 4% of honey is currently processed at collection/processing centers.
- Only a limited amount of wax and other bee products are produced.
- Technical support for beekeepers is limited to one provincial government staff member and 3 expert farmers.

## Marketing

- There is only one major provincial buyer/trader in honey.
- There are two known buyers from outside the province and ten retail shops/minimarts in Vientiane.
- To date, there are no international buyers of honey.
- There are two organizations (GCDA and TERRA) and one project (TABI) supporting beekeeping.

## Opportunities

- Strengthening the capacity of current beekeeping groups and development of a provincial association.
- Support for additional honey processing for quality improvements
- Expand market linkages including increased awareness of Xiengkhouang honey and more buyers.
- Develop a greater cadre of beekeeping expertise.
- Improve the purity of the 7 KKN strains.
- Expand marketing efforts.



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