



### **The Organizational structure:**

The BKAZ was launched in March 2003, and was registered as a Trust in 2006 (Trust Reg No MA.909/2006) with the mission to offer unique representation, service delivery and coordination of beekeepers towards the achievement of production and sustainable viability. Our mission is to be the Zimbabwean representative for beekeepers in the production and marketing of quality beekeeping products. BKAZ has experiences and lessons in working with both the small-scale and aspiring large honey producers over the years in different parts of the country.

The BKAZ is an organization that also represents the interest of rural and underprivileged beekeepers and upholds values that promote a high degree of credibility and accountability towards clients, stakeholders, communities, sponsors and funders. This entail that obligation are adhered to and fulfilled. Our focus is highly placed on maintaining service delivery that will ensure the adoption and efficient and effective utilization of the appropriate technology of all availed resources. We have an outreach target in all the honey potential areas of the country with each province having one or more potential producing areas. Our approach has seen the adoption and uptake of beekeeping by more than 35% of women beekeepers, moving out from the notion that beekeeping is a man domain.

### **The Objectives of BKAZ are:**

- To create a gender sensitive and environment friendly platform for communities to generate income through production of improved and quality beekeeping products
- To collect and disseminate information on beekeeping, processing and marketing of honey and by-products
- To have strategic alliance with relevant partners and stakeholders
- To provide a forum for members to exchange ideas and knowledge on honey production and development
- To increase women/youth and other vulnerable group's participation as well as mainstreaming gender into programs
- To link beekeepers products with high value markets
- To inform, educate all producers on the trend of beekeeping activities, share research results of diseases and any other related information.
- To liaise and lobby relevant government departments for development and enactment of favourable policies for the benefit of the honey sector

### **Main activities of the organization**

1. development of relevant appropriate technologies that are user friendly and gender sensitive in beekeeping
2. training of beekeepers in basic beekeeping and beekeeping business approaches
3. liaising and lobbying on extension, marketing, pricing and research needs of the bee industry
4. Information dissemination through bulletins and newsletters.
5. Demonstrating the effectiveness use of appropriate technologies to enhance value addition and productivity of agro- based economies.

### **The BKAZ empowers beekeepers through:**

- Promotion of modern beekeeping technology and methods
- Provision of quarterly information bulletins in addition to extension support provided by trained bee promoters on the ground
- Provision of bee hives on an out-grower arrangement that sees farmers repaying back through honey
- Market linkage, training on Participatory market chain Approach to access high value markets
- Promotion of increased production of quality bee products

### **Our Core Values:**

- Teamwork
- Competent
- Commitment

### **Past experiences and lessons**

Some of the lessons from the previous work which have influenced this association are

- The need to increase access to improved technology and bee husbandry in order to attract more women to participate

- The need for a collective voice to lobby for more support from relevant stakeholders
- The need to create linkages with markets to create better returns for producers and
- The need for land and credit to enable producers to expand and access better technologies