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MOYESH creates job opportunities for input suppliers in Alle district of Oromia Region



Photo: Gemechis showing the bee veil and protective cloth produced by his enterprise

Gemechis Abera is a 34-years old entrepreneur and model protective cloth supplier in the Alle district, IluAbabor zone of Oromia region, Ethiopia. In 2016, he established a micro enterprise named “Gemechis, Tigist and friend’s” with an initial capital of 40,000ETB (USD\$1600) and 2 manpower in Gore town. Now this micro enterprise has become a model supplier of bee veils and protective clothes for the MOYESH programme and other beekeepers in neighboring districts, as well as created job opportunities for additional unemployed people.

Mr. Gemechis says “we were running the business for more than five years with small capital and limited markets. We had only two employees and two sewing machines. We were also engaged in very limited activities like sewing men and female clothes with minimum pay. All these could not help to bring substantial change in our livelihood.” According to him, the introduction of *icipe*- MOre Young Entrepreneurs in Silk and Honey (MOYESH) programme was a golden opportunity for Gemechis and many other micro enterprises operating along the beekeeping and sericulture value chains. In 2020, they



MOYESH Outcomes

took training on bee protective cloth sewing techniques and engaged in the agreement to supply quality protective cloth for the programme. In this context, the enterprise delivered 1400 protective clothes for the Alle and Yayu districts of the Ilubabor zone and was able to earn 1,550,000ETB (about USD\$40,789) from sales of the protective clothes. The enterprise also hired additional four employees and received land from local administration to expand the business.

The enterprise employee
(Itana Kelbesa) sewing bee



Gemechis also stressed, this opportunity helps them to expand their business and created additional jobs for people in the area. The enterprise hired 4 new employees (2male and 2 females) with better salaries and purchased 4 additional sewing machines to meet the demands of their customers and markets. The enterprise obtained land, investment license and 500,000 ETB (USD\$14,700) loans from the

bank to expand the business. Currently, he is constructing a business center in Gore town with an estimated construction cost of 6,000,000ETB (USD\$176,470). In general, Gemechis, Tigist and friend's micro enterprise current capital balance tremendously increased and helping them to expand their business more and creating additional jobs for the surrounding peoples. All the employees working in the enterprise expressed their happiness on the service they are providing, and the significant changes observed in their livelihoods. They are very grateful to the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (*icipe*), and the Mastercard Foundation who supported them through the MOYESH programme.

Zelalem and his colleagues
assembling beehives



Tseganesh and Zelalem woodwork micro-enterprise was established in 2017 with 600,000ETB (USD\$24,000) initial capital and six and (6) personnel. In 2020 this micro-enterprise was selected as a potential supplier of modern beehives for the *icipe*-MOYESH programme. The programme trained them on the specification and standards of frame bee beehives manufacturing techniques. This micro-enterprise has been delivering the

quality frame beehives for the programme youth partners in the Alle and Yayu districts of the Ilubabor zone.

Zelalem Getachew, manager of the woodwork micro enterprise, says, "MOYESH opens a good opportunity to expand our business and created jobs for 23 people (13 male and 10 female). We produced 2,100 frame hives and delivered for the programme in Oromia and Southern, Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' (SNNP) Regions. From the sales, we were able to generate income about 5,477,800ETB (USD\$144,152)". As he said, this is the effect of the MOYESH programme.



Young women (Feven Sileshi) fixing frame hives



MOYESH Outcomes

The enterprise is also supplied for individual beekeepers and government sector offices. In addition to the indirect job creation, the technology spillover effects of the programme within the community are also very crucial. The community says, MOYESH is a magic programme”.

The MOYESH programme was designed to secure dignified and fulfilling direct employment and income for 100, 000 unemployed Ethiopian youth (60% women) through the provision of appropriate knowledge and skills and enabling them to establish beekeeping and sericulture business enterprises. The programme will have further positive impacts on 14.6 million people along with the honey and silk value chains through multiplier effects. MOYESH is a five-year programme (October 2019- September 2024) implemented by *icipe* (<http://www.icipe.org>) in partnership with Mastercard Foundation (mastercardfdn.org), the Ethiopian Job Creation Commission (jobscommission.gov.et) and several private public sector actors.



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