



In Ethiopia, more than 2 million youth enter the labor market annually. However, the national economy cannot generate adequate jobs that can absorb these unemployed youths. The International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (*icipe*) and the Mastercard Foundation, together with public and private sector partners, initiated the More Young Entrepreneurs in Silk and Honey (MOYESH) Programme that aims to create dignified and fulfilling jobs for 100,000 unemployed young women and men.

This edition presents a summary of the major milestones and latest updates.



102,565

Since the programme launch in October 2019, about 102,565 (60% women) youth have been recruited, trained, and provided business starter kits in apiculture and sericulture



25,066

Over 25 thousand additional direct jobs were also created at partnering input and service provider small enterprises that extended their businesses by tapping into the growing market opportunities



1,457

1,457 tons of table honey and 222 tons of silk products were produced by Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 youth enterprises



\$8 mil

Youth generated ETB 414 million (USD 8 million) income from beekeeping, silkworm farming and complementary income-generating businesses

About MOYESH

MOYESH Programme aims to “secure dignified and fulfilling direct job opportunities and income for 100, 000 unemployed youth (60% women)” through providing 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 the honey and silk value chains through multiplier effects. MOYESH (moyesh.icipe.org) is a five-year programme (October 2019- October 2024) implemented in Amhara, Oromia, and Southern Nations, Nationalities Peoples’ regions by *icipe* (icipe.org) in partnership with the Mastercard Foundation (mastercardfdn.org), and several other public and private sector partners.

For more information
International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (*icipe*)

Ethiopia Country Office

P. O. Box 5689
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel: +251 (0) 116172592/94
Fax: +251 (0) 116172001
Email: icipe-ethiopia@icipe.org

Headquarters

P. O. Box 30772-00100 Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: +254 20 8632000
Fax: +254 20 8632001
Email: icipe@icipe.org
Web: www.icipe.org



Highlights of events in the past six months

icipe Director General's visit to Ethiopia and MOYESH programme sites



Dr Segenet Kelemu (holding a bottle of organically certified honey produced by youth partners) observing the quality and packaging of table honey at the marketplace owned by youth groups in Chagni town of Amhara region

Dr Segenet Kelemu, Director-General & CEO of the *icipe* paid a fruitful visit from 11 to 27 January 2023 and met with H.E. Dr Fikru Regassa, State Minister, Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), Ethiopia; Samuel Yalew Adela, Country Director, Mastercard Foundation Ethiopia; H.E. Dr Yilkal Kefale, President of the Amhara Regional State, and district administration officials and youth partners. The visit was helpful to consolidate existing partnerships and find new opportunities for further collaboration. Dr Kelemu also visited the MOYESH programme sites where apiculture value chain activities are demonstrated by youth in the Guagusa Shikudad and Lasta districts of the Amhara Region.

Mastercard Foundation, Ethiopia Country Director visits youth owned apiculture sites and integrated business hub in Amhara region



Pictured: (l-r) Dr Workneh Ayalew (MOYESH Coordinator) explains to Mr Samuel Yalew about the activities taking place in the youth-owned Endeg Bee Products Processing, Development and Marketing Cooperative in Tiliili town, Awi Zone.

On 3 April 2023, the Mastercard Foundation, Ethiopia-Country Director, Mr. Samuel Yalew visited the youth-owned apiculture development sites and integrated business hubs in the Awi Zone of the Amhara region. During his visit, Mr. Yalew said "The various activities and economic impact observed boost the morale of the young men and women and attention of the partners to provide more support tailored to build the future Ethiopian youth."

icipe's fascinating commercial insect products at Agri-Science Exhibition



Pictured: (2nd l-r) H.E. Shimeles Abdisa, President of the Oromia Regional State, H.E. Dr Girma Amente, Minister, of the Ministry of Agriculture (holding a bottle of organic table honey produced by the MOYESH youth partners), Dr. Amrina Abdurhaman, Oromia Livestock Office Head in discussion with Mr. Teshome Kumela, MOYESH Programme Oromia region manager when they visited the icipe stand at the Agri-Science exhibition.

On 12 May 2023, *icipe* participated in the high-profile Agricultural Science Exhibition held at the National Science Museum, where over 100 institutions exhibited their research practices, products, and innovations. *icipe* booths were visited by H.E. Shimeles Abdisa, President of the Oromia Regional State, H.E. Dr Girma Amente, Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture and many other key personalities. The visitors were fascinated by the quality and packaging of organic honey exhibited by young beekeepers.

icipe and youth partners at Youth Festival



Ms Nigat Abe (forefront holding scarf), a member of Wankiya, Fatuma, Lali and their Friends' Sericulture Enterprise in Adami Tullu Jido Kombolcha Woreda of the Oromia Region showing different silk products came out of the silkworm farming to the visitors.

icipe participated in the **Youth Festival** organized by the USAID/Ethiopia Mission on 29 and 30 April 2023 at Millennium Hall in Addis Ababa to inspire, connect and empower young people across the country. Youth partners supported by the MOYESH programme participated from Amhara, Oromia and Southern Nations; Nationalities and Peoples' (SNNP) regions. High quality hive and silk products showcased at the festival enticed a huge number of visitors and young people attended across the country.

Highlights of events in the past six months

MOYESH at World Bee Day 2023



Mr. Yonas Mulugeta input supplier from Debub Bench, exhibited the beekeepers' protective clothing during World Beed Day in Bonga town

*icip*e participated in the 2023 World Bee Day event. Through such public events, the programme raises awareness and contributes to improving the domestic and international market opportunities and attracts additional investment and policy attention to the apiculture and sericulture sectors as well as youth centered initiatives. This year, youth enterprises and input suppliers supported by the MOYESH programme have presented their products during the World Bee Day observed on 20 May 2023 in Bonga town of the South West Ethiopia People's region. Our scholars were also invited and shared their thoughts on the theme "Bee Engaged in Pollinator free agricultural production".

MOYESH stakeholders' experience sharing visit to the sericulture development site in Adami Tulu



Photo: Dr. Shifa Ballo (wearing eyeglasses and holding the silk cocoon), sericulture manager and Abdela Hora (Technical Assistant) explaining the silkworm farming processes and the final products to the visitors

On 10 February 2023, a stakeholders' experiences sharing visit was held at the sericulture development site in Adami Tulu, East Shewa Zone of Oromia Region, Ethiopia. It was a very productive event, that brought together key stakeholders to share practical learning and key results in the sericulture development intervention. Government officials and policy makers at different levels (Federal, Oromia region, zone and district) attended and interacted with the organized sericulture youth enterprises, private sector partners and spoke to the media.

Impact Stories

*icip*e contributes to national strategic development priorities and private sector engagement in youth empowerment and job creation

Building upon the lessons learned and experiences gained over the years, we extended our outreach through the MOYESH Programme to 77 districts across the country. Our adaptive programme management, soft skills and technical training and innovative business models, such as the marketplaces and integrated business hubs we established inspired the government and development partners to initiate more efforts that empower young people and create decent jobs. Partners are very vocal about our contributions to promoting current national and regional development priorities and strategies. For example, *Yelemat Tirufat* planned to establish 2,000 honey villages across the country and the Oromia Region Honey initiative seeks to support 60,000 experienced beekeepers to expand their beekeeping businesses using frame hives.

Our strong public-private partnership, multiple youth engagement approaches and fruitful collaborations with financial institutions, and service providers open additional business and job creation opportunities. Microfinance Institutions are opening new branches in the programme intervention areas and providing access to loans tailored to apiculture and sericulture developments. Similarly, our support helps small and medium enterprises (SMEs), honey producers, processors, and traders to flourish in domestic and international markets. Further to the piloting and promotion of digital financial services, for the first time, packed and labelled table honey and finished silk garments produced by youth partners are traded through e-commerce, linking producers directly to the consumers. The widely disseminated information and knowledge in integrated beekeeping and sericulture development influenced rural communities to adopt aspects of the technology package that suits them (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t7zZCyzn6is>, <https://youtu.be/VPgTVanwm2U>).

Impact Stories

icipe and partners take major steps in job creation and reducing forced migration



Photo: Young entrepreneurs from the Alle and Setema districts of the Oromia region with their integrated farming products



Lack of employment opportunities is one of the major factors for youth migration in Ethiopia. Ample beholding stories indicated that our youth-centered efforts address this challenge and effectively reduced youth migration flows in some areas. For example, most members of the Hafiz, Abde, Jebelu and Friends' beekeeping enterprise comprising of 6 female and 4 male youths in the Setema district are returnees from Middle East countries, who have succeeded in achieving their economic independence after joining the MOYESH programme. They supply quality processed honey, bread and coffee seedling for the local market and already influenced many others to follow in their footsteps. Correspondingly, youth partners in the Alle district, Frew, Adise and Friends' beekeeping enterprise also emerged as young entrepreneurs. This enterprise purchased a tractor with ETB2.7 million (USD50,943) and produced exportable wheat of about 200 quintals. Others like Niway, Temesgen and their Friends' enterprise in West Dembiya, Amhara region, attained the best results by producing 463 kg of honey in a single harvest. All the youth enterprises have already started harvesting on a large scale and supplying honey and beeswax for traders, like Green Face PLC and Oda Share Company. In addition, an enormous volume of silk cocoon and yarn are also ready for the potential niche market.



icipe paves the way for the beekeeping and sericulture input suppliers to flourish in Ethiopia

We understand the fundamental roles of SMEs in job creation and economic development of the country. Thus, we provide lasting solutions for SMEs to expand their business and achieve greater gains in apiculture and sericulture businesses. So far, we created direct jobs for 25,066 youths and transformed their work and creativity through technical skills development training.

In the picture (top) Mr. Teshome Kumela, MOYESH programme Oromia Regional manager, inspecting Langstroth hives manufactured at Burka Gudina Wood & Metalwork enterprise and Mr. Abemelik Tadesse (bottom), an input supplier from Keffa Zone, displaying his products at the World Bee Day event hosted on 20 May 2023. These enterprises are amongst our major partners reliably supplying protective clothing and frame hives for beekeepers. These developments demonstrate programme impacts in laying a solid foundation for the apiculture and sericulture development in Ethiopia.





Photo: Youth partners, trainers and programme supervision team after the conclusion of beekeeping technical training in Metu, Oromia region. In the past six months over 50,000 youth partners, government experts and SMEs representatives benefited from our capacity building packages in the programme intervention areas

Notes for Editors

The **More Young Entrepreneurs in Silk and Honey (MOYESH) programme**, a partnership between the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (www.icipe.org), the Mastercard Foundation's [Young Africa Works in Ethiopia](#) initiative, and several Ethiopian public and private sector partners, is a five-year programme (2019 – 2024) being implemented in the Amhara, Oromia and Southern Nations, Nationalities Peoples' (SNNP) Regions of Ethiopia. It is aligned with ongoing efforts to alleviate youth unemployment or underemployment in Ethiopia, aiming to create dignified and fulfilling jobs and income opportunities for 100,000 unemployed youth (60 percent of them women) through the honey and silk value chains. Additionally, the MOYESH programme will also benefit 14.6 million people along the honey and silk value chains..

Mastercard Foundation seeks a world where everyone has the opportunity to learn and prosper. Through its Young Africa Works strategy and Canadian EleV program, the Foundation works with partners to ensure that millions of young people, especially young women, access quality education, financial services, and dignified work. Mastercard Foundation was established in 2006 through the generosity of Mastercard when it became a public company. The Foundation is independent with its own Board of Directors and CEO. For more information and to sign up for the Foundation's newsletter, please visit <http://www.mastercardfdn.org/> Follow the Foundation on Twitter at @MastercardFdn

The **International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (www.icipe.org)**: headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya, is the only research institution in Africa working primarily on insects and other arthropods. The Centre conducts world-class science, and then translates this knowledge into innovative environmentally friendly, affordable, accessible, and easy to use solutions to tackle crop pests and disease vectors. *icipe's* role also extends to the conservation and sustainable exploitation of beneficial insect biodiversity. Thus, *icipe* works through the 4Hs Themes – Human Health, Animal Health, Plant Health, and Environmental Health – a holistic and integrated framework that has sustainable development as its basis, to improve food security, health, and the overall well-being of communities in Africa. We gratefully acknowledge the support of *icipe* core donors: Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida); Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC); Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR); Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the Government of the Republic of Kenya. *The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the official opinion of the donors.*