

ANNUAL REPORT 2014-12-31

Member organisation's name:	PhytoTrade Africa
Main address:	Botswana
Webpage:	www.phytotradeafrica.com



COMPANY DESCRIPTION

PhytoTrade is a non-profit organisation established in 2001 as the trade association of the natural products (Biotrade) industry in Southern Africa. PhytoTrade has more than seventy members including Community Based Organisations (CBOs), Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs), individuals, support and research institutes based in southern Africa. Added to these are Accredited Partners (APs), the majority of which are small food and cosmetic houses located across the globe, who specialise in the supply of high end consumer products with biotrade ingredients. Phytotrade seeks to reduce poverty and conserve the indigenous environment and protect biodiversity in southern Africa through biotrade. Key to achieving this is the development of viable businesses and growth of new skills, business management capacity and technological breakthroughs.

UEBT MEMBERSHIP OBLIGATIONS

Steps	Dates <i>Historical/expected</i>
Membership status granted	2007-05-08
Annual report 1	2010-12-31
Annual report 2	2011-12-31
Annual report 3	2013-12-31
Annual report 4	2014-12-31

Documents annexed for public use?

Yes

No

If so, number of annexes:

Description of the annexed documents:

e.g. 1. Annual report

e.g. 2. Sustainability report

etc.

PROGRESS IN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO PROMOTE UEBT

Through the UEBT membership PhytoTrade Africa is committed to the Ethical BioTrade Principles and Criteria.

Implementation of the commitment to the Ethical BioTrade Principles and Criteria

Since its inception PhytoTrade Africa remained committed to work with its members to fulfill Principles and Criteria of BioTrade. With the overall development objective to generate supplementary incomes to communities through BioTrade, PhytoTrade ensures a broad spectrum of principles grounded in conservation and wise use of biodiversity; equitable Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) mechanisms; technological transfers; socio-economic sustainability and compliance with legislation and related governance structures.

Activities undertaken to promote UEBT and Ethical BioTrade

PhytoTrade Africa's Enhanced Value Chain Approach continued to be grounded in key performance areas that ensure good practices related to sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity, promoting the fair and equitable sharing of environmental, social and economic benefits among value-chain participants.

Throughout the year PhytoTrade assisted its members as an incubator of sustainable and inclusive supply chains; developing business skills and management capacity; research and development; commercial product and market offering; and access to finance where resources allowed. This approach aimed to facilitate technological transfer and enhance value addition opportunities at members and producer level, assisting them along with our partners to move up the value chain. In striving to ensure socio-economic and technological sustainability, indepth case by case business analysis and advise was offered to members by specialised business development personnel. Further work with the R&D and Marketing teams continued in developing robust product portfolios and more efficient technology to allow members to have a competitive edge and better perform in the existing and emerging markets

In order to ensure sustainable and inclusive use of biodiversity through BioTrade, PhytoTrade continued to align and develop its value chain approach based on the guiding objectives of the CBD and the Nagoya Protocol on ABS. Advice on ABS, certification, best sourcing and manufacture practices was given to members to demonstrate and quantify that ingredients trade is socially responsive, environmentally conscious and economically inclusive. Sustainability strategies for conservation and environmental management included policy statements stating principles and criteria of bio-trade; conducting environmental assessments; verifying availability and quality of species being utilized; engaging the ecosystem conservation approach through development of Community Based Natural Resources Management Plans; accounting for contamination through best manufacturing practices; and abiding to national environment protection legislation. Systems in place included PhytoTrade's Fair Trade and Environmental Charters and Matrix and external verification and certification systems included and not limited to UEBT, FloCert, EcoCert.

Funds invested in Ethical BioTrade Projects

Euro 2.3 Million.

SERVICES OF UEBT AFFILIATE MEMBERS

One of the objectives of UEBT is that Affiliate Members provide support, technical guidance and advice to UEBT Trading Members in their particular area of expertise.

Advisory services offered to members cover raw material supply, cost of operations, product development, market pricing, sales volumes and ABS compliance measures. Specific services include and not limited to aspects of sustainable, traceable, inclusive and certified supply chain; cost of operations working on quality, efficiency, technology, scale and finance; market specification and functionality; and sales growth focus that includes compliance, reliability and linkages.

Delivery mechanism

PhytoTrade Africa's is available throughout the year to assist its members through formal and informal interactions. Communications include emails, skype, meetings, workshops, and trade shows. Association members pays up an annual service fee, and PhytoTrade regular onsite visits with specific technical advice. Announcements for opportunities are sent to members via emails, the associations websites and blogsites, and also via key meetings such as the Annual General Meetings.