

## ANNUAL REPORT 2014-06-25

Member organisation's name:	Bio-Innovation Zimbabwe
Main address:	1 Jedburgh Rd, Pomona, Harare, Zimbabwe
Webpage:	www.bio-innovation.org



### COMPANY DESCRIPTION

Bio-Innovation Zimbabwe (BIZ) is an innovation hub that seeks to create wealth amongst rural producers in Zimbabwe through the introduction of new crops from previously underutilised species that are both biodiversity-friendly and resilient to the effects of climate change. These plants offer a rich seam of commercial opportunities to smallholders as natural ingredients for the food and beverage, cosmetics, herbal medicine and pharmaceutical industries. However, for this potential to be realised, they require carefully targeted investment and support. Our goal is to act as the conduit for this support, and to help bring about a lasting change to Zimbabwe's small-scale agricultural sector. In our work, we adhere to Ethical BioTrade Principles and Criteria.

Our activities include:

- Identifying species in dryland areas of Zimbabwe with particular potential to benefit small-scale producers;
- Conducting resource assessments, cultivation and domestication trials on these species to quantify the resource and, where appropriate, improve their productivity and yields;
- Facilitating research into the commercially relevant properties of these species to enhance their market appeal;
- Undertaking broad consumer awareness campaigns to raise the profile of "Proudly Zimbabwean" homegrown products amongst Zimbabwean consumers;
- Providing direct technical assistance to SMEs active in the natural plant products sector;
- Providing technical assistance to small-scale producers in the sustainable harvesting and management of underutilised plants;
- Facilitating market linkages between small-scale producers and commercial buyers.

### UEBT MEMBERSHIP OBLIGATIONS

Steps	Dates <i>Historical/expected</i>
Membership status granted	2011
Annual report 1	2013-05-09
Annual report 2	2014-06-25
Annual report 3	
Annual report 4	

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 Bio-Innovation Zimbabwe is committed to the Ethical BioTrade Principles and Criteria.

### **Implementation of the commitment to the Ethical BioTrade Principles and Criteria**

Ethical BioTrade Principles and Criteria are an integral part of BIZ's overall approach to trade development in Zimbabwe.

### **Activities undertaken to promote UEBT and Ethical BioTrade**

In 2013, BIZ made reference to (the Union for) Ethical BioTrade (Principles and Criteria) in 3 Donor Annual Reports and a number of new project proposals. We made over 10 presentations at national and international fora on our work referring to Ethical BioTrade Principles and Criteria. BIZ provided advice to one UEBT Trading Member and to a number of potential trading members, both in and outside Zimbabwe. We supported communities in 13 districts of Zimbabwe to develop Ethical BioTrade supply chains.

### **Funds invested in Ethical BioTrade Projects**

USD 401,000

## **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.*

In 2013, BIZ provided services to one UEBT Trading Member (KAITE). Such services comprised the interpretation of national ABS regulations, market development advice and support, facilitate linkages to buyers with a specific interest in Ethical BioTrade. We also provided advice on application of Ethical BioTrade Principles and Criteria at community level.

### **Delivery mechanism**

BIZ services can be accessed by Trading members as membership base services, consultancies, and partnership agreements in specific projects.