

INFORMATION NOTE ON Silk in Bushenyi – A project for the development of sericulture.

This project is being promoted by Hon. Elioda Tumwesigye, a member of parliament for a constituency in Bushenyi.

1. The Project: Scaling up Sericulture and Establishing Global Markets for Silk in Bushenyi District, Uganda.

2. Implementing Entity: The proposed grant recipient is the International centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE), headquartered in Kenya. ICIPE with Bushenyi District Commercial Offices, the Bushenyi Silk Farmers Association and MTIC are the proposed implementing agencies.

3. Duration: 3 (three) years.

4. Total Cost: **\$2.294 million**

5. EIF Funding Sought: Total: **\$2.065 million**

6. Other Sources of Funding: GoU.

7. Objective of the Project: The project aims to scale up silk production and establish global markets for quality silk and other silk based products leading to long-term sustainable growth in the incomes of small-scale silk farmers in the targeted region.

8. Brief Description:

The project is to focus on the trade and natural resources sectors with the main activities including:

- a) Building local capacities for commercial services delivery in both the private and public sectors.
- b) Conducting value chain and market studies for silk based products;
- c) Improving silk producers' skills in production and marketing.

The project aims to promote the silk subsector by scaling up quality silk production and marketing. A marketing strategy will be developed to include quality production, pricing, and identification of relevant market linkages with private traders.

The project has three main components which aim to address the constraints small scale producers face:

1. Build capacity and create awareness of silk farmers in scaling up silkworm rearing technology for increasing cocoon production and processing for higher quality silk.
2. Establish through training and infrastructure support, the production and marketing of silk and silk based products through development of rearing houses, acquisition of a quality control lab, organic certification, sustainable market place operations and development of marketing strategies.
3. Monitor and evaluate project activities, establish global markets, produce reports and do livelihood mapping for assessment of impacts.

TRACE COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATION: TRACE finds the proposal interesting and in line with GoU and EIF objectives. However, there are some concerns regarding the implementation arrangements. The choice of ICIPE as implementing agency would not find favour with the EIF and possibly GoU as well. It is recommended that TRACE continues to work with the sponsors on the proposal and dialogue on the implementing arrangements to enhance local ownership of the project. ICIPE as technical experts can be called upon to provide TA as and when required for a commensurate fee.

Contact persons:

TRACE trace2@mtti.go.ug