



## IMPROVING MARKET ACCESS FOR DRYLANDS COMMODITIES



### Background

- Making markets work for the poor is emerging as a priority area for UNDP
- UNDP is working closely with the EC
- Lack of income and opportunities and the prevalence of market failures identified as a priority areas for action (Millennium Project)

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The rural poor in the drylands of East Africa face three key constraints to market access:

- (1) Physical constraints – e.g. poor roads, limited access to information and communication technologies (ICT)
- (2) Capacity constraints – e.g. lack of financial services, inefficient production and processing technologies, poor business skills, weak institutions
- (3) Policy constraints – e.g. restrictive legal frameworks (barriers to trade)

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- MAP aims to improve market access for drylands commodities, thus enhancing the economic situation and livelihoods conditions of drylands populations
- MAP addresses policy issues of drylands markets and seeks to strengthen sub-regional cooperation
- Main target groups are agro-pastoralists and pastoralists especially women, in selected communities in Turkana and Kajiado (KE), Karamoja (UG), and Monduli (TZ)

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### Examples of Activities Undertaken

- Baseline surveys and assessments
- Community mobilization & action planning
- Training modules developed and adapted to identified community needs
- Grassroots training and awareness creation on-going
- Institutional strengthening and capacity building on-going
- Value chain development for targeted products
- Building of partnerships with national, regional and international organizations on-going (e.g. Government ministries, international NGOs, UN agencies)
- Policy studies (focusing on challenges and opportunities) completed in the three countries and regional policy workshop held
- Policy influencing & lobbying on-going in the three countries
- Lessons learning, experience sharing & information dissemination on-going

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### Targeted products (with OA potential)

1. Livestock and livestock products (e.g. meat production)
2. Honey (production and processing)
3. Gums and resins e.g. Gum Arabic
4. Herbal products (e.g. aloe)
5. High value trees and tree products (e.g. non-edible oils from Jatropha curcas)
5. Crop products (e.g. chillis,

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## Community Participation



## Livestock Market (Kajiado, KE)



## Medicinal Plants (Turkana, KE)



## Herbal products- Aloe (Turkana, KE)



## Traditional Log Hive



## Bee house (housing 8 top bar hives)



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### Concluding Remarks

- >The drylands of East Africa have potential for a range of organic products (e.g. honey, vegetables, animal products, health products)
- >Product volumes and value can be increased
- >Food security and livelihoods can be improved through increased trade in organic products
- >Partnerships between communities, governments, NGOs, private sector, development partners are essential
- >Organic agriculture can enhance sustainable development in the drylands of East Africa