



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Non-Wood Forest Products (NWFP) - a contribution to sustainable development

FAO's work on NWFP – an overview

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What are NWFPs?

- “Non-wood Forest Products consist of **goods of biological origin other than wood**, derived from forests and other wooded land.” (FAO, 2020)
- NWFPs **cover** (1) wild products; (2) managed products; (3) cultivated products.
- **Includes:** mushrooms, fruits, nuts, herbs, aromatic plants, game, fibres (used in construction, clothing or handcrafts), resins, gums, saps, and products used for medicinal, cosmetic or cultural scopes.



NWFPs in Uganda

- Shea butter (*vitellaria paradoxa* subspecies *niotica*)
- Tamarind (*Tamarindus indica*)
- Honey
- African tulip (*Spathodea campinulata*)
- Gum Arabic
- Mushrooms (e.g. *Termitomyces auranticus*)
- Bamboo/bamboo shoots & Rattan
- Wild coffee
- Edible rats and other small animals
- Aloe vera
- Drums and fiddles,
- Bark powder from *Prunus africana*,
- Medicinal extracts from *Warburgia ugandensis* and others such as thatch grass, fitteos, and palm leaves



**Source: State of Uganda's Forestry, 2016,
Ministry of Water and Environment**



Value of NWFPs

- FAO estimates that globally, NWFPs generated **US\$88** billion in 2011
- **76 million tonnes** of food from the forest were consumed on average in 2011
- **1 billion** people are thought to depend on wild foods
- **80 percent** of the population of developing countries rely on traditional medicines, mostly plant drugs, for primary health care
- Most high value NWFPs became **agricultural crops**



Working to promote forest value beyond wood

Forest Type	Livelihood values/ha. UGX	Total area of forest type in Uganda (Ha)	Total livelihood value of forest type UGX mill./yr	NWFP values UGX mill./yr	Timber Values UGX Mill./yr
Protected THF	18,074	427,210	7,722	4,092	3,630
Private THF	30,346	350,130	10,625	3,931	6,694
Savannah woodland/bushland	50,427	1,372,708	69,223	20,770	48,453
Afro-montane	242,427	264,200	64,050	40,351	23,699
Total		2,414,248	150,620	69,144	82,476

Source: State of Uganda's Forestry, 2016, Ministry of Water and Environment



FAO's NWFP Programme in supporting value chain development



Balanites aegyptica (desert date)

- ✓ Identifying promising NWFPs and assessing their value chains
- ✓ Nutritional and chemical assessments of key products
- ✓ Addressing key bottlenecks by improving capacities, skills and knowledge
- ✓ Promoting sustainable use and management of NWFP sources



Working towards a vision of forest/land management inclusive of NWFPs!

- Including NWFP resources in forest resource assessments
- Developing guidelines on sustainable harvesting of NWFPs
- Management planning should aim to protect NWFP species and habitats
- Domestication where appropriate





Thank you!

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