



**BPW International**  
**Member Projects & Experts**

**Final Report**

**General Information**

**Project Name:** The Women touch the Nectar of life: Stingless bees  
**Project Chair(s):** Agriculture Task force  
**BPW Project Member(s):** BPW - Ijuí RS, Brazil  
**Reported Period:** 2016/2017  
**Date:** september/2017

**Short Overview**

At the first moment we got involved in training countryside and urban women from BPW Ijuí to work with stingless bees in order to have an extra income in their lives. We held five workshops.

**Workshop I:**

A visit to the beekeepers in Ijuí City and also in the countryside.



**Workshop II:**

We had introduction and basic class administered by EMATER Agronomists.



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Workshop III:

We visited *Escola Modelo* – a school in Ijuí - that has been creating a stingless bees nursery in order to spread the specimen and develop in the students the environmental awareness.



Workshop IV:

Classes administered by SENAR on the farm to the employees' wives in order to offer them an additional occupation and bring an extra income to their homes.



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### Workshop V:

To achieve ONU goals we are going to visit an Indigenous Territory next week, and included them in the project so that the indigenous women may have another income and also work with the bees, whereas they, before Christ, had been the ones who had already handled with the bees as a mean of livelihood. In addition, they contributed by giving the name of the tribe to the specimen of the stingless bees, that is, *Meliponineos*.

### Financial

Also the project is supported by public and private organizations that could provide economic and material support, such as: EMATER (Association of technical Assistance and Rural Extension Projects of Rio Grande do Sul State), FARSUL (Agriculture Federation of Rio Grande do Sul State), SENAR (National Rural Learning Service of Ijuí-RS), Beekeepers Association of Ijuí-RS, Rural Labor Union of Ijuí and CRE (Regional Education Coordination of State of Rio Grande do Sul). The Rural Labor Union contributed with R\$ 2.700,00 to buy 50 boxes for the swarm of bees.

### Results

The project is supported by BPW Ijuí members and Amélia Noemi Carceres Gonçalves, Ana Maria Lemos Rolim, Clarice Benetti Hermanns, Eliana Mucari Chiappetta, Giovana Palombo Sandri, Julieta Palombo Sandri, Ligia Brasil, Lorena Cossetin, Maria da Graça dos Santos Deckert, Maria Joice Reck de Jesus, Maria de Lurdes Floriano, Mariazinha Holfmaister,



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Nadine Conrad Dubal, Renée El Ammar, Raquel Klauck, Sonia Teresinha Burtet, Tânia Rubin Deutschmann, Tânia Maria Conrad, Terezinha Moreira Tolotti e Vitória Chiappetta Mitri.

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The state whereas there has already been honey production, introducing more women in this promising market.

### Goals for next period

To involve more cities and BPWs in this project, doing more speeches for disclosure.

What are your plans for the next period? And how do you plan to do this?



Our purpose is to install a *meliponario* with 300 boxes of bees in the community on the farm and involve the women in an association to create a cooperative where the profit will be on behalf of the community itself.

### Challenges / Opportunities

What are your biggest problems, your main challenges? How could you deal with these challenges? What positive opportunities can profit you from?

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the state whereas there has already been honey production, introducing more women in this promising marker.

On the other hand, in this field of activity, that it is not so common for women, we have to convince the female farmers that it is not just about the food, in this case the honey and its derivatives, as mainly the pollination, this service that the bees make to the detriment of the production of food.