



Thank you for giving the gift of a **bee smoker**.

Traditionally in Uganda, women have been considered subservient to men. Yet even in traditional communities there, women bear a substantial economic burden. With high rates of early marriage and pregnancy, women in Uganda often don't receive the education that might allow them to earn well and provide for their family. This is where beekeeping comes in and a bee smoker makes it possible.

A bee smoker generates smoke that calms honey bees, allowing the beekeeper to safely open the hive. The smoke produced by fuel smoldering in the smoker masks the pheromone "alarm system" of the guard bees and, with that defense system temporarily disabled, the beekeeper can collect the honey.

Serepta Uronya is 67 years old and has 10 children. When her husband of 40 years died, she needed a way to support herself but thought she was "too old to start anything new." But she joined a women's self-help group sponsored by World Renew where she was offered training in beekeeping and earned the supplies — including a bee smoker — needed to embark on a new career as a beekeeper. From her very first post-training hive, she harvested 72 kgs (159 lbs) of honey and sold all of it! With the money she earned, she bought more hives and now owns six. She has become a successful businesswoman and an inspiration to her community.

With your gift of a bee smoker to someone like Serepta, you have stepped into the gap between destitution and provision, between dependence and empowerment.

Thank you.

Through this gift, you stand in the gap . . .