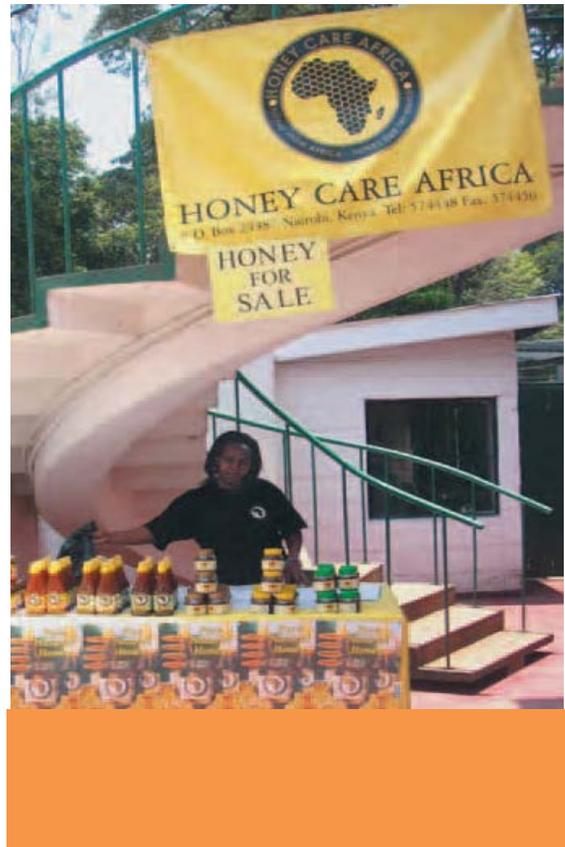


# Investing in Progress

*with Experience, Innovation, and Partnership*

**2005 Annual Report**

## New Opportunities for the Private Sector



### Kenya: A Better Living for the Poorest Farmers

This year IFC lent \$178,000 to Honey Care Africa Limited, a socially responsible Kenyan small business that sells hives to local subsistence farmers and buys their honey at guaranteed prices. The market Honey Care creates for locally produced honey increases incomes in rural areas with few economic opportunities, typically doubling beekeepers' income. Honey Care also provides training in beekeeping as well as equipment and technical support to the farmers. Many of these farmers are women, and most earn less than \$1 a day. To date, the company has provided sustainable economic opportunities to more than 2,500 poor farmers in rural Kenya. Through the Strengthening Grassroots Business Initiative, IFC is also helping Honey Care upgrade its processing capacity to meet international standards, strengthen its management information systems, and increase its level of extension services to beekeepers, collection centers, and distribution facilities. This will enable the company to increase its geographical coverage in Kenya, assist more farmers, and enter the export market.

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#### Headquarters

International Finance Corporation  
2121 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20433 USA  
ifc.org