



# TULONGENI TWAHANGANA COOPERATIVE LTD (TTC)

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# Tulongeni Twahangana Cooperative

- Interest in Ximenia started in 2005 as a R&D project
- TTC registered as a cooperative since 2012
- TTC is the main Ximenia producer in Namibia
- TTC is based in Ohangwena and Oshikoto Regions (Northern Namibia)



# Memberships/Leadership

TTC currently consists of:

- 16 Associations with 1200 rural members (98% women)
- Associations have own constitution, a Management Committee and a Supervisory committee
- TTC as a cooperative has by-laws, a Board of Directors and a Supervisory committee
- All are elected at the Annually Generally Meetings

# Activities

- The main business of TTC members is the harvesting of Ximenia fruits and the production and sales of premium quality Ximenia kernels to the cooperative (which provides a much needed complementary cash income to them)
- Members are trained in cooperative development, organization skills, quality control, recording, etc. Training is given to:
  - Member-producers
  - Management committees and Supervisory Committees of the associations.
  - Trainers (training of trainers)
  - Cooperative Board and Supervisory committee.





# Activities *continued*

- Ximenia fruits are (sustainably) harvested in communal areas
- TTC weighs and records the kernels and does quality control during intakes and ensures that new bags are used and marked
- TTC organises transport from each centre during collection and pays member-producers for their kernels
- TTC sales (at cost + margin) kernels to CRIAA SA-DC (TTC partner organisation) at pre-agreed price
- Ximenia oil is processed at Katutura Artisans' Project in Windhoek under the supervision of CRIAA SA-DC
- TTC is planning to process and market its own Ximenia oil in the future (a factory is been built but not yet completed)

# Ximenia Products

Ximenia (Oombeke) is traditionally used as a hair oil, and has proven anti-aging properties. It is easily absorbed by the skin and soothes, softens and rejuvenates tired, dry and/or aging skin. It is offered in 3 quality ranges:

- Traditionally processed oil *(best for hair)*
- Cold-pressed (virgin) oil *(for cosmetic formulations and stretch marks)*
- Light - refined (purified) oil *(best used for anti-aging applications)*



# ABS aspects

- Local market in Namibia are small, the development of exports of Ximenia oil as cosmetic ingredient key to success
- Ximenia oil is not yet as known internationally as Marula oil
- Managing quality production of oil and accessing export markets requires experience and expertise.
- Beneficial partnership between TTC and the NGO CRIAA SA-DC which develops the international marketing of our Ximenia oil
- Any commercialization and R&D is done with Prior Informed Consent of the cooperative management and its associations
- TTC members are paid a fair price for their kernels decided in AGM
- TTC receives a percentage on all export sales (monetary benefit), as well as information, training and institutional development provided by CRIAA SA-DC (non-monetary benefits)



# Assistance/Support

- Division of Cooperative Development
- CRIAA SA-DC (Namibian NGO) and some donors (GIZ ...)
- PhytoTrade Africa (regional Trade Association)
- Ohangwena Regional Council
- Ministry of Agriculture Water and Forestry

Thank you