



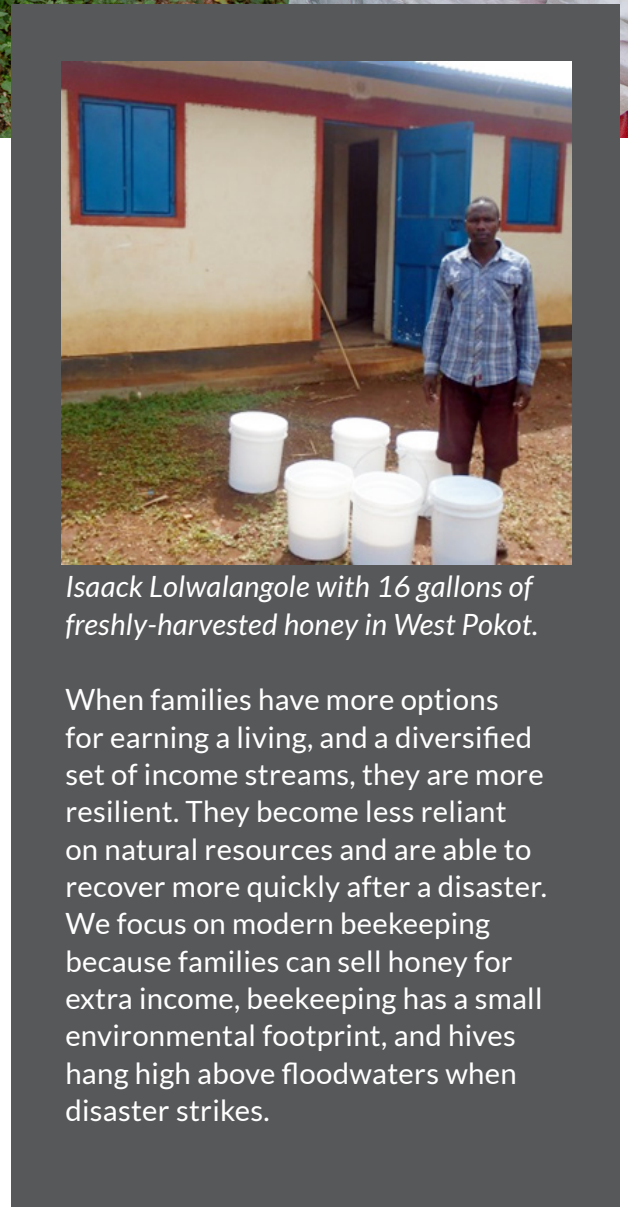
## REDUCING RISK, BUILDING RESILIENCE

Our goal is to help communities address the long-term factors that undermine their ability to respond to disasters, especially as climate change continues to take a growing toll.

Community organizing is at the center of our work, and we make sure that the voices of women and girls are included. Program activities focus on expanding the ways that families can earn a living while building resilience for when disaster strikes. Through a community consultation process, we determined that two of the best ways to accomplish this are through modern beekeeping and savings and loan groups.

Participating families are already finding success in the disaster-prone Tana River and West Pokot counties. Families report that they are earning more money, including the 360 households that have increased their honey production by a factor of six. Savings and loan groups have raised \$18,360, which is now circulating to grow small businesses.

As families have more income, tensions are easing. Early marriages are becoming less prevalent, since families aren't as reliant on dowries. Women control the new income streams and receive payment directly to their mobile phones. This means that they can more readily access essential items, and children – particularly girls – can stay in school. Community participants are the managers of the project and play the greatest role in decision-making.



*Isaack Lolwalangole with 16 gallons of freshly-harvested honey in West Pokot.*

When families have more options for earning a living, and a diversified set of income streams, they are more resilient. They become less reliant on natural resources and are able to recover more quickly after a disaster. We focus on modern beekeeping because families can sell honey for extra income, beekeeping has a small environmental footprint, and hives hang high above floodwaters when disaster strikes.