





# Market assessment: Non-Wood Forest Products in Kosovo

ProFound – Advisers In Development June 2015



Agenda





#### **PPSE Assessment: Non-Wood Forest Products in Kosovo**

- Objectives:
- Understanding NWFP sub-sectors dynamics in Kosovo
- Identifying Challenges and Opportunities
- Identifying Interventions: Employment creation, Income generation, Increased Competitiveness
- Gender mainstreaming and Minority Integration
- Activities:
- In-depth interviews with stakeholders and field visits
- Collection of baseline data for sector SMEs
- Analysis and validation of findings: Challenges and Opportunities
- Recommendations and potential risks





## **NWFPs: European market**















€

# **NWFPs: European market**

#### INCENTIVES

- \* Naturalness
- \* Organic "by default"; no MRLs
- \* Part of biodiversity
- \* Social impact: collectors' communities
- \* Original properties

X

\* Certification and marketing (potential)

#### **CHALLENGES**

- \* Organizing value chain
- \* Trust-building with suppliers
- \* Attaining sufficient volumes
- \* Guaranteeing consistent quality
- \* Safeguarding traceability
- \* Meeting requirements
- \* Sustainability
- \* Certification and marketing



# **Higher requirements, stricter controls**

# Safe products

Safe to process and use Safety in terms of supply Safe in terms of sustainability Safe in terms of proof of efficacy Safe in terms of transparency

- Documented accordingly
- Communication is key





### Sustainablity: Social, Ecological, Biodiversity

- Supported by certification schemes
- Motivations:
  - Ethical commitment
  - Marketing
  - Value addition
- European market distinct geographical division:
  - Consumer awareness
  - o Income levels









**Poor access to finance** 

 $\rightarrow \text{Product flow} \rightarrow \rightarrow \\ \leftarrow \leftarrow \text{Cash flow} \leftarrow$ 



Sources:

- Own investment: High cash flow needed for collection season
- Grants: Dependency risk; allied with robust business planning
- Banks: High interests, risk-prone "Lending is like an earthquake"



#### Weak linkages to domestic market

- Visibility!
- Low awareness for NWFPs in Kosovar market
- Imported raw material
- North Kosovo: Serbian market
- Contract and payment terms: Domestic retailers
- Education of industry and consumers
- Marketing and branding opportunities







- Narrow product portfolio
- Short value chain, no further processing
- (Relatively) Thin margins
- Limited certification
- Current possibilities for value chain extension
- Examples of other countries... Learning and Applying...



# **NWFPs: Competing industries**



#### Macedonia





Bulgaria

### Slovenia



### New **responsibilities** for resource **<u>owners</u>** AND <u>users</u>!

- Sustainable use to ensure **availability** of species
- Economic viability and profit
- Positive social impact
- Increased competitiveness

