

31 March 2014

Dear Charles,

All of us at Farm Africa would like to thank everyone at the British Potato Trade Association for your kind donation of £500, raised from your Members Annual Dinner and Dance. This is a fantastic amount to help fund our projects in eastern Africa, and I would like to share with you an example of the work that you are helping to support.

With few employment opportunities around Ethiopia's Bonga Forest, many families rely on the land around them to survive. The forest and its natural resources are being destroyed as many families cut down trees to sell the firewood and also make space to grow crops. That's why Farm Africa is now working directly with communities to help them turn products such as honey, wild coffee and spices into lucrative sources of income.

I would like you to meet Girma, who was collecting honey from traditional hives hung high in the forest canopy – but had always seen it as a food source for his family and a commodity to sell around his village for a low price. Farm Africa has been working with him and his fellow honey producers by helping them to produce higher-quality honey from modern hives that they can build at ground level near their homes.



This honey has now become his family's lifeline and the key source of precious income that Girma can use to buy food and other household essentials. Farm Africa has helped him find the best markets for his forest honey, and his recent harvest sold in Addis Ababa for twice what it would have fetched locally. His children can now look forward to regular meals and living in the brick house which he hopes to build using his profits.

Through your support, Farm Africa can continue working with farmers like Girma, to help them make the most of the natural resources around them. Please do pass on my thanks to your president, Mr Andrew Skea for choosing Farm Africa, and to all your members for your fundraising and donation. It's greatly appreciated.

With very best wishes

Nigel Harris
Chief Executive