

Industry	Agro-Processing
Sub-sector	Essential Oils and Bio-Mosquito Repellents
Project Description	<p>The aim of this project is to make a wide range of biological mosquito repellents based on Nepeta cataria (Catnip) essential oil, including lotions, sprays, soaps, baby powder, candles, incense, spirals, and detergents. To achieve this goal, a significant infrastructure investment is needed for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A large scale cultivation of <i>Nepeta cataria</i> plants; 2) The construction of an agro-industrial complex, including a Production Plant and an Analytical and Quality Control Laboratory.
Expected Results	Production of 300 tons of Catnip essential oil per year
Key Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malaria resulting from the bites of infected mosquitoes is the number one cause of high mortality in Burundi, especially among children under 5 years and pregnant women. • Lack of access to affordable mosquito repellents for vulnerable populations in Burundi and neighboring countries. • Catnip insect repellents are regarded as much safer than DEET-based products. • Studies in the US have demonstrated that nepetalactone, a component of the essential oil from Catnip plants, repels mosquitoes 10 times more effectively than DEET, the chemical found in most commercial insect repellents. • The present investment funding request would offer competitive mosquito repellent products in the large market of East Africa and the Economic Community, with an estimated production of 300 tons of Catnip oil per year. • In 2013, a pilot study on the extraction of Catnip oil and the promotion of selected Catnip oil products (lotions, cream, cleaning solution) have been completed.

Burundi Investments Opportunities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The nepetalactone yield obtained from <i>Nepeta Cataria</i> grown in Burundi has shown to be higher than reference data from North America. The company specializes in the breeding and development of catnip seeds for the extension of <i>Nepeta cataria</i> cultivation in other African countries.
Actions Required or Implementation Arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final feasibility study 20 ha of agricultural land in Commune of Nyabiraba (Rural Bujumbura) 50 ha of agricultural land in Commune of Rutana More than 50 ha of agricultural land made available by the SOSUMO (Société sucrière du Moso) company Formation of a cooperative of small independent Catnip growers Investment
Period of Implementation	Immediately
Status	Private Owned Company and Partners
Contact	Burundi Investment Promotion Authority (API)
Additional information	Prefeasibility study available (in French)