



## **Donor Newsletter # 2/2007**

### **Certification, Commodities & Marketing**

This donor news is the second in a new series of three issues regarding funding opportunities in the field of development and environment. This series of publications is made possible by a grant of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DGIS-TMF).

The information in this donor news-series is based on data from the Both ENDS database of donor- and organisation profiles. Maintenance of this database is part of the ongoing services of Both ENDS to environmental organisations in the South and in CEE-countries. For more information please visit <http://www.bothends.org>

The theme of this issue is the financing of certification activities. There are few funding organisations that primarily fund initiatives regarding certification; therefore other agencies are added which fund fair trade initiatives and comparable activities in the field of commodities and market development. Please note that organisations that fund or support (private) business development as well as micro-lending agencies have not been included in the survey.

*Note: if the application details show n/a it is our advice to send a letter of introduction (loi).*

*For comments please contact the service desk of Both ENDS via [info@bothends.org](mailto:info@bothends.org)*

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## **A Greater Gift/SERRV International**

### Background:

SERRV International was started by the Church of the Brethren in 1949 to help refugees in Europe recover from the war. In 1999, it became an independent non-profit trade and development organization, and in 2004 the marketing identity, A Greater Gift, was adopted. It is an independent non-affiliated non-profit, although originally a service program of the Church of the Brethren, a protestant Christian denomination

The aim is to promote the social and economic progress of people in developing regions of the world by purchasing and marketing their crafts in a just and direct manner

### Activities:

The goal is to alleviate poverty and empower low-income people through trade, training and other forms of capacity building as they work to improve their lives. SERRV works to assist artisans and farmers through the marketing of their handicrafts and food products in a just and direct manner and by providing development assistance (in money, equipment and training) to low-income craftspeople through their community-based organizations.

Assisting its partners in their long-term growth is a key element of SERRV's work. The International Development staff visits and helps partners to plan integrated development strategies designed to increase sales and production capacity, and to broaden their customer base.

### Project example(s):

12 grants to producer partners for a digital camera, computers, sewing machines, and batik process equipment. Several major trainings in production techniques and product development.

### Geographic details:

Africa: Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Rwanda, South

Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda; Asia: Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam; Latin America & Caribbean: Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Peru; Eastern South-eastern Europe: Bosnia-Herzegovina; Middle East: Israel, Palestinian Authority.

Application details: n/a

### Financial information:

Expenses 2006: donations to partner organizations US\$ 164,954; consultants to assist producers/other services US\$ 91,234; grants to producers/producer development US\$ 41,625.

### Contact information:

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*Information collected 2007/12*

## **Africa Now**

### Background:

Africa Now is an international development organisation tackling poverty in Africa by helping small-scale producers, and promoting ethical trade. Africa Now believes that a significant contribution to the alleviation of poverty derives from the growth of small and medium scale commercial activity.

### Activities:

Africa Now promotes equitable and sustainable work and jobs for rural Africans through projects, services and advocacy, which enable them to take advantage of market opportunities and fairer trade to achieve a decent standard of living.

Africa Now not only helps producers expand their existing product range, but also provides training on new

innovations and technologies, links to local banks for loans, and assistance in seeking out reliable markets where their products can be sold.

Africa Now works in partnership with individuals and groups to provide specialist technical advice, business and administrative training and access to small-scale finance. With the right kind of support, disadvantaged people in Africa can make use of these opportunities to improve their standard of living permanently.

Africa Now's specific competencies include:

- Leading audits and building local auditing capacity in Kenya, Namibia, Egypt, Nigeria, Swaziland, Lesotho, South Africa, Madagascar, Mauritius, Morocco and Rwanda;
- Experience and expertise in a range of sectors including horticulture, floriculture, garment and home wares and in packaging and processing;
- Establishing and implementing Corrective Action Programmes and links to appropriate organisations;
- Running bespoke training courses for international horticulture suppliers
- Providing training to Fair-trade flower farms on the managing the Fair-trade premium;
- Building the capacity of small scale producers to produce goods for global supply chains;
- Training smallholders in financial management, good working practices, efficiency practices and market knowledge and access.

Geographical details:

Africa: Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, South-Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe; Northern Africa: Egypt, Morocco

Application details: n/a

Financial information:

Expenditure for undertaking charitable activities 2005-2006 £ 713,677

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*Information collected 10/2007*

### **Aid to Artisans, Inc.**

Background:

Aid to Artisans is a non-profit organization dedicated to creating economic opportunities for craftspeople in developing nations. ATA's staff, design and business consultants, volunteers and an active board of directors help handcraft-based businesses compete in the global marketplace.

The aim of ATA is to offer practical assistance to artisan groups worldwide, working in partnerships to foster artistic traditions, cultural vitality, improved livelihoods and community well being. Through collaboration in product development, business skills training and development of new markets, Aid to Artisans provides sustainable economic and social benefits for craftspeople in an environmentally sensitive and culturally respectful manner.

Activities:

Aid to Artisans offers: (1) technical assistance and training in marketing and product development, to build sustainable artisan enterprises; (2) market-driven design consultation directly with artisans to make sure their products are marketable; (3) linking artisans to world markets; and (4) a grants program which provides money to groups of artisans; these grants are used to buy tools, finance training and create "materials banks".

Aid to Artisans offers several programmes:

Market Readiness Training:

Twice yearly, in January and August, ATA holds Training Program to coincide with the New York International Gift Fairs. For more information about the Program:

[http://www.aidtoartisans.org/pdfs/2004\\_MRT\\_Registration\\_Form.doc](http://www.aidtoartisans.org/pdfs/2004_MRT_Registration_Form.doc)

Craft Enterprise Business Training:

As part of all ATA projects, artisans receive general business training, learning how to run and sustain a business.

Non-Governmental Craft Organization Development:

Providing training to established or aspiring non-governmental craft organizations to help them to become working, sustainable organizations that benefit their members.

Remarks:

With initial funding from USAID, Aid to Artisans offers a grants program targeting craft producing groups in Macedonia, called Macedonian Artisans Support Fund. With funding from the American Express Foundation, Aid to Artisans offers a small grants program targeting craft producing groups in India called Maker to Market Fund for India.

Project example(s):

India: International Foundation for Fair-trade and Development: This is a large umbrella NPO working to promote social and economic development for marginalized people (45,000 women and 500 men) through the production and marketing of craft products. Artisan groups are widely spread and work locally. Grant award purchased a digital camera in enable the group to catalog and promote their products.

Sri Lanka: Saviya Development Foundation Galle: A NGO working to alleviate poverty, protect civil rights for artisans and provide training and marketing to craft producers.

Workshops develop a variety of marketable craft products based on the unique cultural heritage.

Geographical details:

Aid to Artisans works in African (Northern as well as Sub-Sahara), Asia (including Central Asia and the Caucasus), the Pacific, the Central and South America (including the Caribbean), Eastern & Central Europe (including the Balkan), and in the Middle East.

Application details:

For the Small Grants Program only established artisan groups or cooperatives will be considered. Newly formed organizations and individual artists are not eligible for grants under this program. Crafts must have an art element and be of cultural significance. Photographs of the craft products are required.

Only grant requests accompanied by a letter of recommendation from organizations already known to Aid to Artisans or part of the ATA network will be considered (IFAT, OXFAM, UN agencies, Fair Trade Federation, U.S. Peace Corps Volunteers and other international aid organisations). Craft groups who are already established with ATA through previous grants or through ATA project participation may apply for a Marketing Support Grant. This new category of grant might cover trade show costs, product development or production assistance.

Grants are reviewed and awarded annually, in the fall. Application deadline is July 1 each year. For more information about the ATA Grants Program, please e-mail ATA at [small\\_grants@aidtoartisans.org](mailto:small_grants@aidtoartisans.org)

Grant information:

ATA's Small Grants range from US\$ 500 to US\$ 1,500 and are especially used to help groups purchase much needed equipment and materials to improve or increase their craft production.

Marketing Support Grants are in the same range.

Macedonian Artisans Support Fund: The program includes grants ranging in size from US\$ 500 to US\$ 3,000,

designed to assist craft producers with materials banks, necessary equipment, marketing support, business training, or other technical assistance that will permit them to expand employment and generate income.

[http://www.aidtoartisans.org/pdfs/macdonia\\_artisan\\_support\\_fund.pdf](http://www.aidtoartisans.org/pdfs/macdonia_artisan_support_fund.pdf)

Maker to Market Fund for India: These grants ranging in size from \$500 to \$5,000 are designed to assist craft producers with marketing support, marketing training, or other technical assistance, which will permit them to expand employment and generate income.

[http://www.aidtoartisans.org/pdfs/2004\\_Maker\\_to\\_Market\\_Grant\\_Application\\_Form.pdf](http://www.aidtoartisans.org/pdfs/2004_Maker_to_Market_Grant_Application_Form.pdf)

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*Information collected 2007/11*

### **Common Fund for Commodities (CFC)**

**Background:**

The Common Fund for Commodities is an inter-governmental financial institution established within the framework of the United Nations. The Fund's specific mandate is to support developing countries that are commodity dependent to improve and diversify commodities production and trade.

The Common Fund operates under the novel approach of commodity focus instead of the traditional country focus. Commodity focus entails

concentrating on the general problems of commodities of interest to several developing countries.

The CFC seeks to enhance the socio-economic development of commodity producers and to contribute towards development of society in general. In line with its market-oriented approach, the Fund finances commodity development projects from its own resources. Through collaboration and co-operation with a whole range of other development institutions, the private sector and civil society organisations, CFC endeavours to achieve overall efficiency and impact in commodity development sector.

**Activities:**

The Common Fund projects have a distinct focus on commodities and usually have a multi-country coverage. The CFC supported projects concentrate mainly on the poorer strata of the population: small producers-exporters, smallholders, as well as small and medium sized enterprises involved in commodity production, processing and trade in developing countries, particularly the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), and countries in transition. Target beneficiaries are small producers-exporters, smallholders and small enterprises in developing countries. All projects that are financed must demonstrate a spin-off effect factor to address general and common problems of each commodity.

Examples of commodity development measures can include research and development, productivity improvements, marketing and financing technical assistance. Other measures to improve the structural conditions in markets, the long-term competitiveness and prospects of specific commodities are also considered.

**Project example(s):**

Wealth Creation: Increasing Production and Developing New Market Opportunities for Smallholder Potato Growers in Ethiopia, Uganda and Kenya.

Technical assistance for upgrading small-scale fisheries in Djibouti, Morocco and Yemen, and integration in international trade.

**Geographical details:**

CFC supports projects globally. However, the Fund places a greater emphasis on initiatives and projects located in Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean Basin and a concentrated effort particularly in Africa.

**Application details:**

All project proposals have to be submitted to the CFC through an International Commodity Body (ICB). ICBs are inter-governmental organisations, serving as market advocates for specific commodities, usually through consultations between consumers, producers and by analysis of market development trends.

**Guidelines: Form Commodity Development Programme for 2008 to 2012:** <http://www.common-fund.org/download/content/Rodfm.pdf>

**Grant information:**

The CFC concentrates on small to medium sized projects (with an indicative range of total costs from US\$ 1 to 5 million). Projects are financed by grants, loans, or a combination of grants and loans.

CFC operates a Fast Track facility for financing small projects - up to US\$ 120,000. Whereas regular projects need the approval of the Executive Board, Fast Track projects that are supported by an International Commodity Body (ICB) and reviewed by the Consultative Committee can be approved by the Managing Director. Examples of proposals, which can be funded by the Fast Track, are studies, very small pilot projects, seminars, meetings and workshops.

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*Information collected 2007/11*

**EcoLogic Development Fund (EDF)**

**Background:**

EcoLogic's work is based on the conviction that local rural and indigenous peoples are best suited to take the lead in initiatives that benefit their communities and the environment.

EcoLogic's objective is to conserve endangered wildlife and wild lands by advancing community-based development and resource management. It promotes the productive use of natural resources to meet local needs.

EcoLogic concentrates its assistance to local Latin American organizations through long-term partnerships. EcoLogic supports strong vibrant local organizations that will be able to lead socially just conservation efforts long after a partnership with EcoLogic has ended.

**Activities:**

**Economic Alternatives:** Economic alternatives refer to businesses practices, which in addition to generating income, are committed to furthering social welfare, just labour practices, human rights and environmental protection. EcoLogic aims to improve economic and environmental conditions through supporting sustainable initiatives - production and marketing of NTFPs; the creation and sale of herbal remedies and body products; the establishment of nurseries to produce seedlings for reforestation; and the harvesting of agro forestry crops - that will improve the quality of life for small farmers.

**Organizational Capacity Building:** EcoLogic offers technical assistance in strategic planning, board and staff development, fundraising and

evaluation techniques to strengthen the overall management of local initiatives and to help partner organisations meet their goals.

**Programmes:**

The EDF operates a "green" loan fund: the EcoLogic Enterprise Ventures Inc. (EVV). It offers fair credit to support small-to-medium-scale environmental enterprise development in Latin America and the Caribbean. It focuses on the rural credit-market; EVV provides small loans to enterprises that foster biodiversity conservation and socially equitable development.

**Geographic details:**

Central America: Belize, Costa Rica, Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico.

**Application details:**

No formal grant application process.

**Grant information:**

EcoLogic provides a combination of grants and loans to finance projects, ranging from US\$ 5,000 to US\$ 70,000 for a period of one to three years. Grants support training, education, and other activities that do not generate income. Loans support activities that generate revenue, such as the creation of micro enterprises.

The EcoLogic Enterprise Ventures (EEV) is building a portfolio of US\$ 10,000-200,000 loans to (rural) businesses whose production activities foster biodiversity and grassroots development. Target sectors include alternative agriculture, non-timber forest products, renewable energy, ecotourism and handicrafts.

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*Information collected 2007/11*

## **FairMatch Support (FMS)**

**Background:**

FairMatch Support is a not for profit organisation founded in 2007 that promotes and stimulates more sustainable and fair trade. FairMatch Support contributes to the socio-economic development of small-scale producers and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in developing countries through the creation of fair and organic supply chains by matching the different chain actors and providing necessary support. FairMatch aims to be a linking and co-ordination 'hub' for the various actors in value chain development.

FairMatch is not related to a specific company, sector or certification scheme and therefore has an unique position as independent matchmaker and support provider.

**Activities:**

Once 'the match' has been made between Western markets parties and potential supply sources in developing countries, FairMatch identifies and organises tailor made support throughout the whole supply chain. Support for producer organisations and SMEs in developing countries:

- organisational development;
- (financial) management;
- product quality improvement;
- logistics and import regulations;
- the implementation of codes and certification;
- identification of necessary funding and working capital;
- development of new traceable, supply chains for processing factories;
- human resource development;
- development of (visual) Management Information Systems;
- communications with clients.

Support for local business development service providers:

- information on Western market developments
- information and training on codes and certification.



FairMatch Support develops multi-annual programmes around specific product groups. They cover several producer organisations in different countries, which are linked to a front-runner company in the sector. FairMatch currently implements three major programmes: sustainable fruits & vegetables from Africa; fair-trade cashew from Africa; and supply chain development for FairBites (a new initiative, set up to promote the use of organic and fair-trade products in the out of home market; FairBites realises this ambition through the creation a new brand for organic and fair-trade products in the out of home market).

**Project example(s):**

FairMatch Support has been involved in setting up Savannah Farmers Marketing Company (SFMC) in Northern Ghana. SFMC is a new marketing company that buys products from about 4,000 small-scale farmers and sells these products to different companies.

**Geographical details:**

Africa: Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Congo, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Senegal, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe; Northern Africa: Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia.

Application details: n/a

**Grant information:**

FairMatch is a service provider and not a funding agency. Programmes are executed in close collaboration with ICCO, which is also the main funder of FairMatch.

**Contact information:**

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*Information collected 2007/11*

## **Fairtrade Labelling Organizations International (FLO-I)**

**Background:**

Fairtrade Labelling Organizations International (FLO) is part of a worldwide network of Fair Trade organizations actively involved in supporting producers, awareness raising and campaigning for changes in the rules and practices of conventional international trade. FLO is an umbrella organization that unites 20 Labelling Initiatives in 21 countries and Producer Networks representing Fair-trade Certified Producer Organizations in Latin America, Africa and Asia. It is the leading standard setting and certification organization for labelled Fair-trade.

FLO's mission is to enable sustainable development and empowerment of disadvantaged producers and workers in developing countries.

**Activities:**

- Producers considering Fair-trade certification often have many questions. PBU officers offer support and advice to producers facing marketing and export challenges. In order to address these questions, FLO International offers support through the Producer Business Unit (PBU).
- The Liaison Development Department (LDD) deals with the strategic development of a sustainable Producer Support and Producer Liaison function. Moreover, it coordinates the development of information and training inputs to strengthen the position of Fair-trade Certified Producers both in the Fair-trade market and Fair-trade governance.
- Producer Certification Fund: FLO International has created a fund to help Small Farmers' Organizations pay for their Fair-trade certification.

Application details:

Eligible for the Producer Certification Fund are all Small Farmers' Organizations applying for initial Fair-trade certification or renewing their certification, but lacking sufficient financial resources to pay the full certification fee.

An organisation may apply for a grant once it has received an invoice for an inspection from FLO-CERT GmbH. Applications can be sent throughout the year. Applications received are reviewed six times a year, typically at the end of January, March, May, July, September, and November. You may send the application form via post, email or fax. Please send the application form together with a copy of your certification invoice and – if available – with a proof of your export capacity to: Fair-trade Labelling Organizations International, Producer Certification Fund (address: Bonner Talweg 177, 53129 Bonn, Germany - Fax: +49-228-242.17.13 - Email: [fund@fairtrade.net](mailto:fund@fairtrade.net))

Guidelines:

[http://www.fairtrade.net/fileadmin/user\\_upload/content/PCF\\_Guidelines\\_ENG.pdf](http://www.fairtrade.net/fileadmin/user_upload/content/PCF_Guidelines_ENG.pdf)

Application form:

[http://www.fairtrade.net/fileadmin/user\\_upload/content/English\\_Application\\_Form\\_2007.pdf](http://www.fairtrade.net/fileadmin/user_upload/content/English_Application_Form_2007.pdf)

Grant information:

Grants never fully covers certification fees and are intended as co-financing support. 1st grade Small Farmers' Organizations may receive a grant of up to a maximum 75 % of their fee, 2nd and 3rd grade Small Farmers' Organizations may receive up to a maximum of 50 % of their fee.

Contact information:

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*Information collected 2007/11*

## **FSC Global Fund**

Background:

The FSC Global Fund is a vehicle through which the Forest Stewardship Council's international efforts can be supported by companies, investors, foundations, and other organizations that seek to strengthen the premier example of stakeholder-based voluntary standard setting in the world. The Fund is fully independent of the FSC itself. The FSC Global Fund underwrites part of the costs of worldwide FSC-related programs and operations central to FSC's mission of promoting environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable forest management, while simultaneously supporting the development of the financial model needed for full FSC financial self-sufficiency.

The FSC Global Fund is operated as a general fund from which disbursements are made on the basis of determined need and merit. The Fund will honour donor requests to direct contributions to a specific program or operation in support of the FSC mission.

Activities:

FSC Global Fund grants are distributed globally to support:

- market-building activities that aggregate demand, facilitate market clearing, and link the multiplicity of buyers and sellers needed for a smoothly functioning and competitive market;
- buyer-education and other market development efforts for both business-to-business and consumers to increase the demand for wood from certified, well-managed forests, providing an economic incentive for responsible forest management;
- programs that add value to timber and non-timber forest products from small-scale, indigenous, and community-owned forests, helping alleviate poverty;

- open, transparent, and democratic participatory processes for the development of responsible forest-management standards, giving voice and vote to the full range of stakeholders.

Project example(s):

China: Establish an FSC National Office in China: this office provides FSC with an institutional presence in China, one of the fastest growing markets for forest products in the world. The office promotes FSC and awareness of certified forest products within China, helps facilitate the development of national standards for China, and works to mitigate the impact of indiscriminate and illegal timber sourcing within Chinese borders and from sources outside of China.

Geographical details: global

Application details:

The Fund can only consider requests from non-profit, organizations or projects that have a tax-exempt fiscal sponsor. Areas of Interest are: initiatives that help grow the worldwide market for FSC-certified products; initiatives that help increase FSC certification worldwide, with a particular emphasis on the Tropics and developing countries; and initiatives that serve to contribute to the financial sustainability of FSC International and FSC National Initiatives.

Guidelines:

<http://www.fscglobalfund.org/index.php?id=115>

The FSC Global Fund meets twice a year to review proposals and award grants to FSC-related entities worldwide.

Contact information:

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 Internet: <http://www.fscglobalfund.org>

*Information collected 2007/10*

**Groenhart / VFTB**

Background:

Groenhart exists since the beginning of 2003. At the moment, and in collaboration with the NGOs WWF-Belgium and the Flemish Forest Union (VBV), Groenhart is in charge of the daily management and promotion of the Flemish Fund for Tropical Forests (VFTB). The Flemish Fund for Tropical Forests was created in 2002 by the Ministry of Environment and Agriculture.

Groenhart wants to protect both the environment and nature in the tropics and aims for: the accomplishment of actions or activities that defend the interests of local populations in developing countries; sustainable development of the environment in general, and sustainable management of nature, forests and natural resources in particular; respect for and use of the principles of participation by and with local populations; improvement of the living standards of the most vulnerable groups; gender equality; and the protection of the rights of indigenous people. Within the framework of these principles, Groenhart supports specific projects that contribute to nature conservation and improving the living standards of local populations in the southern hemisphere.

Activities:

Groenhart supports projects involving the following themes:

- sustainable forest management and certification of forest products;
- management of forests reserves and buffer zones;
- reforestation and restoration of degraded soils;
- afforestation projects in the context of the Kyoto-protocol aimed at emission reduction and biodiversity conservation;
- improvement in the living standards of the local population.

Project example(s):  
Ecuador: Pastaza: Promotion of Wood Commercialization coming from Sustainably Managed Forests. This project aims to promote sustainable management and also to commercialize wood coming from sustainably managed forests.  
Peru: Madre de Dios: Sustainable harvesting and commercialization of the Brazilnut coming from the forests of the National Reserve Tambopata and the National Park Bahuaja Sonene.

Geographic concentration:  
South America: Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, Peru, Surinam.

Application details:  
Project proposals should be aimed at activities concerning one or more of the following themes: Sustainable forest management and certification, forest reserves and buffer zones (research projects, control and management of forest reserves, development of buffer zone activities with local people, ecotourism, etc). When there is a clear link with a reduction of pressure on the forest reserve, non-forestry related activities aimed at improving the livelihoods of local communities in the buffer zones can be included in the project proposal, but may not make up the whole of planned activities.

Guidelines:  
[http://www.vbv.be/Groenhartwebsite/Website-NL/Website\\_en/CRITERIOS%202005.pdf](http://www.vbv.be/Groenhartwebsite/Website-NL/Website_en/CRITERIOS%202005.pdf)

Grant information:  
Grants range between € 20,000 and € 35,000 (normally projects are supported for a 1,5 or 2 year period). The financial support by the Flemish Fund for Tropical Forests may not exceed 80 % of the total eligible project costs. The balance must be financed from the applicant's or partner's own resources, or from sources other than the budget of the Fund.

Contact information:

English name: 'Greenheart' / Tropical Forest Programme  
Contact person(s): Dieter Cuypers, [Dieter.Cuypers@groenhart.be](mailto:Dieter.Cuypers@groenhart.be), Hilke Evenepoel, [hilke.evenepoel@groenhart.be](mailto:hilke.evenepoel@groenhart.be)  
Address: Geraardsbergsesteenweg 267, 9090 Gontrode-Melle – Belgium  
Phone: +32-9-2649056; Fax: +32-9-2649092  
E-mail: [info@groenhart.be](mailto:info@groenhart.be)  
Internet: <http://www.groenhart.be>

*Information collected 2007/11*

### **Hand in Hand Fund (HHF)**

Background:  
The Rapunzel Naturkost AG established the Hand in Hand Fund in 1998. Rapunzel Naturkost works within the context of Fair Trade with its programme Hand in Hand, because for Rapunzel organic farming and Fair Trade belong together. Annually Rapunzel contributes funds to the Hand in Hand Fund held in trust by the German Environmental Aid Association (Deutsche Umwelthilfe).

The Fund supports the build-up of infrastructure; educational and social aid facilities, and in particular environmental education with respect to ecological projects in the South.

Activities:  
The Fund implements projects in fields such as health, education, child/youth support, women's projects, conservation/environmental projects and organic agriculture.

Project examples:  
India: ACHAL: Around 1,000 small farmers in India grow cashew nuts according to ecological guidelines in a system of mixed cultivation.

Application details:  
Please order an application form and further information about the Hand in Hand programme at Rapunzel Naturkost AG (address see below). Applications are assessed by the Hand in Hand committee (representative of

the DUH, Rapunzel and a bio certification organization) each year.

Grant information:

Grants range between € 1,000 and € 8,500.

Contact information:

Deutsche Umwelthilfe e.V.

Contact person: Erika Blank,

[blank@duh.de](mailto:blank@duh.de)

Address: Fritz-Reichle-Ring 4, 78315

Radolfzell - Germany

Phone: +49-7732-9995.0; Fax: +49-

7732-9995.77

RAPUNZEL Naturkost AG

Contact person: Gila Kriegisch,

[gila.kriegisch@rapunzel.de](mailto:gila.kriegisch@rapunzel.de)

Address: Rapunzelstraße 1, 87764

Legau - Germany

Phone: +49-8330-529.0; Fax: +49-

8330-529.1188

Internet: <http://www.duh.de/245.html>

*Information collected 2007/11*

### **Hivos/Oxfam Novib Biodiversity Fund**

Background:

The Biodiversity Fund has been created by the environment department of the Dutch Ministry for Development Co-operation (DGIS) to stimulate sustainable production processes. Processes that do not negatively affect the stability and diversity of biological resources but instead conserve and restore them, while offering a sustainable livelihood to those with limited control over resources. The Biodiversity Fund phase II – managed by Hivos and Oxfam Novib - started in 2005 and will run until March 2009.

Activities:

The Fund focuses on the development of production processes that conserve, restore, and at least do not negatively affect stability and diversity of biological resources. Therefore the Fund provides financial support to outstanding globally or regionally operating networks and civil society organisations that strive for

recognition and active marketing of sustainable products from agriculture, forestry and fishery.

The Fund funds and otherwise supports regional and global CSOs and networks that promote access to and sustainable use of biodiversity by marginalized sectors of society. The main objectives of the Fund are to:

- improve the productive performance of small-scale and low income producers through biodiversity conserving production practices;
- support market development for the produce of biodiversity conserving production practices including the development and implementation of social and environmental standards;
- lobby and advocate for institutional arrangements and policies that constitute an enabling environment for biodiversity conserving production practices both in the North and the South;
- contributing to institution and social movement building, strategic alliances, networks and coalitions.

Project example(s):

FSC: support for the review of their plantation criteria and an evaluation of their guidelines to enable small producers' access to the FSC certificate.

PAN UK: a programme to promote marketing of organic and fair trade cotton from Africa in the European market.

Geographic details: Global

Application details:

There is no specific format for applications and there are no specific deadlines. The Project Steering Committee meets regularly.

Grant information:

Grants range between € 10,000 and € 300,000 p.a..

Contact information:

Contact address: Stichting Hivos,  
Raamweg 16, 2596 HL Den Haag -  
Netherlands

Contact persons: Carol Gribnau (Hivos,  
+31 70 376 5500) [c.gribnau@hivos.nl](mailto:c.gribnau@hivos.nl),  
Willy Douma (Hivos, +31 70 376  
5500) [w.douma@hivos.nl](mailto:w.douma@hivos.nl), Gigi  
Manicad (Novib, +31 70 342 1621)  
[gigi.manicad@oxfamnovib.nl](mailto:gigi.manicad@oxfamnovib.nl).

Internet:

[http://www.hivos.nl/english/english/cooperation\\_in\\_the\\_south/biodiversity\\_fund](http://www.hivos.nl/english/english/cooperation_in_the_south/biodiversity_fund)

*Information collected 2007/11*

## **ICCO**

Background:

ICCO is one of the six co-financing organisations in the Netherlands. ICCO is rooted in the Dutch Protestant-Christian tradition and is partner in various national and international ecumenical networks.

ICCO's work consists in financing and supporting activities, which stimulate and enable people, in their own way, to organise dignified housing and living conditions.

In the long term, ICCO strives for the structural reduction of poverty and the realisation of internationally recognised human rights.

Activities:

ICCO's most important instrument is the financing of development projects and programmes according to its policy themes. Moreover ICCO has additional ways to make its poverty alleviation efforts more effective (used as much as possible in combination):

- Capacity building of local organisations through the internal consultancy bureau, I/C Consult, and the Medical Co-ordination Secretariat;
- Personnel Co-operation for strengthening capabilities, for instance through missions, exchanges, and staff deployment;
- Providing loans and guarantees to economic development projects with a market-oriented approach.

Within the policy themes there is special attention for gender-equality, justice and organisation-development.

Fair Economic Development (FED) is one of the policy themes of ICCO. FED gives people hope for an income and prosperity and because it contributes to transparent and fair production and trade. Important factors include alliances of producers, companies, knowledge holders, NGOs and governments. On the one hand, ICCO finances and supports programmes focused on concrete economic activities, and on the other hand, it works on influencing policy in areas such as international trade.

Objectives of FED at partner organisation level:

- To concentrate resources on (rural) partner organisations and projects with a potential for economic sustainability;
- To implement successful, replicable pilot initiatives focused on rural finance, business and development, community forestry and fair trade;
- To promote networks of partner organisations for the effective identification, development and implementation of viable models for rural development in a global economy.

Project example:

In October 2002 ICCO and partner-organisations founded the international Sustainable Forest Use Working group. From active co-operation with partner-organisations remarkable results were achieved in during the last five years in the field of sustainable forest use: use-rights, identification of products, capacity building, commercialisation of products etc. However, for real economically viable development initiatives, processing of these products and thus adding value, is needed. Besides the use of timber and non-timber forest products also the products resulting from agro-forestry might be necessary to complete the demand for income and employment and to decrease the pressure on

remaining forests. Also sound and fair co-operation with both governments (facilitating) and businesses is considered necessary to create better market opportunities.

#### Geographic details:

Africa: Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Dem. Rep. Congo, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Cameroon, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Rwanda, Sudan, Senegal, Uganda, Zimbabwe, South Africa; Asia & Pacific: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Fiji Islands, Philippines, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vietnam; Middle East: Israel, Palestinian Authority; Newly Independent States: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan; Eastern & South-eastern Europe: Albania, Moldavia; South & Central America & Caribbean: Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Surinam.

#### Application details:

ICCO does not have any standard format for project funding applications. This means that you can draw up the request in such a way that it fits in with your own organisation. However, ICCO does need certain information in order to be able to come to a decision about funding. You have to include information about your organisation as well as about your plan of action for the coming period in your application (maximum of 20 pages). ICCO only approves applications that are in line with its mission, strategy and our policy. The project is to be implemented in a country in which ICCO is active. Applications for funding other than in ICCO's focus countries will NOT be considered.

More information about the criteria: <http://www.icco.nl/delivery/icco/en/doc.phtml?p=622>

#### Grant information:

Grants vary between € 500 and € 8 million. Grants are administered per regional team.

#### Contact information:

Visiting address: Joseph Haydnlaan 2a; Postal address: Postbus 8190, 3503 RD Utrecht - Netherlands  
Phone: +31-30-692.78.11; Fax: +31-30-692.56.14  
E-mail: [info@icco.nl](mailto:info@icco.nl)  
Internet: <http://www.icco.nl>

*Information collected 2007/12*

#### **Naturaleza Foundation Inc.**

##### Background:

Naturaleza, Inc., is a socially responsible global health and wellness, environmental stewardship and sustainable development not-for-profit organisation. Its mission is to assist in the generation of fresh revenue streams for the continued preservation of our world's natural places and the deep cultural traditions therein.

##### Activities:

Naturaleza works side by side with indigenous partners to provide ethno botanical and botanical, sustainable development, appropriate technologies, and traditional healing expertise in conjunction with conservation and environmental medicine efforts to effect positive change internationally.

Regarding its organic and eco-friendly agricultural endeavours Naturaleza employs many varieties of projects to develop organic and eco-friendly farming activities in traditional growing communities. Many indigenous growing communities are producing organic produce, but they are distributing on conventional markets because of either a lack of know-how or financial inability to certify their farms organic, as they should. Naturaleza provides the tools and start-up means for their education and certifications of their farms and growing communities so that they can move to solidify their organic growing modalities.

Furthermore Naturaleza supports marketing development for cultural products by assisting indigenous

peoples worldwide with the development of a market for the distribution of their cultural wares and organically farmed products (e.g., carvings, baskets, beads, textiles, organic herbs/produce etc.) through marketing, educational programming, and collaborative affiliations with culturally and environmentally appropriate companies internationally.

Project example:

Kekchi Project, Southern Belize: Sustainable harvest and production of rainforest phyto-medicines and non-timber forestry products; development of Kekchi Healer's Center, improvement of the medicinal plant garden and medicinal plant crops, pilot production facility for plant based medicines.

Geographical details:

Central & South America: Belize, Guatemala, Peru.

Application details: n/a

Grant information: n/a

Contact information:

Address: 8889 Mentor Avenue, OH 44060 Mentor - United States

Phone: +1-440-478.6892; Fax: +1-440-205.1890

E-mail: [info@naturalezafoundation.org](mailto:info@naturalezafoundation.org)

Internet:

<http://www.naturalezafoundation.org>

*Information collected 2007/11*

## **Naturland**

Background:

Naturland, Association for Organic Agriculture, is one of the most important organisations in the field of organic agriculture in Germany. On the global level Naturland is one of the major certifying organisations for organic produce.

The objective and mission of Naturland is the conservation of the environment and the maintenance of the natural basis of life by means of organic farming in all fields of agriculture.

Naturland is active the world over in promoting organic agriculture.

Activities:

- fostering the expansion of organic agriculture throughout the world;
- the encouragement of research, science, training and further education in the field of organic agriculture;
- the definition of standards for organic agriculture and the monitoring of its practical application and observance;
- co-operation in the drafting and definition of basic German and international standards in the field of organic agriculture;
- the encouragement of co-operation in the political field of development policy, especially the improvement of social and fair conditions in agriculture and in trade;
- information to the public on the meaning and objectives of organic agriculture and the enlightenment of the consumer with regard to the relationship between the production of foodstuffs, their behaviour as consumers and the environment.

Naturland helps overseas projects, including many small farmers' co-operatives in developing countries, in questions of agriculture and certification. The experts in Naturland's International Department visit regularly the Naturland members all over the world and procure information on all questions of organic agriculture standards, conversion and certification requirements and the processing of organic produce.

The EcoFair Hilfsfonds supports farmers who want to change to organic agriculture in the first (an most difficult) phase of their adaptation to organic methods, and also support of organic farmers in emergency situations in case of natural disasters.

Project examples:

Mexico: Support of two farmers' co-operatives, Comunidad Indigena de la Mujer Campesina and Union de



Mujeres Indigenas de la Region Simojovel in the Chiapas region, in the laying out of domestic gardens and small animal husbandry a.o. through training schemes. Also support of the latter organisation in reviving ancient knowledge about the cultivation and use of medicinal herbs.

India: Naturland supports a project of small farmers to build up their own organic tea company in Kerala, India. The focus lies on ecological tea agriculture and plucking techniques. Apart from the training for small farmers, local trainers are going to be qualified.

**Geographic details:**

Africa: South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda; Asia: India, Sri Lanka, Vietnam; Central & South America: Bolivia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru; Central Eastern Europe: Hungary

Application details: n/a

Grant information: n/a

**Contact information:**

Contact person(s): Steffen Reese, general manager  
Address: Kleinhaderner Weg 1, 82166 Gräfelfing – Germany  
Phone: +49-89-89.80.820; Fax: +49-89-89.80.8290  
E-mail: [naturland@naturland.de](mailto:naturland@naturland.de)  
Internet: <http://www.naturland.de>

*Information collected 2007/11*

**Nepenthes**

**Background:**

Nepenthes is an environmental organisation working to encourage sustainable use of the world's forests, particularly in Denmark and the rainforests of the tropics.

Nepenthes aims to create better conditions for both nature and people alike, and so its projects are run closely together with both native and local communities and in conjunction with other environmental organisations. Most activities are funded by DANIDA.

**Activities:**

The main areas of activity are: the sustainable use and preservation of rainforests through development projects and support for native populations; and environmental labelling of wood (FSC).

**Project example(s):**

Certification of small-scale foresters in Honduras. Counterpart: The forest co-operative COATLAHL. The objective of the project is to give the small-scale foresters in Honduras access to certification of sustainable production from the rain forest, and the certification can be used to improve the small-scale foresters' livelihood and working conditions.

**Geographic details:**

Central America: Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama

Application details: n/a

Grant information: n/a

**Contact information:**

Contact person: Vibeke Tuxen, development projects department: [vt@nepenthes.dk](mailto:vt@nepenthes.dk)  
Address: Odensegade 4B, Postboks 5102, 8100 Aarhus - Denmark  
Phone: +45-86-135.232; Fax: +45-86-125.149  
E-mail: [info@nepenthes.dk](mailto:info@nepenthes.dk)  
Internet: [www.nepenthes.dk](http://www.nepenthes.dk)

*Information collected 2007/04*

**Occupational Knowledge International (OKI)**

**Background:**

Occupational Knowledge International is a non-profit NGO dedicated to improving environmental and occupational health in developing countries, with an emphasis on capacity building, training, technical and policy advice, and assisting problem-based monitoring, surveillance and research. OK International distinguishes itself by its strong science base, with particular

expertise in toxicology, epidemiology, exposure assessment, and science-based policy development.

**Activities:**

OKI works to build capacity in developing countries to identify, monitor, and mitigate environmental and occupational exposures to hazardous materials in order to protect public health and the environment. The organization provides technical assistance through partnerships, training, and environmental audit and certification programs, with a commitment to public health tenets, scientific principles and corporate responsibility.

Regarding plant & product certification OKI believes that new opportunities are emerging to further cooperation between businesses and non-profit organizations in improving environmental programs at industrial facilities in developing countries.

**Project example(s):**

OK International works with lead battery companies to improve their operations. We offer technical evaluations of company operations and work with them to adopt measures to minimize exposures to employees and the environment. We then document those improvements and gain recognition for these companies' efforts among consumers and the environmental community. As an incentive, we offer a product certification program to facilities that meet specific environmental performance goals.

**Geographic details:**

Africa: Mozambique; Asia: India; South America: Peru

**Application details:**

Projects proposals should address a known or potential public health issue concerning an environmental and/or occupational exposure. Eligible proposals may have a research, advocacy, training, technical assistance, or educational focus. OK International will not consider requests

for general operational funding or capital improvements. Criteria for judging applications will include consistency with the goals of OKI, potential for public health improvement, demonstrated ability of the applicant to achieve results, and feasibility and practicality of the proposal. NGOs and individuals may apply (Proposals from applicants from the USA, Canada, EU, Japan, Australia or New Zealand will not be accepted). Proposals should be brief (not more than 3 pages) and must be written in English. The final date for receipt of proposals is November 1. Proposals may be sent by post, fax, or e-mail.

**Grant information:**

For the best proposal(s) OK International will provide: An unconditional and immediate grant of US\$ 2,000; ongoing technical advice; and an offer of assistance to prepare detailed proposal(s) for substantive funding to US-based foundations, government, and other funding sources. The grant of US\$ 2,000 is not intended to fund the project, but merely to provide assistance for ongoing operations and raising more substantive funding. The number of proposals awarded with grants and offers of assistance will depend on the quality of the proposals.

**Contact Information:**

Contact person: Mr. Perry Gottesfeld, executive director  
Address: 220 Montgomery Street, Suite 1027, CA 94104 San Francisco - United States  
Phone: +1-415-362.98.98; Fax: +1-415-362.94.10  
E-mail: [info@okinternational.org](mailto:info@okinternational.org)  
Internet: <http://www.okinternational.org>

*Information collected 2007/10*

**Overbrook Foundation (OF)**

**Background:**

The Overbrook Foundation is a family foundation established by Frank and Helen Altschul. The Foundation took its name from Overbook Farm, the

Altschul family home in Stamford, Connecticut. The Foundation strives to improve the lives of people by supporting projects that protect human and civil rights, advance the self-sufficiency and well being of individuals and their communities, and conserve the natural environment.

**Activities:**

The Foundation supports projects both domestically and internationally (with a particular focus in Latin America and South Africa). In its international funding, the Foundation also supports organizations providing direct services.

The two main environmental programmes are:

**Latin American Biodiversity**

**Conservation:** In Latin America the primary objective is to conserve the planet's dwindling biodiversity with much attention for forest-related issues.

**Sustainable Consumption/Production:** support of organizations working to develop better consumption and production habits in Latin America (in the United States and); currently Brazil, Mexico and Ecuador only.

**Project example(s):**

Brazil: IMAFLORA: Assessing the Impact of Certification for Biodiversity Conservation in Tropical Farms.

**Geographic details:**

Africa: South Africa; Central & South America: Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico.

**Application details:**

A Letter of inquiry, no more than 2 pages in length, must be submitted to begin the process. Letters are accepted throughout the year. Letters should be submitted on your organization's letterhead (including those submitted to us via an email attachments) and provide a brief summary of your proposal and its relevance to the Foundation's grant making programs. Inquiries by e-mail (submissions by fax are not accepted) are preferred; you may apply by

sending your inquiry to:

[apply@overbrookfoundation.org](mailto:apply@overbrookfoundation.org)

**Grant information:**

Grants range between US\$ 5.000 and US\$ 100.000.

**Contact Information:**

Contact person(s): Daniel R. Katz, Environment Program

Address: 122 East 42nd Street, Suite 2500, NY 10168 New York - United States

Phone: +1-212-661.87.10; Fax:

+1-212-661.86.64

E-mail: [info@overbrookfoundation.org](mailto:info@overbrookfoundation.org)

**Internet:**

<http://www.overbrookfoundation.org>

*Information collected 2007/08*

**Rainforest Alliance (RA)**

**Background:**

The mission of the Rainforest Alliance is to protect ecosystems and the people and wildlife that depend on them by transforming land-use practices, business practices and consumer behaviour. The Alliance believes that the key to ensuring long and healthy lives for people, for wildlife and for the planet is by establishing sustainable ways of working the land. In over 50 countries around the world, RA is collaborating with farmers, workers, business leaders, NGO's, governments, scientists and local communities to develop and implement standards that are socially and environmentally responsible, as well as economically viable.

**Activities:**

**Sustainable forestry:**

Central to RA's efforts is SmartWood certification, a seal of approval that assures consumers that the wood products they purchase come from forests managed to conserve biodiversity and support local communities. The Training, Research, Extension, Education and Systems (TREES) program was established to improve certification's effectiveness as

a tool for biodiversity conservation and economic support for local communities through:

- Market Linkages: models of market links to support small landowners in their efforts to practice sustainable forestry and achieve certification;
- Selva Maya: sound land-use practices and a conservation system that integrates protected areas with multiple-use zones in Mesoamerica's largest expanse of contiguous forest;
- Botanicals and other NTFPs: projects to promote sustainable NTFP resource management and boost the income of local forest communities in Central America and Nepal;
- Technical Assistance: guidance with corporate purchasing practices; help for community-based operations to increase the value of their products.

#### Sustainable economics:

The Community Conservation Enterprises (CCE) program, formerly known as the Catalyst Grant Program, is providing small grants to eco-enterprises throughout Mexico and Central America, with priority to projects within the Selva Maya. The Rainforest Alliance provides small grants to support conservation-based micro-businesses initiated by local entrepreneurs or communities. CCE is unable to provide support for other conservation activities, emergency relief, research, graduate or post-graduate studies, conferences or other academic pursuits.

#### Sustainable agriculture:

Under the auspices of the Sustainable Agriculture Network (SAN), the Rainforest Alliance and its partner organizations work with farmers to bring their operations up to our standards for protecting wildlife, wild lands, workers' rights and local communities. The SAN awards the Rainforest Alliance Certified eco-label to farms, not to companies or products. Farmers may apply for certification for all land in production

and companies may request that all of their source farms be certified. In addition, companies may register with the Rainforest Alliance in order to begin purchasing and selling product as certified. Certification is wholly voluntary; the process begins with an application by the farmer.

#### Project examples:

Certified Chico Initiative, Guatemala: Environmentally sound and socially just harvesting of Non-Timber Forest Products.

SalvaNATURA, El Salvador: Working with coffee farmers to implement sustainable management of coffee farms.

#### Geographic details:

For the CCE program: Central America and Mexico (with priority to projects in the Selva Maya). Other programs also Central American countries as well Africa: Guinea; Asia: Nepal; and South America: Brazil, Colombia.

#### Application details:

To apply for a grant from CCE, please download and complete the application form at <http://www.rainforest-alliance.org/cce.cfm?id=criteria>. Once complete, the application should be emailed to [srodriguez@ra.org](mailto:srodriguez@ra.org) or faxed to +1-212-677.21.87. Every effort will be made to review the application within two weeks.

#### Grant information:

CCE eco-business grants of US\$ 500 to US\$ 2,000.

#### Contact Information:

Contact person(s): Gretchen Ruethling, communications coordinator: [gruethling@ra.org](mailto:gruethling@ra.org)  
Address: 665 Broadway, Suite 500, NY 10012 New York - United States  
Phone: +1-212-677.1900; Fax: +1-212-677-2187  
E-mail: [info@ra.org](mailto:info@ra.org)  
Internet: <http://www.rainforest-alliance.org>

*Information collected 2007/11*

## **Shared Interest Society & Foundation**

### Background:

Shared Interest is a co-operative lending society that aims to reduce poverty in the world, by providing fair and just financial services. Shared Interest works with fair trade businesses all over the world, both producers and buyers, providing credit to enable producers to be paid in advance and to help fair trade develop.

The purpose of Shared Interest Society is to provide financial services and business support to make livelihoods and living standards better for disadvantaged communities in some of world's poorest countries. The Society seeks to satisfy the needs of producers as they work their way out of poverty and to meet the aspirations of its investors and donors to support them in achieving this aim.

The mission of the Shared Interest Foundation is to support disadvantaged producers. Within this mission a range of activities are anticipated. All are ultimately focused on the end goal of supporting and developing fair trade producer organisations. In working to this goal support for the fair trade movement as a whole has been identified as a key area of work.

### Activities:

Shared Interest as part of the global fair trade movement is supporting trade as a sustainable solution to poverty. This is done by:

- Providing education and training, particularly in business and financial management;
- Developing capacity within producer organisations and assisting them in improving their business performance;
- Widening access to fair finance through credits and loans.

Society and Foundation – areas of work:

- Society: lending to producer groups; producer capacity

building through loans; support the fair trade movement by providing; credit facilities and loans to buyers; sales focused research.

- Foundation: grants for producer groups; producer capacity building through training; support to the fair trade movement by grant support; research of benefit to the wider community.

Geographical concentration:  
Africa & Central America.

Application details: n/a

Financial information:

Expenditure for undertaking charitable activities in 2006: £ 104,050

### Contact information:

Address: 2 Cathedral Square, Groat Market, NE1 1EH Newcastle upon Tyne – United Kingdom

Phone: +44-191-233.91.00; Fax: +44-191-233.91.10

E-mail: [foundation@shared-interest.com](mailto:foundation@shared-interest.com)

Internet: <http://www.shared-interest.com>

*Information collected 2007/11*

## **Solidaridad**

### Background:

Solidaridad was founded with the objective of supporting the efforts of churches, groups and individuals in Latin America to enable people there to create the sort of society they want. Its aim is to combat structural poverty and to promote peace and justice. Since the start of 2007 the Green Development Foundation has merged with Solidaridad. The projects of the Foundation in Africa and Asia have become integrated in the Solidaridad portfolio.

### Activities:

The main activities are:

- Enabling partners to implement projects, and financially supporting programmes aiming to

- combat structural poverty and promote peace and justice;
- Education and awareness-raising in the context of development cooperation; and
- Fund-raising for programmes in developing countries.

Solidaridad sets up projects in order to deal with unequal balances of power and to change unfair social structures. In this, the focus is on the people and their own social, cultural and religious identity is the starting point. The activities are carried out within two main programmes:

- Human Rights and Society Building.
- Sustainable Economy and Fairtrade.

Solidaridad is working in the production chains of coffee, fruit, cotton & textiles, soy, biomass, gold, tourism, cacao and tea.

Solidaridad founded or contributed amongst others to the following organisations:

MADE-BY: An umbrella label used by fashion brands to indicate that their clothes are produced in a sustainable manner.

Fair&Co: The company that designs durable high quality clothing made from 100% organic cotton and produced under socially responsible conditions

UTZ Certified: A worldwide certification program that sets the standard for responsible coffee production and sourcing.

AgroFair: The company for Oké fruit.

Max Havelaar: The Dutch Fairtrade Label offering access to international trade with good conditions for farmers and workers in disadvantaged parts of the Third World so that they can build a better future for themselves.

Project example(s):

Ghana: WAFF: producer development organic and fair-trade fruit.

Peru: Oro Blanco: producer development fairtrade and organic cotton.

Geographic details:

Africa: Benin, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia;  
Asia & Pacific: China, India, Papua New Guinea, Vietnam; Central America & Caribbean: Dominican Rep., El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico;  
South America: Argentine, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru;  
South-eastern Europe: Serbia.

Application details: Projects can be presented the whole year.

Grant information: Expenses for structural aid in 2006: US\$ 8,463,048. Grants range between US\$ 1,500 and US\$ 450,000.

Contact information:

Address: 't Goylaan 15, 3525 AA Utrecht - Netherlands

Phone: +31-30-272.03.13; Fax: +31-30-272.01.94

E-mail: [solidaridad@solidaridad.nl](mailto:solidaridad@solidaridad.nl)

Internet: <http://www.solidaridad.nl>

*Information collected 2007/12*

## **STEP Foundation**

Background:

The STEP Foundation was founded in 1995 by the development organisations Berne Declaration, Bread for All, Caritas Switzerland, Swiss Catholic Lenten Fund and Swissaid together with the IGOT (Swiss Association for Clean Oriental Carpet Trade). The Foundation is dedicated to improving working and living conditions and fighting abusive child labour in the production of manufactured and hand-woven carpets.

Activities:

As well as trying to improve the working and living conditions of the people in regions where hand-woven carpets are made, especially those of the weavers, STEP fights against abusive child labour and promotes ecologically harmless production methods. In Switzerland it undertakes lobby- and campaigning activities.

Furthermore it is a fair trade and certification organisation (Label STEP).

The STEP-Foundation supports development projects in the carpet producing areas. The aim of these projects is to lastingly improve the working and living conditions of the weavers and their families. The projects are focussing on:

- training and education for children and adults, especially women (literacy, health care and project management);
- generating alternative incomes for adults to enable them to send their children to school;
- supporting local health care units;
- improving safety at the working place;
- supporting ecologically harmless production.

#### Programmes:

Label STEP carries out independent verification in production centres and makes sure that the carpets are produced under humane working conditions. More than 300.000 people working in the carpet industry in India, Nepal, Pakistan, Iran and Morocco could be reached and helped by the verification work and projects.

In addition to the verification, Label STEP provides support to weavers and their families through development projects related to carpet production. Thousands of people benefit from the work of over projects made possible by the commitment of STEP-Partners in the carpet sector.

#### Project examples:

India: Mirzapur: Education and training program for women: The main aims of the project are: improving the level of training among the women of the carpet belt; strengthening the position of women within the local society; increasing the family income through creating sales channels; and providing the children with better access to education by offering the parents better training and better job opportunities.

Morocco: STEP is now initiating a grassroots project, fighting rural exodus. In the long term the co-operation is aimed at a lasting improvement of working conditions in the Moroccan carpet industry and promoting ecologically harmless production methods.

#### Geographic details:

Asia: Afghanistan, India, Nepal, Pakistan; Northern Africa & Middle East: Iran, Morocco.

Application details: n/a

#### Grant information:

Grants range between SFR 4,000 and 120,000 (average grant SFR 28,600 = € 17,000). Total budget for projects in 2005: SFR 170,555 (= € 102,400).

#### Contact information:

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Internet: <http://www.step-foundation.ch>

*Information collected 2007/10*

### **Trade Aid New Zealand**

#### Background:

Trade Aid New Zealand was established in 1969 by Vi and Richard Cottrel. Trade Aid receives funding from NZAID for capacity building projects and the promotion of Fair Trade as a whole. The aim is to build Just and Sustainable Communities through Fair Trade.

#### Activities:

Through partnerships to engage in effective trading partnerships according to fair trade standards; to choose trading partners who work with the most disadvantaged producers; and to assist producers to move from poverty to self reliance through

capacity building and small financial contributions.

Project example:

India: SASHA works with almost 150 producer groups making a wide range of products. With a relatively small financial contribution looms were modernized and modifications to sewing machines were made, a facility for treating bamboo more efficiently and skills training for a dyeing and printing unit were realized.

Geographic details:

Africa: Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe; Asia: Bangladesh, Cambodia, East-Timor, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Palestinian Authority, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam; Pacific: Fiji Islands, Kiribati, Micronesia, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands; Central & South America: Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru.

Application details: n/a

Financial information:

Funding for capacity building 2006-2007 NZ\$ 157,489

Contact information:

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Internet: <http://www.tradeaid.org.nz>

*Information collected 2007/12*

### **Traidcraft Exchange (TE)**

Background:

Traidcraft Exchange is the UK's only development charity specialising in making trade work for the poor. TE fights poverty through trade, practising and promoting approaches to trade that help poor people in developing countries transform their lives. Traidcraft receives its funding from the donations of individuals, combined with major grants from

trusts and governmental organisations to support its overseas development work.

Activities:

The principal activities of Traidcraft are to fight poverty through trading with poor producer groups in the developing world and through putting principles of fair trade into practice, thus promoting justice in international trade and improving the livelihoods of producers and their dependants. Traidcraft Exchange develops projects and offers training and consultancy services to promote pro-poor business development. The services on offer include: business development and capacity-building training and consultancy; market information and awareness; product development and market linkages; consultancy and training on developing socially responsible trading practices.

Project example(s):

Kenya: Working in collaboration with ITDG and Kenya Gatsby Trust, the overall goal of this project is to tackle the causes of poverty amongst the target communities in Kenya by developing sustainable trade in herbal products and increasing the value of herbal products produced by small-scale producers.

India: Building sustainable livelihoods for collectors of Non Timber Forest Produce (NTFP), Orissa. Traidcraft Exchange is implementing this project with RCDC (Regional Centre for Development Cooperation - Forestry and Governance). TE has developed a comprehensive project to ensure the long-term welfare of poor collectors of NTFP (especially tribal groups). The project is supporting them to better control, influence, manage and benefit from the NTFP trade.

Geographical details:

Africa: Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda; Asia: Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Philippines, Vietnam.

Application details: n/a

Financial information:



Expenditure for undertaking charitable activities 2006 £ 1,488,000

Contact information:

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Internet: <http://www.traidcraft.org.uk>

*Information collected 2007/11*

**TransFair Canada & USA**

**Background:**

TransFair is a non-profit organization and one of twenty members of Fairtrade Labelling Organizations International (FLO). TransFair connects farmers, cooperatives and businesses to facilitate joint business opportunities, relationships, and the growth of the Fair Trade market. TransFair enables sustainable development and community empowerment by cultivating a more equitable global trade model that benefits farmers, workers, consumers, industry and the earth. The mission of TransFair is achieved by certifying and promoting Fair Trade products.

**Activities:**

TransFair audits transactions between companies offering Fair Trade Certified™ products and the international suppliers from whom they source, in order to guarantee that the farmers and farm workers behind Fair Trade Certified goods were paid a fair, above-market price. In addition, annual inspections conducted by FLO ensure that strict socioeconomic development criteria are being met using increased Fair Trade revenues.

TransFair provides capacity-building services, infrastructural improvements and market development services. Further training is provided in Fair Trade compliance and assistance with the Fair Trade inspection and

registration processes. The Certification team also works with producers to increase their capacity to navigate complicated international markets.

TransFair is dedicated to the success of all Fair Trade farmers and farm workers around the world. To this end the new Global Producer Services (GPS) initiative was introduced. The GPS program will leverage TransFair's unparalleled networks of industry, producer, and NGO allies to coordinate technical assistance projects designed to empower Fair Trade farmers and farm workers to maximize the benefits they receive from Fair Trade. Technical assistance will include areas such as market development and linkage, quality development, and training in areas producers have identified as most important, from financial literacy to organic conversion.

**Geographic details:**

Africa: Cameroon, Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe; Asia & Pacific: China, East Timor, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam; Central America & Caribbean: Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Rep., El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico; South America: Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela.

**Application details:**

If you are a non-Fair Trade producer and you wish to apply for certification, FLO is the organization that certifies farmers at origin. For certification you have to pay a fee to FLO. A scholarship fund is available for producer groups unable to pay the fee. Applicants that lack the initial capital to make this investment may apply for a scholarship. Please email your inquiry to:

[producercertification@transfairusa.org](mailto:producercertification@transfairusa.org)

Grant information: n/a

Contact information:

*TransFair USA:*

Contact persons: Chisara Ehiemere, Director of Certification; Hillary Miller-Wise, Director of Global Producer Services

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E-mail: [info@transfairusa.org](mailto:info@transfairusa.org)

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*Transfair Canada:*

Contact person: Hugues Tshibemba, Certification

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Internet: <http://www.transfair.ca>

*Information collected 2007/11*

### **Tropical Forest Foundation (TFF)**

Background:

The TFF was formed in 1990 to foster dialogue and alliances between industry groups, improve tropical forest management, and enhance the economic value of tropical forests. TFF is dedicated to the conservation of tropical forests through sustainable forestry. The aim is the conservation of the world's tropical forests through education and the creation of a sustainable timber industry, which also provides a better life for the people living in and around the tropical forests.

Activities:

Promoting tropical forest conservation and management through education and training. The primary focus of the TFF is developing training programs in sustainable forest management through the implementation of Reduced-Impact Logging (RIL). Furthermore TFF is engaged in research to increase the commercial

value of tropical forests that have been logged. TFF also provides workshops to companies interested in certification and also offers an evaluation of forest concession management against existing certification standards.

Project examples:

Brazil: Fundação Floresta Tropical (FFT) in Pará is home to a training school where supervisors from timber companies and government agencies learn the principles and practices of RIL. Since its inception, more than 1,400 individuals have been trained at the facility. Also TFF and FFT have been developing and implementing sustainable forest management (SFM) and reduced-impact logging (RIL) models at various locations throughout the Brazilian Amazon.

Guyana: TFF and GFC established the Forestry Training Centre (FTC) with the intention to make Guyana's forest industry more competitive while minimizing the impact of timber harvesting.

Geographical details:

Africa: Congo, Gabon; Asia: Indonesia; Central & South America: Brazil, Guyana.

Application details: n/a

Grant information: n/a

Contact information:

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Internet:

<http://www.tropicalforestfoundation.org>

*Information collected 2007/11*

## Other Useful Resources:

**Accreditation Services International (ASI):** an independent accreditation body which delivers accreditation and other relevant services to the Forest Stewardship Council and other certification schemes worldwide.

<http://www.accreditation-services.com>

**Control Union Certifications** (formerly Skal International): offers a global one-stop-shop for a wide range of certification programs; the certificates are accepted by authorities in nearly every country.

<http://www.controlunion.com/certification>

**ECOCERT** is a control and certification organisation, which is accredited by the COFRAC (the French committee for accreditation) for a.o. organic production of agricultural products and certification of product conformity.

<http://www.ecocert.com>

**Ethical Certification and Labelling Authentication Project (ECLAP):** to address the complex and inter-related issues, opportunities and challenges facing environmental and social standardization, certification and labelling; ECLAP is made up of a group of stakeholders from different sectors, regions, backgrounds and interests who share a recognition of the positive impact that Ethical Certification and Labelling (ECL) can have.

<http://www.eclspace.org>

**Fair Flowers Fair Plants (FFP):** a new initiative to stimulate the production and sales of flowers and plants cultivated in a sustainable manner.

<http://www.fairflowersfairplants.com>

**Fair Trade Federation (FTF):** an association of businesses and organizations who are fully committed to fair trade; FTF strengthens the capacity of its members, encourages the exchange of best practices, and raises awareness about the importance of choosing fairly traded products and supporting businesses committed to fair trade principles.

<http://www.fairtradefederation.org>

**Fairtrade Labelling Organizations (FLO):** the worldwide Fairtrade Standard setting and Certification organisation.

<http://www.fairtrade.net>

**FAIRWILD:** assures the buyers that products are produced in a socially and ecologically sound manner; and ensures traceability, transparency and improved product safety and offers additional arguments for the final consumer market.

<http://www.fairwild.org>

**FLO-CERT GMBH:** responsible for the inspection and certification of producer organisations and traders against the Fairtrade Standards.

<http://www.flo-cert.net>

**Forest Stewardship Council (FSC):** aims to support environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world's forests.

<http://www.fscus.org>

**Global Ecolabelling Network (GEN):** an association of third-party, environmental performance certification and labelling organizations founded to improve, promote, and develop the "ecolabelling" of products and services.

<http://www.gen.gr.jp>

**GLOBALGAP:** a private sector body that sets voluntary standards for the certification of agricultural products around the globe.

<http://www.globalgap.org>

**Institute for Marketecology (IMO):** a specialist agency in quality assurance of eco-friendly products, organic agriculture and management systems which is offering the most important information about inspection and certification of organic production worldwide; furthermore IMO was significantly involved in developing the [Global Organic Textile Standard](#) (GOTS) and has been officially approved as the first certification body at all to offer certification according to this world-wide accepted standard for ecological textiles.

<http://www.imo.ch>

IMO also operates the **WorldCert programme**, the first international online certification system.

<http://www.e-worldcert.org>

**International Federation for Alternative Trade (IFAT):** aims to enable producers to improve their livelihoods and communities through Fair Trade; IFAT will be the global network and advocate for Fair Trade, ensuring producer voices are heard.

<http://www.ifat.org>

**International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM):** an umbrella organization of the organic agriculture movement.

<http://www.ifoam.org>

**International Social and Environmental Accreditation and Labelling (ISEAL) Alliance:** an association of leading voluntary international standard-setting and conformity assessment organisations that focus on social and environmental issues; ISEAL members represent standards and conformity assessment systems in sectors ranging from forestry and agriculture to fisheries, manufacturing and textiles.

<http://www.isealalliance.org>

**Marine Stewardship Council (MSC):** seeks to harness consumer purchasing power to generate change and promote environmentally responsible stewardship of the world's most important renewable food source.

<http://www.msc.org>

**Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes (PEFC):** a certification system for forests and forest products; PEFC has its own requirements, guidelines and specific control methodology.

<http://www.pefc.org>

**UNCTAD BioTrade Initiative:** promoting sustainable biotrade in support of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity; and also hosting the BioTrade Facilitation Programme (BTFP) which focuses on enhancing sustainable bio-resources management, product development, value adding processing and marketing.

<http://www.biotrade.org>

**UTZ CERTIFIED:** a world-wide coffee certification program (UTZ means "good" in a Mayan language). UTZ CERTIFIED's mission is to set the world standard for socially and environmentally responsible coffee production and sourcing.

<http://www.utzcertified.org>