

GREEN ACTION FUND 2019 – GRANT RECIPIENTS

AFRICA

Burundi: Association Burundaise des Consommateurs (ABUCO-TI)

ABUCO-TI's project last year successfully raised awareness among communities in Bujumbura regarding the health and environmental risks associated with improper disposal of expired medicines. This year's project will build on that success, as ABUCO-TI aim to organise communities to actively dispose of medicinal waste safely. ABUCO-TI are aiming for communities to work together to collect expired medicines and deposit them at a collection centre for processing. In this way, consumers will be encouraged to come together to protect themselves and their environment.

Chad: Association pour la Défense des Droits des Consommateurs (ADC)

Non-biodegradable plastic bags and packaging are prohibited within N'Djamena, the Chadian capital. However, the ban is loosely enforced; ADC will be encouraging consumers to enforce the ban within their communities and collect plastic bags throughout the city, with assistance from the municipal authorities. ADC will also set up a monitoring system to ensure that the ban is enforced effectively and will be working with communities to promote the use of biodegradable forms of packaging.

Niger: Association De Défense des Droits des Consommateurs (ADDC-Wadata)

Food produced in Niger is often wasted due to a lack of knowledge of preservation techniques. As a result, the food supply is lower, and prices are higher for much of the year. ADDC-Wadata have already trained a women's group in Niamey to use food preservation techniques and will organise sessions for those involved previously to share their knowledge and experiences with other producers. In this way, they will minimise food waste and make it possible for consumers to access food at fairer prices during periods of low food produce.

Senegal: Association pour la Défense de l'Environnement et des Consommateurs (ADEC)

ADEC's project will build on the success of their 2018 project, by upscaling their activities to cover three of Dakar's four departments – Rufisque, Guédiawaye, and Dakar Department. The project aims to foster a culture of sharing across the city, with activities such as communal tree-planting and a programme to share food with disadvantaged children.

Rwanda: The Rwanda Consumer's Rights Protection Organization (ADECOR)

Rwanda faces the problem of inefficient use of land for agriculture and damaging livestock practices caused by the 'One cow per family' programme. ADECOR will be encouraging Rwandans to move away from such individualised form of ownership and adopt a culture of sharing within communities instead. Participants will be encouraged to use collective cowsheds and greenhouses, rather than each family having their own. ADECOR are aiming to build the communities' capacity to take collective decisions, while also encouraging a more sustainable and efficient use of land.

Mali: Association des Consommateurs du Mali (ASCOMA)

ASCOMA's project will be centred around the neighbourhood of Sabalibougou in Bamako. Many of the inhabitants of Sabalibougou have been left vulnerable, living with a precarious supply of drinking water. The cost of accessing water is high, while inadequate containers and means of transportation have a detrimental effect on the quality of the water. ASCOMA will be promoting greater access to safe drinking water by sharing best practices and working with municipal authorities and water providers (namely women who are responsible for supplying the households with water).

Togo: Association Togolaise des Consommateurs (ATC)

ATC's project will be centred around the fight against the disappearance of medicinal plant biodiversity in Togo. These plants, which can be used to improve health and ensure food security, are no longer maintained and protected because the knowledge within the communities around their maintenance and protection is disappearing. The project will enable rural and urban communities to collaborate, exchange knowledge and share the plants amongst themselves.

Benin: Benin Santé et Survie des Consommateurs (BSSC)

Poor waste management constitutes a major challenge for the municipal and district authorities of the commune of Aplahoué. However, waste management is vital for the preservation of the quality of life and wellbeing of consumers – and, therefore, for sustainable development. This project aims to tackle this issue through advocacy and the installation of mutual waste management and garbage bins.

Ghana: Consumer Advocacy Centre (CAC)

Flooding is a major problem in Ghana's capital, Accra, with the Adabraka community being the hotbed for floods as a result of the dumping of plastic waste in the drains, which block the culverts and gutters. This project aims to involve the households in the community by bringing them together for the first time to share the responsibility of their environment by recycling and upcycling their plastic waste.

Zimbabwe: Consumer Council of Zimbabwe (CCZ)

Zimbabwe's inability to generate and provide enough electricity has resulted in power failures and consumers resorting to the use of firewood. Deforestation has devastating effects on the environment, including poor soil texture and structure, posing a great challenge to the country's agriculture-based economy. This project aims to protect trees by making each villager responsible for planting and caring for a tree, with the possibility of sharing information via a platform. School children will share poems on the topic of consumerism.

Côte D'Ivoire: Fédération des Associations de Consommateurs de Côte d'Ivoire (FAC-CI)

The right to healthy and sustainable food consumption is a big challenge in Côte d'Ivoire. Pesticides, herbicides and chemical fertilizers are being misused in agricultural food production, and consumers do not make sure their food is safe before consuming it. This project aims to raise awareness and educate the communities on the subject of healthy and safe food through social media.

Kenya: Kenya Consumers Organisation (KCO)

Kenyan communities have suffered from unpredictable rains, impacting their farming and leading to inadequate food production. This project aims to empower communities in Kenya by encouraging them to participate in greenhouse farming and table banking, which will increase food supply and foster collaboration. Members will be able to save part of their share of sales of harvests. Surplus produce will be donated to children's homes to create a culture of sharing community.

ASIA PACIFIC

India: Citizen Consumer and Civic Action Group (CAG)

The concept of "sharing" has seen a decline among Indian citizens since a drastic change in consumption patterns, resulting in unsustainable lifestyles. A sizable portion of the population is unable to meet basic needs such as access to food, clothing and shelter. This project aims to reintroduce consumers, especially the younger generation, to the notion of sharing. Activities will include education on sustainable consumption, awareness-raising, sharing groups, competitions and training around the reuse and recycling of clothes, and clothes donations.

India: Consumers Association of India (CAI)

The Government of Tamil Nadu has banned single-use plastic products from 1 January 2019. The policy requires the support of the entire community. This project aims to raise awareness among traders of the impact of non-degradable plastic on the environment and encourage them to share their knowledge and to replace single-use plastic bags with cotton bags.

Malaysia: Consumers Association of Penang (CAP)

This project aims to popularise the concept of 'sharing communities' that will lead to mindful consumption, sustainable lifestyles and building sustainable communities. CAP will conduct an event to start up a platform for sharing goods, knowledge and services, bringing together the public to collaborate and contribute in addressing sustainable consumption and ensuring our rights to a healthy environment and better quality of life. CAP will subsequently monitor the sharing platforms that are created to ensure sustainability.

Fiji: Consumer Council of Fiji (CCF)

This project aims to raise awareness regarding the harmful effects of plastics on Fiji's marine ecosystem and provide alternatives to plastic bags. Activities will include the training of school

children and a village women's organization on using traditional methods to prepare baskets and sewing cloth bags as an alternative to plastic bags, to encourage the sharing of their knowledge within their communities.

India: Consumer Education and Research Centre (CERC)

The Government of India provides free and compulsory education as a fundamental right to children up to the age of 14 years. Parents from below the poverty line struggle to provide their children with all necessary materials, whereas richer families tend to discard excess material regularly, creating waste. The aim of this project is to create sharing platforms to encourage and facilitate such sharing of educational materials, bags, water bottles, stationary, and sports items between these two economically diverse communities. Additionally, compost bins will be added to schools to inculcate a sense of responsibility towards the environment.

India: Consumer VOICE

Pollution levels in Delhi-NCR have already reached emergency levels, standing at sixth place amongst the world's most polluted cities in 2018. This project aims to tackle pollution by creating a culture of 'sharing community'. Activities will include planting trees and anti-pollution plants, as well as making compost to improve air quality.

Pakistan: The Network for Consumer Protection in Pakistan

Urban agriculture, including kitchen and community gardens, are not only beneficial to the environment by promoting sustainable agricultural practices, but also to the health and wellbeing of the community members by creating a self-reliant community. This will lead to an increased access to safer, healthier and nutritious food, help reduce food bills and generate an income. This project aims to provide participants with training on how to develop a kitchen or community garden.

Nepal: Socio Economic Welfare Action for Women and Children (SEWA)

Pokhara Metropolitan City, the largest municipality of Nepal, is becoming congested due to increased immigration from surrounding rural areas, whilst public spaces are poorly managed and are either bare or filled with municipal litter. The project aims to convert those neglected public parks into common vegetable gardens. Activities will include providing surrounding households with training and basic tools, encouraging composting and vermicomposting of garden scraps and to use as compost, and offering local community-based organisations regular support and monitoring.

Indonesia: Yogyakarta Consumer Institute (YCI)

The local cassava, if fermented into mocaf, can be a safer, healthier, more nutritious and more locally produced alternative to wheat flour. This project aims to empower women in rural communities to cultivate cassava. Additionally, this project aims to create a sharing community

around waste management, training young people on how to sort organic waste and process it into fertilizer, which can then be used to cultivate cassava in an organic way.

LATIN AMERICA

Peru: Asociación Peruana de Consumidores y Usuarios (ASPEC)

In Peru, as in the rest of the world, the number of people suffering from noncommunicable diseases due to bad eating habits is increasing. This project aims to address the problem by encouraging the consumption of Peru's natural resources, that in many cases are unknown to consumers and which could improve their quality of life. Consumers will share their knowledge with farmers, and, in turn, farmers will increase the diversity of supply through ancestral practices.

Mexico: Colectivo Ecologista Jalisco (CEJ)

The city faces a severe water crisis and waste pollution, and lacks firm policies to tackle waste management and water pollution. This project aims to foster the existing sharing community, by providing tools for strengthening the collectives, encouraging responsible consumption, and organising a workshop to discuss these issues in a public panel with key actors.

MIDDLE EAST

Lebanon: Consumers Lebanon (CL)

Lebanon has been facing a waste management crisis since 2015, which is yet to be resolved. As a follow-up to CL's 2018 project "3ti w hmi" (give and protect), this year's project will continue to enforce the idea that a sharing community can help protect the environment. This project aims to raise awareness on the circular economy and the concept of sharing as an important activity in order to reduce waste, thus positively affecting the environment.

Sudan: Sudanese Consumers Protection Society (SCPS)

The influx of migrants from neighbouring countries and internally displaced populations into Khartoum city has led to pressures on the basic services including education. Schools experience overcrowding, shortage or absence of sanitation facilities, the presence of unhygienic food provided by local sellers especially in the remote suburbs, and more. This project aims to develop a model of 'eco schools' with a healthier environment and safer food, to be implemented in 8 primary schools.

Yemen: Yemen Association for Consumer Protection (YACP)

The agricultural sector represents one of the main sources of income for families of Yemen in the countryside. The availability of food and the price is affected by the presence of rain, on which the agriculture is dependent. The project aims to raise consumer awareness of the importance of buying fruits and vegetables during seasons of abundance at a suitable price, as well as training women on

preservation and storage. It will promote the concept of sharing and sustainable consumption amongst farmers, by encouraging them to provide services and inputs to farmers who do not have access to them.