

SEED Awards 2009

for entrepreneurship in sustainable development

ALMODO: Niger

Managing waste and its recovery to make goods ranging from building materials to energy substitutes

Project description

ALMODO, established in 2005, is a sustainable solid waste management system suitable for lower income urban areas. It collects, centralises and ecologically recovers waste and transforms it into products useful for the local community.



Business model

The equipment and process do not require expertise, and can be used by anyone. The products are made from waste at the source.

ALMODO offers training and waste management services to municipalities and civil societies. It transforms waste into school slate, paving stones, bricks, latrines, organic fertilisers or combustibles for the local community.

ALMODO targets especially low income communities who suffer from poor sanitation in their living environment and from low purchasing power.

Scaling up activities

- Establish ALMODO as an operating urban waste management system.
- Create an ALMODO pilot plant that will serve as a training plant for private and public actors in waste management and recovery and which will treat 40 tons of waste per day.
- O Commercialise the products on small scale.
- Show the feasibility of a completely new waste management system, with a view to becoming the appropriate social solution in sub-Saharan African cities.

Immediate needs

- Assistance with the capacity building of partners involved in equipment development.
- Assistance with project administration and capacity building in partnership management.
- Support in developing a network of contacts with institutions that develop technologies in waste management and recovery.
- Financial assistance to enable all marginalised areas to benefit from the project.





Partnership

- Gestion et Valorisation des Déchets s.a. (GVDsa) implements the project, coordinates the partners and reinforces their capacities.
- PRESSES and BETO are responsible for waste collection, recycling and commercialisation.
- CNES and work on the continuous development of easy-to-handle equipment with progressive tendency to zero emissions.
- The city council of Niamey is responsible for infrastructure and regulation.



Social, environmental and economic impacts

Social impact: ALMODO contributes to better living conditions for the poorest population by improving the living environment and public health in cities.

Environmental impact: ALMODO tackles sanitation issues by providing a cleaner environment and reducing landfill gas emission at dumping sites. Moreover, the production process increasingly uses renewable energy. The products substitute normal goods that impact climate change through deforestation, industrialisation and chemical fertilisation.

Economic impact: Local people are remunerated for collecting and recycling solid waste. Therefore ALMODO contributes towards an alternative income for the population and reduces municipal costs for solid waste management. Recycled products sold by ALMODO also cost less than ordinary products, thus families' purchasing power rises.

ALMODO is a Clean Development Mechanism project; earnings through the reduction of carbon emissions will be shared with the municipality.

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SEED Partners

SEED is hosted by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Other current partners are the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature); and the governments of Germany, India, the Netherlands, Norway, South Africa, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.







About the SEED Initiative

The SEED Initiative identifies and supports promising small scale social and environmental entrepreneurs around the globe, entrepreneurs that while working towards a greener economy also tackle poverty, marginalisation and social exclusion.

SEED provides these social entrepreneurs with know how and networks, taking the lessons learnt at local level up to decision-makers to promote evidence-based policy making.

More information: www.seedinit.org

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