



SEED Initiative

supporting entrepreneurs for sustainable development

Founding Partners



AFRICA WINNER 2013

Green Organic Watch Growers Cooperative Society Ltd promotes certified organic cocoa production, promoting sustainable farming practices so farmers can tap into speciality export markets. While continuously improving smallholder farms in terms of production, productivity and quality, the enterprise contributes to sustainable agricultural and green business development.



Green Organic Watch Cocoa Project, Uganda

BUSINESS MODEL

The Cocoa Project is led by Green Organic Watch Growers Cooperative Society Ltd and involves 5,500 smallholder farmers as partners. The concept is to promote the adoption and application of good farming practices to enable the sale of certified cocoa to speciality markets at premium prices.


By mobilising smallholder farmers to form themselves into savings and lending groups, the enterprise creates easy access to credit and markets and provides technical support for good agricultural practices, so improving production, productivity and quality.

ENTERPRISE FAST FACTS

Location	Bundibugyo
Year founded	2012
Sector	Agriculture
Product/Service	Certified organic cocoa beans

CONTACT

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Social impacts:

- Providing easy access to credit and savings through cheaper loanable funds, generated by cooperative members' savings.
- Increasing the revenues of local farmers by bulking and selling their products at better prices.
- Improving farmers' capacities through training in production, productivity and quality management.
- Creating direct and indirect employment opportunities for local communities.

Environmental impacts:

- Generating green business – more than 800 farmers have been trained in good agricultural practices and certification requirements.
- Increasing sustainable agriculture by producing organic products free of agro-chemical contamination.

Economic impacts:

- Increasing market access by aiming to supply at least 2,000 tons of certified cocoa to the international market each year.
- Increasing the bargaining power of the farmers in open markets and protecting cooperative economic interests along the cocoa value chain.

” Our cooperative is used by less advantaged members of our community to protect their economic interests against companies whose only concern is to maximise their own profits.

Scaling up activities:

- Organise capacity-building activities targeting farmers, managers and field staff on issues relating to productivity and quality, investment, food security, gender, health and organisational development.
- Design and implement strategies for cost-effective plantlet nurseries, marketing and access to information.
- By 2016, improve tree productivity from 0.8 kg to 1.8 kg through technical support.
- By 2017, register and contract an extra 2,000 smallholder farmers to join the Cocoa Project, increase the number of certified organic farmers to 5,500 and increase the number of women along the cocoa value chain from 15 % to at least 40 %.



Partnership

🔴 **Green Organic Watch Growers Cooperative Society Ltd** is a farmers' cooperative which produces and sells farmers' products at better prices, while protecting its members' interests on the cocoa market.

🔴 **Swiss Contact Uganda** is a local NGO offering technical assistance and empowerment to farmers' groups and organising training, conferences and meetings.

🔴 **National Organic Agricultural Movement of Uganda (NOGAMU)** is an umbrella organisation which promotes and develops the organic sector in Uganda. It encourages networking among its members and provides them with technical support, such as a database and resource centre.

🔴 **Kilmohai** is a local NGO which offers consultancy services on Rainforest Alliance's certification requirements and standards for international marketing.



The 2013 SEED Awards in Ethiopia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania and Uganda are supported by the European Union, which is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies.

About the SEED Initiative

The SEED Initiative identifies and supports promising small scale social and environmental entrepreneurs around the globe, entrepreneurs who while working towards a greener economy also tackle poverty, marginalisation and social exclusion. SEED provides these entrepreneurs with know-how and networks, taking the lessons learnt at local level up to decision-makers to promote evidence-based policy making. For more information please write to info@seedinit.org or visit:

www.seedinit.org

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