



SEED **10 YEARS OF
SEED AWARDS
2005-2015**
promoting entrepreneurship
for sustainable development

Founding Partners



**AFRICA
WINNER 2015**

“COMSOL Cooperative for Environmental Solutions” is a women-led initiative that collects, buys, separates, cleans and resells recyclable solid waste to companies in Maputo. The initiative benefits individuals in vulnerable conditions from neighbouring areas by involving them in the collection process.



COMSOL Cooperative for Environmental Solutions, Mozambique

BUSINESS MODEL

The cooperative, composed of eight former waste pickers, collects and buys recyclable materials in Maputo. Waste pickers and residents assist in the collection process by dropping recyclables off at collection points, where they are picked up by the enterprise's truck. Other cooperative members, having received proper training, sort and clean the recyclables to sell them to companies in the city.

The recyclables collected include plastic, aluminium and glass. Ninety per cent of the profits generated are shared among its members, while ten per cent is reinvested in the cooperative.

ENTERPRISE FAST FACTS:

Location	Maputo, Mozambique
Year founded	2014
Sector	Waste & Sanitation
Product/Service	Recyclable plastic, aluminium and glass waste

Social impacts:

- Increasing monthly income and improving working conditions for the cooperative members.
- Ensuring social protection and inclusion for vulnerable people in Maputo and their families.
- Increasing citizen participation in community development.

Environmental impacts:

- Aiming to facilitate recycling and reusing of at least 0,5% of Maputo's waste in the long run.
- Stimulating better resource usage and recycling through its program and awareness campaigns across Maputo's urban communities.

Economic impacts:

- Supporting the growth of the under-developed waste-recycling sector in Mozambique.

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” Collectors involved in the cooperative will feel included and integrated into the economic fabric of the community.

Scaling up activities:

- Increase partnerships and extend the network of customers and suppliers in order to achieve financial sustainability.
- Expand coverage of cooperative collection points throughout the city.
- Verify and assess conditions of access to credit from unions or financial institutions to look for scale-up financing.
- Generate more environmental awareness amongst the population in Maputo.



” COMSOL is one of the first initiatives launched for the exercise of recycling in Maputo and that is why the cooperative's creation was an initiative strongly supported by local authorities.



Partnership

- **COMSOL Cooperative for Environmental Solutions** implements the enterprise's activities. It collects, sorts, cleans and resells recyclables to companies in Maputo.
- **Lay Volunteer International Association (LVIA)** offers technical and management support, seeks for new partnerships, mediates negotiations and monitors existing contracts.
- **Mozambican Association for the Promotion of Modern Cooperatives (AMPCM)** promotes the cooperative model and supports the cooperative's development.



The 2015 SEED Awards in Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia are supported by the Government of Flanders, which is active in Southern Africa.

About SEED

SEED identifies and supports promising small scale social and environmental enterprises around the globe, enterprises who while working towards a greener economy also tackle poverty, marginalisation and social exclusion. SEED provides these enterprises 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@seed.uno or visit:

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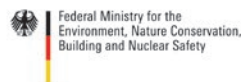
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