



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

Founding Partners



**SOUTH AFRICA
WINNER 2015**

The Moringa Cooperative is primarily focused on donating, planting, and cultivating *Moringa oleifera* (Moringa), and other beneficial plants, in cooperation with rural Eco-Schools in Limpopo Province. The enterprise promotes food security and improved nutrition, provides employment for disadvantaged women and youth, and contributes to local industry through enterprise development.



The Moringa Cooperative, South Africa

BUSINESS MODEL

The Moringa Cooperative is a for-profit business focused on improving food security in an impoverished rural area of South Africa. The enterprise is piloting to donate Moringa trees to local eco-schools, which are then cared for by teachers, students and young school leavers. The seeds will be harvested and pressed to extract organic oil, which is sold to local cosmetic raw ingredient manufacturer, 2014 SEED Award winner Botanica Natural Products.

It combines a nutritional product (leaf powder) with a cosmetic by-product (oil) to create a potentially profitable company that works with and supports local eco-schools and rural communities.

ENTERPRISE FAST FACTS:

| | |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| Location | Limpopo Province, South Africa |
| Year founded | 2012 |
| Sector | Sustainable Agriculture |
| Product/Service | Moringa seeds, oil and leaf powder |

Social impacts:

- Enhancing local food security by educating the community on the nutritional benefits of Moringa, and incorporating its leaves in schools' food programs.
- Empowering women economically by providing stable employment to young female school leavers.

Environmental impacts:

- Improving biodiversity by planting 1,000 Moringa trees at each eco-school, educating the community on the harmful nature of alien invasive species, and substituting them with indigenous plants to ensure conservation.
- Mitigating the effects of climate change and soil erosion by planting indigenous Spekboom trees.

Economic impacts:

- Putting a value on local resources, and establishing a niche market as the only organic Moringa oil producer in South Africa.
- Providing eco-schools with the ability to sell Moringa leaf powder, generating revenue to fund other projects.

Contact

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” We aim to enhance South Africa’s food security, reduce the enterprise’s carbon footprint and educate younger generations on the importance of sustainable, green business.

Scaling up activities:

- Plant a first batch of 1,000 Moringa trees by December 2015.
- Roll out to a further ten identified eco-schools in Limpopo Province in the first quarter of 2016. A scale-up to a total of 56 schools is planned for 2017.
- Harvest seeds to produce a minimum of 2,000 litres of Moringa oil by the end of 2016.
- Obtain Ecocert organic certification for both the leaf powder and oil.



Partnership

• **The Moringa Cooperative** is a for-profit enterprise that works with local schools and communities to cultivate Moringa trees.

• **Botanica Natural Products (Pty) Ltd** – a 2014 SEED winner – has agreed to purchase Moringa seed oils and market them to African and European clients for cosmetic purposes.

• **Mogalakwena Research Centre** conducts ecological and anthropological research in the local community and is involved in local ecoschool initiatives.

• **WESSA** provides guidance on engaging with schools and local communities in a respectful and ethical way.

• **Ramaahlo and Modikoa schools** are partners for the pilot phase and will receive Moringa for harvesting and cultivation.

” The Moringa Cooperative has established a sustainable network of providers and clients and could scale its model to other rural locations in South Africa and abroad.



Flanders
State of the Art

The 2015 SEED Awards in 2 South African provinces 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:

www.seed.uno

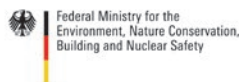
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