

🏆 SAG-SEED WINNER 2016 🏆

Green Acre Living provides organic farming training to emerging farmers in urban areas and promotes the establishment of urban food micro-enterprises. The focus is on biodiversity, promoting indigenous foods and increasing organic production to achieve food security.



Green Acre Living, South Africa

BUSINESS MODEL

Green Acre Living (NPO) develops low-technology solutions to address urban agriculture challenges and provides donor-funded training for emerging farmers on efficient organic cultivation and produce distribution. The organisation works to develop urban organic markets and micro cooperatives with a focus on organically developed solutions, and acts as the distributor of harvested produce.

Green Acre Living cultivates a farm that supplies vegetables, poultry and eggs to a hospice and orphanage facility to illustrate the value of nutrient dense organically grown produce.

ENTERPRISE FAST FACTS:

Location	Johannesburg, South Africa
Year founded	2015
Sector	Sustainable Agriculture
Product/Service	Infrastructure and training for urban organic agriculture

CONTACT

Mr. Geoff Green

📧 gkdg@me.com

Social impacts:

- Enhancing food security and the understanding of daily nutritional requirements within urban communities.
- Providing vegetables and poultry products for people at an orphanage and hospice.
- Promoting the production and use of nutrient dense indigenous edible fauna and flora.
- Improving the availability of nutrient dense foods enhances health within the community.

Environmental impacts:

- Rehabilitating soils through establishing viable soil ecosystems in food production.
- Reducing carbon emissions through efficient farming methods, carbon trapping techniques, purpose-designed equipment, and food production in urban areas.
- Eliminating water waste through water harvesting and the use of grey water.

Economic impacts:

- Generating income for urban food gardeners nationally.
- Reducing food purchase and production costs by growing food closer to points of retail.
- Establishing multiple organic food based micro enterprises.

” Encouraging organic urban agriculture to enable food security while offering income and job opportunities for urban communities.

Scaling up activities:

- Establish 30 food cooperatives and 200 urban food enterprises nationally per year.
- Establish a support network for 10,000 food gardens nationally.
- Set up several urban food training academies nationally using their one acre farming model to teach bio diverse organic farming and production techniques.
- Expand the current orphanage and hospice farm capacity to one hectare to provide vegetable and poultry products to feed 180 orphans and patients a day and to make the facility self-sustainable.
- Encourage more sector groups to actively participate in the project by holding annual workshops to increase the understanding of urban agriculture, the need for biodiversity and the benefits of indigenous fauna and flora in food production systems.



Partnership

- **Green Acre Living (NPO)** manages the enterprise and provides training and workshops for farmers.
- Through **Izindaba Zokudla**, a community outreach initiative of the University of Johannesburg, students develop innovative solutions for urban farming challenges.
- **Slow Food** assists by supporting biodiversity in food production and the reestablishment of indigenous food preparation traditions.
- **Sparrow Village Hospice and Orphanage** provides partial training facilities, logistical support and land for food production.
- **Shaft 17** supports Green Acre Living through the provision of land and training facilities.



The 2016 SAG-SEED Awards in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, South Africa and Uganda are supported by SWITCH-Africa Green, which is implemented by UNEP with the assistance of the European Union.

About SEED

SEED is a global partnership for action on sustainable development that was founded by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development. SEED is based on the understanding that the promotion of social and environmental enterprises is pivotal to a world of flourishing communities where entrepreneurship drives sustainable development. The 2016 SAG-SEED Awards in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, South Africa and Uganda are part of the multi-country project “Promoting Eco-Entrepreneurship in Africa” implemented by SEED under SWITCH-Africa Green (SAG). SAG is implemented by UNEP with the assistance of the European Union. Other project partners in SAG are UNDP and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS).

www.seed.uno/sag

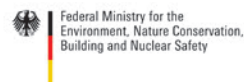
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