

TECO<sup>2</sup> markets school benches sustainably produced from plastic waste and other locally sourced input materials. As this mixture of materials substitutes wood as raw material in the production process, the enterprise contributes to the mitigation of deforestation and environmental pollution.



## TECO<sup>2</sup>, Burkina Faso

### 🏆 SAG-SEED AWARD WINNER 2017 🏆

#### BUSINESS MODEL

TECO<sup>2</sup> developed an innovative material to produce resistant and long-lasting school benches. By processing recycled plastic waste and local plant fibres, the product offers price and quality advantages over classic wooden benches. The school benches are directly sold to schools and programmes or to NGOs promoting education.

Besides the production of school benches, the enterprise strives to produce and market a broad range of furniture to respond to the growth potential of this sector in Burkina Faso.

#### ENTERPRISE FAST FACTS:

Location	Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
Year founded	2012
Sector	Waste and Sanitation / Manufacturing
Product / Service	School benches and other furniture

#### Contribution to the SDGs:



#### Social impacts:

- Providing ergonomic school benches to improve learning conditions for pupils.
- Offering sustainable income opportunities to improve the livelihoods of all actors along the new value chain, so far creating 126 green jobs in waste collection.

#### Environmental impacts:

- Recycling 600 tonnes of plastic waste from 2014 to 2016 thereby preventing 11,500 tonnes of carbon emissions.
- Supporting the struggle against deforestation and progressing droughts by using a wood substitute.

#### Economic impacts:

- Promoting the economic development of Burkina Faso by creating employment opportunities and a new value chain.
- Offering saving potential for municipalities and educational institutions by providing a 10 to 15 % cheaper alternative to wooden school benches.

” The enterprise generates high social, environmental and economic impacts by sustainably producing school benches from plastic waste and additional input materials and thus saving trees otherwise used for the production process.

### Scaling up activities:

- Raise the remaining funds to move from semi-industrial production to full-scale industrial production by the end of 2017.
- Produce 21,000 school benches per year to improve the learning conditions and consequently the level of education in Burkina Faso.
- Establish a second production plant in Bobo-Dioulasso by 2020 to cover more regions in Burkina Faso and thus reach more rural and urban educational institutions.



### Partnership

• **TECO<sup>2</sup>**, a private company, developed the innovative technology and manufactures and markets its environmentally friendly school benches.

• **Institut International d'Ingénierie de l'Eau et de l'Environnement**, a research institute, supported the research and development of the innovative composite material and continuously offers additional managerial, technical and financial support.

• **APEVA**, a local association of waste recycling enterprises, supports the training and organisation of recycling groups supplying plastic waste to TECO<sup>2</sup>.

### Contact

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The 2017 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

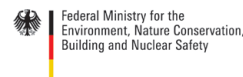
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