

## Project format

Friday 9 April iMPACT direct starts a new campaign at its website. If your NGO will be selected, you can showcase one project on our website that you want to ask donations for. Please fill in the following questions around this project. Deadline is: **Sunday 14 March 23.59** (your time).

Why so many questions? Part of the questions relate to our criteria. Others are also about being able to show iMPACT direct donors (both individuals and organisations) that their donations are making an impact on people's lives. Tip: Try to answer in a concrete and concise way. If selected, iMPACT direct will use this information to edit a text for your project-page (and we'll ask your consent before publishing!)

### Project details

#### 1. What is the project title?

Promoting composting and Kitchen Gardening for safe and sustainable food production in Kagwe Area

#### 2. The project contributes to

- **SDG1 (poverty reduction/economic development)**
- **SDG2 (food security)**
- SDG4 (higher education)
- Other, ....

#### 3. What is the project you want to showcase at our website? Please summarise:

This project titled promoting composting and Kitchen Gardening for safe and sustainable food production in Kagwe areas aims to enable farmers with skills that will boost productivity by emphasizing on building long-term soil fertility and appropriate cropping practices. This is to improve and maintain higher levels of yields, range of foods and some cash from sale of surplus and designed agro-enterprises at the household level.

The beneficiaries of this project will be largely tea farmers in the upper Kiambu who have for a long time depended on the cash crop for their sustenance. Every time there is a payout, they have to continuously depend on the market for foodstuffs. Recently, the price recess in the sub sector, the escalating food prices have made the majority suffer largely as the incomes, and market forces reduce their purchasing power significantly. Attempts to diversify by some have slowly been observed as they try to bridge the economic gap. That is why we aspire to work with this group in order to contribute in their efforts to producing own safe, nutritious and diverse foods using soil maintenance, crop and livestock sustainable methods. The specific villages that we intend to target in Kagwe are Githogoiyo, Kamahindu, Gachoire, Matimbei and Githirioni.

COSDEP intends to build the communities' own capacity to improve their livelihoods. This will be done by mobilization and farmer education as well as assisting them to adopt the techniques. A successful adoption ensures that the know-how is internalized in the community for further spread among the farmers meaning that they can uphold the system for as long as they practice farming; without a compromise on yield and the quality of food, soil health and natural environment.

This particular project comes at a time when farmers are hardest hit by the effects of climate change and therefore needs to be thoroughly equipped for their resilience, adaptation and contribute meaningfully to mitigation of the setbacks. It targets to work with the farmers to build and fine-tune their capacity in managing farm resources and emphasizing on **composting** as a basic component to build long-term soil fertility and establish rich family kitchen gardens for each participating household. This will go a long way to improving the food/nutrition security as well as raise the incomes by growing own food as opposed to market reliance and selling of the surpluses.

#### **4. What is the problem? And how is it addressed in this project?**

The farmers in this region of Kenya have for a considerable period practiced mono-cropping and over relying on cash crop- tea. Those doing any other kind of farming are poorly equipped and use non sustainable practices responsible for loss of soil fertility, environmental degradation, unsafe and food insecurity. When there is no food the proceeds from the cash crops means very little as most of it goes to food and because it is from the market, it is usually of poor nutritional quality as one goes for what is affordable and available. Despite having nationally revered tea as the cash crop, the farmers are small scale in nature which means that their incomes are meager and hardly enough for initiating other economic initiatives. This is worsened during the dry seasons when the productivity of the 'savior' crop is lowest- translating to difficult livelihoods. Sad but true is that bought food stuffs are never satisfying, sometimes contaminated and low in quality due to such factors as financial, handling and time between picking and consumption. However this community has the capacity to use what is naturally theirs, ecologically develop its nutrition security and save money and if possible earn more from the family kitchen gardening initiatives.

#### **5. Explain why this solution works best:**

This solution is the best since it will contribute to farmer's effort of producing their own safe, nutritious and diverse food using soil maintenance, crop and livestock methods. It will help build the community's own capacity by mobilization and farmer education to encourage them to adopt the techniques to improve their livelihoods. Furthermore, it will provide a framework to farmers on how to prevent overreliance in buying the vegetables from the market rather than producing their own from their farmers by sustainable methods like composting to increase soil fertility and to produce in kitchen gardening for those will small farms. In addition, through this they can be able to sell the excess produce for example vegetables to the market thereby earning income and thus improving their livelihoods. COSDEP will ensure that the households/farmers are well trained in order to start their own food production. And since the farmers are using the old cropping systems like mono-cropping which contributes to soil nutrients eradication and low food production rate, therefore through composting and kitchen gardening, farmers will increase their production and will also be trained to adopt the new sustainable techniques like crop rotation which will increase soil nutrient thus food production increase.

#### **6. Who are the recipients of the project? And how many?**

The recipients of the project are the largely small-scale tea farmers who have for a long time depended on the cash crop for their sustenance.

We target to reach one hundred and fifty farmers (150) directly in 10 groups of 15 members per group

### **7. How will their lives be improved in a short-term?**

The farmers lives will improve in a short-term as follows;

- a) Farmers will be well equipped with the skills and knowledge of the new techniques and therefore will be able to train even their families for sustainable food production ways.
- b) Farmers will be able to produce their own food for consumption, which is nutritious, thus prevent the overreliance of purchasing food from the market, and thus saves money to be use in other activities.
- c) Farmers will be able to sell their farm produce at the local market thereby earning income, which they can use to improve their lives,

### **8. How will their lives be improved a long-term?**

The farmers lives will improve in a long-term as follows;

- a) Farmers will be able to be food secure, since they will continuously produce their own food for consumption with surplus even for sale.
- b) Farmers will be able to improve soil fertility and thus fully maintaining soil nutrient concentration due to constant use of sustainable Agricultural techniques like composting methods.
- c) Some farmers will be able even to expand their production area due to the market demand of their products in order to meet the need and to satisfy their customers/consumers.
- d) Many farmers will be able to take their children to school by using income from the farm to educate them, thus changing the community status among the farmers in Kagwe Area at large.

### **9. Are recipients engaged in the project?**

Yes | no

If yes, how?

Yes.

We have had awareness creation meetings where we had the opportunity to engage the target beneficiaries and discuss the project with them. We have had introductory meetings with the groups leaders and together we have been able to identify composting and kitchen gardening as farming practices that will greatly benefit them leading to the development of this proposed project.

10. **What is the best testimonial from a beneficiary of your NGO** (best related to this project):

**A quote from Mrs. Waithira Kimemia**

As an income generating project, agro ecological agriculture has introduced narratable vision to Waithira who with her small piece of land has been able to supply vegetables to her neighbourhood and she is happy because she has her regular customers.

To her, land is the limit because she is intending to hire a land in future in order to retain her customers.

11. **What could be (unexpected) challenges the project could run into?**

**Reversion:** Some of the trained farmers may revert back to their old ways of farming i.e. conventional farming.

**Weather Conditions:** Large number of our target group relies on rainfall for their agricultural activities which is more often characterized by erratic situations thus interfering with on farm implementations.

**Commercial Interference:** Some merchants promoting their synthetic products and or transgenic seeds may influence the farmers' perception. This in most cases will occur to individual farmers on the look out or in need of making quick gains.

**Group's Disintegration:** Sensitized and trained community members might be unable to hold together onto their convenient groupings making it difficult for follow ups and sharing of ideas.

12. **What is the expertise your team brings? Summarize the strengths of your team:**

The COSDEP staffs are well equipped with the skills and knowledge about agro ecological agriculture methods thereby are capable of training/educating farmers on the benefits of agro ecological farming. They have conducted many field excursions, trainings and exchange visits to different organizations and this therefore equips them with what farmers expects them.

**Our staff force includes:**

1. An overall managing director with over 30 years working experience who oversees and coordinates all activities and is the link between the staff, the board and external partners.
2. An administrative assistant who holds a diploma in business administration and with over 15 years working experience and whose roles includes handling all administrative matters including correspondence, reporting and handling staff welfare issues.
3. Fundraising officer: he holds a degree in BSC Agriculture with 2 years' working experience in proposal writing, resource mobilization and report writing.
4. Field Supervisor: she holds a degree in Agricultural economics and resource management with over 3 years working experience in the extension department. She undertakes follow ups, monitoring and evaluation, prepares annual field work plans and ensures that field monthly reports are compiled and submitted on time.
5. Field extension Officers: Trained experts in the area of sustainable agriculture and hold over five years experience in the field.
6. Accounting Officer: Shes a certified level one accountant with over three years experience and is charge of ensuring that funds are managed well and records kept properly.

**13. What is the budget needed for this project? (in your own currency)**

One million, fifty-two thousand and one hundred shilling (Ksh 1,052,100)

*Note: Please consider the size of the project. In 2021, we plan for an income of €10,000 per NGO for the entire year.*

Explain where you will use the donations for in few sentences.

The donations will be used in the following activities;

- Transport, mobilization, and group formation.
- Transport for trainers and stationaries for conducting the trainings on composting and designing of kitchen gardens and training materials.
- Establishment of gardens and procurement of seeds and planting materials.
- Transports for follow-ups.
- Transport and meals during conducting local exchange visits for farmers learning.
- Logistics for monitoring and evaluation.
- Allowances for project personnel coordinators, trainers and M and E officers.

**14. What difference will the donations through iMPACT direct make for this project?**

The difference your donations will make for this project will be tremendously great since we will be able to carry out this project with ease with the facilitation of funds.

Lasting effects as a result of the project will be great like better living standards and reduced poverty levels among the community members. This will be brought about by the raised income levels and improved health conditions in extension of more and healthy food availability and reduced subjection to hazardous practices and inputs.

**15. Are there other sources of income used for this project?**

yes | no

If yes, please elaborate: No

**I completed the application questions fully and truthfully and signed in accordance with the Terms & Conditions:** <https://impactdirect.eu/terms-conditions/>

Date / Location: 12<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Signature: 

Name: Jane Itati

Role in organisation: Administrative Assistant

Please, send your project format to [info@impactdirect.eu](mailto:info@impactdirect.eu) by indicating in the subject line: 'application + name of your organisations'.

**And don't forget to send some pictures for the website and socials:**

- 3-5 pictures that represents the project
- Links to videos you already have and can be relevant.
- If there will be someone else then you doing the updates at the website, please let us know his/her name and contact details: ....

= €8,048

YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fp9wJkPIWSQ>

Pictures should be around preferably around 1MB.  
Please send it through WeTransfer to [info@impactdirect.eu](mailto:info@impactdirect.eu)

**Thank you very much for your efforts!**

What's next? We may call you to get some more information. And we will inform you around 25 March if you are selected!