

White Paper[©]

*Una pubblicazione di **MicroProgetti***



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Acknowledgements

The present Call for Proposal is an excellent example of how different stakeholders can make things happen whenever they decide to take up the challenge. A big thank to everybody who has, in one way or another, contributed to this Call!

Our special thanks will go to the sponsors of one of the many interesting MicroProjects presented in this Publication, the White Paper of the 2020 Call for Proposal by [MicroProgetti](#).

By deciding to support the mission of [MicroProgetti](#) in this particular moment, which is rather difficult for everybody, individuals as well as companies and even important Italian market players, those philanthropists teach us a lesson of what true social responsibility means.



MicroProgetti appreciates every kind of contribution to the implementation of its mission.

CCCA and MicroProgetti

Il Comitato di Collegamento di Cattolici per una Civiltà dell'Amore (Coordinating Committee of Catholics for a Civilization of Love - CCCA) is a Volunteer Association that has been operating since 1986 in promoting the MicroProject's model of mass action in developing countries. This activity was done in collaboration with the Missionaries present on site. Over 30,000 MicroProjects have been completed so far. www.civiltadellamore.org

To speed up MicroProjects as an integral tool for economic, social and environmental development, the CCCA decided to create **MicroProgetti** as an internal branch of the association specialized in the realization and promotion of MicroProjects. <https://www.microprogetti.org/>

In 2019 Civiltà dell'Amore Committee met Pope Francis' invitation to *The Economy of Francesco*. Inspired by this important initiative led by Pope Francis, **MicroProgetti** has embarked on a major initiative: "La parola ai giovani": a generation pact with the objective to repair the environmental damages provoked by the post war generations and to promote the young as change agents through the development and implementation of MicroProjects in poorer countries.





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Background: The Sustainable Development Goals

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015 are an urgent call for action by all countries – developed and developing – in a global partnership. They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.

MicroProgetti adopts this vision and is actively engaged in its fulfillment: we are convinced that a fair and long-lasting development has to stem from the local realities, by putting in place and combining an infinite number of very small projects: like little single drops that all together form a “wave” of development.

With its 2020 Call for Proposals and the support of the selected applications **MicroProgetti** contributes in particular to Goals no. 1, *No Poverty*; no. 4, *Quality Education*; no. 5, *Gender Equality*; no. 7, *Affordable and Clean Energy*; no. 8, *Decent Work and Economic Growth*; no. 10, *Reduced Inequalities*; no. 15, *Life on Land*; and no. 17, *Partnerships for the Goals*.

The Call for Proposals

The Call for Proposal aimed at innovative MicroProjects focused on three General Objectives, with an overall budget of up to 10,000 €, to be proposed by associations, enterprises, single entrepreneurs and young individuals. The application process consisted in two steps: A Call for Interest and a successive Call for Proposals.

All applications have been examined by a Commission of experts in compliance with a given set of evaluation criteria, dividing the submitted MicroProjects in three categories: Non Admissible, Admissible, Admissible Finalist. A *MicroProgetti Call for Proposal Winner* is selected by the Commission and presented in occasion of a final event, the webinar “MicroProgetti, Giovani e Imprese: c'è spazio per rilanciare ora la cooperazione e lo sviluppo?” in streaming on 17 November 2020 at 6.30 pm*.

The scope of this Call for Proposals is to promote the MicroProject as a model of action that guarantees an immediate positive impact on the living conditions of local communities in developing countries.

Since we prefer a practical approach over a theoretic one, we want to make sure that all admitted MicroProjects get the opportunity to be realized. ***We therefore engage enterprises, donors and other stakeholders to financially adopt those MicroProjects and make the dream of the young applicants of a better world come true.*** MicroProgetti is and remains the interface between donor/enterprise and applicant. It also maintains a project management role and guarantees that the project is implemented successfully.

The Commission of Experts

President:

Prof. Stefano ZAMAGNI, lecturer and President of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences

Board Members:

Antonino GIANNONE, Leadership and Ethics Professor at Link Campus University in Rome and Fellow at the ICELAB Polytechnic of Turin;

Sister Roberta ARCARO, Congregation of the Angeline Franciscan Sisters

Valentina PIERUCCI and Francesco SANTIOLI, Rondine Cittadella della Pace (Italian NGO)

Clément SANGARÉ, Journalist Leader for Peace

Marco SAVELLONI, Startup & Business Development

Pierdomenico STAGLIENO, Financial Analysis and Business Development.

*just follow the link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8HlbfCj2p028pCsCqKznPg>

The Three General Objectives

The applicants were required to submit MicroProjects aimed to tackle certain General Objectives, by addressing one or more of the following three macro areas:



1. Agriculture, with focus on food security, renewable energies, reforestation, waste recycling. This Objective aims to set up climate smart food production systems (mitigation and adaptation) through experimentation and capitalizing innovative practices and mechanisms focusing on various themes: Adaptation, so as to ensure food and nutrition security in a climate change situation (seeds selection, climate services, agro-ecological practices, early warning systems); soil restoration (agroforestry, etc.); mitigation (carbon sequestration, renewable energy in the processing units, etc.); competitiveness and sustainability of the regional production sectors.

2. Labor: transfer of appropriate existing technologies, applicable and manageable in working and professional skills such as in the fields of plumbing, carpentry, nursing etc. The projects will pilot practical, economically sustainable community-based initiatives addressing the lack of technologies in some work categories where there is an important technological divide. In this sense the priority was given to projects that improve the transfer of existing applicable and adequate technologies in different work categories.

3. Education and vocational training: improvement and innovation in teaching, use of innovative technology, implementation of courses with hard and soft skills content. Youth in developing countries very often face the barriers to implement their ideas, their skills, due to lack of awareness, innovative education and teaching of hard and soft skills in education programs. In this sense, this General Objective proposed to address these



issues by empowering the school system and vocational training programs in developing countries by using innovative technology, improvement of holistic didactic programs and teaching innovation and entrepreneurship to youths.

MicroProjects proposed by the Applicants

At its very first ever Call for Proposals [MicroProgetti](#) received the encouraging number of 17 admissible applications!

They come from young individuals, religious and NGOs coming from sub-Saharan African countries, with one exception from Cuba. Some of the MicroProjects submitted are focusing to more than one of the General Objectives. In the following pages we have summarized the content of the single MicroProjects in a fact sheet in order to facilitate all potential sponsors to identify the one that most appeals to them, or is particularly fitting to their company's mission.

Overview of MicroProjects

| ID | Country | Title |
|----|--------------|---|
| 1 | Nigeria | DIGI-LAD - Improved Access of Young Women to Employment Opportunities through Digital Skills Upliftment Impulse Africa / Stephen Okereke |
| 2 | Burkina Faso | A Vegetable Garden to Overcome Hunger ASND / Salmata Ouedraogo |
| 3 | Mali | Green Education: A School dedicated to the Safeguarding of the Environment Educ4peace / Georges Théodore Dougnon |
| 4 | Burkina Faso | Commissioning of a Village School ASND / Salmata Ouedraogo |
| 5 | Cuba | Development Project for a Fruit, Agricultural and Small Livestock Farm Don Marcelo Diaz Armenteros |
| 6 | Chad | Bread: Training, Production & Distribution Deméter / Sr. B. Nojenoyom / V. Binetti – V. Bernabò |
| 7 | Ethiopia | Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Opportunities – SARO Sustainable Agriculture Opportunity for Rural Poor / Ashenafi Mathewos Zema |
| 8 | Ghana | Empowering Women in Rural Areas A. M. Massaro – A.-R. Gbana Iddrisu |
| 9 | Rwanda | Dairy Farm to Support Indigent Students Collège Immaculée Conception / L. Dusabe |
| 10 | Rwanda | ICT Education and Empowerment Collège Immaculée Conception / J. B. Rwirangira |
| 11 | Mali | AGRO-PAIX – Better than Gold TUBANI Nid de Paix / Luc Sangaré |
| 12 | Nigeria | Building Resilient Farming Systems Through Regenerative Agriculture Save creation through regenerative agriculture / Rita Babatunde |
| 13 | Tanzania | Peer Schools - Sustainable Future MEET Project* |
| 14 | Ivory Coast | 3E - EDIFICATION ENVIRONMENT ENTERPRISE AKO – Stefan Pollak |
| 15 | Cameroon | Training of Youth to Start Their Own Business Suore Domenicane della Beata Imelda / Sr. Tania Regina Alves de Lima |
| 16 | Chad | Bricks: Production and Distribution Sr. B. Nojenoyom / M. Riga – C. Micco |
| 17 | Chad | The Women of Karité Soap Sr. M. Ghebumeskel / C. Incannella – D. Cassotta |
| 18 | Ivory Coast | Solar Energy for the 'Arc en Ciel' Children's Home Sr. R. Giaccone / C. Biscaglia – M. Alonzi |

*Proposal has been announced but not arrived.

MicroProject Fact Sheets



| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Project Title | DIGI-LAD - Improved Access of Young Women to Employment Opportunities through Digital Skills |
| Proponent | Upliftment Impulse Africa / Stephen Okereke |
| Country of Realization | Nigeria |
| Duration | 5 months |
| Budget | € 10,000 |

General Objective Education & Vocational Training

Specific Objectives Reduce underemployment among youth, in particular young women, through capacity building, empowerment and qualification for digitally-based jobs; mitigate irregular immigration through the provision of skills.

Activities Fact finding in the selected project areas; meetings and briefings with all stakeholders before, during and after the project; selection and classification of 100 girls each from 2 project areas; trainings in soft, business and digital skills (20 days, 3-4 hours/day); creation of a social media community; monitoring and evaluation.

Beneficiaries 200 girls from secondary school up to University graduates.

Sustainability Ongoing professional exchange and tutoring of the participants' progress beyond the project cycle through the social media platform beyond the completion of the project; involvement of tech and other companies for support and employment of the participants; support in the realization of MicroProjects and the setup of small businesses and start-ups by the project beneficiaries in their local communities.

Impact Enhanced future perspectives due to improved employability of young people; empowerment and self-reliance of girls and young women; reduction of digital divide; reduction of gender gap; decreased number of victims of irregular migration and forms of crime.

Background According to the National Bureau of Statistics, in Nigeria young men are almost twice as likely to have a career in computer science and technology related fields as women: women make up on average just 22% of the total number of Engineering and Technology university graduates each year and roughly a fifth of the total number of people working in the ICT sector. To the effect that men are developing the technology, while women are largely passive users. Research has shown that better and more useful tools are created when the developers fully represent the diversity of the societies we live in. In addition, 90% of the jobs in the next 10 years will require technology skills and knowledge. If women are underrepresented as technology developers and sophisticated users, we will be left behind in tomorrow's world. Research has also shown that early-stage, girl-focused intervention, which continues to nurture interest in these matters through their adolescence and early adulthood are critical in closing the gender gap. This MicroProject for girls and young women paves the way for an increasing number of women working in computer science and related fields, by making technology careers attractive and dispelling stereotypes of gender-appropriateness of technology via engaging classes, the presentation of female role models and the provision of mentorship.

This MicroProject contributes to the following UN-Sustainable Development Goals:





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| Project Title | A Vegetable Garden to Overcome Hunger |
| Proponent | ASND –Association Sombouldou Neemawaya pour le Développement / Salmata Ouedraogo |
| Country of Realization | Burkina Faso |
| Duration | 6 months |
| Budget | € 9,750 |

General Objective Agriculture

Specific Objectives Enrich nutrition and improve feeding of children at school through the production of moringa oleifera and vegetables.

Activities Preparation, establishment and management by local parents and students of a 1 h market garden, watered by drip irrigation, for the cultivation of vegetables and moringa oleifera; market gardening activities; capacity building of beneficiaries; provision of a quality diet based on moringa oleifera to school children; creation of job opportunities; regular monitoring of the vegetable garden activities.

Beneficiaries 150 school children; family members benefitting from new job opportunities.

Sustainability Environmental: protection against erosion and desertification by fencing, reforestation and sustainable irrigation; restoration of soil fertility through natural compost; preservation of existing trees and endangered species. Financial: project-specific accounting and auditing system put in place by the Organization; adhesion and ownership of all stakeholders in the entire process; self-reliance thanks to the achievements of the project; scaling-up effect due to the renewal and extension of funding stemming from the quality and visibility of the project's outcomes.

Impact Reduced hunger and malnutrition among children victims of terrorism and political instability; enhanced food security and development possibilities for the local population.

Background Burkina Faso is stricken by endemic poverty with significant rates of undernutrition in particular among children: The NGO Action Against Hunger estimates that nearly 40,000 children, especially in the East of the country, suffer from this condition. Furthermore, climate change as well as growing insecurity due to terrorism in parts of the country leads to an increase of displaced persons, worsening the nutritional situation. According to major international Organizations such as FAO and WFP (World Food Program) – some 3.3 million of people risk to face acute food insecurity in the aftermath of the 2020 lean season. This MicroProject with its focus on a locally-grown quality food additive addresses systemic undernutrition and malnourishment at its very roots.

This MicroProject contributes to the following UN-Sustainable Development Goals:





Project Title Green Education: A School dedicated to the Safeguarding of the Environment

Proponent Educ4peace / Georges Théodore Dougnon

Country of Realization Mali

Duration 5 months

Budget € 7,400

General Objectives Agriculture / Education & Vocational Training

Specific Objectives Awareness of, and knowledge about environmental issues, waste management, the importance of reforestation and of environmental education among students and teachers; regular differentiation of garbage on the campus and in the neighborhood; awareness of individual responsibility for the recovery of environmental damage; reforestation of the project area.

Activities Training and education of 40 teachers and 300 school children in environmental issues and waste management; installation of bins for garbage differentiation on the campus; creation and maintenance of a school garden; planting of five varieties of trees.

Beneficiaries 300 school children (boys and girls); their families and neighbors; 40 teachers.

Sustainability Ongoing garbage differentiation without further costs well after the end of the project; spreading of environmental awareness, knowledge and correct environmental behavior in the families and neighborhoods of the direct beneficiaries; healthy campus ambience for the years to come thanks to the growing of the planted trees; strengthening of social cohesion due to the shared responsibility in managing waste and garden autonomously after the completion of the project.

Impact Mitigation of environmental degradation and the effects of climate change by effective measures such as ongoing garbage differentiation and planting of trees; behavior change at school and community level thanks to education on environment protection; ideally, the adoption of national policies with respect to garbage differentiation inspired by the MicroProject's example of good practices.

Background Mali is a low-income country (as of World Bank classification) with a population of nearly 20 million people. For decades, the country has experienced a worrying progress of its desertification. This has resulted in global warming, soil degradation and lack of pastures. Furthermore, in Mali, and in particular in its capital Bamako where the MicroProject is taking place, waste management is a big problem and environmental education practically inexistent. That is why the applicant wants to transform a local into a location where green education goes hand in hand with its practical implementation on the spot, as expressed in the original French project title: "L'école au service de l'environnement", the "School at the service of the environment", shall contribute to tackling the challenge of climate change and reforestation in the Sahel.

This MicroProject contributes to the following UN-Sustainable Development Goals:





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| Project Title | Commissioning of a Village School |
| Proponent | ASND –Association Sombouldou Neemawaya pour le Développement / Salmata Ouedraogo |
| Country of Realization | Burkina Faso |
| Duration | 4 months |
| Budget | € 9,200 |

General Objective Education & Vocational Training

Specific Objectives Provide access to school to every child in Bogoya village; impart education to all school children in view of a dignified adult life; enhance development and progress of the population.

Activities Equipment of a school library and classrooms; recruitment of 150 school children; provision of educational material; monthly monitoring and evaluation.

Beneficiaries 150 school children; villagers

Sustainability Adhesion of administrative, traditional and religious authorities; ongoing ownership of all stakeholders in the entire process, financial sustainability thanks to a waterproof accounting and auditing system put in place by the Organization; ownership of the real estate by the Organization allows for consistent management of the property.

Impact Reduced number of school dropouts especially among migrant children; mitigation of juvenile delinquency; enhanced future perspectives for the young generation; increased prosperity due to the creation of jobs.

Background Although the enrolment rate in primary schools rose from 60% in the early 2000s to 88% in 2019, the current educational situation in Burkina Faso still places the country among the least educated ones in the world. To overcome the big challenges and get a really incisive process of socio-economic and cultural development going, the country needs to focus on all players in the school system. That is why a local NGO like ASND is coming forward with the proposal of a MicroProject tackling some of the very practical difficulties and uncertainties the local school is constantly facing and which has negative effects, such as the large dropout rates in particular of children who reached the villages taking refuge from terrorism and /or those who leave the secular institution for the Koranic school.

This MicroProject contributes to the following UN-Sustainable Development Goals:




Project Title

**Development Project for a Fruit,
Agricultural and Small Livestock Farm**

Proponent

Don Marcelo Diaz Armenteros

Country of Realization Cuba

Duration 12 months

Budget € 9,700

General Objective Agriculture

Specific Objectives A dignified self-reliant life for people in a remote context; role-model and hope for young Cuban entrepreneurs for a better auto-sufficient life; improved health for a rural community, and in particular for children, thanks to better availability of basic staples.

Activities Preparation and setup of a small farm in a rural area; preparation of a field dedicated to the plantation of mangos, grains and vegetables; reseeding, growing and harvesting; raising of small livestock for meat and milk production; trading of the produce.

Beneficiaries 30-40 direct beneficiaries, many of them youths and young adults; furthermore, the rural community, and in particular children, benefitting from the provision with zero kilometer staple, especially milk (which is not regularly available in Cuba for children over 7 years).

Sustainability The project will be carried on by the farming family with seasonal help of external labor forces, creating therefore long-lasting permanent as well as occasional job opportunities. Once put on track, the project will be sustainable thanks to the ongoing work of the project owners, and on the longer run regenerate the capital invested in the beginning and creating a margin for further investments, leading to full financial self-sufficiency. From the perspective of environmental sustainability, the fertilizers that will be used for the cultivation of the mangos, grains and vegetables will be organic right from the start and, from the second year on, produced by the farm itself by the recycling of harvest leftovers and the manure of the small livestock.

Impact The development of the farm will become an important source of food for the town's population and, with increased output, will contribute to lower food prices and consequently enable more of the poorest to have access to basic staple and generally improve food security and health in the project area. The raising of small livestock will enhance the productivity of the soil due to the shared utilization of the land for grazing and mango plantation. In a broader perspective, the support given to the development of the private sector will not only have a positive impact on the wellbeing of the direct project beneficiaries, but also offer a range of opportunities for others to move from subsistence to dignified life.

Background The population in Cuba is experiencing a general crisis that results in the lack of essential food for human consumption which is not always possible to buy even with financial means. Consequently, there is an urgent need of economic initial aid to empower and enable the rural class to ignite a process of development that leads to self-sufficiency and improved food security in the Country.

This MicroProject contributes to the following UN-Sustainable Development Goals:





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| Project Title | Bread: Training, Production & Distribution |
| Proponent | Deméter / Sr. B. Nojenoyom / V. Binetti – V. Bernabò |
| Country of Realization | Chad |
| Duration | 2 months |
| Budget | € 4,500 |
| General Objectives | Labor / Education & Vocational Training |

Specific Objectives Offer specific vocational training opportunities to young people; overcome rural poverty by qualifying local youth.

Activities Edification of a cottage; construction of an oven; provision of specific professional training of potential bakers; setup of youth cooperative to manage the production and marketing of bread.

Beneficiaries 10 direct beneficiaries who are trained and employed as bakers; 150 families; the village community of up to 10,000 people.

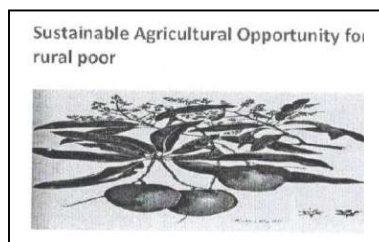
Sustainability Except for the initial funding the project will be implemented with local resources. Environmental sustainability is ensured thanks to the use of the least polluting resources possible.

Impact Far beyond its direct outputs – the setup of a bakery and the training of bakers-to-be –, this project provides youths in a very poor and remote rural area with a professional future-oriented training which empowers and proposes them a new way of considering their own life: that is, that by getting qualified and by managing resources rationally and efficiently, an individual can become independent and self-reliant. These youths will become role-models, leading to a broader change in perspective and instilling hope in other young people.

Background The project will be implemented in the proximity of a small town in an extensive semi-desert territory in the southeastern extremity of Chad, nearby the borders of the Central African Republic and Cameroon. The area is afflicted by instability due to ongoing conflicts between the different ethnic and religious groups. The applicants have chosen this specific location in response to the need explicitly expressed to them: they believe that training is the only possible way to overcome poverty and slowly change the very difficult reality in which these people live.

This MicroProject contributes to the following UN-Sustainable Development Goals:





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| Project Title | Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Opportunities - SARO |
| Proponent | Sustainable Agriculture Opportunity for Rural Poor / Ashenafi Mathewos Zema |
| Country of Realization | Ethiopia |
| Duration | 12 months |

Budget € 10,000

General Objective Agriculture

Specific Objectives Enhanced food security of very poor and vulnerable families, especially of their female members; increase diversified and more nutritious farm productivity; creation of surplus and new self-employment opportunities; establishment and development of community support systems; capacity building and awareness raising of youths in terms of the productive potential of agriculture.

Activities Trainings on: sustainable agriculture and improved animal management, environmental and natural resources management, income generation. Organization of self-help groups, school and youth groups and community events. Provision of seeds for farming activities.

Beneficiaries 120 members of 20 smallholder households, 70% women; 600 farming community members living in the project area.

Sustainability On the financial and organizational level, the self-help groups established by the project will grow into stable, officially recognized community development institutions, which will initiate and manage activities well beyond the project implementation period and be supported by the governmental authorities. The knowledge imparted during the project will be multiplied by so-called peer farmers especially trained in sharing acquired skills. From the environmental perspective, the project promotes climate-smart agricultural practices with focus on sustainable natural resource management including sustainable use of farmlands and rehabilitation of degraded watersheds, enhancing the natural resource base and increasing adaptability and resilience to climate change.

Impact The ignition of a virtuous circle of: more sustainable and more profitable farming, increased agricultural knowledge and skills, improved environmental management, new self-employment opportunities, improved food security, better health, will positively impact the resilience of the very poor and vulnerable families in the project area. The empowerment of women and the strengthening of community support will enhance social equality, cohesion and mutual assistance of the community members. The capacity building of youth in effective farming techniques will prevent involuntary migration of the young generations.

Background As a result of the shortage and unpredictability of rainfall, soil erosion, decrease of grazing land, rapid population growth the vulnerability of smallholder communities in the project area is constantly increasing. Unsustainable management of the soil due to limited knowledge of improved farming technologies and lack of crop diversification lead to poor yields and consequently chronic food insecurity and even long periods of hunger each year. The resulting malnutrition impacts severely on people's health, accounting for 28% of all child mortality and in turn on their ability to carry out farm work which further exacerbates low yields and food scarcity. Furthermore, low income causes school dropouts as parents cannot afford fees, uniforms or books and seasonal migration,

This MicroProject contributes to the following UN-Sustainable Development Goals:





15 LIFE ON LAND



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| Project Title | Dairy Farm to Support Indigent Students |
| Proponent | Collège Immaculée Conception / L. Dusabe |
| Country of Realization | Rwanda |
| Duration | 9 months |
| Budget | € 9,600 |

General Objectives Agriculture / Labor / Education & Vocational Training

Specific Objectives Income generation for the 22 school girls in order to allow them to pay fees and attend school; return of dropouts to regular education; provision of healthy nutrition to all school children; job opportunities for neighboring peasants; awareness raising with respect to organic agriculture and fertilization; capacity building and knowledge transfer in cattle raising and manure management from the direct project beneficiaries to further students.

Activities Identification of NGOs as potential sponsors of the acquisition of pregnant cattle; construction and maintenance of cattle sheds and devices; setup of an organic dairy farming circle; ongoing dairy farming and vegetable growing activities; outdoor training of in cattle raising and milk production; distribution of produce among the students of the school; fundraising among former and better-off students and teachers.

Beneficiaries 22 extremely poor female students, school dropouts, some of them orphans and/or victims of sexual abuse; about 550 students of the Collège Immaculée Conception / Save; peasants living near the school; family members and the local community.

Sustainability Financial sustainability: due to the ongoing reproduction of the cattle, which results in increasing milk production and raising income to distribute to the destitute students; guaranteed permanent customer in the form of the school itself; continuity and scaling up of the project in form of co-funding of future poor school children by the former beneficiaries once they have finished their studies and got work. Environmental sustainability: cattle manure will be used as fertilizer; gardening will stop soil erosion on the school compound.

Impact Strengthened resilience and enhanced educational level of vulnerable girls; increased self-reliance thanks to better job perspectives; improved health of all attending the school; stronger solidarity among school children with different financial background; imitation by the local community of the project's best practices; awareness and knowledge with respect to sustainable use of resources.

Background In remote rural areas it is rather difficult to find a paid job to raise the money for even basic education. Sending a child to school means having to regularly pay fees, books and uniforms; lacking the necessary financial resources parents might have to refrain from letting attend all their children and, having to choose, they often opt for the girls to stay at home. Furthermore, children's performance in school is often hampered by insufficient nutrition. The 22 students selected for the project have been experiencing extreme poverty due various socio-economic issues; 14 of them were victims of sexual abuse when working as housemaids to earn money for their school tuitions. In the aftermath of this experience they dropped out of school. Three girls 3 are orphans adopted by indigent neighboring families who are unable to financially support their education; other 5 grew up with their single mothers who could not properly take care of them.

This MicroProject contributes to the following UN-Sustainable Development Goals:





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| Project Title | ICT Education and Empowerment |
| Proponent | Collège Immaculée Conception / Jean Baptiste Rwirangira |
| Country of Realization | Rwanda |
| Duration | 9 months |
| Budget | € 9,700 |

General Objectives Labor / Education & Vocational Training

Specific Objectives Enhancement of ICT and presentation skills by students and teachers; capacity building in the use of ICT for professional purposes and research; general raise of interest in innovation and stimulation of the students' creativity based on the knowledge and use of ICT; acquirement of electronic literacy by the surrounding community; generation of new forms of income.

Activities Setup and equipment of a smart room; training of teachers and their empowerment in ICT skills related to the use of electronic devices in their educational activities; sensitization and teaching of advanced level students in the use of electronic devices and software; organization of a talent show; creation of a school magazine and explanatory booklets applying the newly acquired knowledge; ICT courses for the neighborhood.

Beneficiaries Students and teachers at the Collège Immaculée Conception / Save; the school; students' and teachers' family members and the local community.

Sustainability Financial sustainability by renting out the ICT equipment, admitting external students to ICT courses against a fee and charging for talent show attendance. Environmental sustainability: use of the electronic devices to do research, inter alia about climate change and environment protection.

Impact Enhanced and modernized teaching and learning through up-to-date technology; awareness with respect to the importance of ICT literacy; shared ICT knowledge beyond this specific school; teachers and students capacitated in view of an increasingly virtual (post) covid world and fit for taking up job opportunities in the field of ICT; reduction of the digital divide.

Background Rwanda has set up a policy of using ICT tools in education. This will facilitate the creation of high and intermediate technology enterprises and develop access to ICT down to all levels, through teaching science and technology to help students in their learning process. The project school offers a combination of Mathematics, Computer sciences and Economics (MEC) and therefore needs electric devices to properly teach these subjects. Whereas students might be fit in the use of smartphones, they do lack knowledge of a professional use of ICT and even basic applications, such as presentations, online conferences, videos – techniques which they need to master to keep up with the times.

This MicroProject contributes to the following UN-Sustainable Development Goals:





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| Project Title | AGRO-PAIX – Better than Gold |
| Proponent | TUBANI Nid de Paix / Luc Sangaré |
| Country of Realization | Mali |
| Duration | 12 months |
| Budget | € 9,900 |
| General Objective | Agriculture |

Specific Objectives Contribute to the consolidation of peace and social cohesion in a rural area; raise awareness among young gold panners about risks and consequences of their activity; improve among the youths of the project area skills and practices of agroecology; transform 20 project beneficiaries from gold diggers into actors of conflict prevention and entrepreneurs in agribusiness.

Activities Sensitization by radio, internet and group meetings with respect to human and environmental dangers of gold panning; training of 20 young gold panners on agriculture: vegetable gardening, agroecology, breeding; practice of agribusiness: transformation and marketing of local products; training of on peace building.

Beneficiaries 20 youths, 10 of them women; approximately 100 families / 10 villages.

Sustainability To keep it financially sustainable, the Agro-Paix project supplies the former gold panners – then trained agropastoralists –, with cattle for fattening and obtain in return part of the products and a percentage of the sale of the fattened animals. This system will provide the young gold panners with a full-time income generating activity, and the sums paid back to the project will allow the Association to repeat and scale up the project. From an environmental perspective, orienting young people towards sustainable activities by training and equipping them with the means to practice agroecology will prevent further destruction of the environment caused by gold panning.

Impact Regeneration of farmland and environment from the deleterious effects of gold panning; mitigation of poverty, unemployment and involuntary migration among youths; restoration of peace in and between communities; enhanced food security thanks to increased availability of meat and dairy.

Background Since 2012, Mali has been going through a multidimensional crisis. In despair of their uncertain future, many young Malians are fleeing their villages. Those who decide to stay and who wish to develop migrate to gold panning sites and indulge in traditional gold panning at the cost of their lives and the massive destruction of the land, the environment and above all the pollution of water by toxic cyanide and mercury products. Because of the desire to get rich at all costs, young gold panners dig wells everywhere, and even surreptitiously in the farmers' fields. This inevitably creates disputes and tensions between villages. Thus, villages that used to live in perfect social cohesion have now become sworn enemies because of conflicts over land.

This MicroProject contributes to the following UN-Sustainable Development Goals:





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| Project Title | Building Resilient Farming Systems Through Regenerative Agriculture |
| Proponent | Save creation through regenerative agriculture / Rita Babatunde |
| Country of Realization | Nigeria |
| Duration | 6 months |
| Budget | € 3,300 |

General Objective Agriculture

Specific Objectives Setup of resilient farming systems through regenerative agriculture teachable to young people in a megacity; carry out activities focusing on increasing soil biodiversity and organic matter to obtain more resilient soils that can better withstand climate change impacts like flooding and drought; achieve strong yields and nutrient-rich crops through natural phenomenon;

Activities Designing of the layout plan for the cultivation of 2 acres of land; creation of an irrigation channel; production of different varieties of vegetables; rearing chickens for meat, eggs and manure; setup of a fish pond as additional source of manure water and fish for consumption; transmission of practical knowledge to youths; via different platforms and a demonstration site.

Beneficiaries 20 inhabitants of project area, including women, men and children will benefit from the produce and products; their families; 5-10 children from the learning avenues.

Sustainability Revenue generation from sales of vegetables, crops and animals reared on the farm will serve as financial source of maintaining the project. Opportunities available for improved skills in regenerative agriculture will be embraced for efficient management and ongoing running of the farming activities. The different ventures will also be in consistent operation and production to ensure viable cash flow for the project. The practices of the regenerative agriculture approach are totally safe for the ecosystem.

Impact At least 40% cost on inputs saved as a result of Regenerative agriculture conservation practices compared to conventional practices which involve use of chemicals; increased yield and nutritious quality of crops and vegetables; topsoil layer build-up to 25cm thick, allowing for interconnected activities among soil inhabitants; avoidance of drought and flooding on the farmland; more resilient agroecological system; healthier environment thanks to reduced carbon emission.

Background This project shall be carried out in Akobo, a quarter of Ibadan on two acres of land. Ibadan, with a population of over 6 million, is an important commercial center. The economic activities of Ibadan include agriculture, commerce, handicrafts, manufacturing, and service industries. The city's farming population has declined due to urban activities and technology thereby making agricultural products expensive to buy. Many cultivators are part-time farmers who augment their earnings with other work. There is increasing trends of use of agro-chemicals and other chemicals detriment to food chain and living creatures in the society today, thereby making creation vulnerable to all kinds of sickness and diseases. The project intends to remedy to these agricultural practices by building an agricultural system of practices inspired by the Regenerative agriculture approach.

This MicroProject contributes to the following UN-Sustainable Development Goals:





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| Project Title | 3E – EDIFICATION ENVIRONMENT ENTERPRISE |
| Proponent | AKO – architettura a kilometro zero / Stefan Pollak |
| Country of Realization | Ivory Coast |
| Duration | 12 months |
| Budget | € 10,000 |
| General Objective | Education & Vocational Training |

Specific Objectives Improve working opportunities and living conditions in rural areas; create a sustainable building economy using and transforming local techniques and resources; train potential local entrepreneurs and support them with the start-up process of small construction firms; raise awareness of the local population on sustainable constructive choices.

Activities Educational workshops on building techniques with natural materials and sane housing; training in enterprise start-up and management; travelling exhibition and dissemination event for the population; mentoring and assistance of newly trained in the process of starting sustainable construction companies.

Beneficiaries Approximately 120 participants in the workshops on sane building and housing; 25 local entrepreneurs receiving training on technical aspects and management; 5 candidates receiving assistance in their start-ups; indirect beneficiaries: 70,000 citizens getting in contact with a sustainable model of development.

Sustainability Organizational and financial sustainability is guaranteed by the applicant's partnership with NGOs with proven cooperation track record; the progressive mentoring of the beneficiaries and the availability of specialists on site to help disseminate the shared methods. Environmental sustainability is the backbone of the project: capacitating the local communities to introduce technological improvements to the way they build and dwell, basing the solutions on locally available notions and abundant natural materials will lead to a way of producing spatial comfort without wasting environmental resources.

Impact Reduced environmental damage thanks to the spreading of sustainable building techniques; improved competences in the local construction sector; mitigation of depopulation and internal and external migration by providing the perspective of a dignified local life for young people.

Background The project is located in a rural area of about 70,000 inhabitants. Local architecture is mainly made of raw earth and vegetable fiber, natural materials locally available with a certain abundance, and which can provide healthy and effective spaces for residential use as well as other functions. Too often, however, local construction exhibits technical limitations due to particular details in construction or the improper introduction of modern materials. The result is erosion problems of both the walls and the foundations and uncomfortable microclimatic conditions. The current project proposal shall be part of a multi-annual collaboration with the local NGO Eau & Miel which includes the development and spreading of locally appropriate building techniques as well as specific training activities on these issues.

This MicroProject contributes to the following UN-Sustainable Development Goals:





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| Project Title | Training of Youth to Start Their Own Business |
| Proponent | Suore Domenicane della Beata Imelda / Sr. Tania Regina Alves de Lima |
| Country of Realization | Cameroon |
| Duration | 4 months |
| Budget | € 8,200 |

General Objectives Labor / Education & Vocational Training

Specific Objectives Improve the living conditions of the poorest; enhance overall education and professional formation of children and youth to help them to become self-reliant and resourceful change agents in society.

Activities Vocational trainings in: sewing, dying, embroidery, manufacturing of candles and soap, fabrication of juice and pastry; acquisition of devices and materials; assistance with the merchandising of the products realized by the trainees.

Beneficiaries 100 young participants of the trainings; their families and local communities.

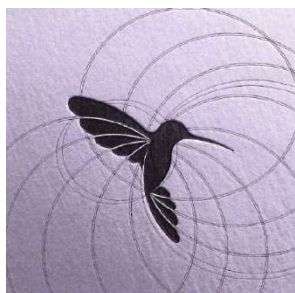
Sustainability Sustainability will be achieved through the determination of young people to gain greater economic self-sufficiency by starting their own business, and by ongoing material and moral support provided to them. The well-established presence in the area of the applicant, the Dominican Sisters, is in itself a guarantee of the sustainability of an initiative of this kind. Furthermore, the purchase of machinery and means of transport will allow the beneficiaries to organize and eventually expand the production and merchandising beyond the project period. The project can be reproduced and scaled up in other areas of the Country.

Impact Reinforced rootedness of vulnerable youth in their original environment benefitting the whole community; reduced exodus of young people and involuntary migration; at community level: virtuous circle of rising income, self-reliance and increasing consumptions due to diversification and positive development of local productivity; enhanced living conditions of the youth's families; rediscovery of the value of the individual and the dignity of work; replication of the project in other parts of the Country and imitation of its best practices.

Background The applicant – the Dominican Sisters – is already carrying out a successful sewing course for boys and girls that is very much appreciated by the local community. These moments of common work already allow participants to learn a practical activity and receive professional and human training. However, in the current period of covid pandemic, the Sisters are dedicating themselves with particular commitment to the formation of young people in view of their greater autonomy. For this reason, they wish to expand the vocational training and the pool of beneficiaries, offering other young people the opportunity to learn how to manufacture basic goods. The local communities concerned are strongly interested in the realization of this initiative, given the advantage of having young people guided not only in their human growth but also in their professional development which aims at creating autonomous jobs that allow a return also in economic terms, with the consequent improvement of the living conditions of the families themselves.

This MicroProject contributes to the following UN-Sustainable Development Goals:





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| Project Title | Bricks: Production and Distribution |
| Proponent | Sr. B. Nojenoyom / M. Riga – C. Micco |
| Country of Realization | Chad |
| Duration | 3 months |
| Budget | € 5,500 |
| General Objective | Labor |

Specific Objectives Create small businesses; increase existing job activity; improve living conditions through healthier housing; promote use of environment-friendly technologies.

Activities Purchase of mechanical presses and raw material; training of workers in cold pressed brick making; production and distribution of 900-1200 bricks per day; construction of shelters for poor families.

Beneficiaries 4 men participating in the training and starting brick building and distribution activity; their families; 300 families indirectly benefitting.

Sustainability The cold press technique has been designed and tested on the field and has proven reliable. After the training and start-up process, the beneficiaries will be self-reliant and able to continue autonomously with their activity. From an environmental perspective, the use of cold pressed bricks in construction is rather eco-friendly, since much less energy is needed to manufacture them: for instance, to prepare baked bricks to construct one single house, almost one hectare of forest will have to be burned.

Impact Reduced environmental damage thanks to the use of sustainable building techniques; improved competences in the local construction sector; enhanced job environment due to activities linked to the core business; improved health and living conditions for the villagers through safer housing.

Background The project area is a village of about 15,000 inhabitants located in the extreme south of Chad, close to a chain of mountains and flooded by a river during the rainy season. In this kind of village, the concept of housing differs significantly from the European one; much time is spent outside. The purpose of the houses this project is about is to deliver a shelter for families during cold nights and a warehouse for the personal belongings, using inexpensive locally available materials and techniques. To this end the local missionaries have identified an environmentally and financially sustainable technology to produce bricks with a mechanical press. Compared to baked bricks, cold pressed bricks are more resistant, absorb less humidity and require much less energy to be manufactured

This MicroProject contributes to the following UN-Sustainable Development Goals:





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| Project Title | The Women of Karité Soap |
| Proponent | Sr. M. Ghebumeskel / C. Incannella – D. Cassotta |
| Country of Realization | Chad |
| Duration | 1 month |
| Budget | € 2,700 |
| General Objectives | Agriculture / Labor |

Specific Objectives Initiate sustainable small-scale soap production and trade to enhance the local economy, and in particular the economic situation of women; promote female education; support sustainable karité oil extraction; promote a culture of personal care and hygiene.

Activities Provision and stocking of stock all materials needed to make karité soap; fabrication of wood molds; organization of trainings for the women in the villages involved; support in merchandising.

Beneficiaries Direct beneficiaries are about 100 women involved in the soap production, 10 in each of 10 villages; additional women to extract karité oil; their families.

Sustainability Most of the tools to be acquired for the soap production, such as dies, will be manufactured by locals and the initial investment for them amortize over a short time. Soap being rather expensive in the Country (the price of a bar corresponding to 2 working hours of an operator) the production and merchandising of soap by the village women to more accessible prices responds to an actual market need. After the first circle, the yields from the sale will little by little lead to self-sufficiency. The vitellaria paradoxa, the plant from which karité oil is extracted, has been classified a vulnerable species due to its aggressive exploitation by big international players of the cosmetic industry. The project aims to ensure a more sustainable production by local people who care about the environment and who will be trained to safely use and stock the karité oil. The soap manufacturing itself is manual, therefore no energy is consumed and no emissions occur.

Impact Women of ten villages become independent from a cultural, social and financial point of view by initiating their own small business; personal hygiene of indigent villagers is facilitated, now that a basic product like soap becomes affordable.

Background The project will be implemented in 10 villages situated in an extensive semi-desert territory, characterized by an instability due to the conflicts between different ethnic and religious groups. The goal is to help a group of women to emancipate themselves by setting up their own small business based on local resources.

This MicroProject contributes to the following UN-Sustainable Development Goals:





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| Project Title | Solar Energy for the 'Arc en Ciel' Children's Home |
| Proponent | Sr. R. Giaccone / C. Biscaglia – M. Alonzi |
| Country of Realization | Ivory Coast |
| Duration | 6 months |

Budget € 10,000

General Objectives Agriculture / Labor

Specific Objectives Ensure access to affordable, reliable and modern energy; improve energy efficiency to facilitate access to clean energy technologies; develop new economic and professional resources; reduce or eliminate energy costs.

Activities Planning, preparation and installation of photovoltaic panels; electrical wiring; testing of the system; maintenance.

Beneficiaries 18 orphans; internal and external staff of the children's home and the annexed dispensary.

Sustainability Financial sustainability is ensured thanks to the virtuous circle triggered by in-house production of electricity which saves financial resources formerly needed for buying traditional energy. As for the environmental sustainability, the project is about the installation of a photovoltaic system, that is, a source of renewable energy with zero CO2 emissions.

Impact Improved eco-balance of the children's home; financial resources are set free and can be used for other purposes; stable and efficient power supply.

Background Economic development is intimately connected with access to energy, which is the engine of technology but also powers basic services in people's lives such as hot water and lighting. In the project area, meteorological conditions allow for power supply by solar energy. The children's home 'Arc en Ciel' and the attached dispensary up to now have to get by with an unreliable, expensive and environmentally unsustainable system of electricity.

This MicroProject contributes to the following UN-Sustainable Development Goals:





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