

## **Launch of the Trickle Out Africa Research Project & Directory of Social and Environmental Enterprises**

<http://trickleout.net>

*Are you a social or environmental enterprise? Or do you assist such businesses to help them make a difference in our communities and preserve our environment?*

The Trickle Out Africa project examines the social and environmental enterprise sectors in 19 countries in Eastern and Southern Africa. As part of this project we will compile a directory of social or environmental enterprises that produce, retail, manufacture or offer services within the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) and Eastern Africa Community (EAC) regions, as well as the donor agencies, voluntary associations and assurance schemes that support these.

This Directory will be free to register and only the information you want to show will be available to the public. It is an opportunity to share what you do with interested customers, supporters and volunteers. Trickle Out is a research project funded by the UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), and is based in Queen's University Management School, Queen's University Belfast.

You can now register for the Trickle Out project, free of charge. <http://trickleout.net/>

- If you represent or own a social, environmental enterprise or NGO with any commercial activity
- If you represent a co-operative or membership association that represents such organisations
- If you are the representative of a donor/aid agency that supports such organisations
- Or work by yourself as an entrepreneur selling green products or services.

### **Why should I register?**

The project is unique in that it combines social and environmental enterprises considered essential for sustainable development and the green economy in Africa. It is also unique in the scope of the Directory as this will be the first searchable Directory of these types of organisations covering the 19 countries of Southern and Eastern Africa.

#### Key points:

- Whilst social entrepreneurship networks are growing they are often restricted to a single country or regional group.
- The Directory will be searchable allowing anyone to identify and locate these organisations with the contact details they provide.
- Organisations can identify potential partners in other countries
- Businesses can identify potential suppliers
- Customers can locate the firms
- Support and donor agencies can also identify potential recipients of their initiatives
- Firms that do not normally have a web presence can have their details available for others free of charge

Whilst networking and identification of these enterprises is the primary benefit of the Directory, the project also collects some important information on the types of enterprises, business models, funding and business history. All this data remains classified and will be used to guide future initiatives like training, trade links and enterprise development schemes.

If you are based in any of these countries you can register: Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

**# The website is also available in English, French, Afrikaans, Swahili and Portuguese #**

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