



## Supporting talented Kenyan artisans living with a disability to develop new eco-friendly income streams

**Up to 20 artisans living with a disability from Nairobi will be supported to make their products more competitive in the marketplace by making safe, high quality eco-friendly crafts and marketing their products online for local and international markets. Examples include tailored clothing, wood carvings and jewellery.**

A key part of the project will be a training programme to focus on quality, design and safety of products to enable the artisans to sell to an international market by selling online. Artisans will have up to 20 contact days with a trainer over a 6-month period.

Welsh organisation, Fair Dos/Siopa Teg has been awarded **Wales for Africa** grant to facilitate the project. They are working with a partner organisation Disability Information and Support Network (DISN) to deliver the Pedisa Crafts project.

The project builds on their successful Kenya Disability Resource website / advocacy project to help combat a high level of stigmatisation that people living with a disability experience.

Susanah Kimani-Njogu from Fair Dos has said 'We are extremely grateful for the grant and for the opportunity to be able to make a difference especially with people living with

disabilities. The Pedisa Crafts project will enable up to 20 disabled artisans in Nairobi learn how to make safe, good quality, eco-friendly crafts and, market the products online for local and international markets. Artisans will have up to 20 contact days with a trainer over a 6-month period.'

This is one of eighteen Wales-Africa projects that have been awarded funding through the Wales for Africa Grant Scheme.

Announcing the successful grantees, the Minister for International Relations and Welsh Language Eluned Morgan said:

'Our Wales for Africa Grant Scheme has gone from strength to strength by supporting the diaspora communities in Wales and establishing links with sub Saharan Africa. These grants help transform the lives of tens of thousands of people from across this beautiful and diverse continent every year. It is great to see so many excellent projects and charities benefitting from our grant scheme.

'I want Wales to build on these international relationships; seen to be acting on our commitment to Future Generations; and to be known as an outwardly facing, globally responsible nation. The Wales for Africa Programme is a shining example of how we can achieve this.'

The grant scheme is Welsh Government's flagship initiative for Wales Africa partnership working. It enables community groups and organisations throughout Wales to access funding for small-scale Wales-Africa projects that have a positive impact, both in Africa and here in Wales. The scheme is administered by Wales Council for Voluntary Action

In this latest round, funding has been awarded to projects around four themes: health, sustainable livelihoods, lifelong learning, and climate change and environment.

There is an exciting array of different projects from a project supporting a school in Uganda to build new classrooms for up to 300 pupils by working with 10 young Welsh based Engineers as they work towards their professional qualifications, setting up a new health link between a University Health Board in Wales and Kenya to raising awareness about mental health through Mental Health First Aid training in Lesotho and building a Climate Resilience Hub at the Bore Community Centre in Kenya to support the local community in adapting to increasingly extreme weather patterns.

The 18 successful projects will work across North, South and mid Wales; partnering with a range of African countries including, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Nigeria, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Uganda and Zambia.

The Wales for Africa Grant Scheme is expected to open for applications again on 13 December for projects seeking funding; amounts of between £5,000 and £15,000 will be available.

For more information, **please contact Siobhan Hayward on 029 2043 5761.**

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

- The Wales for Africa Grant Scheme is a flagship initiative of the Welsh Government's Wales for Africa programme. The scheme enables community groups and

organisations in Wales to access funding for small-scale projects that contribute to Wales' delivery of the UN Sustainable Development Goals and deliver benefits to Wales and Africa. The grants scheme is administrated by WCVA with final funding decisions made by Welsh Government. Up to £230,00 is available per year, with an annual minimum of £50,000 dedicated to health activities.

- Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA) is the national membership body for voluntary organisations in Wales. We exist to enable voluntary organisations in Wales to make a bigger difference together.

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