



THE ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD

MARY SUMNER HOUSE, 24 TUFTON STREET,
LONDON SW1P 3RB
ENGLAND

Special Consultative Status with the
United Nations Economic & Social Council

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7799 3875
Fax: +44 (0) 20 7340 9950
E-mail: info@acww.org.uk
Website: www.acww.org.uk

"Working with Women Worldwide"

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April 2009

Mrs. Melva M. Read
IAHCE Treasurer
214 N. Frey
Gillespie
IL 62033
U.S.A.

E-mail: Herminia@acww.org.uk
Telephone: +44 (0) 20 7340 99562

Dear Mrs. Read,

Thank you so much for the cheque for US\$13,008.65 enclosed with your letter of 24 March 2009. The amount has been allocated as follows:

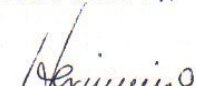
• Save the Sight Fund	\$ 244.89	SPECIAL DONATIONS
• Water for All Fund	1,367.76	
• Pennies for Friendship Fund	1,710.00	ACTUAL PENNIES
• Projects Fund	9,686.00	
Total	\$13,008.65	

We are delighted to receive this most generous donation, please convey our sincere thanks to your members for continuously supporting the projects and work of ACWW; the fundraising on behalf of this organisation is much appreciated.

For information, please find enclosed the profiles of the projects approved by the Projects Committee in March 2009.

Kindest regards.

Yours sincerely,


Herminia Medal
Projects Committee Secretary

All correspondence should be addressed through the General Secretary

**PROJECT PROFILES OF THE ACWW PROJECTS
APPROVED IN MARCH 2009 FROM AFRICAN AND CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES**

COUNTRY: CAMEROON

SOCIETY: TEZE WOMEN COMMON INITIATIVE GROUP (TWCIG)

PROJECT: EXPANSION IN THE PRODUCTION, PROCESSING AND MARKETING OF PALM OIL AND REARING OF PIGS BY WOMEN AND ORPHAN YOUTHS

PROJECT NO: 0804

ACWW GRANT: £5,102

The short term objective of the project is to empower the women and orphan youths, both economically and socially. It will uplift the living standards of the members of Teze Women CIG, the orphan youths and their family members. It will make it possible for the women to have self-autonomy and status in the Community by reducing their dependence on men.

In the long term the project will provide skills training and capacity building to 300 women and 50 orphan youths to enable them to engage in small-scale businesses in order to improve their livelihood and earn sufficient income to support themselves and their families.

The palm oil and livestock products will be sold in local markets, neighbouring towns and villages. Part of the income will be reinvested in the project; part will be given to the beneficiaries; the remaining income will be used to care for the destitute orphans in the community.

TWCIG Executive will monitor the project closely; progress will be measured by the beneficial impact of the project in the lives of the participants.



COUNTRY: KENYA

SOCIETY: OFADE FARMERS GROUP (OFG)

PROJECT SOLYNE ENTERPRISES – SAVINGS AND INTERNAL LENDING COMMUNITIES

PROJECT NO: 0808

ACWW GRANT: £4,792

The aim of this project is to give the facility to borrow money from a savings and credit scheme and to encourage thrift by giving them the opportunity to earn income and encourage saving. To achieve this, a source of funds will be created to lend money to the participants at a reasonable rate of interest, which will allow members to improve their economic and social standing in the community.

The long term objective of the scheme is to create a permanent financial basis where the residents of the Migori District can obtain credit at low interest rates; it will be a model village banking institution in the region where poor people are currently denied access to ordinary banking facilities.

The participants are mainly members of OFG who have shown interest in establish a revolving saving scheme that will be available to everyone in need of money to start or expand their micro-enterprises; mainly women with no access to borrowing from other sources.

To avoid default of loan repayments the administrators of the scheme will have a money box with 3 padlocks. The box will be kept by one person with no key to any of the padlocks; however, there will be 3 people with a key to one of the padlocks, any time the box is opened all 3 key-holders need to be present. All transactions will be carefully controlled by following the 'procedure manual' which requires approval by all the administrators before any disbursement is approved.



**PROJECT PROFILES FOR ACWW PROJECTS
IN ASIA AND EUROPE
APPROVED IN MARCH 2009**

COUNTRY: INDIA
SOCIETY: Integrated Education and Development Society (IEDS)
PROJECT: Kanikkar Tribal Women Community Development Programme
PROJECT NO: 0805
ACWW GRANT: £9,054

This project is to be carried out among a nomadic tribal community – Kanikkar – living in the wooded areas of the Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu. The beneficiaries (tribal women from 22 settlements) have no basic facilities and are excluded from mainstream society.

The aim of the project is to organise the women towards participation in an integrated community development project by strengthening existing institutions within the community, promoting decision-making forums, developing a legal framework which supports the rights of tribes people, and channelling governmental and non-governmental funds directly to self-help groups. In all these aspects the aim is to achieve equal status for women and encourage women's leadership.

IEDS has already worked with this community and formed women's self-help groups; as a result of this the women were involved in designing the project. The project will make use of government support such as the Women Development Corporation, NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development) so that in future, the beneficiaries will be able to access projects and programmes from these organisations, including micro-finance credit.



COUNTRY: India
SOCIETY: People's Life Center
PROJECT TITLE: To minimize the poverty level among the poorest of the poor, women group in our self-help groups
PROJECT NO: 0806
ACWW GRANT: £5,263

The aim of this project is to reduce poverty by giving a dairy cow to each of 40 poor women in the Thiruverumbur block of the Trichirappalli District of Tamil Nadu.

A 'core group' will be formed (village members and PLC members) to select the beneficiaries and monitor the programme. The animals will be purchased, with insurance included, and distributed to the beneficiaries. A training programme will be provided. After keeping enough for their family's use, the women will be able to sell the surplus milk to a milk vendor who will supply it to tea shops and the dairy in the nearest town.

The women will be able to feed their families better, have their children educated and start making small savings as a result of this project.



COUNTRY: India
SOCIETY: Society for Serving Humanity
PROJECT TITLE: Comprehensive Care and Support Programme for Women and Children with HIV/AIDS in Sempatti Region.
PROJECT NO: 0807
ACWW GRANT: £9,545

400 women and children who are living with HIV/AIDS, either as direct sufferers or as widows/orphans as a result of the disease, were selected by SSH's self-help groups in the Sempatti region, Dindigul district, to benefit directly from this project. This region is prone to HIV/AIDS as it is a pilgrimage and tourism centre and has very busy markets and other industries.

The aims are to improve the social, economic, physical and psychological welfare of the beneficiaries by establishing support and training structures, to enable the children to continue their education, and to eradicate the stigma which exists regarding people living with HIV/AIDS.

It is expected that local health care facilities, social welfare schemes and educational facilities will all be mobilized to help meet the many and varied needs of the beneficiaries. In the longer term, small grants will be made to women deemed capable of carrying out income-generation schemes, so that they may have economic security and not need to resort to using money lenders.



COUNTRY: Romania
SOCIETY: Asociatia Femeia Mileniului III/Women of the Third Millenium
PROJECT TITLE: Info-Campaigns for Rural Women, Scholarships for Rural Children and Sewing Workshop for Disadvantaged Women
PROJECT NO: 0810
ACWW GRANT: £9,654

The aims of this project are to increase the level of education and self-esteem of rural women, to provide them with a source of income, and to give a number of children from rural areas the opportunity to continue attending high school by awarding scholarships.

The Sewing Workshop is a continuation of previous ACWW projects (PN 0684 and 0735) which have been a great success; the women want to improve their skills and become better able to sell their products. The scholarships are to allow the four children who benefitted from the previous project (PN 0735) to continue their studies at high school, by meeting the costs of monthly boarding fees, school supplies and travel. The students' grades for the first year of the scholarship were excellent. The Info-Campaigns will reach six villages in Mures county and will focus on health education, first aid, and community development.

It is hoped to continue and extend all aspects of the project to more women and children and to reach more villages in the future.



COUNTRY: NAMIBIA

SOCIETY: NAMIBIAN WOMEN'S SOCIETY

PROJECT: "GIFT OF GRACE"

PROJECT NO: 0809

ACWW GRANT: £2,642

The grant of ACWW will be used to continue and improve the "Gift of Grace" scheme, which comprises four different small projects; as follows:

1. Education Project: aimed at educating and caring for pre-school children by generating self-employment and income for the mothers.
2. Saturday Project: aimed at feeding hungry children, teaching them skills so that later on they can work and earn a living. The programme also facilitates interaction and empathy between the children.
3. Playground Project: it will engage children in activities that will keep them off the street; it will also assist with the development of the children and encourage them to support each other.
4. Soup Kitchen Project: it will provide food and meals for disadvantaged children and the elderly.

The main purpose of the four projects is to promote the health and wellbeing of the participants, foster good relationships between them and provide the beneficiaries with the means to earn a living.

All the above projects will be supervised by expert facilitators and will benefit the whole community.



COUNTRY: ST. LUCIA (Caribbean)

SOCIETY: THE CANARIES CREOLE POT

PROJECT: EDUCATE TO EMPOWER – TRAINING OF TRAINERS

PROJECT NO: 0812

ACWW GRANT: £12,485

The short term objective of the project is to provide training for women from the islands in the Caribbean and the Central and South America area. The training will empower the women and encourage them to learn new skills, which later on they can pass on to other women in their respective communities.

In the long term the aim is to build strong, effective and stable women's groups in the participants' own countries so that they will network with other women to improve the quality of life for themselves and their families through education, skills and leadership. Special consideration will be given to reaching those women who otherwise cannot access or afford to pay for their education or training.

Women from each participating country in the area have had discussions with ACWW Area President about their needs. During these discussions they expressed the need for training, education and networking opportunities. The Area President's conclusion is that the common needs of the participants in her area are: education and training in leadership and organisational management skills.

Officers from the Division of Gender Relations in the Ministry of Health will be at hand to offer advice during the training workshop and will provide the necessary equipment, including an overhead projector, power point facilities and such other IT facilities.

COUNTRY: KENYA

SOCIETY: OGONGO THEOLOGICAL CENTRE & DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

PROJECT: BLOWING THE WHISTLE ON WATER-BORNE DISEASES/NUTRITION AMONG RURAL AREA

PROJECT NO: 0814

ACWW GRANT: £3,144

The purpose of the project is to:

- Reduce the workload of the women and girls and free them from the tiresome and time-consuming task of finding water so that they can engage in other economically rewarding activities.
- To reduce water-born diseases and increase the level of income from the farms of the beneficiaries by at least 38%.
- To construct 10 water tanks that will provide clean, safe water to 1,800 people in the South East of Kadem, including school children.
- In the long term the objective is to improve the health and living conditions of the women and their families by the availability of safe, clean water, farming skills and animal husbandry (poultry-keeping). It will also help the families to grow a variety of products in their land, increase their farming input with irrigation and generate much needed income.

The beneficiaries' contribution to the project will include sand, ballast, labour and timber. The Livestock Technical Officer from the Lake Community Development will provide training, advice and assistance when necessary.

The project will be self-sustaining once it has been established; part of the income generated will be used to maintain and expand the activities of the project. To achieve this there will be a Committee in charge of the project to ensure adherence to the plan and find solutions to any problems that may arise during implementation.



COUNTRY: TANZANIA

SOCIETY: WIDOWS AND ORPHANS WELFARE SOCIETY OF TANZANIA (WOWESOT)

PROJEC: NAMIRAMA WIDOWS GROUP – HORTICULTURE

PROJECT NO: 0815

ACWW GRANT: £3,000

The main objective of the project is to purchase farming equipment for 30 widows, this will enable them to cultivate maize to feed their families and for sale in local markets. Maize is the staple food in the area, therefore, there is much demand for it and it generates good income.

In the short term the aim is to support the beneficiaries until they generate sufficient income to care for their families; in the long term the purpose is to equip them with skills training so that they become self-supporting and economically independent.

The widows will be trained on how to grow maize; they will also be provided with basic equipment such as watering cans, sprinklers, and spades and wheel barrows. The women will get seeds, manure and a shelter in which to store the harvest before taking it to the markets.

Part of the grant will be used to provide the beneficiaries with small loans to enable them to survive until they generate their own income, they will repay the loan later so that other widows may also benefit.

COUNTRY: UGANDA

SOCIETY: MAJANGO FARMERS ASSOCIATION (MAFA)

PROJEC: PROMOTION OF HOUSEHOLD FOOD SECURITY AND INCREASED INCOME

PROJECT NO: 0816

ACWW GRANT: £3,254

In the short term the project will provide training to the beneficiaries in the following activities:

- New methods of sustainable agriculture that will increase food security.
- How to generate income from agricultural activities
- Marketing, savings and credit management
- How to establishing and run a revolving loan scheme, this will facilitate credit to the participants at low interest rates.

In the long term the project will enable the beneficiaries to increase their income; improve their standard of living; reduce nutrition related diseases in the families and improve the environment. It will also help to form a strong community where the participants will help and support each other by sharing their experiences.

During the third quarter of the project the participants will be given access to good animal stock (goats and pigs) to cross-breed with their local animals in order to achieve an improvement in their own livestock, this will result in better quality of meat, both for family consumption and for sale.

As many as 172 women and 44 men will directly benefit from the project.



COUNTRY: KENYA

SOCIETY: KARED-FOD WOMEN'S GROUP (KWG)

PROJECT: INTEGRATED FOOD PRODUCTION

PROJECT NO: 0817

ACWW GRANT: £4,850

The purpose of the project is to introduce drought and disease resistant crops and strengthen the irrigation system; to provide practical skills in the propagation and protection of crops and improve the management of fruit trees. The aim is to grow enough food to feed the ever increasing population while at the same time combating malnutrition and poverty by diversifying cultivation; this in turn will create employment in the community and minimise the rural mass emigration to the city.

In the long term the project will increase the income of the beneficiaries and will ensure food security in the area; it will integrate smallholders' horticultural and traditional products and give them the opportunity to cultivate better and profitable crops. It will give the participants access to irrigation facilities and marketing, which will contribute to the increase in farming input.

Officials from The Lake Region Community Development Programme and the Agriculture Ministry will be at hand to give advice to the participants; the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute and the Kenya Seed Co. will provide the stake-holders with relevant advice regarding the best seeds to plant.

Sales of vegetables, fruit and cassava have great potential for generating income, due the great demand for food in the area.