



# The Mitsubishi Corporation Fund for Europe and Africa

## The Mitsubishi Corporation Fund for Europe and Africa announces its funding programme for 2022

LONDON (2022) - Following its annual Meeting of Trustees on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2022, the Mitsubishi Corporation Fund for Europe and Africa (MCFEA), which marks its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, has announced a programme of £255,936 in new grants.

The 2022 funding programme will support the following organisations and projects:

- **Rainforest Alliance:** The Restoration of Landscapes and Degraded Forests in Côte d'Ivoire project aims to help remedy deforestation in the region. Rainforest Alliance intends to use the roll out of its new agricultural standard, in collaboration with rural, state, and private partners, through a landscape approach to induce a responsible practice for cocoa farming.
- **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN):** The Blue Ecopreneurs challenge aims to catalyse the growth of a socially equitable and sustainable ocean-based economy. Implemented under the Great Blue Wall, the project aims to unlock the development of a regenerative blue economy by engaging and supporting start-ups with innovative and ecopreneurial approaches across the Western Indian ocean region that contribute to both seascape conservation and restoration, and also deliver benefits for people.
- **Springboard Entrepreneurship Development Initiative:** The Small-scale Farmers and Rural Women Livelihood Project aims to address livelihood needs for income generation targeting small-scale farmers and unemployed youth and women living within rural areas in Nigeria.
- **Farm Africa:** The Strengthening forest-friendly livelihoods to protect biodiversity in Bale Eco-Region (Ethiopia) project aims to work with 60 smallholder farmers from highland and midland areas of Delo, Menna and Berbere districts on sustainable coffee gardens; and 60 agro-pastoralists to establish sustainable woodlots as an alternative means to generate income.
- **Acumen Fund:** The Inclusive Business Initiative (IWI) aims to fill the gap left by commercial investors in West Africa by identifying and investing in 2-3 new impact-oriented enterprises during fiscal year 2022-2023 and providing follow-on investment capital to 1-2 additional companies, for a total of 3 transactions during the one-year grant period.
- **African Leadership Academy:** The Anzisha Prize seeks to fundamentally and significantly increase the number of job-generative entrepreneurs in Africa. The program identifies and supports very young entrepreneurs (15 to 22 years old), and then develops books, case studies, research and other resources for a growing community of parents, educators and investors actively supporting transitions from secondary and tertiary education to early age entrepreneurship.

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About the Mitsubishi Corporation Fund for Europe and Africa

The Mitsubishi Corporation Fund for Europe and Africa (MCFEA) is a charitable foundation established in 1992 by Mitsubishi Corporation and its UK-based subsidiary Mitsubishi Corporation International (Europe) Plc. Spanning thirty years, the MCFEA has been engaged in a wide variety of partnerships throughout Europe and Africa, supporting innovative projects which align with its central aims: the promotion of environmental conservation; the support of environmental education and research; and the alleviation of poverty.

## **About Mitsubishi Corporation**

Mitsubishi Corporation (MC) is a global integrated business enterprise that develops and operates business together with its offices and subsidiaries in approximately 90 countries and regions worldwide, as well as a global network of around 1,700 group companies. MC has 10 Business Groups that operate across virtually every industry: Natural Gas, Industrial Materials, Petroleum & Chemicals, Mineral Resources, Industrial Infrastructure, Automotive & Mobility, Food Industry, Consumer Industry, Power Solution and Urban Development. Through these 10 Business Groups plus the addition of its Industry DX Group, MC's current activities have experienced far beyond its traditional trading operations to include project development, production and manufacturing operations, working in collaboration with our trusted partners around the globe. With an unwavering commitment to conducting business with integrity and fairness, MC remains fully dedicated to growing its businesses while contributing to a prosperous society.

MC provides philanthropic contributions through a variety of channels including grants from the MCFEA and its sister charity the Mitsubishi Corporation Foundation for the Americas (MCFA).

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