



The Mitsubishi Corporation Foundation for EMEA CIO (MCF for EMEA) announces its funding programme for 2026

LONDON (2026) - Following its annual Meeting of Trustees on the 26 November 2025, MCF for EMEA has announced a new grant programme totalling approximately £600k in support of environmental sustainability, education, youth leadership, and community resilience initiatives across the EMEA region.

The 2026 funding programme will support the following organisations and projects:

- **African Leadership Academy:** Over the past year, MCF for EMEA has continued to unlock opportunities for African Leadership Academy (ALA) students and alumni. ALA's Class of 2025 brought together 101 students from 34 countries, with graduates now enrolling at leading universities across the U.S. and Japan. MCF for EMEA provided catalytic scholarship support to three students from this cohort, enabling their transition to top global institutions. Building on this commitment, the MCF for EMEA Scholarship for ALA alumni at Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University has removed critical financial barriers - already supporting five alumni to pursue degrees in Japan and expanding access to educational pathways.
- **Public Fund: "The Center "Cooperation for sustainable development":** MCF for EMEA is supporting the project "Green School: Environmental Education, Youth Leadership, and Sustainable Development in Schools" in Kazakhstan, implemented in partnership with Public Fund: "The Center "Cooperation for sustainable development" (CSD Center). The initiative will introduce the "green school" model in five general education schools in Konaev, Almaty region, promoting environmentally responsible behaviour among students. Activities include infrastructure upgrades, teacher training, and active student engagement in environmental practices. More than 1,000 students and 100 teachers are expected to participate. The project aims to reduce single-use plastics, promote sustainability in education, and strengthen environmental awareness and practical skills among schoolchildren.
- **ENDA ENERGIE:** The 'Project to Improve the Resilience of Mangrove Ecosystems and Communities through the Restoration and Extension of Clean Technologies in the Delta of Saloum Marine Protected Areas' aims to support mangrove restoration, biodiversity conservation and the livelihoods of local people through the reforestation of 25ha of mangroves, dissemination of cookstoves as a clean cooking alternative, environmental education and promotion of green activities such as improved fish smoking and sustainable oyster farming.
- **The High Atlas Foundation:** The 'Building Sustainable Agricultural Livelihoods with Three High Atlas Communities' project aims to restore agricultural livelihoods in communities devastated by the September 2023 earthquake in Morocco's Al Haouz province. The initiative will support the villages of Igg, Imlil, and Agadir, totaling more than 1,600 people, by improving access to water and strengthening agricultural systems while supporting longer-term resilience to climate and economic challenges. Critical to this is the installation of solar panels to power water systems, construction of irrigation basins and drinking water reservoirs, deployment of water distribution pipelines, and planting of over 50,000 fruit trees.
- **Rainforest Alliance:** In Côte d'Ivoire, Rainforest Alliance, with support from MCF for EMEA, is implementing the "TechFORESTS" project in the community forests of Apouéba and Zaranou within the Beki-Bossématié landscape. The initiative integrates technological innovation and

participatory governance to strengthen sustainable forest management. Through digital biodiversity monitoring, training of community eco-guards, and support for land tenure security, the project empowers local communities, particularly women and youth. TechForests contributes to conserving forest ecosystems while improving livelihoods, demonstrating how integrated, community-led approaches can deliver lasting environmental and socio-economic impact.

- **NELIS - Next Leaders' Initiative for Sustainability:** Next Leaders' Initiative for Sustainability: The 'One Million Leaders Fellowship in the Middle East & North Africa (OML-MENA)' aims to develop young leaders in the Middle East and North African (MENA) region and provide them with the skills, knowledge, and resources that they need to drive sustainable development and social change in their communities. In 2025 alone, 1809 young leaders from 19 Arabic speaking countries took part in the Fellowship.
- **Climate Action Association in Jordan (CAN – Jordan):** The Climate Action Association (CAN – Jordan), with the support of MCF for EMEA, is implementing an innovative pilot project to establish a 200 m² Miyawaki urban forest integrated with a greywater treatment system in Jordan. This initiative aims to improve urban environmental conditions, promote sustainable water reuse, and demonstrate scalable, nature-based solutions to climate challenges in Jordan. By combining ecological restoration with resource efficiency, the project contributes to strengthening community resilience and advancing sustainable development practices in water-scarce urban settings.

About The Mitsubishi Corporation Foundation for EMEA CIO (MCF for EMEA)

MCF for EMEA is a Charitable Incorporated Organization registered with the Charity Commission of England and Wales. MCF for EMEA engages with a wide variety of partner organizations throughout Europe, Africa and the Middle East, supporting innovative projects that align with its central aims: realizing an inclusive society, empowering the next generation, and conserving the environment.