Fairtrade certified producers in Côte d'Ivoire support their communities to fight COVID-19

Fairtrade certified producer organisations in Côte d'Ivoire are supporting the fight against COVID-19 by providing their members with personal protective equipment and sanitary items and helping to create public awareness in their communities. These cooperatives have embarked on education campaigns with some receiving support from the Conseil Café Cacao.

SCJPAB takes initiatives against the spread of Covid-19

SCJPAB cooperative is located in Bangolo in the West of Côte d'Ivoire and has been Fairtrade certified since 2018. The cooperative also contributed to the fight against the spread of Covid 19 by distributing liquid soaps, disinfectant hand gels, water bleach, handwashing equipment and masks to its members in more than 10 communities, to the health centres of the city and its surroundings, to the police and local authorities and all the warehouses of the cooperative.

The cooperative has also organized awareness creation sessions for its employees and delegates, who in turn have passed on the knowledge to the 1465 members of the cooperative. This activity was carried out with premium investment of FCFA 20,000,000.

ECAMOM donates to its members
The ECAMOM cooperative located in Méagui in the southwest of Côte d'Ivoire has been Fairtrade certified since 2013. The organization currently has 3,465 members spread across 11 sections. Since the Ivorian government took action against the disease in Covid-19, ECAMOM has not remained indifferent. First, the cooperative reproduced the posters from the Ministry of Health and Public Hygiene and distributed them to its members. Then, awareness tours on barrier measures were carried out in the 11 sections of the cooperative. During these awareness-raising visits, health donations were made (soaps, hydroalcoholic gels), masks, gloves and hand washing equipment worth 5 million FCFA. These awareness messages have also been translated into local languages to facilitate the understanding of all producers.

**COOP-CA ABO supplies sanitary items**

COOP-CA ABO, is a producer organization located in the southwest of Côte d'Ivoire, in the city of Soubré. The producer organization is made up of 5 societies with 631 members.

The cooperative has set up facilities in its head office and in some of its communities to ensure that its members, workers and visitors respect basic prevention and protection measures, including regular hand washing. This was partially funded with the Fairtrade premium granted to the cooperative in the first quarter of 2020.

Workers and delegates of COOP-CA ABO measure aimed at raising farmers' awareness of the educational materials in the form of posters and a handwashing demonstration to educate their communities and other farmers.

**SCOOP-CA EM supports its members**
SCOOP-CA EM is a Fairtrade certified cooperative since June 2019 located in the village of Mahapleu in the department of Danané in the West of Côte d'Ivoire. It has 822 members.

Newly certified, the cooperative did not hesitate to invest part of its first Fairtrade premium to educate its members about preventive measures against COVID-19. It has also donated hygiene articles amounting to CFAF 1,516,000 to its members as well as to information centres and local cocoa warehouses.

**COOP-CA YAWOUBE supplies sanitary items to local authorities**

COOP-CA YAWOUBE is a Fairtrade certified cooperative, located in the eastern part of Côte d'Ivoire, in Abengourou.

The cooperative donated liquid soaps, hand sanitizers, masks and other sanitary items to the Regional Prefecture. The president of the cooperative said: “Given the pandemic of the corona virus, the Board of Directors and I could not remain indifferent, so we decided to make donations (buckets, hydro-alcoholic gel, masks) for sensitize the population and ask them to respect the instructions given by the authorities ”.

**SCOOPS-SAHS cooperative sensitises some communities**

SCOOPS-SAHS is a Fairtrade certified agricultural cooperative located in west central Côte d'Ivoire in the town of Daloa.
In the context of actions against COVID-19, this producer organization has carried out awareness campaigns in two different communities, bringing together not only farmers, but all members of the community, to educate them on protective measures against COVID-19. Dr. N’dri Aristide Yao of the Daloa Regional Hospital, was the main facilitator of the educational forums. The cooperative also distributed hand sanitizers, liquid soaps, hand washing buckets and masks, all worth 1,300,000 FCFA, to the warehouse, farmers and other participants.

**SCOOPRADI (Divo Producers’ Cooperative) raises awareness on COVID-19 prevention**

SCOOPRADI is a Fairtrade certified cooperative with 2,298 farmers including 99 women. On April 8, 2020, the cooperative began raising awareness about COVID-19 with its members, from Divo. During this awareness-raising, staff were trained in the prevention of the corona virus. The cooperative has also started raising member awareness with posters provided by Fairtrade and is planning tours in the other sections.

**COOPCAKF provides sanitary items to members**

As part of the fight against COVID-19, COOPCAKF a Fairtrade certified producer organisation, located in Koun-fao in the northeast of Côte d’Ivoire has sensitized its 253 members, including 49 women, on preventive measures against Covid 19. The cooperative at the same time distributed handwashing equipment, mufflers and food,
all worth 1,500,000 FCFA, to its members. The first donations took place on April 15, 2020 in the Atta Kouassi community.

A producer demonstrating handwashing

**COOPAYAAF raises awareness and distributes health kits to its members in the presence of local authorities and the press**

COOPAYAAF is a cooperative located in the east of the Côte d'Ivoire, more precisely in Abengourou. It has been Fairtrade certified since 2010 and has 510 members.

On April 8, 2020, the cooperative distributed health kits in three of its sections, making a total of 8 villages. These kits included handwashing equipment, soaps, hydroalcoholic gels, bleach, disposable towels and nose pads. This distribution was made in the presence of village chiefs, school directors, members of the board of directors and the press. COOPAYAAF intends to extend these tours to other sections in the coming days. The value of these kits amounts to 800,000 CFA francs.