# COVID19 Emergency Response

## Small Grants Approved by April 23, 2020

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1. **Country: KENYA**

*Organization*: Slow Food Kenya

Create an inventory of the current 50 Slow Food community ecological gardens, 20 school gardens and 180 individual small-scale farmers and the availability of products during the emergency period. A pilot delivery system will be organized to collect food from the producers and distribute it to identified targets by setting up and managing strategic food distribution points. The most vulnerable communities will be included in the delivery system allowing them to access quality local food at subsidized rates. The initiative will promote agroecological practices and urban gardening. Approximately 50 urban gardens will be established, and 100 existing gardens enhanced.

2. **Country: ZIMBABWE**

*Organization*: PELUM Association Zimbabwe with Knowledge Transfer Africa/Emkambo

COVID-19 has closed down the informal marketing system, creating hardships for poorer urban people who buy in these markets and for the many smallholder farmers who supply these markets. This proposal aims to support small farmers, increasing access to food for households who are affected. Pelum and Emkambo will carry out a mapping of agroecological produce markets across five districts in Zimbabwe. The results will be shared regionally and across the continent through partners’ networks. At national level, the learning will be used to influence policy makers to support agroecology as an alternative system to production and marketing.

3. **Country: ARGENTINA**

*Organization*: Union de los Trabajadores de la Tierra - UTT (Union of Land Workers)

To counter the COVID-19 crisis, UTT made available all its food production, logistical and marketing capacity. UTT has doubled the volume of food sales through its warehouses and consumer nodes, which today comprise more than 100 in the metropolitan area of Buenos Aires. UTT has also organized a food delivery system, including food bags and donations to the most vulnerable sectors. This proposal aims to improve UTT capacity to: install a centralized logistics and management unit at the Agroecological Wholesale Market of Avellaneda (owned by UTT); increase and stabilize agroecological production by using existing capacity and implementing a more efficient planting and harvesting schedule; launch a communication campaign to disseminate the UTT food supply model.
4. Country: BRAZIL

Organization: Associação de Cooperação Agrícola e Reforma Agrária do Paraná - ACAP (Land Reform and Agriculture Cooperation Association)

Since the start of the COVID-19 outbreak, the Landless Workers Movement (MST) has been responding to vulnerable communities’ food access needs. This proposal aims to strengthen family agriculture, purchasing food from land reform settlements to supply charitable institutions that work with homeless people, hospitals, nursing homes, and shelters for abandoned children, among others. Food distribution will be implemented in Curitiba Metropolitan Region, South of Brazil, reaching about 3,000 families. The other initiative is "Marmita Solidária" (Solidarity Meal), which provides around 1,500 meals daily for homeless people in Recife, Northeast of Brazil. The proposal also includes support to family gardens, involving around 250 families.

5. Country: PHILIPPINES

Organization: Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas – KMP

KMP, together with a local organization, the Alliance of Farmers in Bulacan, have devised an online farmers market, aiming to bring healthy and affordable vegetables to Metro Manila consumers while ensuring that farmers can sell their products despite the lockdown. The net income from sales will be saved for relief operations for 120 landless farmers. Training on food preservation and processing will allow families to have available food during emergency. KMP will engage around 120 families to build diversified backyard gardens to ensure access to healthy food at all times. A land and food summit for sharing experiences and learnings is planned for after the COVID-19 lockdown is lifted.

6. Country: BURKINA FASO, GHANA, MALI, AND SENEGAL

Organization: GROUNDSWELL INTERNATIONAL

Grain banks, which are known as warrantage in West Africa, are a collective grain storage and inventory-credit system. Grain banks/warrantage serve the dual purpose of preserving crops while granting households autonomy over management of food and money. This proposal aims at strengthening existing grain banks and seed banks, and establishing new ones. Because smallholder farmers often resort to selling livestock during times of crisis, the proposal includes funding small livestock activities based on the “Pass on the Gift” methodology, which Groundswell has successfully applied in other emergencies, such as the earthquakes in Haiti and Nepal. Options for commercializing local products to ensure farmers income during the crisis will also be considered.

7. Country: UGANDA

Organization: FOOD RIGHTS ALLIANCE

The overall goal is to ensure continued exchange of ecological food products as a means of counteracting the food security and livelihood crisis in Central Uganda, a region badly affected by the COVID-19 lockdown. The proposed action targets smallholder farmers, especially women organized in their groups practicing agroecology and producing a wide range of diverse foods in the outskirts of the three major affected towns in Uganda of Mukono, Wakiso and Kampala. At secondary level, the action will involve the youth as distribution champions for safe door to door food deliveries from farmers to consumers. They will use simple digital applications through which consumers will be able to link up with agroecological farmers producing diverse foods.
### 8. **Country:** BOLIVIA  
**Organization:** FUNDACIÓN AGRECOL ANDES

This proposal aims to assist and support four organic family producers’ groups, including a 12-women group that runs their family restaurants named RICOMIDA. These groups are being hit hard by the restrictions of the quarantine imposed by the government. Marketing and commercialization strategies will be implemented within the framework of "short commercialization circuits, trade fairs, healthy and responsible eating, social solidarity economy”. Actions include advocacy work with municipal governments to promote the development of ecological farming, to ensure healthy food at affordable prices.

### 9. **Country:** COLOMBIA

**Organization:** AGROECOLOGICAL FARMERS' MARKETS NETWORK OF CAUCA VALLEY (RedMAC)

RedMAC joins around 350 small agroecological producers from 12 farmers’ markets operating in 9 municipalities of the Cauca Valley. The confinement measures enforced in Cauca Valley have led to the closure of almost all the peasant markets. This proposal aims to build an emergency fund to support 12 agroecological farmers' markets, held on a weekly basis, including solidarity food distribution to the most vulnerable populations. This emergency fund will be applied in a period of approximately three months to pay for transport, the purchase of safety kits for implementing biosafety protocols at farm level, and to purchase seeds and organic inputs to expand agroecological food production and strengthen the farmers’ market network.

### 10. **Country:** ECUADOR

**Organization:** AGROECOLOGICAL COLLECTIVE OF ECUADOR

Restrictions imposed by the government during the COVID-19 outbreak are affecting both small farmers and consumers. This proposal aims to map and describe existing resilient agroecological meeting points (of production and consumption) in Ecuador; to provide direct support to agroecological food production and distribution, covering at least 4 provinces (Ibarra, Pichincha, Chimborazo and Loja); to implement a communication campaign that makes visible the contribution of agroecology to healthy eating. The collective response to this emergency is an opportunity to influence government policies in Ecuador, showing the potential of agroecological production and the commercialization of short supply chains at national level.
11. **Country:** PERU  
**Organization:** PERUVIAN AGROECOLOGICAL CONSORTIUM

The initiative aims to strengthen the resilience of organic family farming systems in health emergency scenarios following the COVID-19 outbreak and local policy measures. Information and communication technologies (ICTs) and cellular telephones will be used to obtain updated information from organic farmers located in the basins of the Lurin and Chillon rivers in Metropolitan Lima. This information will contribute to the social, environmental, and economic measures to help reactivate agriculture. A third aspect of this initiative is the recommendation to strengthen ecological family farming systems through ongoing pilot actions promoted by the Agroecological Consortium.

12. **Country:** MALAYSIA  
**Organization:** TENAGANITA WOMEN'S FORCE

The target groups of this proposal are migrant workers; refugee families; small farmers; and plantation workers. The main actions are: (i) distributing food to those who have been laid off work, terminated and starving due to government's movement control order in response to the COVID-19 outbreak (ii) establishing contacts to collaborate with suppliers of goods to affected communities; compiling data of the communities affected; (iii) cultivating community leaders and members to manage more sustainable food production and distribution in urban areas (mid-term plans); managing 24-hour hotlines to answer the community’s demands for information, assistance and interventions.

13. **Country:** UNITED KINGDOM  
**Organization:** LANDWORKERS ALLIANCE

The Landworkers Alliance represents small-scale agroecological farmers in the UK. This small grant will support a pilot project for delivery of food from rural producers (who have lost markets) to urban consumers facing food poverty. The proposal also includes communication efforts to disseminate stories about the pilot project and other stories from members, discussing the vulnerability of our current food system and the importance of agroecology as a solution. Ongoing advocacy activities will be reinforced, focused on the UK development aid budget to ensure aid serves to strengthen localized agroecological food producers rather than consolidating corporate control of the food system. The materials generated by this advocacy will be shared so they can be adapted for use in other countries.