

# PROJECT SHEET

# GREEN TECH AFRICA

« Production of water hyacinth-based oil absorbents »

## PROJECT HOLDERS :

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# 1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The **Green Tech Africa** adventure began in 2016. Three friends visit their respective grandparents in the village of Boutombi, on the borders of Lake Nanga and Lake Cayo, southeast of Pointe-Noire, Republic of Congo.

These three young people are alarmed by the fact that the village community is no longer able to carry out its lucrative activities because of a plague that is invading the waterways, reducing the primary productivity of the water bodies, depleting the fish stocks on the surface and preventing fishing and navigation. This scourge is the water hyacinth (see image 1), the most invasive plant in the world (10 plants can generate more than 600,000 new plants in just 8 months).

The team decided to take action by looking at the absorbent qualities of hyacinth and investigating the possibilities of turning this scourge into an opportunity. They developed KUKIA, a range of products made from processed hyacinth, which works as a natural filter and has multiple applications in environmental protection.



**Image 1: Water hyacinth at Lake Mafouta, Brazzaville, Congo**



The fiber **KUKIA®**, packaged in various forms (sock, cushion, etc.) depending on the use, is used as an agent to clean oil platforms, service stations, absorb leaks and thus prevent pollutants from contaminating the soil and water (see image 2).



**Water hyacinth**



**Absorbent KUKIA**

## **SPECIFICATIONS OF KUKIA**



Absorbs up to 17 times its weight



Hydrophobic and floating



Customizable formats according to the needs



100% organic and ecofriendly



Very easy to use



Revaluable



**Image 2: Application of KUKIA absorbents**

Green Tech Africa is a company that designs, manufactures and markets 100% organic industrial absorbents for industrial site cleaning. Its mission is to help companies to instantly absorb all cases of spills of polluting effluents in industrial sites in order to guarantee clean work spaces.

## KUKIA PRODUCTS

- **ABSORBENT PUDDING**



Contains and absorbs oil spills and prevents their spread.

Absorption capacity of standard sizes: 3 to 15 liters

- **ABSORBENT PAD**



Multi-purpose, it can be slipped in anywhere. Ideal for leaks in confined spaces and hard to reach areas to absorb drips and spills.

Absorption capacity of standard sizes: 3 to 14 liters

- **POWDER OR FIBER BAG**

For spills on land or water of light, polar and non-polar hydrocarbons. Cleaning counter tops and tools.

Absorption capacity of standard sizes: 10 to 50 liters



- **INTERVENTION KITS**



On-board equipment for light vehicles, workshops, petrol stations, life bases, construction equipment.

On and off-shore dams, industrial sites, major leaks and spills.

Absorption capacity of standard sizes: 30 to 140 liters

**This is a boon for industries where accidental leaks and spills of hydrocarbons and chemicals happen frequently during various operations.**

## 2. STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT

### ACHIEVEMENTS

- **DECEMBER 2018** Winner of the Innovation Award in the "High Potential Projects" category at the BMCE AFRICAN ENTREPRENEURSHIP Awards in Morocco
- **MAY 2019** Implantation of a small-scale production unit in Mafouta, Brazzaville
- **SINCE JUNE 2019** Prospections and tests in companies (AERCO, SIAT, Pump oil, Bolloré Logistic, BRALICO, SMP, etc.)
- **MARCH 2020** Validation of the first order
- **JULY 2020** Winner of the 1,000 Africa-France summit entrepreneurs' challenge
- **NOVEMBER 2020** Registration of GREEN TECH AFRICA as a limited liability company (SARL), with a 100% Congolese shareholding.
- **APRIL 2021** Issuance of a patent by OAPI (African Intellectual Property Organisation).
- **MAY 2021** Mentoring at ERES Togo and conducting successful tests with different effluents (HFO 180, fuel oil, thermal oil, tar emulsions, etc.)
- **SEPTEMBER 2021** First tests on the recycling of absorbents into high-calorific energy products.
- **NOV 2019 – JAN 2022** Incubation at TotalEnergies Startup Center, Pointe-Noire



## CURRENT STAGE

Since 2019, we have had a small-scale production unit in Mafouta, Brazzaville. To date, we have carried out successful tests with several companies.

Since March 2020, we have had our first paying customers and have sold about 150 kg of KUKIA absorbent.

### OUR CURRENT ACTIONS :

- Search for funding ;
- Development of our client portfolio ;
- Development of a technical base in Pointe-Noire ;
- Implementation of a QHSE management system.

## 3. PROJECT PERSPECTIVES

As we are currently between the launch phase in terms of the spot sales we are making and the growth phase, our objectives are to :

### In the short term

- Become local leader in natural sorbents (within 1 year)
- Raise serie A
- Obtain the necessary authorisations to operate
- Gain a market share of about 150 millions XAF (230 000 €)
- Increase the production rate from one tonne to 6 tonnes per month
- Improve the QHSE management system

### In the medium term

- Become sub-regional leader in natural sorbents (within 3 years)
- Expand into the international market

### In the long term

- Become international leader in natural sorbents (within 10 years)
- Exporting technology (setting up production units elsewhere)



## THEY TRUST US

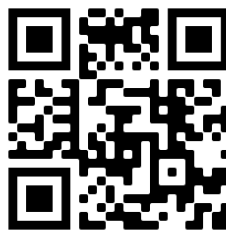


## OUR PARTNERS

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Green Tech Africa

