

Ecopath

Developing a circular economy for cartridges in Nigeria.

The problem

- Millions of single-use cartridges are imported into Nigeria every year; cheap ones often contain toxic inks or toners.
- Empty cartridges are disposed of into the environment.
- Open burning of empty cartridges is common; this creates air pollution and makes the food cooked that way toxic.



Our solution

Producing remanufactured cartridges with the following characteristics:

- Lowest price, as our production costs are low.
- Best quality, as we use reusable components from original equipment manufacturers and high quality components imported from Japan.
- Non-toxic inks made from soya oil instead of petrochemicals.
- Zero waste to landfill, as we recover cartridges from our customers to either remanufacture or recycle them with our local partner.



Our target market

- 1. Tertiary educational institutions
 - A large market there are 2 million students in 174 universities in Nigeria and many more in 564 other tertiary educational institutions.
 - Easy to reach through Committee of Vice-Chancellors (CVC) and National Board of Technical Education (NBTE).
 - The price is often the deciding factor.
 - The market is active all year round.
- 2. SMEs specialising in cartridge sales



Our achievements

- We've signed two contracts with Wako, our partners in Japan.
- Our sample cartridges are being tested by CVC and NBTE; they are impressed with the quality.
- 29 out of 738 tertiary educational institutions in Nigeria (i.e. 4% of the market) are already expecting to purchase duplicator cartridges supplied by Ecopath in the near future.
- We've assembled a stellar team of talented, environmentally minded people.



Our team







Lateef Salami, CEO

Gbenga Hussein, CFO

Philip Ishaku, CTO

Our team



Dayo Oladele, RSM in Aba, Abia State



Bode Onileowo, RSM in Abuja, Nigeria's capital



Biodun Olanrewaju, RSM in Lagos, the largest city

Funding required

- Ink refilling machine imported from Wako
 USD 6,358 (already pre-paid)
- Imported raw materials imported from Wako to produce 1,800 ink cartridges (initial payment is 60% of the total USD 13,968) - USD 8,381
- Freight, custom duties, import licence and documentation, port charges and insurance
 USD 3,000
- Miscellaneous expenses for logistics and to set up the workspace - USD 619

Total: USD 12,000

We are looking for people able to loan us between USD 1,000 and 12,000 for a one year loan at 10% yearly interest rate.





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For more information, see ecopath.page/businessplan