

'Making a Mark'

Mark Holder Social Impact Declaration

GroCycle

GroCycle is an award winning social enterprise set up by Fungi Futures CIC, growing Oyster mushrooms on waste coffee grounds. We have set up the UK's first Urban Mushroom Farm and run an online course teaching people in 40 countries around the world how to grow mushrooms on coffee.



We are part of the growing movement of Social Enterprise, where the focus is on business as a positive force for social or environmental good, rather than for profit. Our aim is to keep coffee waste out of landfill by using it to grow gourmet mushrooms, produce fertile compost, and biofuel.

The Social Enterprise Mark criteria includes a requirement for all applicants and renewing Mark Holders to provide 'social impact statements', which illustrate how they are striving to meet their social/environmental objectives.

Below are examples of how **GroCycle** is Making a Mark, striving to create a positive impact on people and planet.

Social inputs – diverting waste from landfill

During 2016 we collected and diverted more than 25,000kg of waste coffee grounds from landfill. These coffee grounds were then used as compost to grow gourmet mushrooms.

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We have also created and run an online course which teaches people the growing process in greater detail, encouraging others to collect coffee waste in their local area and use it to grow mushrooms. programme, with 'wrap-around' engagement and post-employment support.

Social outputs – key measures of activities

The main beneficiaries from our work were the **7,500** people that grew their own mushrooms at home using one of our home growing kits.

We have also trained over **400** people around the world in more technical aspects of the growing technique.



Social outcomes – benefits for people & planet

Our grow kit customers have benefitted from the experience of growing and eating their own food. Many people remark that it was the first time they'd ever grown mushrooms and how exciting and enjoyable they found it.

In many instances people grew their mushrooms with their children and used it as a chance to teach them about where food comes from.

Our online course members have benefitted from accessing our in-depth knowledge at an affordable price and then in some cases using this knowledge to set up projects of their own recycling coffee waste into mushrooms.



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