

Impact Assessment Report Biome Pouch and Tote Bags

Key Statistics

1000 units were produced

68%

of artisans were women

68% of artisans saved the income and used it to pay school fees

90% of artisans improved their skills through on-the-job training

35 artisans worked on the order

84% of artisans were under 40

1 Social Enterprise

100% Worker satisfaction

Fact File

The order was produced using a new 3D embroidery technique.

The MIMCO Biome tote and pouch bags order provided 24 days of work.

It took 180 minutes to produce one Biome tote bag and 90 minutes to produce one Biome pouch.

Each bag was made out of East African farmed cotton canvas weaved in Kenya.

Skills used.....

- Beading
- Cutting
- 3D Embroidery
- Preparation
- Stitching
- Final quality control

Materials used.....

- Glass beads
- Two-ply black and white nylon thread
- East African farmed cotton canvas
- Cotton kitenge
- East African cow leather

Social Impact



68% of the artisans saved their earnings, and 33% invested in education, health nutrition, housing and small businesses.



A regular income enabled artisans to maintain their health, with regular meals and improved healthcare access. Only 6% reported illness and sought treatment from public health facilities.



90% of the participants received training which contributed to their income-generating prospects.



100% of the artisans were content with their working conditions, income and environment.

Who made your clothes?



Asumpta Kanini, 32 years old

"I am a mother of two children. I did the embroidery for the Biome tote and pouch bags order. It was a new technique that required a 3D embroidery stitch. The income from the order enabled me to enjoy my Christmas and New Year festivities. The order also gave me an opportunity to learn a new embroidery technique"



Miriam Munanye, 30 years old

"I am a mother of two. I was both a machinist and embroiderer for the MIMCO Biome tote and pouch bags order. I faced some challenges with 3D embroidery. However, after on-the-job training, I managed to improve my skills. I used my income to buy food and new clothes for the Christmas festivities."



Hudson Likami, 31 years old

"I am a father of two. I worked as a machinist for the MIMCO Biome tote and pouch bag order. I used some of my income from the order to feed my family and saved for school fees for the January-April 2018 school term. "



Joyce Minoo, 35 years old

"I am a mother of one. I worked on the MIMCO Biome tote and pouch order as a preparer. I earned a good salary working on this order, which I used to buy new clothes for my child and food for Christmas."

Join the
Conversation...

#WhoMadeMyClothes
#NotCharityJustWork
#TradeNotAid



The Ethical Fashion Initiative (EFI) is a flagship programme of the International Trade Centre, a joint agency of the United Nations and the World Trade Organization. EFI reduces global poverty by linking micro-producers and artisans to the international supply chain of fashion, facilitating dignified work at a fair wage. By collaborating with social enterprises, the EFI supports local creativity, female employment and empowerment and gender equality. Ultimately, this aims to reduce extreme poverty and increase the export capacities of the region in which it operates.



R.I.S.E.

This order was monitored using the RISE framework: an innovative system from the ITC's Ethical Fashion Initiative to enable compliance with labour and environmental regulations, traceability for all processes, and a clear measurement of the impact of work on those involved in the value chain.

To access a map and see exactly where our communities are working, follow this link: goo.gl/z4QCBT



ARTISAN FASHION is a social enterprise that was established in 2007 to connect Africa's artisans to esteemed luxury brands all over the world. They are the first African production company to successfully combine artisan creativity and production capability with a careful consideration for traceable social impact.

Acting both as a production hub and a disseminator of work, they employ Kenyan artisans in their hub and collaborate with 28 artisan communities across Kenya to produce hand crafted bags and accessories made with traditional skills.

Figure 1 - Order Summary



Style	Photo	Quantity	Groups involved in production
Biome Tote		400	Ethical Fashion Artisan -EPZ ltd Bega kwa Bega Self-help group Ushanga Self-help group Bead check Self-help group
Biome Pouch		600	Ethical Fashion Artisan -EPZ ltd Bega kwa Bega Self-help group Ushanga Self-help group Bead check Self-help group
Total		1000	

Figure 2 - Community Groups and Skills

Group	Main skills used in the order	# of participants in the order	# of women	Training received?
Ethical Fashion Artisan -EPZ	Cutting, Embroidery, preparation, beading and stitching	28	17	Yes
Bega kwa Bega Self-help group	Beading	3	3	Yes
Ushanga Self-help group	Beading	2	2	Yes
Bead check Self-help group	Beading	2	2	Yes
Total		35	24	