



Thank you for your interest in Oikocredit. I'm delighted to be able to tell you more about us.

Dear social investor,

It really is a pleasure to share more information with you about Oikocredit. First, allow me to explain more about us, and where we come from.

Who are Oikocredit?

You may have only just heard of Oikocredit, but in fact we are one of the world's largest sources of private finance for microfinance*. In 2011 we delivered €520 million of development finance, to almost 900 partners who reached 26 million people in almost 70 countries, and importantly 83% of them, were women. We also provide loans and investments directly to trade co-operatives, fair trade organisations and small-to-medium sized enterprises in developing countries.

Established in the Netherlands in 1975, over 45,000 responsible private investors in countries such as Germany, Sweden and the USA already invest in us – knowing that their money will help support millions of hard working people in the fast-developing world.

Now it's an investment that many of us in the UK and Ireland can make too. Not out of charity, but out of belief in the human spirit.

Why do people make social investments with us?

At Oikocredit we believe no one is born to be rich or poor. We all have the ability, dignity and tenacity to want to make our own living, no matter how difficult our circumstances.

But where it gets hard, difficult and unfair is when no one believes in you. When no one gives you credit. The difference with us is that we invest in people, because we have faith in them. If you share this belief, then Oikocredit could be for you.

Continued overleaf...

* Put simply, microfinance means finance for poor and disadvantaged people, to help build a business, earn an income, manage day to day money, protect their family and educate themselves and their children for the future.

INVESTING IN OIKOCREDIT The Key Facts

- Invest in Depository Receipts from **£150** or **€200**.
- **No maximum limit** on investments.
- **Investments** can be made at anytime, initially as a lump sum and then also by standing order.
- **Our investors** have always had 100% of their original investment repaid on request.
- **A consistent 2% dividend** has been paid almost every year since 1989.
- **Past performance** is not a guide to future performance. If you are in doubt about the suitability of this investment for you, please contact a financial adviser. Your investment is not covered by any country's financial services compensation scheme.

As you'll discover in the attached "Oikocredit at a glance" booklet, your investment could stretch far and wide from the market places of Senegal, to the coffee plantations of Guatemala, or the dairies of India.

Investing in Oikocredit will not make anyone rich, but it does give everyone the chance to make a fair financial return, from a simple, honest and ethical exchange.

How to make your investment today

We hope that after reading the attached information you'll be reassured that Oikocredit is indeed an appropriate home for your money. However if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch. We'll be delighted to help.

We welcome investments large or small, from individuals and organisations alike and an application form is attached if you'd like to invest today. However the enclosed information booklet is not a Prospectus. You should take care to read our Prospectus before making an investment. You can do this quickly and easily online at www.oikocredit.org, where our full annual report and social performance report are also available. Alternatively, simply ask us to send you a copy in the post.

Thank you for your interest in Oikocredit, we hope you find the story of Oikocredit interesting and inspiring.

Yours faithfully



National Director UK



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INVESTING IN OIKOCREDIT How it works

- Oikocredit uses your money to finance local partners in almost 70 countries around the world.
- They, in turn, use their local knowledge to make small affordable loans to individuals and small businesses who have limited access to credit.
- We also provide loans and investments directly to trade co-operatives, fair trade organisations and small-to-medium enterprises (SMEs) in support of disadvantaged people in the developing world.
- The interest from these loans and investments are repaid to Oikocredit to cover its costs and pay an annual dividend to you. The beauty is that an investment can help so many more people, than a one-off donation.
- Borrowers come to Oikocredit for long term loans (average of 5 years). Banks in developing countries typically only offer loans up to 1 year and require 100% collateral.
- When loans are repaid, the money can be lent out again. The longer you keep money with us, the more times it can be recycled to help more people.

A RETURN THAT'S ABOUT MORE THAN MONEY

If, like us, you believe in people's ability, dignity and determination to make a better world for themselves, then you can use your savings to lend them a helping hand. 37 years of investing in people has shown that it pays dividends for us all.

Take a look at the enclosed 'At a glance' booklet and you'll soon discover what your investment with Oikocredit could do and that throughout all our work, five essential values guide our mission.

We maximise our social impact

Oikocredit pursues an integrated investment approach with both social and financial objectives. We always put our borrowers at the centre of what we do. Oikocredit is committed to offer the maximum transparency to borrowers and investors as a pioneer in social performance management.

We focus on the long term

Oikocredit provides finance mainly as loans and sometimes part ownership (equity). We can provide financing in local currency and capacity building to fully meet the needs of businesses that contribute to development, especially to those that often do not have access to long term financing.

We trust local knowledge

Oikocredit's worldwide staff in 36 local country offices know our partners well and have a thorough knowledge of the regions and countries they serve. Check the map on our website for more details of locations and people.

We provide financial stability

The hugely diversified nature of our investments, our local knowledge and well developed risk management allows us to go where others do not. For many years we have been paying our investors a stable modest dividend as well as remaining true to our mission.

In a spirit of co-operation

Co-operative in name and deed, we serve the interests of disadvantaged people, not maximisation of profit. As a co-operative organisation, owned by its member organisations we are here for the benefit of the many, not the few.

Questions we're often asked

Why is the Prospectus such a large document?

The information contained in the Prospectus is specified by the Dutch regulating authority, to ensure you are aware of the potential risks and are given a realistic presentation of the rewards of investment. You can choose to read the Prospectus on Oikocredit's website, or on paper.

How do I redeem my investment?

After completing the redemption request form from the UK office, redemption (in part or full) takes around 3 weeks. Oikocredit, like other financial institutions offering mutual share capital, has a provision in its Articles of Incorporation that it may postpone redemptions for up to 5 years. This provision is designed to protect Oikocredit's stability and especially its borrowers in case of a crisis, and has never been invoked. Past performance is not, however, a guide for the future.

May an investment be held in joint names?

Yes. Please ask for a form from the UK office. Joint name(s) can be added only at the time of your initial investment.

Will income tax be due on dividends?

Tax may be due depending on your circumstances. Dividends are paid gross of tax as Foreign Dividend and this should be declared to your local tax authority. Our general tax guidance note is available on the website and from the UK office.

Is it possible for a charity to invest in Oikocredit?

Yes, individuals, charities and other organisations may invest. If you have questions about making a social investment as a charity then please contact the UK office.

Who do I call if I have a question about my investment?

Your investment will be a foreign investment in a Dutch registered organisation. You should contact the UK office to answer your questions in the first instance. If you should need to contact Oikocredit in the Netherlands the telephone number is +31 (0)33 422 4040.

What is the Oikocredit International Share Foundation?

Oikocredit Ecumenical Development Co-operative Society U.A (Oikocredit International) was incorporated in 1975 as a co-operative society under the laws of the Netherlands. Oikocredit International Share Foundation (OISF) is a sister body established for raising investment from the public by using depository receipts and which invests its funds by way of shares in Oikocredit International.

What are Support Associations of Oikocredit?

An Oikocredit Support Association is an independent organisation established in support of the work of Oikocredit, and they account for around 79% of investment in Oikocredit. There are currently 30 Support Associations in 13 countries in Europe and North America. In countries such as the UK and Ireland without a Support Association, investment can be made directly via Oikocredit's UK office.

What are Depository Receipts?

Depository Receipts are like shares. In countries where we do not have a Support Association, this allows individuals and organisations to invest. It gives holders the financial rights of a shareholder without direct membership. Depository Receipts contribute to the capital Oikocredit invests in its partners, in the same way as shares held by member organisations. This structure also protects Oikocredit's commitment to its mission and values: only member organisations can vote, but all our investors' views are important.

Who are the members of Oikocredit International?

Membership of Oikocredit is open to: church organisations, Oikocredit's partners, Support Associations and other organisations such as social banks that support our mission and values. There are currently around 600 international members.

Oikocredit began as a faith-based initiative. Does that influence your work?

Our background is ecumenical. It is our mission to encourage churches as well as individuals to invest in social justice. However, our church-based roots are not reflected in our partner selection criteria. Our mission is to allow people to invest in the sustainability of others. Investment criteria are never based on religious faith. We look exclusively at sustainability, community and social impact.

What is the Oikocredit International Support Foundation?

This charitable Foundation undertakes grant giving work, separate from our investment operations. The main functions of the charitable Foundation are to make capacity building grants to our project partners and to mitigate currency risk in order to provide lending in local currencies. Investors can choose to donate their dividend to the Support Foundation by selecting this option on the Application Form.

The Oikocredit International Share Foundation Prospectus is approved by the AFM (Autoriteit Financiële Markten), the regulatory authority for financial services in the Netherlands. The AFM has notified the UK Financial Services Authority and the Central Bank of Ireland, which permits the issue of the Prospectus. Oikocredit is not authorised or supervised by the Central Bank of Ireland. Investment in Oikocredit is not covered by any country's financial services compensation scheme.

Information about investment in Oikocredit and a copy of the Prospectus is available at www.oikocredit.org or by contacting: Oikocredit (UK office), Resource Centre, Bridge Street, Garstang, Preston, PR3 1YB, UK.

Registered office: Berkenweg 7, 3818 LA Amersfoort, The Netherlands.