

BOND REPOSITORY OF COLLECTIVE ACTION

UK: Community Supported Agriculture Network - Chagfood

The aim of the BOND Repository is to share real-life solutions of farmers' and land managers' capacity to develop collective activities and participate in networks involving a wide range of actors. The Repository contains 20 in-depth case studies emerging from the BOND Project, and in addition provides a store-and-share for other initiatives and projects to upload their success stories on an on-going basis.

The Repository is based on EU 'Practice Abstracts' that provide a common format to characterise a project. This makes it possible for readers to contact the project partners and enables the dissemination of project results.

The language is English apart from the project title and abstract.

This Table aims to provide basic information about the organisation or initiative as a whole.

Title (in native language)	Community Supported Agriculture Network - Chagfood
Title (in English)	
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Coordinator name and contact details.	Ed Hamer, Chagfood, c/o Proper Job, Crannafords, Chagford, Newton Abbot, Devonshire, TQ13 8DR, UK chagfood@gmail.com
Partners' names and contact details	
Start date	2010
Main sectors/focus	Market garden
Type of organisation (eg coop, network)	Network
Number of members	100
Type of members	customers
Operating level (local, regional, national etc)	Local
Funding sources	members
Total budget	
Objectives of the initiative	Chagfood is a community supported market garden supplying year-round Organic vegetable shares to Chagford and its neighbouring parishes
Description of main activities	Supply over 100 local households from our five acre growing site on Organically certified land at Rushford Mill Farm.

	As one of a growing number of community supported farms across the UK we aim to connect our customers to where their food comes from and how it's produced..
Website	https://communitysupportedagriculture.org.uk/
Links to other websites if appropriate	
Tick if audiovisual material provided	
Tick if project documents provided	

PRACTICE ABSTRACT 1

This summary should be as interesting as possible for farmers and other practitioners, using easy understandable language.

(Please repeat this template for each project or subproject that you would like to record)

Short title in English	Community Supported Agriculture Network - Chagfood
<p>Short summary for practitioners in English on the (final or expected) outcomes (1000-1500 characters, word count – no spaces). This summary should at least contain the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Main results/outcomes of the activity (expected or final) Include successes such as impact (on policy/productivity/land management etc), effectiveness (have objectives been achieved?), sustainability (economic and environmental), and transferability (can it be adapted and adopted elsewhere?) – The main practical recommendation(s): including both entrepreneurial elements related to cost, productivity etc as well as how any challenges have been overcome. 	
Short title in <u>native language</u>	Community Supported Agriculture Network - Chagfood
Short summary for practitioners in <u>native language</u> (<i>can be the language of the coordinator / one of the partners</i>)	<p>"Chagfood is one of a growing number of Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) schemes across the UK that directly connect consumers and the farmers who produce their food. CSA simply describes a model of subscription farming where customers commit to support a farm for an entire season by paying for their produce either up front or by monthly direct debit. From the farmer's point of view this commitment provides a guaranteed market and allows them to farm in a more low-input ecological way. In return the members have a direct connection to the people and the fields producing their food and the opportunity to get involved with how their food is produced.</p> <p>At Chagfood members are offered a 'share' of the harvest over the entire growing</p>

season for a set price. This means that in a good year when the crops grow particularly well members share in a bountiful harvest. It also means that in bad year when there are crop losses members accept a slightly smaller/lower quality share of the harvest. Either way members are directly connected to whatever is 'in season' on their doorstep every week of the year as well as how the weather and climate affects the food they eat. Put simply CSA is about consumers & farmers sharing the rewards and the risks of farming between them.

Because the CSA model supports the farm to supply its local market it do not have to meet the transport, retail and marketing costs of larger organic box schemes and the supermarkets. As a result it remains competitive on price when comparing the cost of a share with the value of produce received over the entire season from June to March. Chagfood is also committed to offering 10 percent of its shares at a discounted price to low-income local families.