

TFN Impact Report

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| Name of your Organisation: | Feedback |
| Name of the project TFN funded: | Stop Dumping |
| Date Funded by TFN: | May 2016 |
| Were you able to undertake your project as planned? | Yes |
| Can you describe and/or demonstrate the specific impact that TFN funding has had against your initial objectives? | <p>During the last year we planned to undertake international research and investigations, producing a body of evidence to engage industry and government, illustrate the problem and promote its solutions.</p> <p>Within this overall aim, the objectives we outlined for this project were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To investigate the role that middlemen play in causing supply chain food waste. Through this research to connect the practices of retailers to the middlemen in the supply chain who directly reject produce and cancel orders. - To use this insight to put more focused pressure on retailers to act and give us more visibility into their supply chains. - To establish a working group of organisations to work with the Groceries Code Adjudicator (GCA) on Unfair Trading Practices (UTPs) to demonstrate the link between retail practices and food waste. - To use this evidence to galvanise public outcry against the injustice of UTPs of supermarkets and food retailers and the huge levels of food waste that result from these practices. <p>TFN's funding has enabled us to achieve the following impact against these objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research we have carried out in Senegal, Peru and South Africa has informed lobbying work within the structures of the EU on UTPs. This research has built an evidence base around UTPs and helped us to develop a deeper understanding of how UTPs are observable across the supply chain and how these practices lead to massive food waste. Feedback lobbied in favour of a European Parliament report calling for legislation to prevent UTPs and level the playing field across the EU. The report received strong support. Feedback's Edd Colbert was then appointed expert adviser for the European Economic and Social Committee's (EESC) report on UTPs. Edd wrote the report alongside EESC rapporteur Peter Schmitt. The report shone further light on the link between UTPs and food waste and called for legislation to prevent UTPs. The European Council concluded in December 2016 that legislation could be helpful. This was a major campaign win for Feedback, but in our opinion did not go far enough or fast enough, as it only stated that legislation 'could' be useful and because the conclusions do not refer to non-EU farmers within EU food supply chains. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feedback staff member Daniel Douglas has undertaken research mapping and conducting interviews with importers and various supply chain actors in the UK who supply the major retailers to understand the food waste dynamics of this part of the food chain and the roles of the different actors. This research has significantly increased our understanding of the role played by middlemen in the supply chain and how these middlemen play a role in retail practices. Crucially this research has shown the impact retail practices have on indirect suppliers, which has informed the advocacy objectives of GCAN as discussed below. - Feedback was instrumental in the establishment of the Groceries Code Action Network (GCAN), which has brought together a powerful and cohesive group of trade associations, membership groups, NGOs, unions, food groups and other civil society organisations that is campaigning to improve the effectiveness of the GCA to prevent UTPs in the UK supply chain. Specifically the group is campaigning to ensure the GCA's continued existence following its first statutory review, and to expand its remit to include protection for indirect suppliers from UTPs. At the time of writing (March 2017) the GCA review is ongoing and the outcome is uncertain. GCAN is a strong network of experts with a range of backgrounds which remains closely involved with this process. GCAN's impact can be seen in the content of the statutory review of the GCA, which includes questions around the extent of the GCA's remit as well as its effectiveness to date. Feedback and other GCAN members have submitted evidence and consultation papers to the review process. There has been strong cohesion between members meaning that parties as diverse as the NFU and War on Want have been calling for the same changes to be made. - The evidence of our research and the activities of GCAN have enabled us to undertake a range of public facing work around UTPs and the food waste they cause. Examples of this include our contribution to the London Evening Standard's Campaign on Food waste, which featured a two page interview with Feedback founder Tristram Stewart and a feature article exposing food waste in London including photographs of research lead Edd Colbert taking edible food from supermarket bins. Also within this campaign Tristram featured on the panel of the Standard's food waste and policy debate, chaired by London Mayor Sadiq Khan and featuring Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall. This campaign led to Sainsbury's changing their policy and releasing UK wide food waste data. At the debate, Tristram challenged Sainsbury's to go further and release the data on food waste across their whole supply chain. The evidence base from our research has also enabled us to successfully undertake other press work including |
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| | <p>working with the Sunday Times on a recent article highlighting the problem of surplus cauliflowers. The impact of this work has been to take on the overall issue and illustrate it with examples which place the wider issues in the context of the real lives of those affected.</p> |
| <p>What portion of the project did TFN fund?</p> | <p>The work funded by this TFN grant has been a contribution to the salaries of researchers Edd Colbert and Daniel Douglas. The TFN funding has enabled us to investigate the role of middlemen, and leverage the findings of our research to lobby for change at</p> |
| <p>How many direct beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?</p> | <p>N/A</p> |
| <p>How many indirect beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?</p> | <p>N/A</p> |
| <p>Were you able to leverage further funding as a result of TFN support?</p> | <p>Yes</p> |
| <p>If yes, how much were you able to raise?</p> | <p>The work done under the TFN grant has enabled us to apply for further grants for campaigning work based on the outcomes of the research and policy work we have already done. This includes a proposal for continuation funding we are currently working on to the Rockefeller Foundation.</p> |
| <p>Did you receive any pro-bono support, volunteer offers or introductions as a result of the event?</p> | <p>No</p> |
| <p>How important was TFN funding in helping you achieve your objectives?</p> | <p>We wouldn't have been able to achieve our objectives without TFN funding</p> |
| <p>Since presenting at TFN, has your organisation undergone any other significant changes?</p> | <p>Over the last year Feedback has experienced significant expansion, principally due to a large grant from the Rockefeller Foundation to launch a programme of work in the USA.</p> <p>In March 2017 Feedback welcomed a new Executive Director, Carina Millstone, who took over from co-founder Niki Charalampopolou. Carina joined Feedback having previously worked at the Orchard Project, which she founded.</p> |
| <p>Do you have any other comments or feedback on the experience of the TFN process?</p> | <p>The process has been very positive for Feedback and we have benefited greatly from the relationship. We look forward to submitting a proposal for structural funding in the current round.</p> |