

## **SACOMA**

Sahara Communities Abroad (SACOMA) was founded and established as a voluntary organisation in January 2000. Its mission is to be a communication and education channel for Kiswahili speaking communities and other BME communities by providing services to improve the economic and social vitality of the community.

Services include business start-up advice and training, information, advice and guidance, strategic capacity building, volunteer schemes, training and employability and job search skills.

## **Why Green Mark?**

SACOMA's journey towards the scheme began early this year after attending an environmental workshop organised by one of its funders. Fundraising activities only account for 10% of its annual turnover with the remaining from grants and contracts. Green Mark will help secure the success of the organisation's bids and grant applications.

After appointing an environmental champion the organisation realised the benefits to the organisations e.g. cost savings through waste minimisation, and also the benefits to the whole community. By promoting awareness to the beneficiaries through its Environmental policy, during training, in leaflets and through the quarterly newsletter they hope that they will have a role to play in the responsible use of natural resources and in considering social responsibility.