Today is World Day of Social Justice so we thought we'd brag about some fabulous Canadian social entrepreneurs who are changing our world. A social entrepreneur identifies a social problem and uses business principles to solve that problem. Success is measured in terms of social impact. These entrepreneurs sell products or services that we can buy; and when we put our money into these products, we know that we are part of a sustainable and equitable economy rather than one driven solely by profit. Take a few minutes today and check out how we as consumers can support real change in our world. Please note that each link will open in a new window.

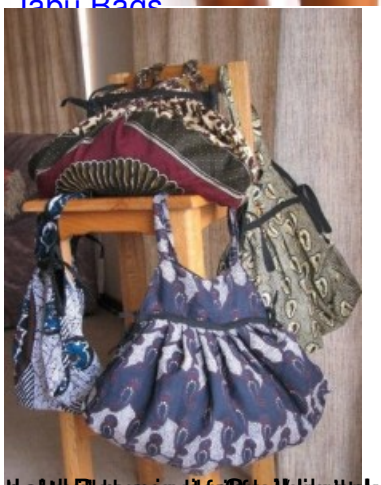
Bazura Bags

Bazura Bags works closely with a women's cooperative in the Philippines. Every day, children collect discarded juice boxes popular in the Philippines and sells them to the co-op. The women in the co-op then make beautiful bags. As much as they would like to see fewer juice boxes sold, for now they are pleased that they can divert them and create functional and fun bags. They are also starting to work with other discarded items such as billboards. In September 2009, the co-op was devastated by Typhoon Onday: homes were flooded, lives were lost and the headquarters damaged. After receiving many donations and hard work, they have rebuilt their lives and would like to see an increase in orders for their bags in order to have all members back at work.

OrangOrang Project

Sprouted in Canada and now based out of Indonesia, OrangOrang produces incredible and socially responsible fashion. The fabrics are organic and fairly traded. The dyes are made from Indonesia's rich vegetation and traditional knowledge. Ethical Consumer recently featured OrangOrang as part of Vancouver's Fashion Week . The project provides transferrable skills, safe environments and fair wages to local women. They also work with
YKPA
to create opportunities for street children that have lasting economic and social benefits rather than short term handouts.

Jabu Bags



[illegible] in the best advertising they always say. So who do these social entrepreneurs [illegible] 1,48,72,115,142,95,101,106,130,132,138,15