

A meeting of hearts and minds

Shared Interest was set up in 1990 and brings together a community of over 12,000 people in the UK with a shared goal of investing in a fairer world. We work hand in hand with people in communities where income opportunities may be limited and businesses are facing increasing challenges.

We act co-operatively, providing finance to fair trade businesses in up to 45 countries. The majority of these organisations support smallholder farmers who produce around a third of the world's food but often struggle to feed their families.

We use the investments of our members to make loans to organisations of farmers and craftspeople as well as some fair trade buyers. The loans typically fund seeds, plants, materials, crops, equipment or finished goods. Once the crops or crafts are sold, the organisation repays Shared Interest the capital plus a fair rate of interest. The funds can then be recycled and lent out again.

By opening a Share Account you are investing in withdrawable shares in Shared Interest Society. Your investment is at risk due to the nature of the businesses that we support so you should never invest more than you can afford to lose.

In 2022, we supported almost 400,000 producers and craftspeople to trade and earn a living.





We see a world where people can trade as equals

Shared Interest is a community benefit society. We bring together investors who want to make a difference.

Over our 30 year history, our members have helped support millions of people with limited income to grow their businesses, and earn a fair living. Our regional teams understand their daily challenges and successes, and together we enable producer organisations to finance orders, access working capital, purchase essential machinery and infrastructure. Once they sell their crops or crafts, they pay back the loan, and we lend this money again.

You become a member of Shared Interest by opening a Share Account with an investment of between £100 and £100,000.

Our members have an equal voice, regardless of the size of their investment.









How to get started

UK residents can open a Share Account with £100 or more. You can do this online or by post and our Membership Team will help you with any questions you may have.

You can also make an investment in Shared Interest in Euros or US Dollars. Please contact us directly for more information on this.

membership@shared-interest.com 0191 233 9101

Couples, families, schools and businesses as well as community and faith groups can all become investors and help us support people living and working in remote communities.

As part of our "Know your customer" responsibilities, we carry out electronic checks to meet anti-money laundering regulations. Most of the time these checks can be carried out without the need for additional documentation.

HOW IT WORKS

By opening a Share Account, you are investing in withdrawable shares only. (£1 = 1 share). As an investor you will become a member with one vote, regardless of the amount you invest. Unlike conventional shares, withdrawable shares cannot be sold, traded or transferred between members. They also do not increase in value. It is 'withdrawable' because as a member you can request the return of some or all of your investment from Shared Interest Society, but the Board can suspend withdrawals temporarily or indefinitely.

The Directors can opt to pay interest, at a rate notified in advance and necessary to attract and retain the capital to carry out our mission. Any interest is accrued daily, and paid on the 31st March for the year ended on the previous 30th September. You can read more about our interest rate on our website: www.shared-interest.com/invest

As a not-for-profit organisation, the members are not entitled to the underlying value of the Society.

As a member, you will have a democratic say in our social aims and future success, with an opportunity to attend our AGM and member events. We will keep you informed with regular statements detailing your investment and a quarterly member magazine. You can also choose how you would like to receive these by post or email. Our secure Member Portal also enables you to keep up to date with your Share Account online.

Once open, you can add investment to your Share Account (up to the value of £100,000) or make a withdrawal.

STATEMENT OF RISKS

It is important to note that this is an investment and your funds are at risk.

The loans we offer are generally unsecured, so investors share the risk of losses exceeding cumulative reserves, but can never lose more than they invest. If there were substantial bad debts in one year, for example, wiping out our reserves, we would have to make a charge against Share Accounts and reduce the value of your investment. It should be noted that we have never had to make such a charge during the entire operation of the Society from its commencement in 1990 to date (August 2023).

Shared Interest Society is not a regulated entity and any investment in the Society is not covered by protection such as the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS).

Please read our Terms and Conditions carefully. If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact our Membership Team on 0191 233 9101 or at membership@shared-interest.com.

Once you are ready to proceed, please complete the application form in the next section and return it to us.



OPENING A SHARE ACCOUNT

STEP 1
A Share Account is opened

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STEP 2

Money is invested in Shared Interest to finance businesses that follow Fair Trade Principles

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STEP 3
Shared Interest provides a loan

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STEP 4

The loan is used to buy equipment or to pre-finance orders, etc



STEP 5

The loan is repaid to Shared Interest



STEP 6
Return to step 3...

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

In this small print "we", "us" and "our" refer to Shared Interest Society Limited, registered number 27093R, Pearl Assurance House, 7 New Bridge Street West, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 8AQ. Shared Interest Society Limited is a society registered under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 (the "Act"), governed in accordance with its registered rules, a copy of which can be obtained, free of charge, from the above address (the "Rules").

BEING A MEMBER

Membership is subject to the Rules. Members invest in risk share capital and accept the possibility of loss. As a result, Shared Interest Society Limited can use members' money in ways that a bank would find difficult. We aim to benefit people in the less developed parts of the world and we put this before financial benefit to our members. You cannot lose more than you invest.

The mechanism by which a loss of your share capital could arise is set out in our Rules. If the auditors or any independent qualified accountants appointed for the purpose by the directors certify at any time that the aggregate of Shared Interest Society Limited's liabilities and the amount of its issued share capital exceeds its assets then (unless in the meantime the excess has been removed) the directors may determine that the amount of the excess or any part of it shall be apportioned among the members in proportion to but not beyond the amount of the nominal value of the shares paid up and held by each member at the close of business on the date of such determination and the appropriate number of shares held by each member shall be cancelled accordingly notwithstanding that the number of shares held by any member may thereby be reduced below the minimum shareholding.

USING YOUR SHARE ACCOUNT

The minimum investment is £100. You can make investments in your share account up to the legal limit, currently £100,000. You can invest by standing order and through the member online portal.

You can make a withdrawal using a withdrawal slip or by simply sending us a letter. The minimum withdrawal is £50. Withdrawals require the signature of a sole signatory or at least two signatories where there are multiple signatories. We will pay by cheque to the account holders or by transfer to a bank account in the name of the account holder. There must be sufficient cleared funds in your Society share account before we can make a payment.

The Rules relating to withdrawing capital are shown below. Directors have waived the notice of withdrawal (in accordance with paragraph (c) below) at the date of this booklet and have authorised withdrawal without notice until further notice. Shares may be withdrawn by members upon giving six months' notice to the society provided that:

- (a) all withdrawals shall be paid in the order in which the notices were received by the society;
- (b) except where a member withdraws from the society as provided for by the following Rule members shall not be entitled to withdraw shares so as to leave them with less than the minimum shareholding;
- (c) the directors may waive the notice required for a withdrawal and may direct payment to be made without notice or on such shorter notice as they consider fit;
- (d) the right to withdraw may by resolution of the directors be suspended either wholly or partially and either indefinitely or for a fixed period. The suspension shall extend and apply to all notices of withdrawal which have been received and remain unpaid at the time

the resolution suspending the right to withdraw is passed by the directors. Where the suspension is for a fixed period such period may be extended from time to time by a resolution of the directors;

- (e) during any period when the right of withdrawal has been suspended under clause (d), the shares of deceased members may, if the directors so determine, be withdrawn by their personal representatives upon giving such notice as the directors may require;
- (f) the amount to be paid to a member on withdrawal shall be the amount paid up or credited on the shares to be withdrawn:
- (g) interest shall be payable on any share in respect of which a notice of withdrawal has been given until the date of repayment; and any share withdrawn in accordance with this Rule shall be cancelled.

Members may withdraw from the society by withdrawing all their shares in the society in accordance with the preceding Rule or, if the right to withdraw has been suspended as provided for in that Rule, by surrendering all their shares to the society. Upon such surrender the directors may in their discretion pay to the withdrawing member, the amount paid up or credited in the shares surrendered.

TRANSFERS ON DEATH OR BANKRUPTCY OF MEMBERS

Members may nominate any person or persons to whom any of their property in the society at the time of their death shall be transferred. On receiving satisfactory proof of death of a member who has made a nomination the directors shall if and to the extent that the nomination is valid under the Act either transfer or pay in accordance with the Act the full value of the property comprised in the nomination to the person entitled thereunder. Upon a

claim being made by the personal representative of a deceased member or the trustee in bankruptcy of a bankrupt member to any property in the society belonging to the deceased or bankrupt member the directors shall transfer or pay such property to which the claimant has become entitled as the claimant may direct them. On the death of a joint holder of any share it shall be registered in the name of the survivor or survivors.

INTEREST

On your application form for membership you indicated whether you would like interest to be donated each year, waived or to remain in your account. You can alter these arrangements at any time. Interest is calculated at our published rate on the closing daily balance of your account. Interest rate changes are advised to members as soon as practicable, usually through our regular newsletter, Quarterly Return or on our website (www.sharedinterest.com). The directors decide in advance what the interest rate will be, with any interest credited to members' accounts on 31st March for the year ended on the previous 30th September.

TAX

Interest is paid gross of tax for UK residents. It is your duty to declare any gross payment to HM Revenue & Customs.

STATEMENTS

You will be sent a regular statement detailing the transactions on your share account. At any time you can opt to receive monthly or half yearly statements.

TRANSFERABILITY

Shares in Shared Interest Society Limited are not transferable except on death or bankruptcy.

GOVERNING LAW AND INVESTOR PROTECTION

Shared Interest Society Limited is registered in and governed by the laws of England. Your membership is governed by the laws of England.

Shared Interest Society Limited is an exempt person from regulated activity of accepting deposits for the purpose of the issue of shares by it pursuant to paragraph 24 of Part II of the Schedule of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Exemption) Order 2001.

The shares are not a specified investment for the purpose of section 22 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 pursuant to article 76 of the Financial Services and Markets Act (Regulated Activities) Order 2001. Section 85 Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 does not apply to Shared Interest Society Limited's shares because the shares issued are withdrawable and not transferable.

Section 21 of the Financial Services and Markets Act sets out a restriction on financial promotion. Article 35 of the Financial Services and Markets Act (Financial Promotion) Order 2005 provides that financial promotion restrictions do not apply to nontransferable, withdrawable shares, such as those issues by Shared Interest Society Limited, in certain circumstances.

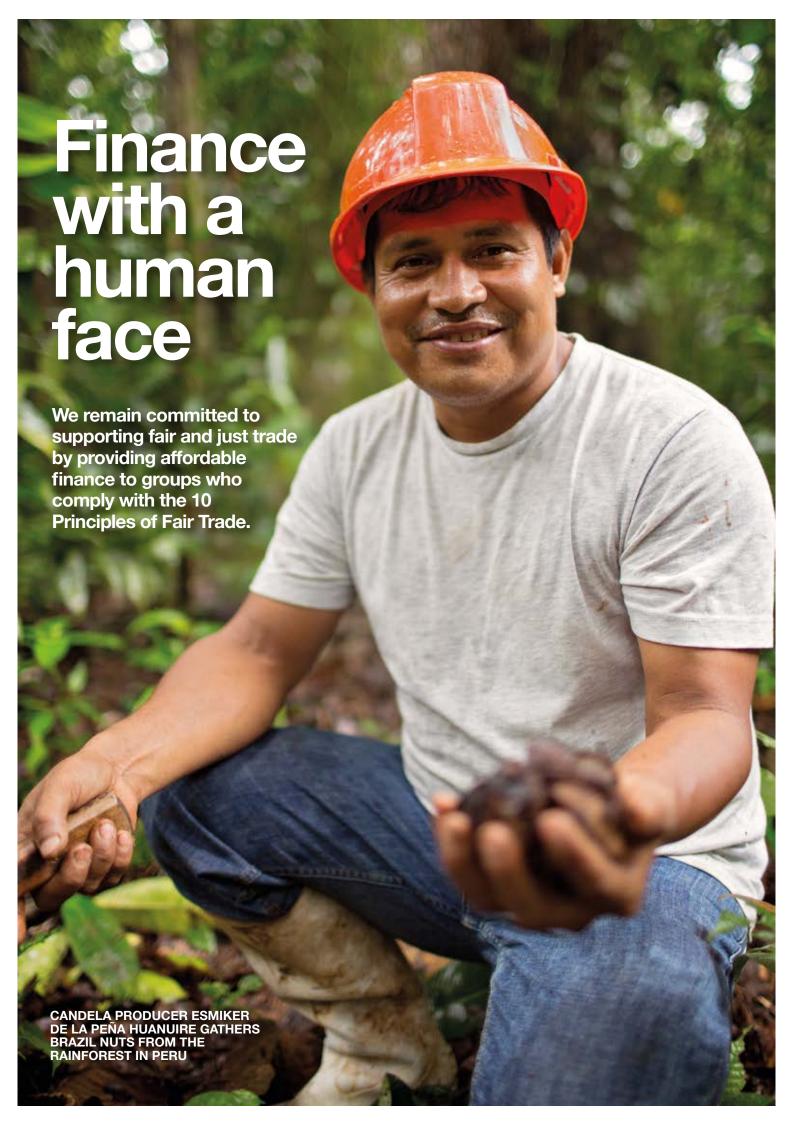
To the best of the knowledge and belief of the Directors (who have taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case), the information contained in this document is fair, clear and verifiable. If you have any doubt about the contents of this document, please contact a person authorised to advise on this investment under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000. Shared Interest Society Limited is not a member of any investor protection scheme.

ACCOUNTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Accounts opened for persons under 16 years of age must have at least one parent or guardian as a second signatory on the account.

DATA PROTECTION

By completing the application for membership, you consent to Shared Interest Society Limited, Shared Interest Foundation, our contractors, agents and any third parties where we have a legal or statutory responsibility to do so, holding personal data about you in accordance with all data protection legislation currently in force. Shared Interest Society Limited will use the details you have provided to administer your Share Account and to use your data for anonymous analysis in accordance with our Privacy Policy.



SHARED INTEREST SOCIETY LIMITED

Share Account Application Form for Individuals and Joint Holders

Please use black ink and BLOCK CAPITALS. All sections must be completed to enable the application to be processed.

I/we wish to become a	member of Shared Interest Society Limited and invest
£	(minimum £100, maximum £100,000)
by bank transfer to 'Sha	le to 'Shared Interest Society' ared Interest Society'. Account number 70062793. Sort code 08-90-06
Alternatively you can open a	Share Account online at shared-interest.com/applyonline
PRIMARY SHAREHOLDER	
Title / Full name	
Address	
_	Postcode
Telephone	
Date of Birth	(Must be completed to progress your application)
Signature	Date / /
To ensure we can always get in	n touch please provide an emergency contact:
Title / Full name	
Telephone	Email
Have you held a Share Account Would you like to receive posta	
If yes, please ensure you provid	de your email:
BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS (for receipt of interest and wi Please note no funds will be ta	thdrawals paid by Shared Interest Society Limited): ken out of your bank account
Branch	
Sortcode	Bank Account Number
Account Name	
I/we understand that interest I/we would like:	is credited to our Shared Interest Society Limited account in the first instance.
Interest to remain in our S	Share Account
All interest to be donated	to Shared Interest Foundation
Waive all interest	
identities to meet Shared Interest withdrawals may be suspended my account with Shared Interest withdrawals from joint accounts	Limited permission to use the information supplied in this application form to verify our identity/st Society Limited's policy to comply with money laundering regulations. I/we understand that at any time, that a share of any losses of Shared Interest Society Limited may be deducted from Society Limited and that the interest rate payable may vary without notice. I/we understand that must be signed by all account holders. ve read, understood and agree to the terms and conditions

SECOND JOINT SHAREHOLDER (if applicable) Title / Full name Address ____ Postcode _ Email Telephone Date of Birth (Must be completed to progress your application) Date _____ / _____ /____ Signature THIRD JOINT SHAREHOLDER (if applicable) Title / Full name Address Postcode _____ ____ Email __ Telephone Date of Birth (Must be completed to progress your application) Date _____ / _____ /____ Signature In order to comply with anti-money laundering regulations, we need to ask the following question where an opening investment or further investment of £1,000 or more is being made: Savings Sale of investment/ property Gift Rather not say Other (please specify) Please tell us what motivated you to invest in Shared Interest:

We will only use your information to deal with your investment and will not share it with any third parties without your permission other than where we have a legal or statutory obligation to do so. For further details on how your data is used and stored visit www.shared-interest.com to see our Privacy Policy.

Please return completed application form, with accompanying cheque, in the reply paid envelope provided or send to:

Freepost RTTJ-TXXJ-XZLU, Shared Interest Society Ltd, Pearl Assurance House, 7 New Bridge Street West, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, NE1 8AQ

to support fair trade

as a social investment
Other (please specify)

to help communities trade their way out of poverty



SHARED INTEREST SOCIETY LIMITED

Share Account Application Form for a Group / School / Organisation

Please use black ink and BLOCK CAPITALS. All sections must be completed to enable the application to be processed.

we	wish to become a r	nember of Snared Interest Society Limited and invest
£		(minimum £100, maximum £100,000)
	by cheque made payab	le to 'Shared Interest Society'
	by bank transfer to 'Sh	ared Interest Society'. Account number 70062793. Sort code 08-90-06
Alte	ernatively you can open a	Share Account online at shared-interest.com/applyonline
Non	ne of Group/School/Organ	ination
		Salion
Add	dress	
		Postcode
Tele	ephone	
	•	ceive statements from us? Quarterly Twice yearly
Hav	re you held a Share Accoun	t with us before? YES NO
(for	receipt of interest and wi	f Group/School/Organisation ithdrawals paid by Shared Interest Society Limited): ken out of your bank account
Brai	nch	
Sort	tcode	Bank Account Number
Acc	ount Name	
We	would like: Interest to remain in our	is credited to our Shared Interest Society Limited account in the first instance. Share Account to Shared Interest Foundation
	Waive all interest	
iden with our with	ntities to meet Shared Intere- idrawals may be suspended account with Shared Interest idrawals from joint accounts	Limited permission to use the information supplied in this application form to verify our identity/st Society Limited's policy to comply with money laundering regulations. We understand that at any time, that a share of any losses of Shared Interest Society Limited may be deducted from Society Limited and that the interest rate payable may vary without notice. We understand that must be signed by all account holders.
∐ '	We confirm that we have	read, understood and agree to the terms and conditions
חחח	MADV CHAREHOLDED	Curry Chave Assessment mount have between two and form signaturies
PKI	MARY SHAREHOLDER -	Group Share Accounts must have between two and four signatories
Title	e / Full name	
Add	dress	
		Postcode
Tele	phone	Email
Date	e of Birth	(Must be completed to progress your application)
Sigr	nature	/
Wot	uld you like to manage you	account online? YES NO

SECOND JOINT SHAREHOLDER (if applicable) Title / Full name Address Postcode Telephone Email (Must be completed to progress your application) Date of Birth Date _____ / ____ /____ Signature THIRD JOINT SHAREHOLDER (if applicable) Title / Full name Address Postcode ___ Telephone Fmail Date of Birth (Must be completed to progress your application) Date _____/ _____/____ Signature In order to comply with anti-money laundering regulations, we need to ask the following question where an opening investment or further investment of £1,000 or more is being made: Savings Sale of investment/ property Gift Rather not say Other (please specify) Please tell us what motivated you to invest in Shared Interest: to support fair trade to help communities trade their way out of poverty as a social investment Other (please specify)

We will only use your information to deal with your investment and will not share it with any third parties without your permission other than where we have a legal or statutory obligation to do so. For further details on how your data is used and stored visit www.shared-interest.com to see our Privacy Policy.

Please return completed application form, with accompanying cheque, in the reply paid envelope provided or send to:

Freepost RTTJ-TXXJ-XZLU, Shared Interest Society Ltd, Pearl Assurance House, 7 New Bridge Street West, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, NE1 8AQ

SHARED INTEREST SOCIETY LIMITED

Share Account Application Form for a Child under 16

Please use black ink and BLOCK CAPITALS. All sections must be completed to enable the application to be processed.

£		(minimum £100, maximum £100,000)
	by cheque made paya	able to 'Shared Interest Society'
	by bank transfer to 'S	Shared Interest Society'. Account number 70062793. Sort code 08-90-06
Alte	ernatively you can open	a Share Account online at shared-interest.com/applyonline
СН	ILD'S DETAILS	
Full	I name of Child	
Add	dress	
		Postcode
Tele	ephone	
Dat	te of Birth	(Must be completed to progress your application)
Dui	io of Birth	(Mast se completed to progress your application)
GU	ARDIAN/PARENT'S DET	TAILS
Title	e / Full name	
Add	dress	
		Postcode
Tele	ephone	Email
Dat	te of Birth	(Must be completed to progress your application)
Sia	nature	Date / /
СН	ILD'S ACCOUNT DETAIL	_S. Please also provide a bank statement
		withdrawals paid by Shared Interest Society Limited): taken out of your bank account
		taken out of your bank account
Bra	anch	
Sor	rtcode	Bank Account Number
Acc	count Name	
I/w	e understand that intere	est is credited to our Shared Interest Society Limited account in the first instance.
	e would like:	
	Interest to remain in ou	
	Waive all interest	ed to Shared Interest Foundation
1/\		ety Limited permission to use the information supplied in this application form to verify our identity/
ider	ntities to meet Shared Inter	rest Society Limited's policy to comply with money laundering regulations. I/we understand that
		d at any time, that a share of any losses of Shared Interest Society Limited may be deducted from st Society Limited and that the interest rate payable may vary without notice. I/we understand that
with	ndrawals from joint account	ts must be signed by all account holders.
	I/we confirm that I/we h	nave read, understood and agree to the terms and conditions

SECOND JOINT SHAREHOLDER (if applicable) Title / Full name Address Postcode Telephone Email Date of Birth (Must be completed to progress your application) Date / / Signature THIRD JOINT SHAREHOLDER (if applicable) Title / Full name Address Postcode Telephone Email Date of Birth (Must be completed to progress your application) Date _____/ Signature In order to comply with anti-money laundering regulations, we need to ask the following question where an opening investment or further investment of £1,000 or more is being made: Savings Gift Rather not say Other (please specify) Please tell us what motivated you to invest in Shared Interest: to support fair trade to help communities trade their way out of poverty as a social investment Other (please specify) ___ Please confirm that you consent to us using the information about you and your child or ward for the purposes of dealing with their investment. We will not share these details with any third parties without your permission other than where we have a legal or statutory obligation to do so. For further details on how this data is used and stored visit www.shared-interest.com to see our Privacy Policy.

Please return completed application form, with accompanying cheque, in the reply paid envelope provided or send to:

Freepost RTTJ-TXXJ-XZLU, Shared Interest Society Ltd, Pearl Assurance House, 7 New Bridge Street West, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, NE1 8AQ

Shared Interest Society

Pearl Assurance House 7 New Bridge Street West Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 8AQ

T: (0)191 233 9101 F: (0)191 233 9110 membership@shared-interest.com www.shared-interest.com

- SharedInterest
- facebook.com/SharedInterestSociety
- inkedin.com/company/shared-interest-society-ltd
- instagram.com/sharedinterestsociety youtube.com/@sharedinterest



