



Private Sector Solutions for Food Security

UNIDO ITPO Germany Delegation to Rome-based UN Agencies (FAO, WFP, IFAD)

29–30 September 2025





Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development



Partners in
Transformation
Business & Development
Network

Organization:

**United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
Investment and Technology Promotion Office (ITPO) Germany**

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Private Sector Solutions for Food Security

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to Rome-based UN Agencies
(FAO, WFP, IFAD)**

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Organized by UNIDO ITPO Germany



PRIVATE SECTOR SOLUTIONS FOR FOOD SECURITY

This unique expert exchange between European private sector actors and representatives from UN agencies in Rome FAO, WFP, IFAD and UNIDO aims to foster new partnerships, showcase innovations and practical business cases that address food security challenges, including those in fragile environments and the humanitarian context. Innovative SMEs and social entrepreneurs drive economic development and address the most urgent development challenges, including food security. These UN organisations strive to develop meaningful partnerships with the private sector to advance Food Security among other Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

»The battle for food security will be won or lost
in the fields of innovation and partnership.
The private sector is not just a partner –
it is the engine of transformation, driving
the technologies, investments, and scalable
solutions needed to feed a growing planet.«

The response by private sector in the exchange with the Rome-based UN agencies with over 100 applications was tremendous. The selected 35 companies, specialised industry associations and research institutions presented in this brochure cover four thematic clusters around which the meetings in Rome were organized.

Thematic areas:

- Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization & Farming Systems
- Food Processing, Storage & Loss Reduction
- Renewable Energy & Climate-Smart Agri-Solutions
- Innovation, Digitalization & Skills Development

Agenda and Highlights

In addition to ample opportunities for networking and internal peer-to-peer exchanges within the delegation, the agenda of the two days in Rome (29-30 September 2025) includes:

- Briefing and discussions with **Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Rome-based UN Organizations**
- Meetings with Partnerships and UN Collaboration Division, Plant Production and Protection Division and other technical divisions at **FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations**
- Meetings with Technical Department, Private Partnerships Division and Procurement Experts of **WFP – World Food Programme**, UNIDO ITPO Italy and FAO procurement department
- Meetings with Head of Innovation, Technical Departments, Partnership Unit and Experts at **IFAD – International Fund for Agricultural Development** and presentations and exchanges with the **World Bank / IFC Office Rome**

Organizers:



Michael Schmidt
Deputy Head, UNIDO
ITPO Germany



Vanessa Völkel
Deputy Head, UNIDO
ITPO Germany



Andreas Schäfer
Expert, UNIDO ITPO
Germany



Katy Schröder
Senior Advisor, AWE

ABOUT UNIDO

The **United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)**, located in Vienna, is a specialized agency of the United Nations dedicated to promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development worldwide.

UNIDO Investment and Technology Promotion Office (ITPO) Germany, based in Bonn, the initiator of this project, plays a pivotal role in bridging European companies and emerging economies, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa.

By facilitating technology transfer, investment promotion, and business partnerships, ITPO Germany strengthens industrial cooperation and accelerates sustainable development.

UNIDO ITPO Germany partners on this project with colleagues from the **UNIDO Investment and Technology Promotion Office (ITPO) Italy**, located in Rome, who contributed through their network with Italian stakeholders and the private sector, and from the **UNIDO Division of Agribusiness and Infrastructure Development** in Vienna who supported with their technical expertise.

ABOUT THE AGENCY FOR BUSINESS AND DEVELOPMENT (AWE)

The **Agency for Business and Economic Development (AWE)** is the central point of contact for the German and European business community interested in engaging with development cooperation.

AWE promotes sustainable and responsible private sector engagement in countries of the Global South. AWE's experts advise German and European companies and relevant economic players on funding, financing and cooperation offers for development cooperation.

With over 40 experts in industry and leading business associations, chambers of commerce and trade unions, AWE has a broad network in Germany and abroad.

AWE facilitates access to relevant networks and supports the development of projects. By establishing new partnerships and innovative solutions, economic players from countries in the Global South benefit and the local economy is strengthened.

AWE is an initiative of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and is implemented by two strong partners: the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and DEG Impulse gGmbH.

Participating Companies and Organizations

Overview by thematic areas

Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization & Farming Systems

Andreas Stihl AG & Co. KG
Bayer AG
CNH
crop.zone GmbH
Maschinenring Foundation gGmbH
Massenza drilling
NARDI SRL
Sotrad Water
VDMA Agricultural Machinery
Volkswagen AG

Food Processing, Storage & Loss Reduction

Alvan Blanch Development Company
Big Dutchman International GmbH
G-teK srl
Innotech Ingenieursgesellschaft mbH
KTI-Pfersch Kältetechnik GmbH
PETKUS Technologie GmbH
Provisur Technologies
Viessmann CCS

Renewable Energy & Climate-Smart Agri-Solutions

Boreal Light GmbH
EMPO-NI off-grid solutions
Eni SpA
Renergon International AG
SEINE TECH SL / SolarMilling
SUNtec Sarl & Cool Solar

Innovation, Digitalization & Skills Development

Andreas Hermes Akademie (AHA)
Association for Vertical Farming e.V.
DIL German Institute of Food Technologies
DLG Markets GmbH
Doorways gGmbH
German-Italian Chamber of Commerce (AHK Italy)
HSWT – University of Applied Sciences
New Circular System 2+12
UNIDO Agro-Innovation and Bioeconomy Unit
Vista GmbH

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

in alphabetical order



Deutsch-Italienische
Handelskammer
Camera di Commercio
Italo-Germanica

German-Italian Chamber
of Commerce (AHK Italien)

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AHK Italien – the Italian-German Chamber of Commerce – as part of the global network of German Chambers Abroad (150 locations across 93 countries) is the official representation of the German economy in Italy since 1921. It represents a vibrant German-Italian business community of 800 member companies and promotes economic relations on behalf of the BMW (German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy). Its core functions are association activities, internationalization projects (market entry, MtheA, legal, tax, accounting, environmental advisory), promotion of dual vocational training based on the German model. AHK Italien holds a unique mandate on behalf of the BMW, alongside AHK Denmark and AHK USA in New York, in fostering cooperation with UN agencies. It advises German companies in bidding on UN procurement contracts and organizes delegation trips for UN buyers in the context of world-leading trade fairs in Germany, with the aim of creating business opportunities between the UN and German companies.



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With over 70 years of experience, the UK drying experts Alvan Blanch specialise in the design and supply of machines and integrated systems for processing agricultural crops and waste materials. Boasting an extensive product range from individual machines to large-scale industrial projects, Alvan Blanch have the processing solution for most of the world's crops. Providing high-quality, innovative machinery alongside exceptional personal service, Alvan Blanch are on hand to help take your business into the future.

Alvan Blanch has also worked with the various UN associated organisations for a variety of projects within Sub-Saharan Africa, including recently: cleaning and drying, flour milling and fruit processing.

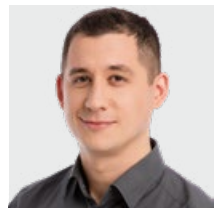


Andreas Hermes Akademie (AHA) at the Vocational Training Centre of the German Farmer's Union

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The Andreas Hermes Akademie (AHA) has been promoting professional development and continuing education in the food and agriculture sector for over 75 years. Rooted in German agriculture, including the German Farmers' Association, AHA has been active internationally since 2008. We empower diverse agricultural stakeholders – from farmers and women agripreneurs to government actors – to lead, shape policy, and build successful agribusinesses across the value chain. Our focus lies in strengthening individuals, teams and organizations in their development, cooperation, and change processes. We design tailored trainings and peer-learning platforms, while training multipliers to help clients scale their capacity-building efforts for maximum impact and value.



Andreas Stihl AG & Co. KG

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The STIHL Group develops, manufactures and distributes power tools for professional forestry and agriculture as well as garden and landscape maintenance, the construction sector and private garden owners. STIHL products are sold to end users through our servicing dealers, with 44 STIHL-owned sales and marketing companies, approximately 120 importers and more than 55,000 independent STIHL dealers in over 160 countries. STIHL manufactures in seven countries worldwide: Germany, USA, Brazil, Switzerland, Austria, China and the Philippines. STIHL has been the world's top-selling chainsaw brand since 1971. Founded in 1926, the company is based in Waiblingen near Stuttgart. As a global leader in outdoor power equipment, we support the mechanization of small-scale agriculture in emerging markets with a comprehensive product portfolio. In addition to offering the right equipment, we place great emphasis on sustainable training in the use and maintenance of our machines. To achieve this, we invest in dedicated local teams and the expansion of regional dealer networks. We firmly believe that the demographic development of emerging markets calls for innovative technical solutions tailored to smallholder farming.



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Bayer, a global leader in healthcare and agriculture, is driven by the vision "Health for all, Hunger for none." Our Crop Science Division invests €2 billion annually in agricultural R&D to develop solutions for farmers, enhancing production and environmental restoration. Our breeding program creates seeds with improved resistance to pests, better nutrition, and enhanced growth rates. As a leader in plant biotechnology, we deliver advanced traits using gene, protein, RNA, and genome technologies to develop superior crops. We protect crops from diseases, weeds, and insects using data science and AI to select safe molecules. Innovation in biocontrol and biostimulants is expanded using microbes, pheromones, and botanicals. Our digital tools provide data-driven insights, empowering farmers, scientists, and stakeholders throughout the value chain. By 2030, we aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions per crop unit by 30%, cut environmental impact per hectare by 30%, improve water use per rice kilogram by 25%, and support 100 million smallholder farmers in low- and middle-income countries through enhanced access to products and services, collaborating with partners.

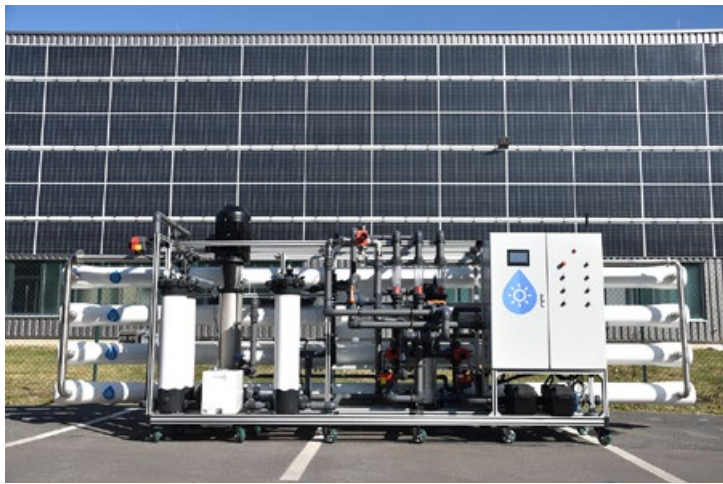


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In more than 150 countries and across five continents, Big Dutchman is a trademark for lasting quality, reliable service and unsurpassed know-how. Thanks to the tireless dedication of our 3,300 employees worldwide, we are considered the world market leader providing sustainable and reliable livestock solutions for egg, pig and poultry. As a family business, we think address the needs of future generations and promote animal-friendly and sustainable solutions as an integral part of our business.

Since 1966 we are serving the market in Africa. Today 130 people are working in our two daughter companies, which are in Kenya (serving the East African countries) and South Africa (serving the countries around South Africa). Additionally, we have agents and local salesmen in various countries such as Ghana, Uganda, Morocco, Algeria and Egypt.





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Boreal Light GmbH is a clean-tech company providing solar-powered water treatment. Specialized in renewable energy solutions for water treatment facilities, the company designs and manufactures affordable solar water desalination systems for off-grid communities around the globe. While drinking water brings life to people, the irrigation and water supply for farming makes unprivileged communities prosperous and contribute to food security. The drain water is usable for fish farming of saltwater fish as well as algae farming. Our modular and scalable solutions integrate advanced solar technology with smart automation, enabling off-grid and large-scale operations. Operating across Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, and Europe, Boreal Light makes social impact and contributes to economic development and climate resilience by empowering communities, industries, and governments that face water scarcity.



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CNH is a world-class equipment, technology and services company that sustainably advances the work of agriculture and construction workers.

As a player in agriculture and construction, we provide strategic direction, R&D capabilities, and investments that enable the success of our brands. We do this by supplying 360° agriculture applications from machines to implements and the digital technologies that enhance them; delivering a full lineup of construction products that make the industry more productive. A full suite of financing and aftermarket solutions complete this offering.

CNH is specialized in products and services in the agriculture and construction sectors offering a family of brands, which includes Case ICH, New Holland, New Holland Construction, Case Construction Equipment, Steyr, Raven, Flexicoil, Miller and Eurocomach.



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Based in Aachen, Germany, crop.zone is pioneering sustainable alternatives to chemical herbicides. With its patented *volt.apply* technology, crop.zone offers farmers an efficient and residue-free method for crop desiccation and weed control. Instead of chemicals, a conductive liquid ("volt.fuel") and targeted electric current are applied, ensuring fast, reliable results without harming soil health or biodiversity. The solution is already successfully used in potato farming and oat production. Leading food companies such as PepsiCo rely on crop.zone to meet consumer demand for residue-free crops. By reducing chemical dependency, crop.zone enables farmers worldwide to combine profitability with sustainability—shaping the future of agriculture.



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DLG Markets is a global partner for companies and organizations in the agrifood sector and a leader in the organization of trade fairs and conferences worldwide.

DLG Markets, part of the DLG network (Germany's leading network for the agri-business sector), focuses on international market development, particularly in agriculture, through trade fairs, project work, and consulting. Our strength lies in an international network, innovative industry solutions and comprehensive expertise in the agrifood sector.

DLG Markets has experience as Professional Conference Organizer (PCO) and implementing agency for international donors and UN organizations.





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The German Institute of Food Technologies (DIL) is a leading research and innovation center dedicated to the future of food. With decades of expertise, DIL bridges science and industry to develop sustainable, safe, and high-quality food solutions. Its Innovation Hub fosters collaboration between researchers, startups, and companies, accelerating the translation of scientific insights into market-ready products. Key areas of focus include Food-Loss Reduction, Circular Food Systems, Side Stream Valorization, Protein Diversification, Food Safety, Nutrition, and Shelf-Life Extension. From developing novel preservation technologies that reduce waste, to designing circular value chains that turn by-products into resources, DIL helps tackle global food challenges. Through pilot plants, process engineering, and strategic partnerships, DIL enables businesses to responsibly innovate and create resilient, future-oriented food systems. DIL is a member of EIT Food and of the competence HUB AgriFood de:hub and has an extensive global network.



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Doorways is an NGO specialized in the development, implementation, and evaluation of action-oriented and evidence-based entrepreneurship training programs that aim to enhance entrepreneurial thinking and action. Our training programs have been implemented in more than 20 countries worldwide and have been evaluated in numerous randomized controlled trials, often in cooperation with the World Bank. The results show that they outperform traditional business training programs. For small-scale entrepreneurs, positive impacts are statistically significant up to 7 years after the training and result in 30% higher profits. For small-scale farmers, we observe statistically significant increases in household income driven by increases in both farm profits and non-farm business profits. In addition to the World Bank, we have already worked with organizations like FAO, IFC, ITC, and WFP and we are striving to further expand our global network of partners.





EMPO-NI off-grid solutions

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EMPO-NI Off-Grid Solutions specialises in the development and production of innovative battery-free solutions for photovoltaic (PV) pumps, solar drive concepts for productive use applications including cold chain solutions, PV solar module-integrated battery charger technology, integrated pay-as-you solutions and PV solar clean cooking.

EMPO-NI's award winning solutions for productive use equipment like the first solely PV-powered solar oil press support local value chains, open opportunities for income generation for local communities. With a payback period of less than a year, Empo-Ni equipment contributes to food security in rural environments including off-grid and fragile environments. PV-powered robust Solar Direct Drive kits easily replace existing motors in all kinds of standard applications like grinders, compressors, hammer mills, blowers, milk machines, pelletizers etc. and make these PV-off-grid using a minimum amount of PV-panels.



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Eni is a global energy company operating in 64 Countries, with over 30,000 employees. Originally an oil & gas company, it has evolved into an integrated energy company, playing a key role in ensuring energy security and leading the energy transition. Eni's goal is to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 through the decarbonization of its processes and of the products it sells to its customers. In line with this goal, Eni invests in the research and development of technologies that can accelerate the transition to increasingly sustainable energy. Renewable energy sources, bio-refining, carbon capture and storage are only some examples of Eni's areas of activity and research. In addition, the company is exploring game-changing technologies such as fusion energy – a technology based on the physical processes that power stars and that could generate safe, virtually limitless energy with zero emissions.



25° anno



G-teK srl
Enrico Dellarciprete
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Founded on 1999 in Northern Italy, G-teK is a pioneer in the solar sector that provides renewable energy power systems, based on solar energy and other renewable sources like wind, hydro or biomass. The systems are applied in construction, industry and agriculture as stand-alone photovoltaic or hybrid PV systems and are operated in small grids, as well as solar thermal or wind systems. G-teK has a strong record of solar power and heating generators for industrial applications and buildings, and recently in projects on E-mobility. G-teK offers experience for R&D cooperation in the development of new solutions and applications in the field of solar energy systems. A special focus lies on systems for agriculture and food processing. The company provides food dryers based on solar energy for remote areas – an effective way to produce high quality dry food.



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HSWT is a University of Applied Sciences (UAS) with a strong focus on green life sciences and green value chains, i.e. agriculture, horticulture, food and energy. As a UAS our approach is always application-oriented. HSWT aims at using academic knowledge and methods to solve “real-world problems”. Our interest is to work together with private and public actors to find sustainable solutions especially in the agro-food-system. Our activities are based on applied academic training, applied research and knowledge transfer. We support our partner institutions in developing curricula for applied training in higher education. This includes concepts and ToT short courses to add practical elements to curricula for a higher employability of students. We have also expertise in applied research in all fields of green life sciences, IT and AI applications. Our geographic focus is on partner networks in Africa, Central Asia, South America and Europe.



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Innotech Ingenieursgesellschaft has been active in the food processing industry for more than 30 years, whereof more than 20 years were spent primarily in African countries. The company's core activities include developing and manufacturing energy-efficient drying systems for agricultural products, utilising renewable energies, and providing consultancy services and technology transfer. Innotech systems are used in over 105 countries worldwide. Innotech closely collaborates with national and international trade associations, development aid organizations, and universities, acting as a consultant on several international projects. Its engineering covers design, manufacturing, installation, and certification, ensuring technology readiness level (TRL) progression from prototype to field-ready units. The company also boasts a well-equipped research laboratory for conducting basic research, developing new control strategies, and setting up pilot plants. Innotech has participated in numerous national and international research projects in the field of food processing on food production.



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Globally, vast amounts of food are lost due to inefficient cooling. Many existing solutions rely on outdated air-cooled systems that use harmful refrigerants, have a high energy consumption, and fail under high external temperatures.

KTI is a technology solution provider of energy-efficient, containerized refrigeration units using natural refrigerants. For 40 years, KTI has been delivering cooling systems that preserve freshness, quality, and prolong shelf life.

Our portfolio includes sustainable turnkey cooling solutions tailored to challenging environments, including Plate & Flake Ice Plants, operating with natural refrigerants and the highest energy efficiency, ensuring both environmental responsibility and economic performance, a solution trusted by seafood processors worldwide.

When linked to photovoltaics and integrated with a cold-water circuit for cold rooms, Plate Ice Plants serve both the fishing industry and agriculture — providing a sustainable cold chain all year round: The Perfect Cold Chain.



MASCHINENRING Foundation



Maschinenring
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foundation



The Maschinenring Foundation is a non-profit organization supporting agricultural communities and empowering smallholder farmers, especially in Africa, through tailored mechanization solutions, organizational development, knowledge transfer, and business model innovation along the value chain. It promotes local machinery ring organisations (MRs) in order to improve local food security. Since 2018, over 290 MRs have been founded in Senegal, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, and Togo, organizing more than 49,000 farms as members. MRF contributes to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, notably ending hunger and sustainable agriculture. In 2024, it received the SDG Innovation Award. Guided by the motto “From farmers, for farmers – locally and globally,” it strengthens agricultural communities for sustainable regional development.



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Massenza Drilling Rigs has been shaping the sector of drilling since 1921 by designing and manufacturing high- performance rigs.. The company produces water well drilling rigs and is present worldwide, particularly in Africa. Driven by continuous research and innovation, we strive to enhance efficiency, competitiveness, and product quality while keeping customer satisfaction at the core of everything we do. Thanks to our expertise, we deliver customized solutions tailored to every need, covering applications in geotechnical and geothermal drilling, water and mineral exploration, and foundations.



NARDI srl

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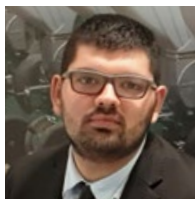
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Nardi is an Italian manufacturer of agricultural mechanization with exports and a wide network of dealers in over 100 countries, its main market being Africa. Nardi offers a wide range of products covering several crops production steps (primary tillage, seed bed preparation, crops protection, fertilisation etc.) suitable to match a wide range of tractors (from 30 to 650 Hp). Based on experience in the field of crops, different kinds of soil and environmental conditions, Nardi can recommend the most suitable machines. Nardi works with a wide range of customers and partners including local and international institutions (FAO, ICARDA, UNIDO, ...), providing technical training and spare parts and innovative solutions such as the 'Delfino Plough' that has been employed to ensure land restoration as part of the Great Green Wall project.



New circular system 2+12

Christian Falkenstein

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Every year, over 1 billion tons of food waste are generated worldwide, causing adverse ecological, economic, and social impacts. According to the FAO, 30% of food is lost along the chain from farm to fork, while 750 million people suffer from hunger. If food waste were a country, with 3.6 Gt CO₂eq (8% of global emissions), it would be the third-largest emitter after China and the USA. Reducing waste is central to SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 12 (Halving food waste by 2030), and to the European Green Deal goals for climate neutrality. The New Circular System 2+12 contributes to those SDGs by researching preservation and recycling of surpluses into new products. Having started in the region of Lake Constance in Southern Germany, surplus fruits and vegetables are redistributed via a digital platform or preserved (juice, drying, powders, cans); see www.fox-foodprocessinginabox.eu

Eight process cascades are explored: donation, fresh redistribution, preservation, nutrient extraction, animal feed, bio-based materials, biogas, and fertilizer.



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PETKUS is one of the world's leading companies in the field of seed and commodity processing and advance storage technology. For PETKUS, the African market is a clear strategic market that is continuing to expand. Since 2017, PETKUS has delivered various types of seed and silo systems of different sizes to sub-Saharan Africa.

PETKUS offers high performance and solid technology in Sorting, Coating, Drying, Conveying and Storage machinery, with a profound solution approach to deliver sustainable solutions to customers. PETKUS works with several NGO's and governmental organizations in multiple countries and seeks to deepen cooperation with UN-Agencies.



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Provisur Technologies, Inc., with a family of proven brands, offers a complete platform for food processing equipment including integrated systems, grinding, mixing, separating, forming, heat treatment, freezing, slicing and autoloading equipment for processing beef, poultry, pork, fish and other food products.

Provisur machinery contributes to the optimization of yields to reduction of food losses. Provisur also offers depackaging solutions for recycling. In 2022, the European Provisur Innovation Center (PIC) opened its doors in France. In the new state-of-the-art PIC, customers can evaluate industrial food processing equipment. Development and testing can be conducted in a range of application areas – defrosting, tumbling, pressing, slicing, grinding & mixing, forming, separating – and in a true production environment at controlled room temperatures.



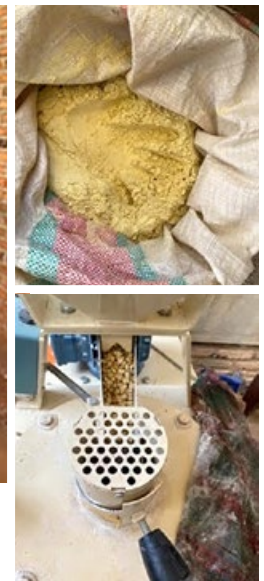


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Renergon International AG is a Swiss-based clean-tech company specializing in decentralized waste-to-energy and circular economy solutions. With over a decade of expertise, Renergon develops and implements advanced dry anaerobic digestion (DRY-AD) technologies that transform organic waste—such as agricultural residues, food waste, and municipal organics—into renewable energy, valuable biofertilizers, and sustainable raw materials. Solutions for renewable energy (electricity, heat, biomethane) and fuels (CNG) contribute to soil health through organic fertilizer, compost and biochar.

Our mission is to contribute to global food security, resource efficiency, and climate protection by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and closing nutrient cycles. Renergon partners with governments, and international organizations to deliver scalable, low-maintenance, and cost-efficient solutions that foster green growth in both developed and emerging markets. By aligning with the SDGs, we empower communities worldwide to turn waste into a resource for sustainable development.



**Solar
Milling°**

**SEINE TECH SL /
SolarMilling**
Pep Margets

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Since 1996, SEINE TECH has been at the forefront of innovation developing solar milling systems for productive use with renewable energy (PURE) and solar pumping irrigation schemes. In 2012, the company launched the groundbreaking SolarMilling concept — a clean, reliable, and affordable grinding system powered entirely by solar energy.

Designed to bring independence and opportunity to rural communities and cooperatives without access to the electrical grid, Solar Milling transforms cereal and food processing into a sustainable solution. At the heart of this technology is the Zebra Mill: a unique, screen-less grinder that produces full extraction flour out of whole grains, rich in macro and micronutrients and quality. By combining renewable energy with enhanced nutrition, Solar Milling creates lasting value for people and the environment. Easy to deploy, install, and operate, this system has earned strong acceptance at the village level — empowering last-mile users with modern, eco-friendly technology that improves daily life.



Sotrad Water
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Sotrad Water is a Belgian company specialized in innovative, sustainable water solutions for rural development, emergency response and tailored industrial needs. Since 2009, we have deployed projects in more than 25 countries across Africa, Asia and the Americas. Our flagship Pump&Drink® solar-powered stations replace defective handpumps and provide safe drinking water to entire villages, combining pumping, treatment, storage and distribution in one autonomous unit. For crisis contexts, our Disaster Response Solutions (DRS) ensure rapid deployment of mobile purification systems. Sotrad Water also delivers solar irrigation for agriculture and modular storage solutions to strengthen food security. Recognized with the 2025 Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Water Award, our integrated systems already serve over one million people, mainly in west and central Africa. By aligning innovation with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, we empower communities and institutions with reliable, climate-resilient water access.



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SUNtec Agri-Solar Systems integrate renewable energy, agriculture, and local value creation. Solar powered solutions for food processing, irrigation and clean drinking water (“water kiosks”), started in Togo and are expanding to other African countries. Solar power is generated on rooftops, while food is cultivated underneath, protected from heat and heavy rain. In the surrounding area, we plan to establish storage solution and processing facilities, including solar-powered cold storage, to reduce losses and increase value. In collaboration with the government agency APRODAT, we promote the processing of agricultural products and open new value chains. The concept improves yields, secures farmer income, reduces food waste, and strengthens resilience. It creates jobs in farming, energy, and processing, protects the climate through renewable energy, and enables sustainable development that can be scaled and replicated in other African regions.



United Nations
Industrial Development
Organization (UNIDO)

Niels Schulz

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Many developing countries face food insecurity and unemployment, worsened by outdated technologies and low productivity. Although agriculture-based products make up half of their exports, only 30% are processed, compared to 98% in developed nations. UNIDO promotes inclusive agri-business and value chain development to support rural communities. Its technical cooperation adds value to agricultural commodities across the chain—linking farmers, processors, traders, and retailers. UNIDO strengthens industrial linkages to boost transformation, employment, and livelihoods. Agro-industrial efforts benefit marginalized groups and urban industries needing urgent support. Services span food, leather, textiles, wood, and equipment sectors. UNIDO fosters investment, builds partnerships, hosts global forums, and publishes training materials. It mobilizes expertise in cluster development, standards, rural energy, environment, and cleaner production.



VDMA
Agricultural Machinery

VDMA Agricultural
Machinery

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As Europe's largest industrial association, the VDMA Agricultural Machinery represents around 3.600 companies from 36 sectors of the mechanical and plant engineering industry.

The Agricultural Machinery Association is the largest network in the European agricultural machinery industry: We represent the interests of European manufacturers of agricultural machinery, tractors, and related software systems. We offer our more than 220 member companies comprehensive information on the international agricultural machinery market, provide regular updates on standards and technical regulation, and formulate industry positions towards government and regulative bodies.

As a technological enabler for sustainable and future-proof agriculture, our industry is active all over the world.



Association for Vertical Farming

Association for Vertical
Farming e.V.

**Christine
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Chairwoman

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The Association for Vertical Farming (AVF) is the leading global non-profit network dedicated to advancing Controlled Environment Agriculture (CEA) and vertical farming as solutions for sustainable food production. Founded in 2013, AVF connects industry, research, policymakers, and civil society to foster innovation and drive collaboration across the global vertical farming ecosystem. Through its AVF Academy, AVF delivers education and capacity-building, supporting the growth of CEA expertise worldwide. As the owner of the Certified Sustainable Indoor Farming (SIF) program, AVF establishes quality and sustainability standards for the industry. AVF acts as a platform to share knowledge, develop partnerships, and accelerate the adoption of innovative farming technologies to globally strengthen food security and resilience.



Viessmann Clean & Cold
Solutions (VCCS)

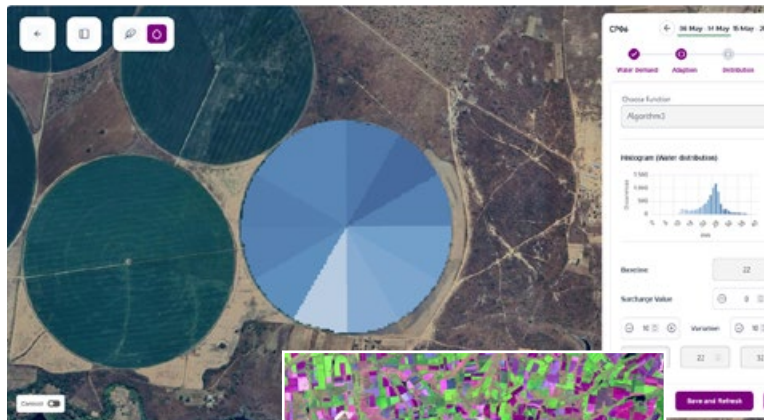
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Viessmann CCS is a leading cold room manufacturer and pioneer in building temporary structures of all kinds, such as modular accommodation, field hospitals, vaccination facilities, modular cooling storage solutions, water and energy generation solutions, any kind of modular structure, including emergency solutions. We also provide a variety of prefabricated off-grid and on-grid PV Power packages containerized or directly mounted to the top of your cold room. It can also be a plug-and-play version with an "all-in" container. Viessman is a complete solutions provider for turnkey projects. Additional solutions include vaccine storages, that are regularly supplied to UN agencies, atmospheric water generators, 4G and cloud monitoring equipment, modular ICU's, morgues and clean rooms. The Viessmann Academy based in Germany offer global training and certification for the use of equipment and support to the worldwide network of service partners.



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Vista-GEO is dedicated to enabling sustainable management of the Water-Energy-Food Nexus to improve the global footprint of agriculture and increase the resilience of the food system. The key areas are Agricultural Analytics and Smart Farming. Using Earth Observation data (both optical and radar), combined with land surface process models, machine learning and AI Vista-GEO provides Digital Twins for sophisticated solutions to its clients in over 25 countries. Vista-GEO's solutions, especially in the field of smart farming, climate change mitigation and agricultural yield assessment, have been established on the market for years. A global, digital twin based agricultural forecast system is a part of Vista's portfolio as well as a MRV tool for certification purposes of regenerative or carbon farming. With VariableRain a decision support system for weekly irrigation advice is offered. This digital service can communicate with the irrigation devices and allows for "more crop per drop".



VOLKSWAGEN GROUP Innovation

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Volkswagen Group Innovation, in cooperation with its partners, develops socially and ecologically sustainable business models with a focus on emerging regions.

With the currently ongoing Gen.Farm Pilotphase in Rwanda, Volkswagen Group Innovation is presenting a holistic solution approach for a CO₂-neutral, energy-powered value chain for rural areas. Local entrepreneurs can start their business in the island-grid capable E-Hub, similar to a startup-center.

At the heart of the ecosystem is our self-developed electric tractor with an innovative battery swap solution, with which we offer local farmers a mechanization service.

The electric tractor shares its battery with the E-Hub, thus minimizing capital investment. We are looking for partners for the industrialization of our pilot phase of the Gen.Farm ecosystem. This includes companies from the energy sector as electricity suppliers, but also companies/investors, who want to take over the industrialization of the e-tractor.

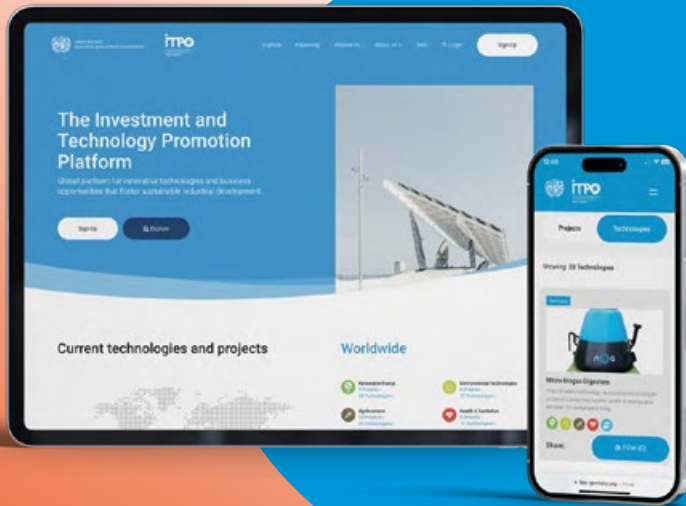
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