



Context

Due to rapid population growth, economic downturns, extreme climates and changing consumption patterns, our food systems are under immense pressure. The COVID-19 pandemic, geopolitical conflicts and the triple planetary crisis have exacerbated the issue further, leading to rising hunger, malnutrition, poverty, social inequalities, and diminishing health across the world. As a result, current projections reveal the world is not on track to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Alternative approaches and innovative solutions are urgently needed to realize sustained and impactful change in our global agrifood systems and accelerate progress to put the world back on track to meet the deadline of the 2030 Agenda. Mobilizing private businesses and nurturing business models which integrate SDG based objectives, is a key area of intervention to achieve this.

The SDG Agrifood Accelerator Programme

The SDG Agrifood Accelerator Programme is an initiative by FAO, supported by SEED.

The Programme supports select small and medium sized enterprises from developing countries, who are pioneering solutions to transform agrifood systems through enhancing environmental protections and improving the lives of marginalized members of their communities. It provides the agrifood innovators involved with tailored coaching and a toolkit of resources to help scale-up their business and accelerate action towards the SDGs.

The first cohort of the Programme, which was launched on February 16, 2023, includes eleven agrifood start-ups.







"Leveraging the network of innovators from SEED and nurturing local agrifood solutions through a tailored innovation support package opens new ways for FAO to have an on-the-ground impact."

~ Stefanos Fotiou Director FAO, Office of Sustainable Development Goals



Expected results

The SDG Agrifood Accelerator Programme provides a new model for supporting agrifood systems transformation through the development of scalable and replicable business instruments, which support enterprises to go digital and to reach their economic targets, while contributing to accelerating SDG implementation in their local context.

The assistance provided to the agrifood innovators includes:



Tailored business and marketing plans to strengthen diversification and market reach



Investment and bankable finance plans to support expansion and innovation trajectory



Strengthened advocacy and pitching skills for approaching potential investors



An impact dashboard to track contribution to the SDGs

The 2023 participating agrifood enterprises:



Mooto Cashew Reforesting through food



Yoddoi Organic Coffee Hill tribe coffee Thailand



Farmers Fresh Zone Connecting farm to fork



Gorilla Conservation Coffee Saving gorillas with each sip



Rahsa Nusantara Ethical natural drinks



Wuchi Wami Organic raw honey



FAM Organic Sustainable healthy soils



ListenField Digital farming Thailand



AgriLeap Hydroponic hop cones South Africa



Amaati Group Empowering rural women



Kalahari Honev Sustainable beekeeping Botswana



"The calibre of the eleven selected SDG Agrifood Innovators is inspiring, leading by example for replication and acceleration of change. We are excited to further their SDG contributions with FAO through our joint Programme."

> ~ <u>Arab</u> Hoballah **Executive Director SEED**

Working towards all 17 SDGs



The SDG Agrifood Accelerator Programme acknowledges that all 17 SDGs are interconnected and addresses challenges across a broad range of goals, from no poverty and zero hunger to good health, gender equality and climate action.

For more information

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