



**WATER and
ENERGY
for FOOD**



WATER AND ENERGY FOR FOOD GRAND CHALLENGE

FINAL EVALUATION WEBINAR

Learn about outcomes from the Grand Challenge and key lessons programs should incorporate in future activities.



June 18th, 2024
9:00am – 10:30am ET



**WATER and
ENERGY
for FOOD**



Government of the Netherlands



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Join WE4F for the Final Evaluation Webinar

Launched in 2020, the WE4F works with innovators through five Regional Innovation Hubs covering East Africa, Middle East and North Africa, South and Southeast Asia, Southern and Central Africa and West Africa. These hubs have provided more than 135 innovators with grants, technical assistance, investment facilitation, and enabling environment support.

In this webinar, Dexis Consulting Group will present its evaluation findings on the USAID-implemented activities in the Middle East and North Africa, South and Southeast Asia, and Southern and Central Africa.

Date: June 18th

Time: 9:00am ET to 10:30am ET

[Register Now](#)

Southern and Central Africa Hub Releases New RFQ

The Southern and Central Africa Hub has issued a new RFQ. The hub is looking out for consultants and companies with expertise in carbon credit market diagnostics.

Deadline for submission: June 15, 2024, 4:00 PM CAT

Award anticipation date: June 30, 2024

[View the RFQ](#)

South and Southeast Asia Hub Releases New RFQ

The hub is seeking proposals from service providers to design a performance evaluation and competency framework, along with a code of conduct for innovators in Vietnam.

Deadline for submission: June 17, 2024, 4:00 PM CAT
Award anticipation date: June 25, 2024

[View the RFQ](#)

[View the budget template](#)

Innovations in the News and Around the World

How Soko Fresh's Solar Cold Storages Revolutionize Farming in Kenya

In Kenya, Muranga County is the largest avocado producing region, accounting for 32% of all avocados produced in the country. This produce is exported to markets in Europe and China, sold in local retail markets, or, in some cases, sold to local processing companies. Post-harvest losses are a major issue when it comes to avocado farming in the region. Fortunately, the innovative company, SokoFresh, has a solution: solar refrigeration units that can be leased to store produce. Not only are these innovations scalable and replicable, the company uses a three-pronged approach that provides farmers with support that includes market linkages, solar cold storage as a service, and produce processing as a service.

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Celebrating Impact and Success: Green WaTech and Chitosan Egypt Win at The Cartier Women's Initiative Award Ceremony

Imagine a world where business is not just about profit but a powerful force for good, capable of transforming entire communities. This is the vision of the Cartier Women's Initiative, a beacon of support and recognition for impact entrepreneurs from around the globe. These entrepreneurs drive innovation, sustainability, and social impact, reshaping their communities and beyond. In 2023, Cartier launched the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Award to inspire inclusive entrepreneurial solutions. This year, Cartier expanded its community to 330 fellows, welcoming a new cohort of 33 impact entrepreneurs dedicated to using business as a force for positive change.

The highlight of this journey was the Awards Ceremony, held in May 2024 in the vibrant city of Shenzhen, China. It was a moment of celebration, storytelling, and inspiration. The Water & Energy for Food MENA innovators were proudly represented twice among the shining stars: Salma Bougarrani from Morocco, whose innovative company GREEN WATECH earned her the prestigious 1st prize. And the equally inspiring Shahira Youssef from Egypt, who, in her capacity as Chief Marketing Officer of Chitosan Egypt, secured the 3rd place.

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Transformative Impact with CBES: Fuel Wood Seasoning Sheds Revolutionize Tea Factories in Kenya

In Kenya's vibrant tea industry, the reliance on firewood for energy poses a significant challenge, contributing to deforestation and environmental degradation. For years, tea factories have depended on wood fuel to power their operations, driving demand for firewood and putting immense pressure on forest ecosystems. As the demand for tea continues to grow, so does the need for sustainable energy solutions that mitigate the environmental impact of firewood consumption. Most tea factories in Kenya do not carry out factory wide energy or water metering. This means there is little actionable data to inform the factories' energy and water management strategies.

Amidst these challenges, the Center for Biomass Energy Studies (CBES) of the Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeCES) in collaboration with the WE4F East Africa Regional Innovation Hub launched a project aimed at offering innovative solutions to enhance energy efficiency and reduce deforestation. The two-and-a-half-year partnership, which ended in June 2023, enabled the integration of cost-efficient technology and resulted in the development and implementation of an innovative fuel wood seasoning shed.

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Towards Sustainable Agriculture through Solar Water Pumps Innovations in Uganda

In the sunny village of Kapeeka, located in the Nakaseke District of Central Uganda, the determined farmer, Joshua Lubega, embarked on a journey to transform his agricultural practices. On his three acre farm, Joshua intercropped coffee with banana to provide some shade and mulching in a bid to counteract the increasingly dry weather. Recognizing the enormous potential of Uganda's coffee sector – which employs over 500,000 smallholder farmers and stands as the country's second-largest export product – Joshua aimed to seize the opportunity presented by the growing demand for Ugandan coffee. In order to expand his production and contribute to the growing export market, he needed to address a significant problem: the inefficient and unreliable irrigation of his crops.

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Program Updates

Is There Enough Water to Scale Up Agricultural Innovations?

WE4F Introduces a Tool to Help Assess Water Availability

For more than 40 million people, the Zambezi River Basin is a crucial source for drinking water, fisheries, irrigation, ecosystem maintenance, biodiversity, and various other uses. With eight countries sharing the Zambezi Basin watershed, (Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe), and to meet the needs of growing populations, the basin needs sustainable water resource management.

Additionally, large-scale implementation of some agricultural innovations could result in the depletion of water resources and lead to unsustainable practices. Following Water and Energy for Food (WE4F)'s Mid-Term Evaluation, which highlighted this particular concern, the program pursued the creation of water accounting frameworks. The Zambezi River Basin was selected as the first location due the numerous Southern and Central Africa Hub innovators based in the region. The water accounting dashboard developed for WE4F was designed by the International Water Management Institute as a tool that businesses and their funders can use to determine water availability during innovation scale up.

[Learn More](#)

Promouvoir l'irrigation durable par le renforcement des compétences au Togo — Formation à l'irrigation solaire durable et l'usage de la boîte à outils SPIS

Un des grands volets de la coopération allemande mis-en-œuvre par la GIZ au Togo concerne l'appui au développement agricole et la promotion des énergies renouvelables. C'est pour cette raison que le *Programme de Promotion de systèmes d'irrigation solaires durables à petite échelle respectueux du climat, économes en eau et en énergie (Sun4Water)* en collaboration avec le *Programme Electrification Rurale au Togo (Pro Energie)* a organisé une troisième formation des formateurs SPIS au Togo à Kpalimé, du 21 au 23 mars 2024. La formation a eu lieu à l'*Institut National de Formation Agricole (INFA)*. Elle fait suite à une session en ligne tenue du 07 au 09 mars 2024 sur la même thématique.

[Lisez plus](#)

Nouvelles de Daloa : Mise en exploitation du périmètre irrigué SAFIR de l'Université de Daloa enclenchée

Cela fait maintenant trois mois que le système d'irrigation a été pris en main par les coopératives et l'Université Jean Lorougnon Guédé (UJLoG). En mars dernier, ensemble avec le pôle WE4F de l'Afrique de l'Ouest, les acteurs ont discuté la charte d'exploitation du périmètre irrigué pour ensuite l'adopter. Cette adoption a ouvert la voie à l'installation des producteurs sur le périmètre irrigué :

- 04 coopératives,
- 01 groupe d'étudiants,
- 01 groupement de femmes et
- 14 exploitants individuels installés parmi lesquels des riverains, des enseignants chercheurs et des personnels administratifs et techniques de l'Université Jean Lorougnon Guédé de Daloa

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Sun4Water: Formation sur l'irrigation solaire au Togo avec le Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Elevage et du Développement Rural

Dans le cadre de la mise en œuvre du [Programme des Systèmes Agroalimentaires intelligents face au Climat](#) (ProSAC) et suivant l'accord de coopération sur le volet appui au développement agricole et promotion des énergies renouvelables, une série d'ateliers de formation s'est tenue courant le mois de mars 2024 au Togo au profit des conseillers agricoles et agents étatiques du [Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Elevage et du Développement Rural](#) (MAEDR) sur l'irrigation solaire durable et l'usage de [la boîte à outils SPIS](#). Organisée conjointement par le ProSAC et le Programme de Promotion de systèmes d'irrigation solaires durables à petite échelle respectueux du climat, économes en eau et en énergie ([Sun4Water](#)), cette formation a été dispensée en deux phases à savoir une phase théorique (en ligne) et une autre pratique sur le site pédagogique de l'Institut National de Formation Agricole (INFA de Tové).

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