

INVESTMENT IN PRACTICE

E-DIALOGUE SERIES



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

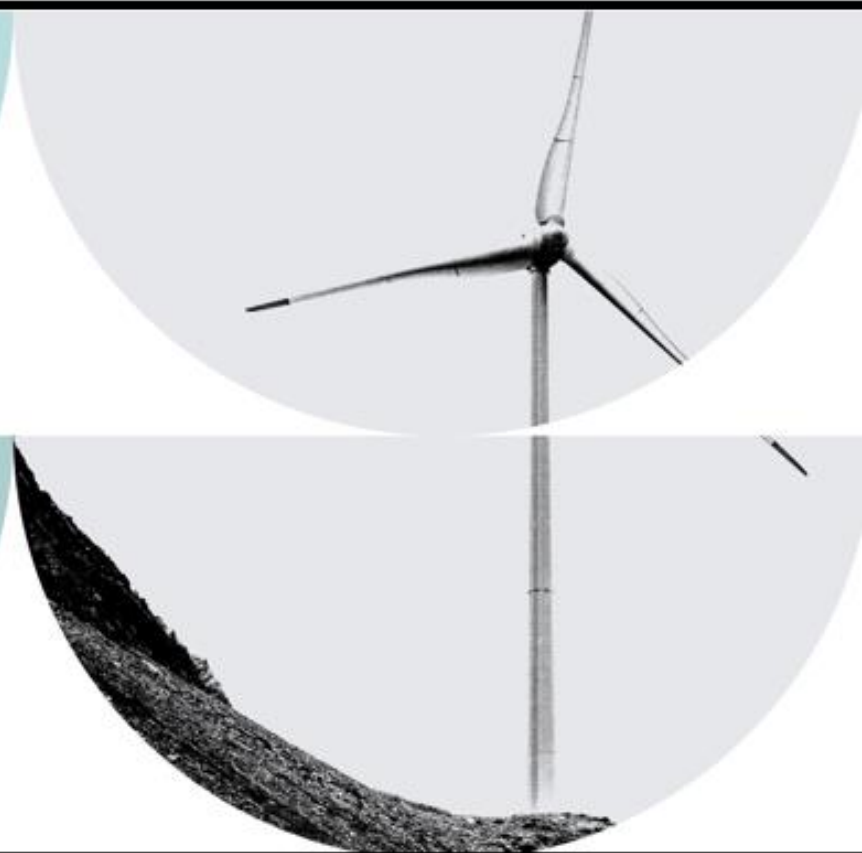


**European Bank**  
for Reconstruction and Development

# Agrifood Sustainability and Innovation

**Launch Session:**

*From vision to impact!*



ZOOM EVENT / 9 DECEMBER 2025 / 14:00 – 15:00 CET

# SPEAKERS



**Iride Ceccacci**  
European Bank for  
Reconstruction and  
Development

Head of Corporate Sector Advisory at the EBRD, where she played a key role in the development of Food and Agribusiness Strategy 2025. She oversees policy dialogue initiatives in collaboration with the FAO. Previously, Iride worked at the World Bank on global food security and agricultural development strategies.



**Heather Jacobs**  
World Intellectual  
Property Organization

Author of the upcoming 4th edition of the *Green Technology Book*, Heather brings global expertise on climate technologies for agriculture, land use, and adaptation. She worked with UN Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), FAO, the World Bank and Verra, and contributed to the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report.



**Max Leveau**  
Forward Fooding

Co-founder and COO of Forward Fooding, Max leads the world's first collaborative platform for the food&beverage industry, creator of the FoodTech 500 ranking. He works with global F&B companies, government, and investors to drive AgriFoodTech innovation trends and market dynamics and match them with startups & scaleups.



**Aymeric Barthes -**  
Global Organization  
for Agricultural  
Robotics

President of GOFAR and Chairman of FIRA, Aymeric founded Naïo Technologies, the first company dedicated to agricultural robots, with subsidiaries in the USA, Germany, and Canada. He advises companies on global expansion and strategy. Aymeric is also a farmer in France, managing a mixed crop and livestock operation.



Jacopo Monzini (FAO)

arianna carita

Areej Jafa

iride ceccacci

Aymeric BARTHES

Heather Jacobs

Nada Zvekic

Dietmar Ueberbacher

Thales de Haulleville

Isabella Righini

Agata Morelli

EKATERINA GONZALEZ

Elisa Appolloni

Elie Tannous

André Cunze

Divna Simic

Sarafina Luvinga

Roble Sabrie

Monica Romanelli

Caroline Elias-Mackay

Carlo Alberto Pratesi

Stephanie Charalambous

Carlo Bravi

Elena Denicolò

Saso Martinov

The launch session sparked dynamic exchanges, great reactions to the speakers and topics, and so many insightful questions from participants around the world.

We kicked off with a truly global and diverse community:

 **227 participants**

 **54 countries**

 **108 companies**

 **10 financial institutions**

 **12 universities**

 **9 research centers and institutions**

and many investors, technology developers, and policy makers.

Couldn't attend?

 **Watch the video recording here:** <https://youtu.be/H9B0Mg7KTXg>



## Ekaterina Krivonos **GONZALEZ**

Service Chief  
FAO Investment Centre



### // Session highlight:

*We are in a race against time. Population growth, climate change and resource scarcity are reshaping agrifood systems, and innovations are essential if we are to keep pace. They require significant public and private investment, but they also require a change in behavior.*



## Iride **CECCACCI**

Head of Corporate Sector Advisory  
EBRD



### // Session highlight:

*Innovation is exciting, but it must be grounded. In food and agriculture, we need creativity and risk-taking, but this ecosystem, as a source of livelihoods, must remain economically viable. Sustainable change is a process, not a sudden event, requiring long-term commitment from multiple stakeholders.*





## Aymeric BARTHES

President  
*Global Organization for Agricultural Robotics*



### // Session highlight:

*Scaling innovation and technologies like farm robotics requires an enabling system with shared risks among farmers, investors, and technology providers*

Launch session: From vision to impact!



## Max LEVEAU

Co-founder and COO  
*Forward Fooding*



### // Session highlight:

*Since 2021, investments in agrifood technologies have shifted from consumer services such as food delivery and plant-based proteins towards a broader range of 'upstream' solutions. These new technologies and ingredients aim to improve efficiency, sustainability and circularity in food production systems across diverse geographies.*

Launch session: From vision to impact!



## Heather **JACOBS**

Climate Technology Specialist  
World Intellectual Property Organization



### // Session highlight:

*Innovation is intellectual creativity that can generate a solution. Innovation isn't about novelty for its own sake - it's about creative ideas put to work to solve real climate challenges. It is also important to include traditional and low-tech solutions alongside advanced ones, tailored to a specific context.*

Launch session: From vision to impact!



## Jacopo **MONZINI**

Senior Natural Resources Management Officer  
FAO Investment Centre



### // Session highlight:

*We've set the stage — now let's explore the technologies and innovations that can fast-track the shift to sustainable, resilient agrifood systems while boosting productivity and profitability.*

Launch session: From vision to impact!



Watch the video recording  
of the E-dialogue on  
 [Youtube](#)



Find out more about the joint work  
of EBRD and FAO at  
[www.agtivate.org](http://www.agtivate.org)