

GHANA INNOVATION FARM: MANNI GROUP AND YAC WITH THE PATRONAGE OF SACE, Global Cold Chain Alliance AND FONDAZIONE PROMOZIONE ACCIAIO LAUNCH A CONTEST OF IDEAS TO CREATE AN HUB IN AFRICA AIMED AT IMPROVING THE HARVEST FIRST MILE MANAGEMENT

The third edition of the Manni Group Design Award renews the collaboration with Architects and designers worldwide to increase the awareness towards the development and efficient management of the agricultural industry in West Africa.

October 26th

It is estimated that **over 33% of the food produced is wasted**. This generates huge emissions, energy losses and missed opportunities. While in Europe **over 90% of the harvest is properly processed and stored in the first mile through efficient cold chain technologies, in Africa the percentage drops to only 3%**.

There are no simple solutions to the gaps that have always plagued human society, but what is certain is that **it is often not the lack of natural resources that generates poverty and vulnerability, but the complexity of infrastructural and economic dynamics**.

The cold chain is one of the key nodes in the challenge to the planet's nutrition. This is why in the African scenario and in line with the objectives of the United Nations, Manni Group and InspiraFarms are preparing to set up the GHANA INNOVATION FARM, a technological and cultural hub, where it will be possible to share knowledge and technologies with the population to meet their needs, developing new strategies to make their activities more competitive and generating thousands of high-quality jobs.

The third edition of the Manni Group Design Award challenges architects and engineers worldwide to create the best design for this cold hub and educational center. Their projects will be evaluated from top tier Architectural Studios such as Eduardo Souto de Moura, Giancarlo Mazzanti of El Equipo Mazzanti, Mariam Kamara of Atelier Masōmī and Andreas Fries from Herzog de Meuron.

The high value of this initiative is proved by the patronage of SACE, the Italian Export Credit Agency, that supports sustainable projects in Italy and abroad, of Global Cold Chain Alliance (GCCA) the most important World association in the cold logistic industry and also of Fondazione Promozione Acciaio, a cultural institution promoting the advancement of steel building and infrastructures.

We thank for the support and technical knowledge InspiraFarms and Ifria, excellences in the cold chain development industry in Africa.

Very important partners also joined the team as sponsors: BASF, leader in the chemical industry (Main Sponsor), Renolit, reference point for the production of synthetic membranes and ROCKWOOL, main player in the mineral wool market as Sponsors.

Further info: <https://bit.ly/3FSutsQ>

Manni Group provides innovative and patented systems, products and skills for the dry construction industry. It promotes new scenarios in order to remove energy waste and polluting emissions in the existing estate stock. With new building or retrofit interventions, Manni helps the Real Estate field and design firms to reach higher standards in their projects thanks to sustainability principles and the construction process know-how. Thanks to its 75+ years experience, its commitment, its long-term vision and remarkable dedication, the group has dealt with several market changes. It was able to wisely adapt to new international business scenarios and embrace the Circular Economy philosophy. This entailed the processing of materials such as 100% recyclable steel to make products that contribute to meet the standards to obtain LEED and BREEAM certifications, the national CAM, the EPD publication and to be the first ones in Italy to obtain ILFI's DECLARE label (International Living Future Institute) for their products LEAF and Green Roof.

SACE is the financial insurance company specialized in supporting the growth and development of businesses and the Italian economy through a wide range of tools and solutions to improve competitiveness in Italy and worldwide. For over forty years, SACE has been the partner of reference for Italian companies exporting to and expanding in foreign markets. SACE also cooperates with the banking system, providing financial guarantees to facilitate companies' access to credit. This role has been reinforced by the extraordinary measures introduced by the so-called Liquidity Decree and Simplification Decree. These measures have added important elements to SACE's role, expanding its scope beyond its traditional role in exports and internationalisation, to the domestic market and green projects.

SACE has always paid particular attention to the sustainability of the projects it supports, evaluating environmental, social and economic impacts on the basis of OECD guidelines, in a logic of inclusiveness and shared value. Values that are reaffirmed in SACE's Sustainability Report and strengthened by the introduction of the Climate Change Policy: these include measures aimed at improving the contribution of business activities supported by SACE to the reduction of climate-changing emissions. SACE serves over 26 thousand companies, especially SMEs, supporting their growth in Italy and in around 200 foreign markets, with a diversified range of insurance and financial products and services.

Global Cold Chain Alliance (GCCA) serves more than 1.100 companies in 85 countries who serve the food industry by providing third party, temperature controlled supply chain services Over 40 percent of GCCA members are outside North America GCCA serves as the focused voice of the cold chain industry GCCA is a platform for communication, networking and education for each link of the cold chain Each of the Core Partner associations was founded years ago IARW in 1891 IRTA in 1994 and CEBA in 1978 In 2007 these organizations came together under the united umbrella organization, the Global Cold Chain Alliance.

Fondazione Promozione Acciaio represents the steel construction sector in Italy, from production to installation: the Foundation's intense cultural activity contributes to making knowledge and skills on steel design and construction accessible, broadens the base of professionals and investors working with steel and increases the quality of our building and infrastructure stock.

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