

Media Announcement

AlphaMundi Foundation launches R&D grant with Olivado to expand repurposing avocado waste as a renewable energy source across their regional operations.

Olivado is the world's largest producer of extra virgin cold pressed avocado oil and the leading brand sold in supermarkets in more than 31 countries. They produce over 90% of the world's organic fair-trade avocado oil and command 65% of international retail sales of extra virgin avocado oil, selling a range of quality food oils under their brand. Their avocados are bought directly from small bio-diverse farmers, paying a premium set price and ensuring a consistent offtake market. The company successfully runs a fair-trade organic out grower scheme with 2,200 partner farmers in Kenya and 1,000 partner farmers in Tanzania, 40 percent of whom are women.

With support from the Powering Agriculture Investment Alliance, Olivado will expand the applications of a self-sustaining, anaerobic bio-digester model that currently repurposes avocado waste to produce electricity, create fuel and fertilizer, further contributing to their strategic goal to incorporate renewable energy sources across their regional operations.



“Starting in 2012, Olivado designed then built a biogas plant at Muranga, Kenya, as part of its circular economy and regenerative strategy. The plant utilizes waste from avocado oil processing to produce methane, and subsequently, electricity and vehicle fuel. The remaining digestate is a fertilizer. Powering Ag partly funded the Canadian sourced conversion kits for the petrol staff vans that Olivado acquired early 2020 as part of becoming carbon neutral.”

– Gary Hannam, CEO



[About the AlphaMundi Foundation](#)

The AlphaMundi Foundation is a Washington, DC based nonprofit with a mission to catalyze and scale investment in social enterprises that seek to improve the lives of the poor. The Foundation pursues this mission vis-à-vis three primary activities: (1) providing targeted pre- and post-investment technical assistance to social enterprises with a business model central to one or more of the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); (2) supporting impact measurement and management efforts of social enterprises; and (3) furthering the field of impact investing through knowledge sharing, best practice dissemination and public advocacy, with an emphasis on gender lens investing.

[About Olivado](#)

Olivado is the world's largest producer of extra virgin cold pressed avocado oil and the leading brand sold in supermarkets in more than 31 countries. The company has two production plants with the original factory in New Zealand, processing mainly Hass avocados from central and northern North Island, and the second in the Central Highlands of Kenya, which produces Fair Trade and Organic Certified avocado oil from avocados purchased directly from independent family-owned farms.

[About Powering Agriculture Investment Alliance](#)

An Energy Grand Challenge for Development supports the development and deployment of clean energy innovations that increase agriculture productivity and stimulate low carbon economic growth in the agriculture sector of developing countries to help end extreme poverty and extreme hunger.

In April 2018, the AlphaMundi Foundation joined the Powering Agriculture Investment Alliance to catalyze private sector financing for businesses that utilize renewable energy sources to enhance agricultural yields or productivity, decrease post-harvest loss, improve the farmers' agribusiness income generating opportunities and revenues, and/ or increase energy efficiency and associated savings within the operations of farmers and agribusinesses.

