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SIG Foundation wins SAVE FOOD award for its “Cartons for Good” initiative

SIG Foundation is proud to receive international recognition for its project “Cartons for Good”, which uses SIG's expertise in filling technology to help communities process and preserve their food into meals locally. The prize, which is awarded annually by the SAVE FOOD initiative, was presented to the Foundation on December 13, 2023, in Cairo at pacprocess MEA, the No. 1 trade fair in the Middle East & Africa region for Processing and Packaging. The prize money will be invested in a comprehensive and locally based study to ensure that the impact of Cartons for Good in Egypt is as high as possible.

Every day, a third of the world's food is lost. Farmers are often unable to sell their entire harvest at local markets, and they also have no way of preserving the products. The SIG Foundation's Cartons for Good project, which has been operating in Bangladesh since 2019, convinced the jury with SIG's expertise in using filling technology to help communities process and preserve their food into meals locally. SIG engineers developed a system that uses the company's boil-

down technology to preserve food in SIG SafeBloc carton packs. Vegetables and fruit are processed into tasty meals without preservatives and filled into carton packs. This means that the meals can be stored at ambient conditions for up to nine months without refrigeration. The aim of the foundation is to expand "Cartons for Good" to other parts of the world.

Unique initiative to combat food loss and malnutrition

The Cartons for Good initiative thus brings SIG's food preservation and packaging technology to regions where innovative solutions are urgently needed to combat food loss and malnutrition. Surplus food is preserved, farmers have an additional income and meals are distributed to schools and provide underprivileged children with a regular lunch. This allows them to go to school instead of working for food.

Holger Dickers, Managing Director of the Swiss-based foundation, says: "We are honored to receive the SAVE FOOD Award. Cartons for Good is the foundation's flagship project. It is a unique initiative designed to help communities to save surplus food, support farmers' livelihoods, and promote children's nutrition and education."

The globally active SIG Foundation envisions a future where good nutrition and clean water are available to everyone and natural habitats are preserved for future generations. Together with partners, the foundation's purpose is to identify, drive and promote activities and projects that strengthen civil society and create positive impacts for the environment. These goals are consistent with SIG's sustainability strategy – the net-positive commitment to contribute more to society and the environment than the company takes out.

Study on the impact of Cartons for Good in Egypt

The SAVE FOOD initiative, launched in 2011 by Messe Düsseldorf, interpack and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is committed to reducing the enormous quantities of food that are lost or wasted worldwide every day. This year, the SAVE FOOD initiative has launched a competition to find projects that tackle this goal in innovative ways. The winner has been announced as part of the pacprocess MEA to be held jointly with Food Africa in Cairo from 12 to 14 December 2023. Both trade fairs from part of the interpack alliance portfolio.

In Egypt, 50% of all fruit and vegetables are wasted, this means 73 kgs of food waste per person per year. At the same time, 32.5% of Egyptians live below the poverty line, one in five children under 5 years of age is stunted. "The support from SAVE FOOD will be invested in a comprehensive and locally based study to achieve the highest possible impact in Egypt with our initiative", **says Sandra Hallaschka, Co-Project Leader of Cartons for Good at SIG Foundation.**

The objectives of the study are to identify the regions in Egypt where large quantities of freshly produced food is regularly lost because it cannot be sold to consumers through the established commercial supply chain. Secondly, the definition of the benefits for healthy meals, whether for families, schools, or disaster victims. And finally, to develop recipes that consider local flavors, the seasonality of vegetables, and the right nutritional value for the beneficiaries.

The SIG Foundation has already taken the first steps towards implementing Cartons for Good in Egypt. On September 29, the Foundation signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the NRCP Foundation (Natural Resources and Climate Protection Foundation) to pave the way for the launch of the project in Egypt. The first phase of the agreement includes securing funding and project planning in Egypt.

About SIG Way Beyond Good Foundation

The SIG Way Beyond Good Foundation envisions a future in which good nutrition and clean water will be available to everyone and natural habitats will be preserved for future generations. The Way Beyond Good Foundation's purpose is to partner with others to identify, drive and promote activities and projects that strengthen civil society and create positive impacts for the environment. Cartons for Good was the foundation's first project. It offers innovative solutions against food loss and malnutrition. In Bangladesh, where the foundation is running the project since 2019, surplus food will be preserved in SIG packs for schools to offer underprivileged children regular lunches throughout the year. Recycle for Good is the Foundation's first project in the field of recycling and part of SIG's Resource+ commitment. It is based on a reward system in which people receive points for handing in recyclable materials, which they can exchange for food and other essential goods or vouchers or donate to a social organization. The overall purpose of the program is to change people's behavior and be mindful of natural resources.

Established in 2018, the SIG Way Beyond Good Foundation is based in Neuhausen, Switzerland. For more information, visit www.sig.biz/en/foundation and www.sig.biz/en/foundation/recycle-for-good

About SIG

SIG is a leading solutions provider of packaging for better – better for our customers, for consumers, and for the world. With our unique portfolio of aseptic carton, bag-in-box, and spouted pouch, we work in partnership with our customers to bring food and beverage products to consumers around the world in a safe, sustainable, and affordable way. Our technology and outstanding innovation capabilities enable us to provide our customers with versatile packaging systems and solutions for innovative products and smart operations, all to address the ever-changing needs of consumers. Sustainability is integral to our business and guides us on our journey to create packaging for better – packaging that gives more to people and the planet than it takes out.

Founded in 1853, SIG is headquartered in Neuhausen, Switzerland, and is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange. The skills and experience of our approximately 9,000 employees worldwide enable us to respond quickly and effectively to the needs of our customers in over 100 countries. In 2022, SIG produced 49 billion packs and generated €3.1 billion in pro forma revenue (incl. unaudited revenue from recent acquisitions). SIG has an AA ESG rating by MSCI, a 13.4 (low risk) score by Sustainalytics, a Platinum CSR rating by EcoVadis, and is included in the FTSE4Good Index. For more information, visit our [website](http://www.sig.biz).

For insights into trends that drive the food and beverage industry, visit the [SIG blog](http://sig.blog).

Picture caption:

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Photo: interpack/ pacprocess MEA

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