FoodBytes!

STARTUP PROGRAM

2021





FoodBytes! is one of the industry's most valuable global networks for food and agriculture startups.

Rabobank's discovery and engagement platform for early stage innovation, FoodBytes! champions cross-industry collaboration between the most promising startups and aligned corporates and investors.

FoodBytes! Pitch is an annual multiweek program that helps startups validate and grow their businesses – and their impact – through global industry exposure, tailored mentorship sessions, 1:1 strategic connections, pitch refinement and media visibility.

The startup experience doesn't end with the FoodBytes! Pitch program. The 45 innovators become part of the FoodBytes! community of more than 350 alumni and receive ongoing connections and guidance.

Rabobank views our alumni as the clients of our future – our ambition is to support them throughout their lifecycles.



# 2020 FoodBytes! Pitch snapshot

45

startups selected

14

countries represented

**71**%

BIPOC\* and/or woman founded

205

startup <> corporate connections

110

Startup <> investor meetings



**CRITERIA** 



# MOST PROMISING

emerging companies who have a:

### PITCH CRITERIA



Robust, diverse team

Comprehensive domain and entrepreneurial experience



Validated business model Demonstrated product market fit



Focus on people, profit & planet Concept is focused on the triple bottom line



Collaborative mind-set History of / ambition to working with corporate partners



Validation or growth stage business Seed to Series B

# 2021 Scouting Goals

**350** 

startup applications **70**%

BIPOC and/or woman founded

**35%** North America **25%** Asia Pacific **25%** Europe

10% Latin America 5% Africa



**BENEFITS** 

# **FOODBYTES! SECTOR FOCUS AREAS**

In addition to our criteria, we are looking for startups pioneering solutions in the following spaces, aligned with our corporate and investor member interests:

# SUSTAINABLE SUPPLY CHAINS

TRACEABLE TECHNOLOGY: **BLOCKCHAIN AND BEYOND** 

IMPROVED ANIMAL HEALTH

**UPCYCLED PRODUCTS** 

FOODBYTES! ALUMNI EXAMPLES















# IMPROVED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**CARBON SEQUESTRATION** 

WATER AND WASTE **REDUCTION** 

SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING

FOODBYTES! ALUMNI EXAMPLES

















# THE NEXT FRONTIER OF NUTRITION

**FOOD AS MEDICINE** 

**PLANT-BASED PROTEIN** 

**BIOTECH MEETS FOOD** 

FOODBYTES! ALUMNI EXAMPLES

















PROCESS

**STEP 1: Fill out the <u>Application</u>** on our Website (April 5 – May 16)



## **STEP 2:** Internal review process

70+ Rabobank, Corporate & Investor members

Approx. 15% Get Selected to **Pitch** 



STEP 3: You're in our Alumni Network!

Webinars with industry experts

Financing Support /
Funding

Exclusive Rabobank Sector Research Online Community
And More

**FOODBYTES PROGRAMS** 

# **PITCH 2021**

In an increasingly digital environment, we have adapted our 2021 programming to offer unique value and connections.

**APRIL 5 - MAY 16 - STARTUP APPLICATIONS** 

## **SEPTEMBER - 45 STARTUPS SELECTED**

# OCT 12-14: MENTOR WEEK (3 to 4 hrs/day)

Small group mentoring tailored to business sector and stage (incl. fundraising, go-to-market strategy, legal, vendor financing)

Trend & Investment panels led by Member representatives and Rabobank experts

Scheduled & open 1:1 meeting slots w/ aligned food & ag investors

### **OCT 18-21: JUDGE DELIBERATION WEEK:**

Expert judges review pitch submissions and selects 15 finalists

# NOVEMBER 8-10: FoodBytes! PITCH WEEK:

Rehearsal, recording and public livestreaming of pitches from 15 finalists. 3 winners announced, each receiving a consulting package from select Members

Our participation in Foodbytes! was an important milestone for our commercial traction as a young foodtech startup. We were introduced through Rabobank's extensive network to many of the most influential CPG companies and developed business relationships lasting to this day. Rabobank's F&A Innovation Fund then participated in our Series B. Since joining us as shareholders, we were happy to be connected to some of the most exciting partners in the food industry and engage with them for new collaborations.

# Taly Nechushtan

InnovoPro, 2018 Pitch Alum

# EARLY FoodBytes! **CONFIRMED MEMBERS**

**UPSTREAM** 

**MIDSTREAM** 

**DOWNSTREAM** 

**INVESTORS & SERVICE PROVIDERS** 





TATE & LYLE





















NOTE: Live programming takes place on Eastern Standard Time (EST). Some flexibility (e.g. select pre-recorded content) will be given to companies located in other time zones



# ALUMNI ECOSYSTEM BENEFITS

**350+** alumni

\$1.1Bn

in funding raised since participating

**300+** corporate leaders

**25,000** digital network

# FoodBytes! Alumni receive:

- 1. Connections to corporates and investors aligned with your business, stage and goals
- 2. Ongoing industry visibility and recognition that can lead to business opportunities
- 3. Sharing of timely fundraising & partnership opportunities with aligned corporate & investor members

- 4. Connections to Rabo Food & Agri Innovation Fund that can result in direct investment
- 5. Personalized support and guidance from Rabobank network on industry insights / financial advisory as you scale
- 6. Network of fellow mission-driven entrepreneurs, connected via monthly alumni newsletter & LinkedIn group

ProAgni continues to receive inbound interest from investors and engaged corporate members. This global network has given us significant operational leverage. We'd never have these kinds of conversations in AUS alone. We couldn't have expected more out of the FoodBytes! program.

**Lachlan Campbell** ProAgni, 2020 Pitch Alum



# HEAR FROM OUR STARTUP COMMUNITY



FoodBytes! provided us connectivity into the CPG world, which had been missing from our long-term strategy as an upstream player.

This opportunity led to partnerships, investors and customers.

**Jake Joraanstad**Bushel, 2019 Pitch Alum



Participating in Foodbytes! completely reinvigorated our business and set up much of our future growth.

We found a partner that is helping us take our product from our local market through a national roll out.

**Kobi & Abev Regev** Pleese Foods, 2020 Pitch Alum



FoodBytes! gave us an unparalleled platform to communicate our value proposition to the industry.

The Rabo F&A Innovation Fund ultimately ended up leading our Series A.

**Andrew Diprose** Rootwave, 2018 Pitch Alum



**STARTUP** 

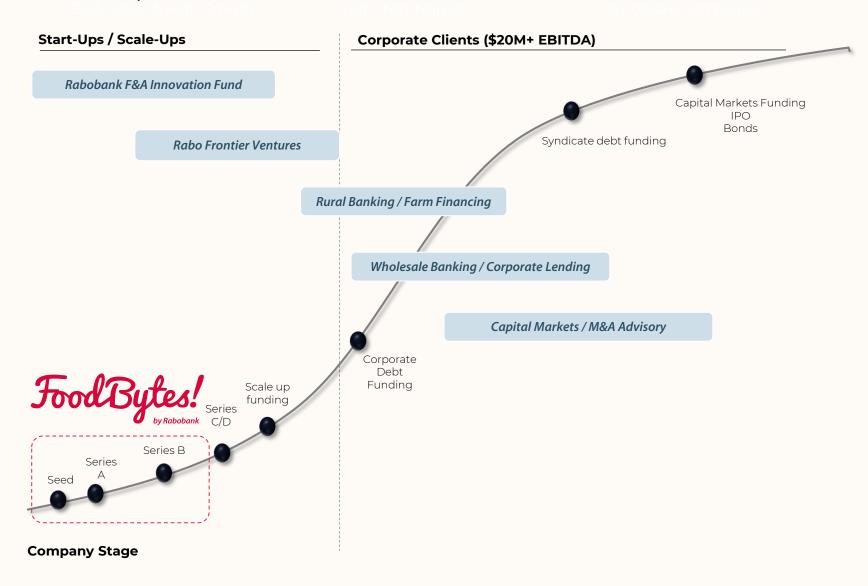
**INNOVATION** 

AT RABOBANK

Rabobank supports companies throughout their lifecycle.

FoodBytes!
provides earlystage startups an
entry point into
Rabobank's
network.

# Rabobank products & services



# RABOBANK NETWORK

# **ALUMNI OPPORTUNITIES**

### **EQUITY PRIVATE PLACEMENT**

# **Equity Private**Placement

Assists emerging growth companies, including alumni, with the origination, structuring and execution of private equity capital formation. The team represents companies with capital raises of \$15M+ by leveraging Rabobank's vast network of food industry strategic and institutional investors.

## **FUNDS**



EUR 125m fund investing across the entire F&A supply chain with a focus on Series A and B rounds. Check size of EUR 1-12m.

### Rabo Frontier Ventures

EUR 160m fund investing to build a diversified portfolio in the fintech and the food & agricultural sectors. Investments of EUR 0.5 – 5m per investment round

### **PILOT**



Tailored corporate-led collaboration program that pairs industry leaders with emerging companies to tackle a specific goal or industry challenge.

## **EQUIPMENT FINANCING**



Actively seeks to support startups with equipment needs of 100k annually. In addition, their expertise is an invaluable insight for startups seeking to understand their equipment needs as they scale.

### WHOLESALE CLIENT TRANSITION

## Wholesale Client Transition

As alumni grow to \$20M+ EBITDA, our wholesale banking team explores how Rabobank can put our capital to work to help them scale.

## **RETAIL BANKING**

# **Rabobank**Retail Banking

In select regions, Rabobank offers retail banking opportunities, Including payment, savings, finance and insurance solutions for entrepreneurs.

#### STARTUP M&A ADVISORY

Startup M&A Advisory Provides strategic advisory to emerging growth companies, including alumni, on sales, mergers and joint ventures.



# **CONTACT US**



Fill out our application to get involved <a href="mailto:foodbytesworld.com/apply-to-pitch-2/">foodbytesworld.com/apply-to-pitch-2/</a>







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