

SUSTAINABILITY TRENDS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Institute for Sustainability Africa

'Advancing Sustainability Initiatives for Africa'

ZIMBABWE

Calls for Projects on
Harnessing Emerging
Technologies for
Sustainable Development

AFRICA

Embracing the Power of
Positive Disruption



GLOBAL

Driving sustainability
through more eco-friendly
laboratory equipment
choices



2024 Agro-Economic Crisis:
Unpredictable Weather
Devastates Global Farming
Communities

Driving sustainability through more eco-friendly laboratory equipment choices

Working in a laboratory, you cannot help but notice the amount of waste material and energy use that comes from experiments. From the frequent use of single-use plastics and a reliance on transnational shipping of reagents, to the dependency on high-energy-consumption equipment like -80°C freezers for the long-term storage of samples, there is no escaping the fact that the science sector is a major contributor to global CO₂ emissions. Indeed, one study from the University of Exeter, U.K., estimated that each scientist in a bioscience department generates approximately 1000 kg of plastic waste each year. For many scientists who see themselves as environmentally conscious, it can be a wake-up call when faced with the scale of their collective carbon footprint. As such, laboratories are under increasing pressure to adopt more sustainable practices to lower their environmental impact and contribute to a cleaner and safer society. But what can be done to make scientific research and industry more eco-friendly? **Read more:** <https://www.rdworldonline.com/driving-sustainability-through-more-eco-friendly-laboratory-equipment-choices-2/>

Embracing the Power of Positive Disruption: Enaex Africa's Focus on Future Sustainability and Key Business Achievements at Mining Indaba 2024



On the 5th of February 2024, Enaex Africa participated in the 30th annual Mining Indaba, focusing on the theme “Embracing the power of positive disruption: A bold new future for African mining.” This theme underscores the necessary adaptations required in the African mining sector through technological advancements to address current challenges. Industry leaders highlighted the imperative need to enhance efficiency and reduce costs amid the challenging market characterized by high inflation, reduced

demand, and low commodity prices **Read more:** <https://www.cnbcafrica.com/2024/embracing-the-power-of-positive-disruption-enaex-africas-focus-on-future-sustainability-and-key-business-achievements-at-mining-indaba-2024/>

Calls for Projects on Harnessing Emerging Technologies for Sustainable Development

The United States Embassy in Zimbabwe announces an open competition for creative, sustainable and engaging projects that foster open and transparent dialogues on how emerging technologies can support Zimbabwe's development and international partnerships. The programs should support principles that foster safe and security network infrastructures as well as promote digital rights. Projects funded under this call will use dialogues, advocacy, engagement, research, policy analysis, capacity development, and/or network building to promote the use of emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, augmented and virtual reality. The projects can be in any sector- education, agriculture, medical and financial technologies. **Read more:** <https://www2.fundsfornbos.org/latest-funds-for-ngos/calls-for-projects-on-harnessing-emerging-technologies-for-sustainable-development/>

2024 Agro-Economic Crisis: Unpredictable Weather Devastates Global Farming Communities



2024's agricultural sector faces unprecedented challenges due to climate change. This article analyzes the impact and explores adaptive strategies. 2024 has unfolded as a year of unparalleled challenges for the global agricultural sector, characterized by erratic weather patterns that have wreaked havoc on farming communities worldwide. From the unpredictable sugaring seasons in Maine to the agricultural turmoil across various regions, including the dire situation in Zimbabwe, the impact of climate change on agriculture has never been more palpable. This article delves into

the timing, reasons, and background of these events, offering a detailed chronology and analysis of the agricultural crisis of 2024. Climate change has led to unpredictable weather conditions, significantly affecting agriculture in 2024. In Maine, maple syrup producers experienced one of the most erratic sugaring seasons due to warm winters and little snowfall. Similarly, the Philippines faced extreme weather events, from droughts to heavy rainfall, leading to crop damage and yield loss **Read more:** <https://bnnbreaking.com/breaking-news/agriculture/2024-agro-economic-crisis-unpredictable-weather-devastates-global-farming-communities>

ABOUT INSAF

INSAF is an independent multi-disciplinary independent think tank and research organization working towards a sustainable Africa. The Institute is a registered Independent Trust (MA1218/2012) in Zimbabwe.

OUR VISION

Advance Sustainability Initiatives for Africa

OUR MISSION

Foster Sustainability Initiatives and innovations towards Green Economy, Sustainable Development and Sustainable Living through applied research, programs and technical support services and across sectors.

OUR VALUES

- ✧ A non-partisan research institute
- ✧ An agent for change that promote transformation towards sustainability
- ✧ Committed to rigorous and objective research and analysis to support policy and decision making across sectors
- ✧ Capable of handling complex economic, environmental, developmental, and social issues honestly
- ✧ Committed to environmental sustainability principle, practices and values





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