



The Future of Food and Beverage USA

Minneapolis | 27-28 May 2026

The trillion-dollar conundrum: How to connect innovation, productivity and financial security for food system resilience



RESILIENCE AS A BUSINESS STRATEGY CONSUMER-LED TRANSFORMATION
AG-TECH AND AGRI-FOOD INNOVATION FOCUS ON FARMERS

The conference

This forum will bring together leading brands, policymakers, innovators, investors, and NGOs for two days of action-oriented discussion and collaboration. Participants will explore the practical steps key actors can take to build more sustainable, resilient, and regenerative food systems.

Key themes



Security of supply and business resilience

How food and beverage brands are reframing sustainability around risk mitigation, value creation and long-term supply security.

We'll highlight real-life examples of value chain collaboration and sustainable innovation that drives competitiveness, business resilience and profitability.



A market for regen

We won't fund the transition to regenerative agriculture with VC money or government bailouts. The only way is via demand.

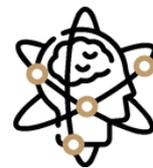
We'll debate how brands can capitalize on consumer trends to create demand for regenerative and deliver transformation at scale.



On-farm productivity and financial security

As US food policy continues to evolve, the focus for farmers remains on practical, outcome-based approaches that make farming economically viable and environmentally sustainable.

We'll look at how aligning incentives, simplifying metrics, implementing scalable and affordable tech, and fostering genuine collaboration across the value chain can empower farmers to drive both profitability and long-term resilience.



Ag-tech and agri-food innovation

How to promote sustainability within R&D as a driver of long-term, strategic business value?

We'll highlight developments in corporate venture capital, blended finance and cross-sector collaboration to unlock investment. Plus we'll assess how to connect R&D, agriculture and nutrition with consumer trends to unlock regenerative and resilient food systems.

2026 Agenda highlights

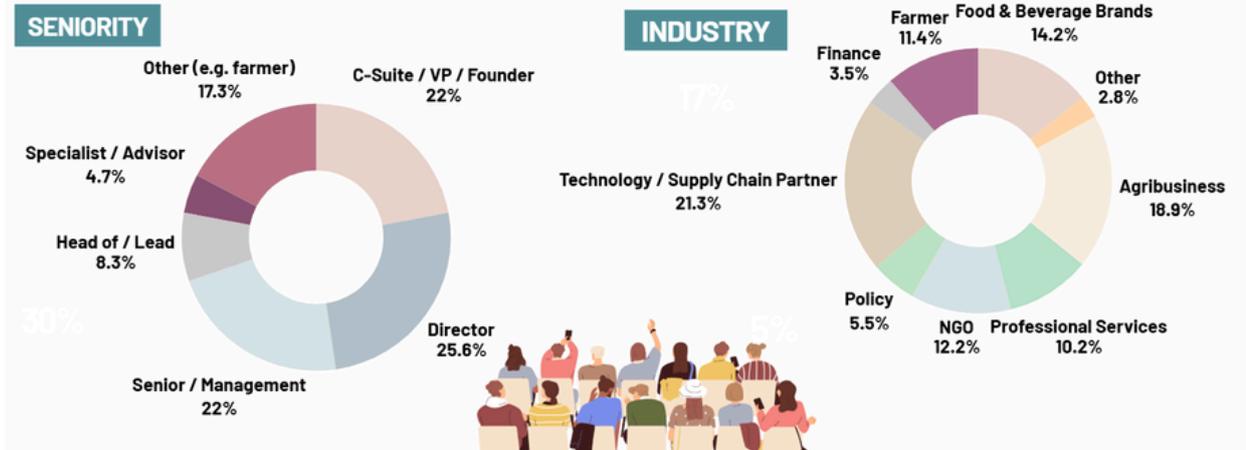
- **Opportunity in crisis:** Reframing sustainability as resilience, risk mitigation and commercial advantage
- **Food security and resilience at 2+ degrees:** How leading brands are integrating adaptation into their climate transition planning
- **Food system transformation:** How genuine industry collaboration can better align supply and demand in agriculture
- **Ag-tech and agri-food innovation:** How to promote sustainability within R&D as a driver of long-term, strategic business value
- **MAHA and the future of US food policy:** What does it all mean for food production?
- **The sustainable consumer:** What is the latest evidence that shows younger consumers are buying sustainably, and how can this be accelerated?
- **Investing in resilience:** Blended capital, corporate venture funding and collaborative financing for a regenerative food system
- **Food system transformation:** How genuine industry collaboration can better align supply and demand in agriculture
- **Food product reformulation:** How to connect R&D, agriculture and nutrition with consumer trends
- **A market for regen:** How brands can capitalise on consumer trends to create demand for regenerative

[REGISTER NOW AND JOIN THE CONVERSATION](#)

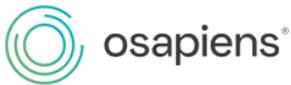
2025 Audience breakdown



250+ Attendees Welcomed



PAST SPONSORS



NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

Connect with senior manager and C-suite level industry professionals during **six hours** of designated networking during the event.

DAY 01

Registration and breakfast **60 min.**
 Morning break **30 min.**
 Lunchtime **60 min.**
 Afternoon break **30 min.**
 Networking drinks **60+ min.**

DAY 02

Registration and breakfast **60 min.**
 Morning break **30 min.**
 Lunchtime **60 min.**



REGISTER AND NETWORK WITH KEY INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDERS

2026 Speakers



Burgess Davis
PepsiCo
Senior Vice President, Chief
Sustainability Officer



Xavier Roussel
Dole Food Company
Chief marketing and sustainability
officer



Sarah Fox
JBS
Senior director, sustainable food
systems



Jay Watson
General Mills
Director regenerative agriculture



Pedro Amaral
Mars
Associate director- head of
cocoa climate sustainability



Justine Li
IFF
SVP global key accounts and
sustainability



Stephanie Holodinsky
McCain Foods
Sr. Director, Global Scientific &
Regulatory Affairs



Erik Petrovskis
Meijer
Director of environmental
compliance and sustainability



Ryan Smith
Danone
Director agricultural impact and
partnerships



Carin Gerhardt
SVG Ventures
Director of corporate
programs



Allie Stauss
Keurig Dr Pepper
Sustainability manager-
nature+supply resilience



What's different about this forum?

INNOVATION FORUM IS:

- ✓ **Candid:** Entirely off-the-record discussion that enables open and honest disclosure from speakers and genuine participation from the audience
- ✓ **Practical:** A clear focus on the practical and actionable guidance that can drive change throughout industries and supply chains
- ✓ **Focused:** We provide enough time, resources and expertise to the issues that really matter. We don't skate the surface, but get to the crux of the issues to provide in-depth, constructive discussion

INNOVATION FORUM IS **NOT**:

- ✗ **A PR platform:** Enthusiastic speakers are NOT given free rein to fill a session presenting their companies, allowing no time to actually get to the crux of the issues
- ✗ **A talking shop:** This is NOT an opportunity for a group of people in a room to simply agree with everything said, regardless of outcomes
- ✗ **All promise, no delivery:** We will NOT promise what we can't deliver. The issues covered are complex. They won't be solved at a two-day conference. But we will help deliver progress through in-depth, constructive and practical advice around specific issues



Testimonials

"The collective intellect, experience and dedication to frank discussion about authentic change has inspired me enormously."

"Enjoyed the content, great speakers, and good conversations in between. Big thanks to Innovation for hosting such a great event."

"As ever, Innovation Forum challenges us to think and explore our knowledge of key issues in sustainability across the food supply chain, at a well-considered event."

"Congratulations on an interesting and well-rounded discussions! I often don't follow all the sessions, but it was clearly the case this time."

"It was great to part of the sessions – and so good that there were no ppt's for company advertisements! Great to have some actual discussion."

Laurel Schaffer
VIV Refashioned Couture



Susanne Mathis-Alig
Mondelēz International



Alison Cousins
BSI



Llorenç Milà i Canals
UNEP



Gramae Smith
Mars



The Future of Food and Beverage USA



Minneapolis

27-28 May 2026

Registration details

Secure your place now for the best price

EARLY BIRDS				FULL PRICE
Save upto \$800 <i>Offer ends 5th Dec</i>	Save upto \$600 <i>Offer ends 30th Jan</i>	Save upto \$400 <i>Offer ends 13th Mar</i>	Save upto \$200 <i>Offer ends 24th Apr</i>	<i>After 24th April</i>
NGO/Academic pass \$1000	NGO/Academic pass \$1,100	NGO/Academic pass \$1,200	NGO/Academic pass \$1,400	NGO/Academic pass \$1,600
Corporate pass \$1200	Corporate pass \$1300	Corporate pass \$1,400	Corporate pass \$1,600	Corporate pass \$1,800
Service provider pass \$1,700	Service provider pass \$1,900	Service provider pass \$2,100	Service provider pass \$2300	Service provider pass \$2,500

[REGISTER HERE](#) >>>

VENUE

The Graduate

615 Washington Ave SE,
Minneapolis,
MN 55414,
United States of America



Sponsorship opportunities

This forum will bring together leading brands, policymakers, innovators, investors, and NGOs for two days of action-oriented discussion and collaboration. Participants will explore the practical steps key actors can take to build more sustainable, resilient, and regenerative food systems.

Our network



**Newsletter/
database**

30,000+

sustainability
professionals



**Twitter
accounts**

10,000+

followers



Webinars

700-1200+

regular sign-ups



**Website
audience**

110,000+

annual users



**LinkedIn
channels**

20,000+

sustainability
professionals



**Podcast
channel**

8,000+

monthly
downloads



Promote a discussion that aligns with your values, sustainability credentials and leadership position



Engage a highly relevant audience of stakeholders around your sustainability programmes and initiatives



Boost awareness of your programmes through extensive exposure in the months around the conference



Support and drive progress in utilising innovation to accelerate food system transformation

EXHIBITION AND SOLUTION ZONE

The forum will showcase the leading innovations and solutions that assist business in creating sustainable agricultural supply chains. These solutions will be positioned in the very heart of the networking area. Exhibitors will make the most of prominent exposure over 6+ hours of dedicated networking time, creating long lasting connections with 350+ decision makers all pre-qualified with specific sustainability challenges in your field.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Around the forum, we'll be continuing the conversation through sponsored workshops, roundtables and webinars. Created bespoke, these discussions are designed to strengthen dialogue and build relationships with key stakeholders. These engagement opportunities allow business to utilise IF's reputation and network to ensure key insights into policies, programs and initiatives.

[Click here for more information >>>](#)

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