



# Venture Capital Trends in Sustainability and Climate Change



# SPARKLABS GROUP

WWW.SPARKLABSGROUP.COM

SparkLabs Group is a network of startup accelerators and venture capital funds, which was founded in 2013.

We have invested in over 300 startups across 6 continents. We have presence in Silicon Valley, Seoul, Singapore, Taipei, Hong Kong, London, Los Angeles, and other locations.

Our team previously has led investments in **Siri (sold to Apple)**, **DeepMind (sold to Google for over \$500M)**, **Ping An Good Doctor (\$7.45 billion IPO)**, **Spotify (investor & board member)**, **Studio Ex (co-founded, sold to Disney)**, **Hostway (acquired by a PE fund)**, **Kiva.org (co-founded)** and others.



# SPARKLABS GROUP

SparkLabs Group was the only venture capital firm (or any investment company) in the world to be recognized in Newsweek's 2019 Top 100 Smart City Partners Awards



TOP 100 SMART CITY PARTNERS -  
THE NEWSWEEK MOMENTUM  
AWARDS

Strong deal flow and performance. For example, Korea Accelerator Fund II beat 100% of funds in Angel List's performance calculator, which includes hundreds of VC funds on their platform plus data from Pitchbook and Cambridge Associates.

Facebook chose SparkLabs Korea to run their Innovation Lab Korea in 2018 and 2019.



Net TVPI	Net IRR	
2.9 x	71 %	Calculate

# 100<sup>th</sup>

## PERCENTILE

Your fund has performed better than approximately 100% of all funds in our data set

[Share on Twitter](#)

# Investment Thesis for Sustainability

## Clean Energy & Energy Transition

- Exploring new areas of energy and energy development, biofuels, battery storage and other areas.

## Mobility and Future Transportation

- New electric vehicles, autonomous vehicles, creating efficiencies aviation, and other solutions.



# Investment Thesis for Sustainability

## Smart Agriculture & Land use

- **Creating efficiencies in agriculture and food development, better land use, forest preservation, and other areas to make our world sustainable.**

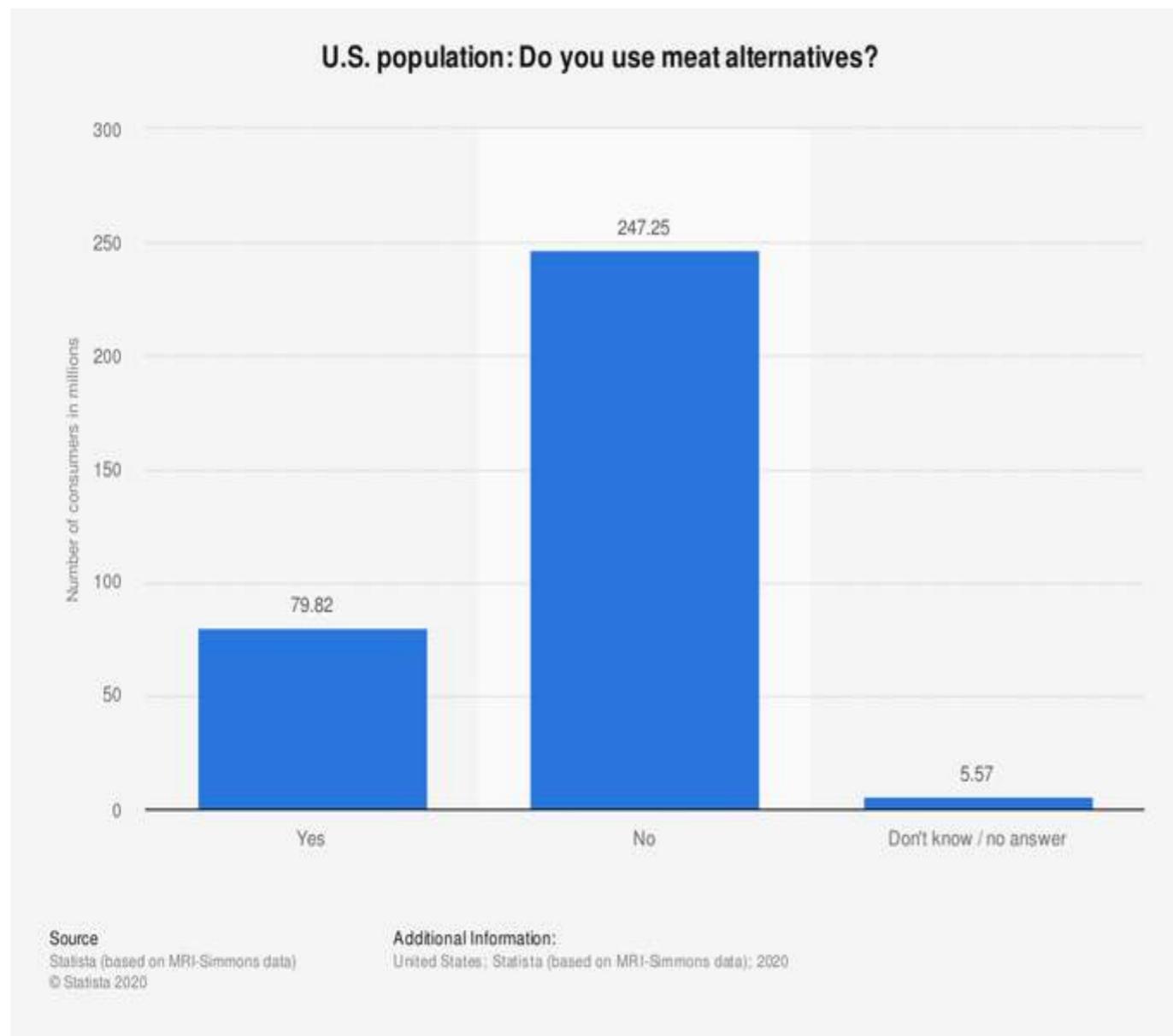
## Reducing Carbon Footprint

- **New sustainable foods to smart manufacturing to smart building materials to new carbon neutral platforms.**



# Growth of Meat Substitutes

## Growing Beyond Beef



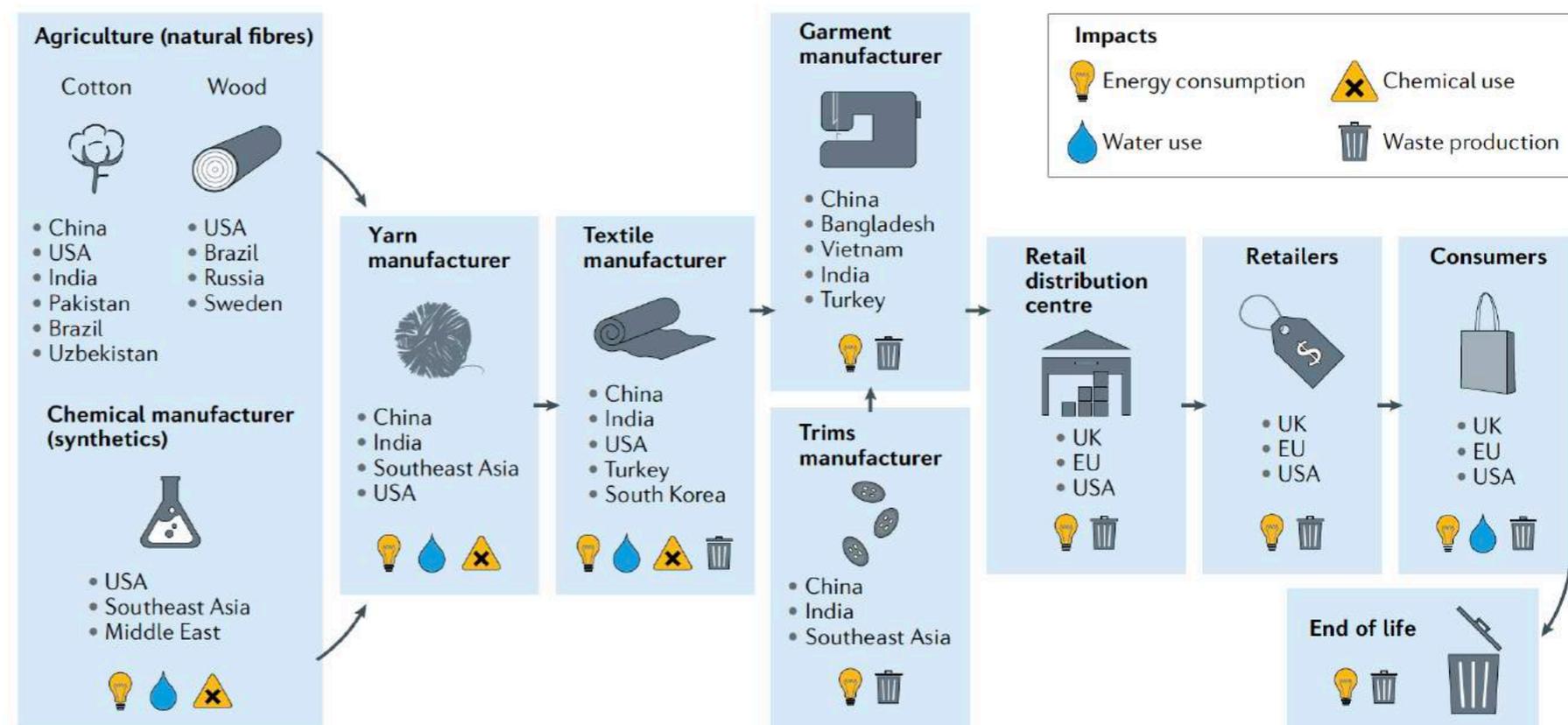
- **Approaching mainstream tipping point. In 2020, 24% of the U.S. population or 79.8 million people use meat alternatives.**
- **Innovation continues across all meat categories**

# Circular Economy & Slow Fashion

## Fast Fashion's Impact

- Each year 92 million tons of waste produced in fast fashion
- And 79 trillion liters of water consumed by the industry

- Textile industry might be the cause of up to 10% of global greenhouse gas emissions



# Existing Portfolio: *Lablaco*

Paris, Milan, Taipei

Lablaco is circular fashion platform to promote sustainability. They provide brands and retailers an ecosystem and platform that is transparent and traceable. As a consumer, you can help the planet by giving away your preloved clothes and receiving your impact calculation, being rewarded with discounts to shop designer fashion worldwide through shoppable content.

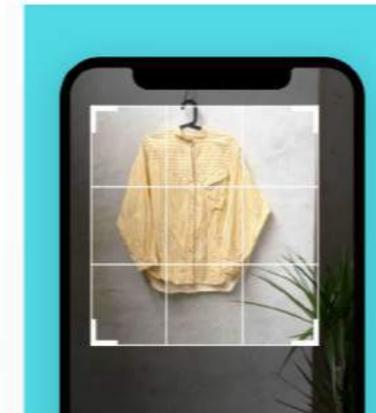


## How do I make a giveaway?



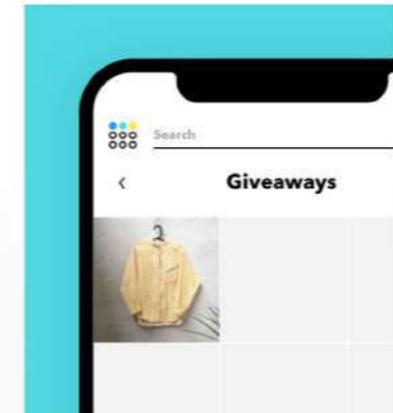
1

Choose the item you would like to give away and take or upload the picture of the garment.



2

Tell us more about your garment: brand, size, material and your address so we can manage the pick up.



3

Now your giveaway is online! When someone chooses to get your garment DHL Green will come to your house and do the packaging for you.

# Shifts in Mobility

## Conflicting Trends

- **Increased shift towards suburbs, and shift towards hyperlocal mobility**
- **Permanency of work from home policies is a question**
- **Shift towards electric (EV)**



# Clean Energy Transition

## Next Steps After Fossil Fuels

- **Renewable energy powers 28% of the world today**
- **Transition to renewables, nuclear and hydrogen?**



- **Increased research and innovation is needed to provide certainty in our energy transition**

A close-up photograph of two hands cupping a small green seedling with dark soil. The hands are positioned in the center of the frame, with the fingers gently holding the base of the plant. The background is softly blurred, showing more hands in the distance, suggesting a group or community setting.

**SELECT INVESTMENTS**  
**ACROSS**  
**SPARKLABS GROUP**

# Existing Portfolio: *Hydroleap*

## Singapore

Hydroleap was invested by SparkLabs Global Ventures, our global seed fund, and then went through SparkLabs Cultiv8 (AgTech, FoodTech & Sustainability accelerator).



We make industrial wastewater treatment cheap, fast, and easy



### Water/Wastewater Treatment

Electrical Treatment (Electrocoagulation)  
Wastewater Pre-treatment



### Sludge/Slurry Management

Solid/Water Separation  
Dewatering



## Existing Portfolio: *TreePlanet*

Through Tree Planet mobile game, **over 860,000 trees have planted in the real world**. Through sponsorship and advertising in the mobile tree planting game, revenue is generated pay for tree planting across the globe.

**Startup plants forests with crowdfunding, mobile game**



**TreePlanet was invested by SparkLabs Korea, our accelerator in Seoul. It was the first nonprofit admitted to our accelerator**



Tree Planet's volunteers are known as "Tree People."

# Existing Portfolio: *Mighty Buildings*

## Oakland, CA

Mighty Buildings is construction technology company based in Oakland, CA that is innovating the construction industry by creating homes that are beautiful, affordable, and sustainable using 3D printing, robotics, and automation.

**Forbes**

Oct 4, 2020, 11:53am EDT | 5,464 views

### Mighty Buildings' 3D-Printed Homes Points To The Future Of Sustainable Housing

 **Curtis Silver** Senior Contributor   
 Consumer Tech  
*Writing on Consumer Tech & Social Media with a satirical, cynical edge*



Mighty Buildings 3D-Printed Home MIGHTY BUILDINGS

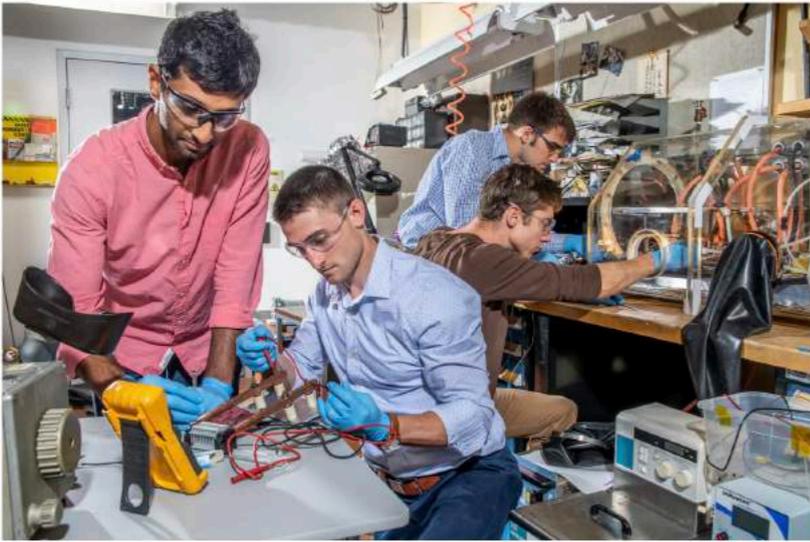
There is a problem with housing in this country. From decades of bad public housing policy to retrofitting the suburbs for sustainability to near consistent affordable housing shortages, we have to start looking at more innovative housing solutions. Not looking to solve all that, but certainly falling somewhere within the mix is **Mighty Buildings**, an Oakland based company 3D-printing generally affordable homes. All

INSIDER

Premium HOME > SCIENCE

### VCs share the 46 climate-tech startups that are set to soar in 2021

Benji Jones Dec 30, 2020, 6:20 AM



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Goldman Sachs' CEO David Solomon wants people back in the office

Climate-tech startup Antora Energy is developing batteries that store energy in the form of heat. The startup's team from left to right: Tarun Narayan, David Bierman, Justin Briggs (seated), Andrew Ponoc. Antora Energy

- VCs are pouring money into climate-tech startups developing everything from batteries to machines that capture carbon emissions.

# Existing Portfolio: *Aquabyte*

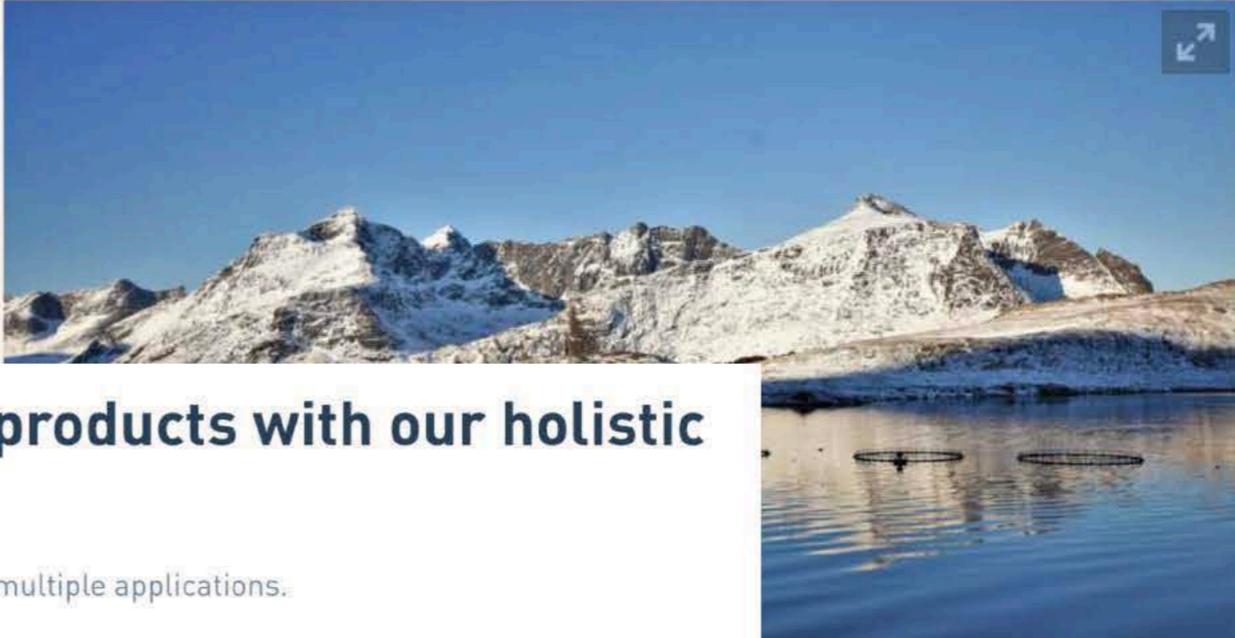
San Francisco

Aquabyte seeks to solve the food problems of the world by **optimizing aquaculture through machine learning.**

The company was invested by SparkLabs Cultiv8 (AgTech, FoodTech & Sustainability accelerator).

## Machine learning firm Aquabyte eyes growth after \$10m fundraising

By Undercurrent News June 12, 2019 09:35 BST



### Aquabyte surpasses modern farm monitoring products with our holistic software platform.

Our solution offers easy installation, continuous monitoring and multiple applications.



#### Lice Counting

Industry leading sea lice recognition and counting enables preemptive decision making.



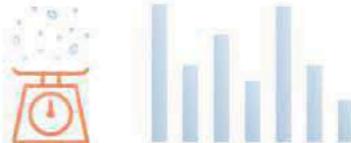
#### Biomass Estimation

Biomass estimation and distribution at any point in time allows accurate projections.



#### Appetite Detection

Accurate appetite detection improves rates of feed conversion while reducing waste.



#### Feed Optimization

Recommended feed amounts are calculated based on fish size and activity.



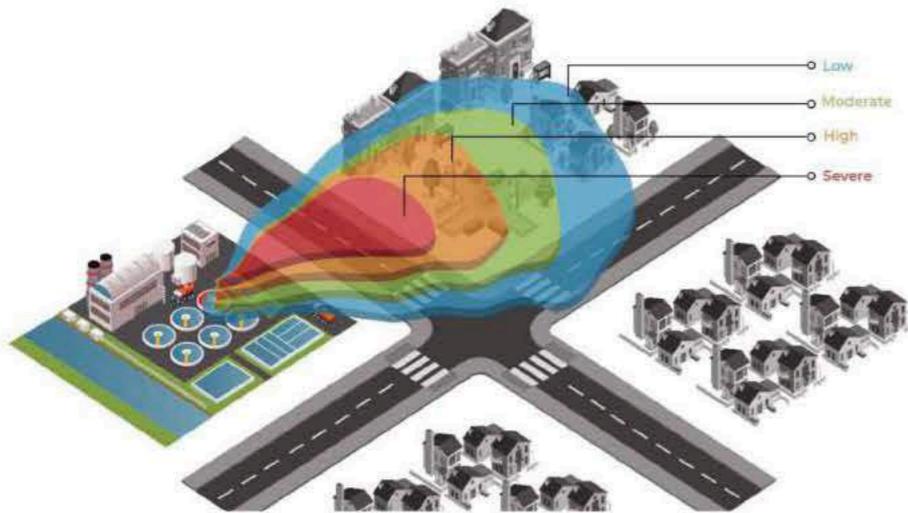
# Existing Portfolio: *Oizom*

# Ahmedabad, India

Oizom provides a comprehensive and scalable solution for **real-time environmental data monitoring and analytics for air pollution.**

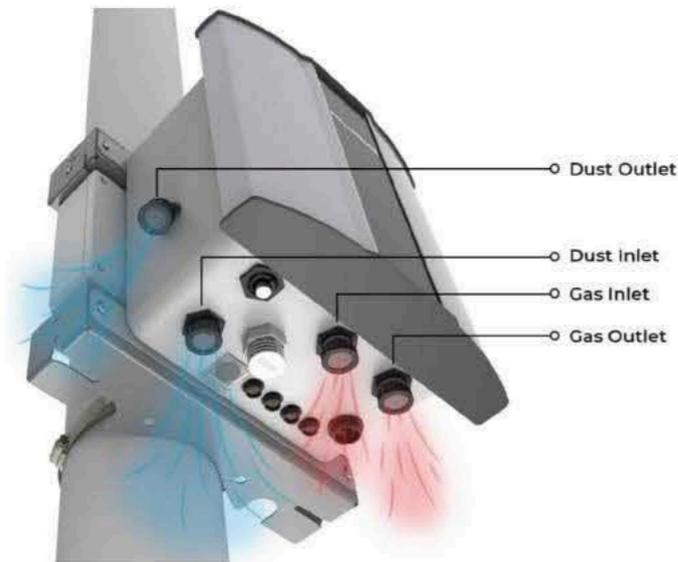


- Products ▾
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## Impact Assessment on-the-go

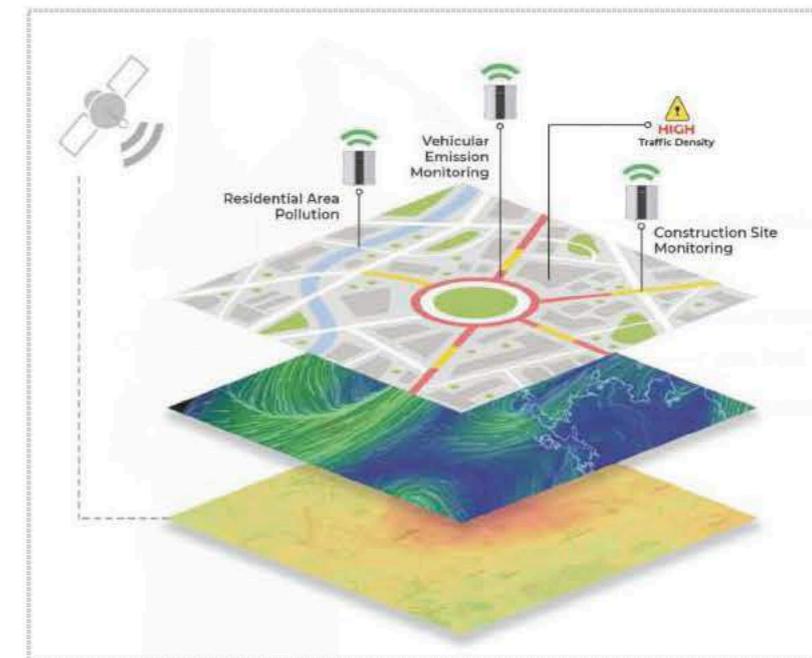
Live dispersion modelling enables real-time environmental data monitoring. Observe the pollution plumes to identify the source and implement preventive actions immediately to reduce further risk.



## 100% Active Air Sample Monitoring

Through our intelligently designed sampling system, air monitoring is completely isolated from the external influence. Data stability and accuracy allow performing on-the-spot sensor calibration.

[Request a quote](#)



## Existing Portfolio: *Arable*

Princeton, NJ

Arable is a smart agricultural business intelligence solution founded on in-field measurements. Arable enables data-driven decisions in agriculture and natural resource management with measurements that matter.



### Capture. Predict. Act.

A **global solution** to managing **weather risk and crop health**, delivering **real-time, actionable** insights from your field.

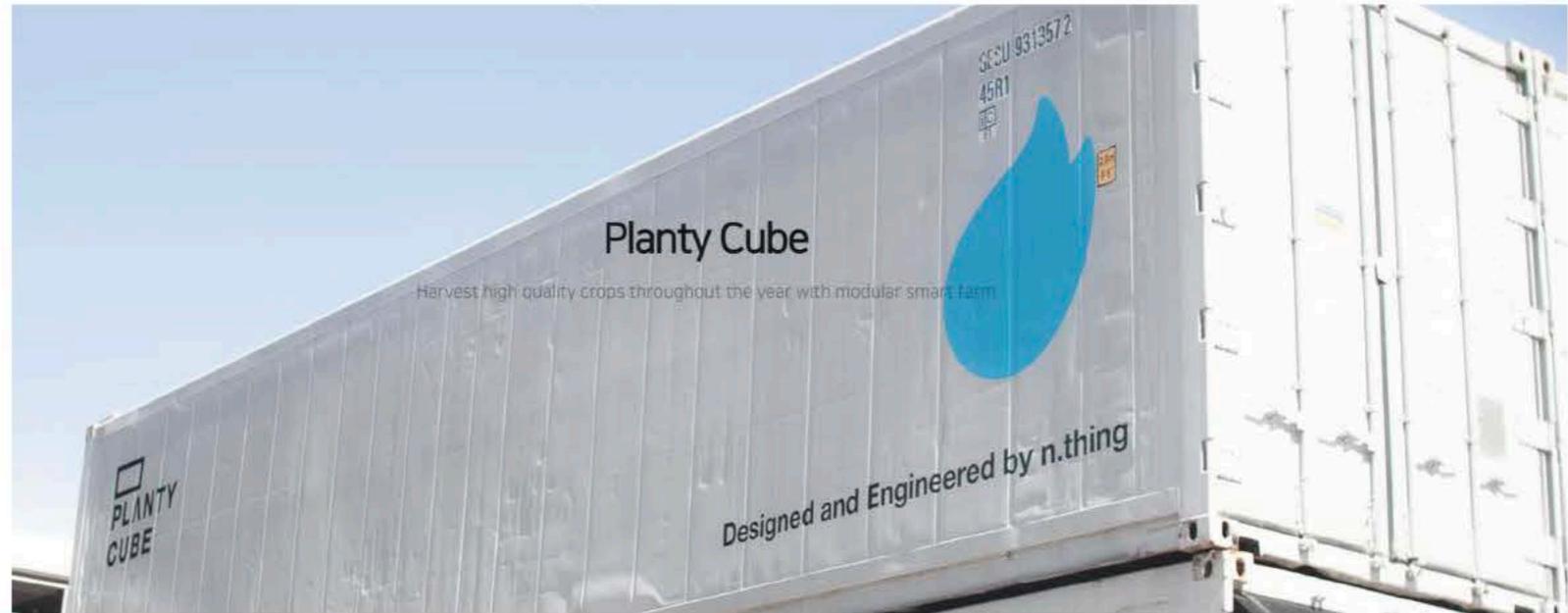
[Show Me More](#)

2018  **NEW PRODUCT CONTEST Winner**  
Irrigation Association

# Existing Portfolio: *Nthing*

Seoul

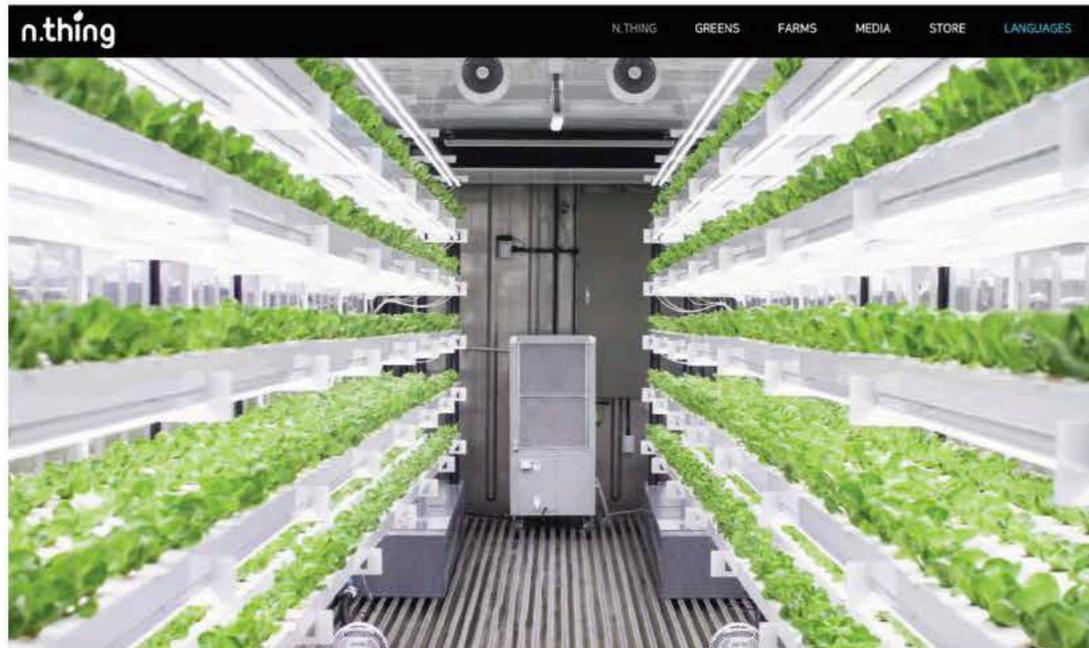
Nthing is working to bring farming to the world. Whether in your home or bringing **smart farming solutions to the United Arab Emirates (UAE)**, Nthing's technology and data driven approach is changing the future of farming.



Nthing was part of SparkLabs Korea's accelerator program.

## Korean ag-tech company exports smart farming solution to UAE

Created: Wednesday, 31 July 2019 06:21



The n.thing will grow and sell Romaine lettuce in Abu Dhabi with Planty Cube. (Image source: Elsemargriet/Pixabay)

**South Korea's agricultural technology startup n.thing has started exporting indoor farming solution Planty Cube to the UAE**

As reported in *The Investor*, the autopilot farm system is expected to allow farmers to grow greens in fully insulated indoor operations in areas with high aridity.

According to the source, n.thing will grow and sell Romaine lettuce in Abu Dhabi with Planty Cube.

Seeing the local market response, the types of greens will be diversified and production volume will rise, stated the company.

A number of smart farming companies in the Middle East is adopting smart methods to grow vegetables as the same in traditional method is very difficult due to hot arid climate, shortage of farmland and shortage of water.

# Existing Portfolio: *Calyx*

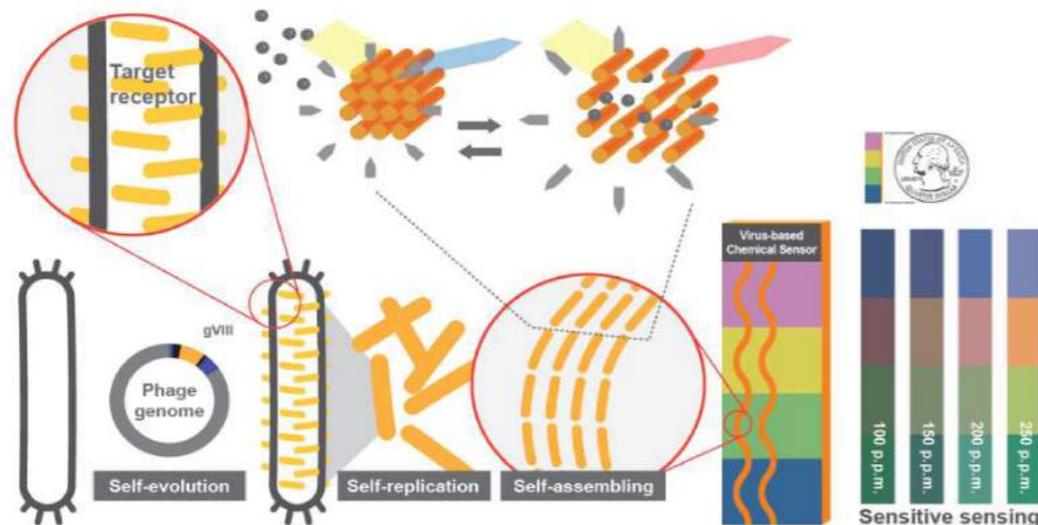
# San Francisco

Sensor networks are the future.

We are making existing gas pipelines smarter for safer cities.



Virus-based Colorimetric Chemical Sensor



Calyx was founded in late 2014, a materials science company that harnesses biology to provide low cost and highly accurate sensors for real-time detection and analysis of air chemicals in industries from safety, healthcare, transportation to food markets.



An Innovative Way for Chemical Sensing



Sensor portfolio  
13 different gases



Sensor Data Published in nature communications  
*nature COMMUNICATIONS*



Technology Validated by 2 well-known industry research institutes  
**parc** **SwRI**

