

Press release



Casablanca, January 10th, 2024

The Azura Group signs two new contracts with SUEZ to recycle its organic waste in the south of Morocco

The Azura Group, one of the world's leading companies in fruits, vegetables and aquaculture industry, and SUEZ, a leader in circular waste solutions, announce the signature of contracts to operate two composting platforms dedicated to organic waste emanating from the Azura Group's operations located in the Agadir and Dakhla regions.

The two contracts, with a duration of six years each, for the implementation of two platforms to transform organic waste into compost. With an overall capacity of 116,000 tons of organic waste per year, these platforms will produce 42,000 tons of compost and 43,000 tons of semi-finished Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) annually.

This solution aims to address circular economy and resource preservation challenges to which the Azura Group and SUEZ have shown strong commitment. In the context of water stress, compost as an organic amendment, represents a valuable alternative to increase water retention and improve soil quality. It also responds to climate challenges by reintegrating carbon into the soil. Furthermore, the compost produced will be sold by a local partner to agricultural producers in the region, creating value to the local economy.

This collaboration is the culmination of a strong partnership between the Azura Group and SUEZ, which began in 2020 with the contract for the management and re-circularization of waste from the Azura Group's activities.

"Sustainability and Responsibility are at the heart of all the Azura Group's activities. This new partnership with SUEZ demonstrates, once again, our strong commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and which was notably formalized by signing an agreement with the "science-based initiative" (SBTI). Indeed, thanks to the implementation of composting units for our organic waste, we will reduce our carbon footprint by around 16,000 tons CO₂eq each year." declared Mr. Hicham Harakat, Chief Executive Officer of the Azura Group.

"This contract marks a new stage in the relationship with Azura. It is a testament to the ability of SUEZ's teams in Morocco to continuously offer its customers resilient and innovative, differentiating, and high value-added solutions to mitigate the environmental impact of their activities. The know-how of our local teams, at the service of Azura and other Moroccan companies, also contributes to local economic growth.", underlines Benjamin Vauthier, General Managing Director of SUEZ in Morocco.

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About The Azura Group

Azura is a private French Moroccan family group created in 1988 specializing in the fruit & vegetable and aquaculture sectors and one of the world leaders in tomato production recording a turnover of 500 million Euros in 2023. Thanks to its 18,000 employees and a unique know-how, the Azura Group offers high quality products to its consumers: tomatoes, aromatic herbs, edible flowers and clams. Fully committed to the continuous improvement of its environmental profile, the Azura Group has implemented a CSR strategy covering the entire production chain, from field to plate: agronomic research to limit the use of phytosanitary products as much as possible, creation of varieties without pesticide residues, production in unheated greenhouses, water resources use optimization, plastic packaging reduction and waste recovery. The Azura Group is also invested in supporting communities in southern Morocco, through the Azura Foundation. Founded in 2014, the Foundation supports educational projects (creation of schools, nurseries, educational centers for children with disabilities) as well as projects linked to the rational management of natural resources in Morocco.

Growing what is good for the planet, for consumers, for society and for employees is the purpose that has built the group for more than 30 years and which shapes its ambition for future generations. All of the actions undertaken by the Azura Group in favor of sustainable development can be found in the latest CSR report, available here: <https://www.azura-group.com/nos-engagements-rse>

About SUEZ

Faced with growing environmental challenges, SUEZ has been delivering essential services that protect and improve our quality of life for more than 160 years. SUEZ provides its customers with innovative and resilient solutions for water and waste services. With 40 000 employees across 40 countries, the Group works with customers to create value over the full lifecycle of their assets and services, and to drive their low carbon transition. In 2022, SUEZ provided drinking water for 68 million people worldwide and sanitation services for more than 37 million people. The Group generated 8.2 TWh of energy from waste and wastewater. In 2022, SUEZ has generated revenues of 8.8 billion euros. For more information: www.suez.com*

**restated on a 12-month basis.*

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