

Press release

Triodos Organic Growth Fund takes stake in DO-IT: a Dutch key player in the international organic market

Zeist, 22 September 2016 – Triodos Organic Growth Fund has taken a minority stake in DO-IT, a leading company that buys organic products from farmers – predominantly in developing countries – and sells them throughout Europe. The long-term investment from Triodos Organic Growth Fund supports DO-IT in its ambition to considerably increase the offering in organic products and improve the position of local farmers.

DO-IT was founded in 1991 by Poppe Braam, driven by a strong commitment to stimulate organic farming and build up sustainable trade relations with farmers in developing countries and buyers in Europe. The company built up relationships with 170 suppliers in more than 20 countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America, from which DO-IT buys over 850 products; from nuts, quinoa, dried fruit and sugar to rice and olive oil. The company works very closely with local farmers and cooperatives and shares knowledge about organic farming practices. DO-IT has also launched two consumer brands – La BIO IDEA and Amaizin – which are available in European health-food stores.

Riëlla Hollander, Fund Manager Triodos Organic Growth Fund: ‘DO-IT is a great addition to our portfolio. It is the first Dutch company in the portfolio of Triodos Organic Growth Fund and is also a world-class player because of its close cooperation with local producers from all over the world. Triodos Organic Growth Fund invests in sustainable companies across the entire value chain and with our investment in DO-IT we have added a company that is active at the very beginning of this chain. DO-IT wants to further grow the offering in organic products and we look forward to sharing our knowledge and expertise to realise this ambition.’

Poppe Braam, majority shareholder and CEO of DO-IT: ‘An increasing number of consumers make a conscious choice for organic products. To meet this increasing demand it is essential to increase organic cultivation, also in developing countries. Thanks to the long-term relationships we have built with farmers and producers in the past years we are in the position to contribute to this increase, and put the interests of the farmers first. In Triodos Organic Growth Fund we have found an investor who shares this vision and commits itself for the long-term to help us realise our growth and other ambitions.’

About Triodos Organic Growth Fund en Triodos Investment Management

Triodos Organic Growth Fund was launched in January 2014 as a long-term ‘evergreen’ fund that invests in equity in leading, non-listed companies in the organic food and sustainable consumer products in Europe, with a focus on organic food, sustainable

clothing and textiles, and personal care. The fund started with EUR 25.3 million, capital provided by private and institutional investors. The fund's ambition is to reach a size of EUR 150 million in the long term. In addition to DO-IT, Triodos Organic Growth Fund has equity stakes in Aarstiderne and Naturfrisk in Denmark, Triaz Group in Germany and Naty in Sweden.

Triodos Organic Growth Fund is managed by Triodos Investment Management, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Triodos Bank NV, one of the world's most sustainable banks. Triodos Investment Management is a specialist in developing and managing sustainable investment funds.

About DO-IT

DO-IT is a globally active company with import and export of 100% organic food ingredients and consumer goods. By doing so, the company wants to contribute to a sustainable world and safeguard the planet for future generations. In over 25 years, DO-IT has built relationships with both producers and buyers through a transparent and traceable chain. The company has a holistic approach, resulting in organic products and a healthy biodiversity as well as sound social and economic conditions for farmers.

For more information:

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