

Press release

27.11.2024

Kapsera raises €4.2M to accelerate industrialization for sustainable agriculture and healthier food

This funding round was led by Banque des Territoires on behalf of the French government as part of France 2030, alongside The Yield Lab Europe and Kapsera's historical shareholders, including Demeter Investment Managers *via* its Agrinnovation fund.

Bordeaux, November 26, 2024 – Kapsera, a pioneer in sustainable microencapsulation for agriculture and food sectors, has announced a €4.2 million funding round to advance its industrialization and commercialization phase. This significant step is made possible through the entry of two new investors: Banque des Territoires, committed to financing and supporting projects of public interest developed by regional actors, and The Yield Lab Europe, an investment fund specialized in ecological transition and sustainable innovation. Kapsera also benefits from renewed support from its longstanding shareholders, including Demeter Investment Managers *via* its Agrinnovation fund, which has supported Kapsera since 2019.

This funding will enable Kapsera to establish its first industrial units at its Bordeaux site in the **Nouvelle-Aquitaine region**, which also supports the company through its **VitiREV program**, a France 2030 – Territories of Innovation winner. The company aims to achieve an annual production capacity exceeding 200 tons by 2027 and plans to create 20 jobs in the next two years. The first unit is expected to be operational by the second quarter of 2025.

Alongside industrialization, Kapsera will intensify its R&D efforts to expand its range of natural microcapsules. These innovations address the growing demand for biosolutions in agriculture and human or animal nutrition. The company will also continue optimizing its proprietary process to maintain its technological edge and provide increasingly efficient and sustainable solutions to its clients.

Kapsera reaffirms its ambition to become a global leader in natural microencapsulation solutions for life sciences, positioned at the intersection of technological innovation and sustainability.

"This funding marks a pivotal step in Kapsera's development. It allows us to initiate our industrialization phase to support our clients in their commercial ambitions and their desire to offer high-performance, sustainable, and healthy solutions in their markets" said **Antoine Drevelle**, CEO and co-founder of Kapsera.

He added: *"We are delighted to welcome two visionary investors who share our ambition to accelerate the transition toward sustainable agriculture and healthy food. They join our historical shareholders, the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region, and Bpifrance. Together, we will tackle major challenges related to the food systems of tomorrow."*

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François Wohrer, Head of Investment at Banque des Territoires, commented: "*We are pleased to invest in Kapsera. This investment, made through the France 2030 Territoires d'Innovation program managed by Banque des Territoires, will facilitate the construction of the first factory and help address the challenge of developing sustainable agriculture that is less reliant on chemical inputs while remaining productive.*"

Cyrille Cabaret, Partner at Demeter Investment Managers, remarked: "*Since our initial investment in 2019, we have been proud to support Kapsera's R&D milestones, which have led to the development of a unique encapsulation technology. With this new funding round, we reaffirm our support for the industrialization phase, enabling the company to serve high-growth markets such as agriculture, human nutrition, and animal nutrition.*"

Gentiane Gorlier, General Partner at The Yield Lab Europe, added: "*We are always on the lookout for innovative technologies that address real-world challenges. We were immediately impressed by the Kapsera team and their natural microencapsulation technology, which solves multiple bottlenecks in feed, food, and applications like biopesticides, biostimulants, and pheromones. We are proud to support Kapsera in this new phase of commercial and industrial development.*"

Key Participants in the Operation:

La Banque des Territoires for France 2030 : Matthieu Solonel, Fred Karel Tchuitcheu-Nitcheu

Demeter Investment Managers : Cyrille Cabaret

The Yield Lab : Gentiane Gorlier, Emilie Abrams

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About Kapsera

Founded in 2018 at ESPCI-Paris PSL by Antoine Drevelle and Jérôme Bibette, Kapsera is a pioneering AgrifoodTech company specializing in efficient and natural microencapsulation solutions using a unique microfluidic technology.

In a global context marked by regulatory initiatives such as the European Union's 2023 ban on microplastics and the reduction of synthetic products in agriculture and food sectors, Kapsera is positioned to play a key role in the agroecological transition. The company partners with agricultural and food industry players to develop effective and cost-efficient biosolutions.

Kapsera's biosolutions combine natural active ingredients (probiotics, vitamins, pheromones, etc.) encapsulated in its alginate-based microcapsules, a well-known natural food gelling agent. These solutions enable clients to address major environmental challenges, meet growing consumer demands for food quality, and comply with increasingly stringent regulations. The impact of Kapsera's technology is broad, spanning sprayable biocontrol products and controlled-release probiotics for human and animal nutrition, in collaboration with industry leaders.

Since its inception, Kapsera has signed several strategic product development agreements with companies in its three target markets and received support from Wilco, Bpifrance, ADEME, and the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region. A FrenchTech Agri20 winner, Kapsera has been based in Bordeaux since 2022 to scale its operations.

Kapsera's mission is to support the agri-food industries in transitioning toward healthy and sustainable food systems through natural microencapsulation solutions, combining sustainability and performance to tackle tomorrow's environmental and economic challenges.

 www.kapsera.com

About France 2030

France 2030 Investment Plan

- **Traduit une double ambition** : transformer durablement des secteurs clefs de notre économie (énergie, automobile, aéronautique ou encore espace) par l'innovation technologique, et positionner la France non pas seulement en acteur, mais bien en leader du monde de demain. De la recherche fondamentale, à l'émergence d'une idée jusqu'à la production d'un produit ou service nouveau, France 2030 soutient tout le cycle de vie de l'innovation jusqu'à son industrialisation.
- **Reflects a dual ambition**: to sustainably transform key sectors of the French economy (energy, automotive, aerospace, and space exploration) through technological innovation, and to position France not just as a participant, but as a leader in the world of tomorrow. From fundamental research to the emergence of ideas and the production of new products or services, France 2030 supports the entire lifecycle of innovation up to industrialization.
- **Unprecedented in scale**: €54 billion will be invested to help French companies, universities, and research organizations successfully navigate transitions in these strategic sectors. The goal is to enable them to respond competitively to ecological and global attractiveness challenges, and to create future champions in fields of excellence. France 2030 is guided by two cross-cutting objectives: dedicating 50% of its expenditures to decarbonizing the economy and 50% to emerging actors driving innovation, without investments harmful to the environment (adhering to the "Do No Significant Harm" principle).
- **Implemented collaboratively**: Designed and deployed in consultation with economic, academic, local, and European stakeholders to define strategic priorities and flagship actions. Project leaders are invited to submit proposals through open, rigorous, and selective processes to benefit from state support.
- **Managed by: The General Secretariat for Investment** on behalf of the Prime Minister and executed by the Agency for Ecological Transition (ADEME), the National Research Agency (ANR), the Public Investment Bank (Bpifrance), and the Banque des Territoires.

More information at: france2030.gouv.fr



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About Banque des Territoires

Banque des Territoires is a division of the Caisse des Dépôts group. It consolidates internal expertise to serve regional territories. As a single point of contact for its clients, it works alongside all regional stakeholders: local authorities, local public companies, social housing organizations, legal professionals, businesses, and financial actors. It supports them in realizing projects of public interest by offering a continuum of solutions: advisory services, loans, equity investments, consignments, and banking services. Addressing all territories, from rural areas to metropolitan regions, Banque des Territoires aims to maximize its impact, particularly in the areas of ecological transformation and social and territorial cohesion. Its 37 local offices ensure the deployment of its initiatives across metropolitan and overseas territories.

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banquedesterritoires.fr



About The Yield Lab Europe

Yield Lab Europe invests in young European AgriFoodTech businesses, with the aim of enhancing the sustainability and efficiency of worldwide production systems for food and agriculture, as well as improving their profitability. This encompasses technologies in the fields of crop production, animal welfare, precision agriculture, horticulture, food ingredients, supply chains and logistics, and food packaging and processing. So far, the fund has realised 30 investments.

 www.theyieldlab.com

About Demeter Investment Managers

Demeter is a key player in venture capital and private equity for ecological transition. It invests between €1 million and €30 million to support companies in the sector at every stage of their development: from innovative startups to high-growth SMEs and mid-sized companies, as well as infrastructure projects. Demeter's team of 38 professionals, based in Paris, Bordeaux, Lyon, Madrid, and Düsseldorf, manages €1.3 billion and has made over 230 investments since its founding in 2005. Through its Agrinnovation fund, Demeter finances young innovative companies contributing to the transition toward sustainable food systems and agriculture.

 www.demeter-im.com



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