

BluePeak's USD 25m investment in Robust International supports its forward integration, enhancing processing capacity and driving contribution to food security

- BluePeak supports Robust's forward integration to expand the processing of cashew nuts and sesame seeds in Africa.
- The investment will contribute to improving the livelihoods of small farmers by engaging directly with growers and smallholder farmers to build capacity for sustainable agricultural practices and enhance food security.

Luxembourg, 16 September 2024 BluePeak Private Capital (BluePeak) – an alternative asset management firm supporting the growth of scalable businesses in Africa, has announced a USD 25 million investment in Robust, a pan-African processor and exporter of agro-commodities with a focus on cashew nuts and sesame seeds. The investment will contribute to expanding Robust's processing capacity in main operating markets, including Nigeria, Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, and Mozambique.

Whilst accounting for most of the global supply of raw cashew nuts and sesame seeds, Africa has historically exported most of its production in its raw form to processors in Asia. Robust aims to capitalize on Africa's critical role in the global supply of cashew and sesame by increasing its processing capacity on the continent, supporting local farmers and creating additional value locally.

BluePeak's investment in Robust closely aligns with the Fund's mission of driving positive economic, social, and environmental impact. In addition to the Fund's core SDGs focus, the investment will contribute to sustainable agricultural practices to enhance food security. The company provides training on modern farming techniques, crop management, and sustainable practices that increase productivity and yield. By empowering farmers with knowledge and skills, Robust supports sustainable agriculture, contributing to local and global food security.

BluePeak's USD 25 million investment promotes the UN's Sustainable Development Goal 2 (Zero Hunger), Goal 4 (Quality Education), Goal 5 (Gender Equality), Goal 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), Goal 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), Goal 13 (Climate Action), and Goal 15 (Life and Land).

Commenting on the investment, **Rami Matar, Senior Partner at BluePeak** said, "We are pleased to partner with Robust, one of the leading agro-processors in Africa, to encourage sustainable production practices and contribute to enhancing local and global food security and supply chains."

Commenting on the investment, **Vishanth Narayan, Executive Director at Robust** said, "We are very pleased to work with BluePeak on this investment, which will provide employment opportunities to the local community while significantly contributing to the economic growth in these countries through enhanced value addition initiatives in the supply chain."

BluePeak and Robust International were advised by Covington & Burling LLP (legal advisor) and Blend Financial Services (financial advisor), respectively.

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Note To Editors:

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About BluePeak Private Capital

With a presence in Tunis, Nairobi, and London, BluePeak Private Capital is an alternative asset management firm established in 2019. The firm was founded to fill a financing gap and focus exclusively on the provision of bespoke financing solutions for impactful businesses across Africa. BluePeak Private Capital's mission is to build partnerships that deliver attractive returns by supporting impactful growth in Africa. BluePeak provides flexible capital solutions to entrepreneurs who believe strongly in their business growth potential and are seeking customized financing. BluePeak Private Capital Fund SCSp (the Fund) is an impact-driven private capital fund. The Fund, which reached final closing at USD 158 million in 2023, is backed by leading investors.

Website: www.bluepeakpc.com
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About Robust International

Robust is a pan-African processor and trader of agro-commodities with a focus on cashew nuts and sesame seeds. Robust operates over 30 facilities across 10 African countries, ensuring on the ground presence and diversification across major producing countries in the continent. The company is adding an additional layer of value-added processing, evolving from a semi-processor to a producer of edible commodities.

Website: <https://www.robust-international.com/>