



## PEF President's Message



**Dr. Vijay Yadav Tokala**  
President

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2024 saw some interesting developments in postharvest loss assessments and a focus on sustainable cold chain management. It was a busy year at PEF. The PEF Leadership Award tour was organized for three graduate e-learners - Vincent Gasasira, Fanny Ipinge, and Dr. Olubukola M. Odeyemi, in Kenya from 18-22 November 2024. Dr. Diane and I joined the awardees in visiting different postharvest facilities and institutes in Nairobi and nearby counties. We are happy to compile a comprehensive progress report that includes the 14-year journey of PEF activities, our impact, and the way forward. Please go through it and feel free to share it with your colleagues. As we look to 2025, we hope to expand our educational initiatives, foster collaborations, and expand outreach to reduce postharvest losses worldwide.

## PEF's Commitment to Addressing Food Loss - 14 Years of Progress

Dr. Lisa Kitinoja's vision for PEF began with an ambitious idea to empower young horticultural professionals to tackle food loss. Since 2011, a small group of passionate experts has grown into a global network, reaching thousands of practitioners in over **30 countries** and **5 continents**.

Through e-learning programs, PEF has equipped professionals with the knowledge and skills to identify postharvest challenges and implement effective solutions in their communities. This 14-year journey of capacity building and outreach has been documented in a comprehensive Progress Report, showcasing the impact we made in combating food loss and ensuring a more sustainable future for agriculture.



### PROGRESS REPORT

THE POSTHARVEST EDUCATION  
FOUNDATION (PEF)

2011-2024



January 2025

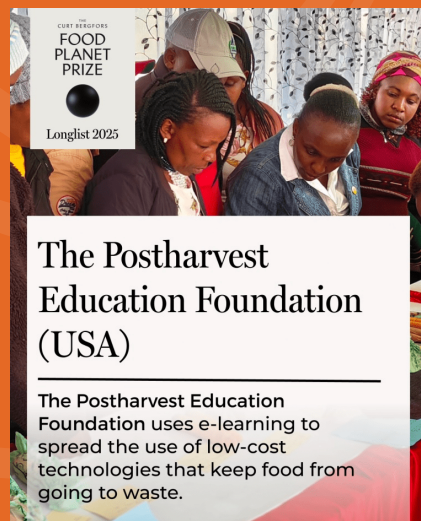


# The Postharvest Education Foundation

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## The Food Planet Prize Longlist 2025

After rounds of screening, research, and evaluation of nearly a thousand nominations – the **Food Planet Prize** team has identified 39 initiatives that stand out from the rest. The Food Planet Prize 2025 longlist is the first major step towards finding a winner, which presents new, inspiring possibilities for our challenged food systems. We are pleased to inform you that The Postharvest Education Foundation has been included as one of the 39 longlisted initiatives. Congratulations to all the listed organizations and hoping for the best.



## UC Davis Fresh-cut Workshop 2019 Videos - Available for Free



**POSTHARVEST**  
RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTER  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

The Postharvest Research and Extension Center at UC Davis announced the release of the **2019 Fresh-Cut Workshop video series** – now accessible to everyone, absolutely free!

The collection of video recordings is a treasure of knowledge, offering in-depth insights into the best practices for maintaining

the highest standards of quality and safety in fresh-cut fruits and vegetables.

Website: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL-GUqgrq8TdLbCTvYMO5PLSyNhgh6WhY1>

## Scientific Animations Without Borders (SAWBO) - Mobile Application

**Scientific Animations Without Borders (SAWBO)** transforms extension information on relevant topics such as agriculture, disease, and women's empowerment, into 2D, 2.5D, and 3D animations, which are then voice overlaid into a diversity of languages from around the world. All SAWBO animations are made freely available to anyone wishing to use them for educational purposes. A new mobile application has been launched to access these videos.



## Welcome on board Gurbinder Singh Gill

Mr. Gill joined the PEF team as a member of the Board of Directors and will, along with other members, oversee the PEF activities. He possesses over 30 years of experience across the agricultural value chain, demonstrating expertise in various areas. These include business development, licensing, managing public-private partnerships (PPPs), corporate affairs (engaging with government and industry associations), and navigating the business cycle (from start-up to turnaround). His extensive experience and wide network will surely be a great addition to the PEF activities.



**Gurbinder Singh Gill**

## Efficiency For Access - 2023-25 Tech Trends in Energy Access

### 2023-25 Tech Trends in Energy Access

Our Tech Trends Insight Series highlights key off-grid appliance market trends and offers recommendations on cooling and agricultural Productive Use of Renewable Energy (PURE) technologies.



The Tech Trends series from Efficiency for Access explores new opportunities and challenges within the off-grid appliance market, drawing upon insights from the 2021 Solar Appliance Technology Briefs. It includes technical, market, and impact research into an easily understandable overview, highlighting technologies essential for improving clean energy access and advancing the Sustainable Development Goals. It offers as a valuable, easily digestible resource for a wide audience, including potential donors, newcomers to the appliance sector, and experienced industry professionals looking for a handy reference to share with their networks.

Website: <https://efficiencyforaccess.org/publications/2023-tech-trends-in-energy-access/>

## Save the Date for 5<sup>th</sup> AAPHCE

Save-the-Date for 5th Edition of the All Africa Postharvest Congress & Exhibition (5th AAPHCE) from **16th to 19th September 2025** at the African Union (AU) Headquarters, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The AAPHCE was conceptualized as a platform for different stakeholders in the agri-food sector.

African Union



5<sup>TH</sup> ALL AFRICA POSTHARVEST CONGRESS AND EXHIBITION (5<sup>TH</sup> AAPHCE)  
Venue: African Union Headquarters, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Save the Date

16<sup>TH</sup> - 19<sup>TH</sup>  
SEPTEMBER  
2025



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## PEF Leadership Award - 2024



**Fanny Ipinge**

Co-founder, Postharvest Tool Kits and Services, The Netherlands/ Botswana



**Dr Olubukola M. Odeyemi**

Assoc. Professor, Federal Univ. of Agriculture, Nigeria



**Vincent Gasasira**

Founder, Postharvest-Plus, Rwanda

Three graduate e-learners (**Vincent Gasasira**, **Fanny Ipinge**, and **Dr. Olubukola M. Odeyemi**) were selected by the Board of Directors in June 2023 to receive the **PEF Postharvest Training Leadership Award**. Each awardee received a postharvest resources/tools/training kit valued at US\$1500 and was invited to participate in a study tour in Kenya from 18-22 November 2024. As part of the PEF Leadership study tour, the team interacted with members of the PEF Board of Directors (Dr. Vijay Yadav and Dr. Diane Barrett), representatives from the African Centre of Technology Studies (ACTS), Techwin Ltd., Cold Solutions, Jungle Harvest, and Soko Fresh to discuss their work and explore possible future collaborations. The team also met some of our PEF E-learning graduates - **Prof. Jane Ambuko** from the University of Nairobi (UoN), **Eng. Samuel and Eng. Florence** from Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) to learn more about their postharvest research activities.





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## Green Jobs for Rural Youth - Decentralized Renewable Energy (DRE)



GREEN JOBS FOR RURAL YOUTH:  
UNLOCKING RENEWABLE ENERGY'S  
POTENTIAL IN AGRICULTURE



DRE technologies create new and increased employment opportunities in rural communities, particularly in agriculture, the largest employer in developing nations, with 50% to 85% of the labor force working in the sector. This publication addresses the data gaps in this sector for four countries (India, Kenya, Nigeria, and Uganda), and quantifies the jobs created by DRE technologies in agriculture. It also provides the first comprehensive estimate of employment levels and trends at the country level.

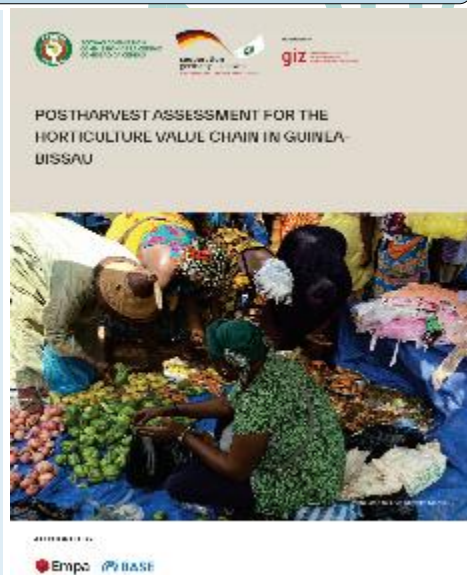
[\[Download report\]](#)

## Postharvest Assessment for Horticulture Value Chain in Guinea-Bissau

The report presents the assessment to identify the suitable postharvest intervention(s) for Guinea-Bissau to reduce losses and enhance the income of smallholder farmers.

The key findings suggested higher viability of smaller cold rooms at market gates and small-scale passive evaporative coolers at the field level. It also highlighted the need for proper harvesting techniques - proper maturity indices, the right tools, gentle handling after harvest, and improved packaging and transport services.

[\[Download report\]](#)



## Guidelines for FLW reduction - Near East and North Africa (NENA)



This document published by FAO provides a roadmap for NENA Member Countries to reduce food loss and waste (FLW), aligning with their national agricultural and food system goals. It offers a framework for developing strategies, policies, and laws to combat FLW. The actions and principles outlined aim to drive the region towards more sustainable and resilient food systems. The guidelines considered the diverse economic, social, and environmental conditions as well as varied nature and types of food loss and waste across different NENA countries.

[\[Download report\]](#)



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Lake Naivasha National Park, Kenya

*May every day of the new year be filled  
with cheerful laughter, fruitful endeavors, and joy in every beautiful  
moment.*

*Wish you a Happy New Year 2025*



The Postharvest Education Foundation

**The Postharvest Education Foundation (PEF)** has a mission to provide innovative programs that motivate and empower people to reduce global food losses and maintain quality, market value, nutritional value and food safety.

#### **Our Strategy:**

- Conducting a variety of postharvest e-learning programs for young professionals who work with small-scale farmers in developing countries.
- Providing free access to postharvest training materials for those who are involved in extension work and training of farmers, produce handlers, small-scale food processors and marketers.
- Supplying postharvest tools and basic equipment for use in applied research and for improving practical field operations.
- Organizing postharvest workshops for e-learners who complete their online programs.
- Long-term mentoring for participants in e-learning programs via social networking websites
- Conducting short courses, study tours and workshops
- Providing advice and guidance for establishing local postharvest training centres

***PEF's 'Global Postharvest E-learning Program' is FREE to all***

***NOW AVAILABLE IN ESPANOL AND FRANCAIS***

***Check the website for further details :***

***<https://postharvest.org/programs-e-learning-capacity-building/>***

#### **Contact Us:**

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