Technology/Project Description Summary

Technology and Innovation Marketplace

Expert (50 words for each bio)	David was named by FAC as Global Agripreneur of the Year 2018 for his work as CEO of AgUnity helping lift low income farmers out of poverty. AgUnity provides a mobile and blockchain solution Axsari that improves trust and cooperation for smallholder farmers and is also used as a platform for range of problems including mobile banking for the financially excluded, and data collection for developed world farmers. David is also co-founder and Chief Strategy Officer of EscaVox, an IOT and distributed, encrypted data platform which is conducting the world's largest fresh food supply tracking project with Woolworths in Australia, tracking 250,000 pallets, over $1Bn of fresh produce. Previously, David has been the Founder and CEO of several successful FinTech, SaaS, and mobile start-ups and spent over a decade in senior roles at global investment banks such as Goldman Sachs, Lehman, Nomura & SCB. David has a deep understanding of cryptography and distributed crypto-ledger (DLT) technology along with the impact of trust, digital identity and financial inclusion and is committed to changing the lives of farmers in developing world communities.
Photo(s) of Expert(s)	Attached with the email.
Contact Details of the Expert(s)	David Davies, Founding CEO of AgUnity david@agunity.com `

Title (15 words)	**Connecting The Last Mile**
Keywords	Banking for the unbanked, Agritech, Blockchain for the Greater good
Short one-sentence blurb (Up to 150 characters, including spaces)	AgUnity is an Australian-based startup founded in 2016 with the ambition to help change the lives of the 1-billion plus smallholder farmers in the world.
Overview (150 words)	The most important challenge in the world today and No 1 of the 17 UN Sustainable development goals for 2030 is "No Poverty", lifting the remaining billion people above the poverty line. Of those in poverty, the vast majority are in farming, fishing or part of their usually remote rural communities. Good organizations worldwide are investing trillions to address SDG1 but they struggle to reach and connect with these people efficiently. You cannot eliminate poverty without solving financial inclusion, and you cannot address financial inclusion, at scale, without technology inclusion and digital identity. AgUnity are helping transform the lives of people in low income rural communities with smartphone and blockchain technology that is relevant to them because it is easy to understand and solves real problems.
Summary—Main argument(s) and supporting argument(s) (800 words)	Building on the success of AgUnity's first two pilot projects in Kenya and Papua New Guinea, AgUnity is continuing its application development, with a focus in 2019 on validating its version 3 Proof-of-concept. Apart of developing the platform, this phase also aims at standardizing its field deployment, monitoring and evaluation measures, iteratively improve its solution to better serve farming community's need and challenges and paving ways for a successful scaling of agricultural network in 2020 and beyond. Central to AgUnity solution is equipping farmers with smartphones and IOT technologies, which essentially transfer agency to each individual farmer and empower their collective voice. The App runs on low cost smartphones and connects to a secure and free blockchain cloud service which can be done offline. Acknowledging that ICT approach is only part of needed effort, for its ground deployment, AgUnity works closely with NGOs, charities and aid organisations worldwide who shares the same focus on establishing trust and supporting farmers owned co-operatives.

	AgUnity presents solution to high potential impact to the currently limited profitability of agriculture and the lack of other livelihood options pertaining to cacao farmers community of Jembrana, Indonesia. The choice of focus crop is an important factor. Despite the small unit prices paid to smallholder cacao farmers, cacao is a crop with a relatively high market value, thus exhibiting a large potential price differential. Adding traceability function and provision of record keeping facility delineates the maximum portion of the crop's unit value that can be recovered through value adding such as improved cooperatives management (quality control, certification audit administration, etc) and access to more premium market. The 700+ Jembrana farmers operates under KSS cooperatives, whose agricultural best practices and quality control function is closely supervised by a capacity building non-profit called Kalimajari. It is within this context that AgUnity's technology can effectively leverage trust and cooperation that is essential to ensuring their success and on-going sustainability. Anecdotal evidence from an initial scoping trip in July 2018 indicates a high level of enthusiasm both from cooperative officers and farmers, both testifying the potentiality of the technology in alleviating the panacea in their administrative process, to further improve their operational performance, and governance.
Key findings at a glance (only when appropriate)	-
Photos (only when appropriate)	
Resources	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oTcsARxvOgg&feature=youtu.be

Link to ADB Agriculture and Natural Resources Subsectors

Which subsector does this article primarily focus on? Please select (✓) more than one but not more than three subsectors.			
	Agricultural drainage		Livestock
	Agricultural policy, institutional and capacity development		Rural flood protection
	Agricultural production		Rural market infrastructure
	Agriculture research and application		Rural sanitation
✓	Agro-industry, marketing and trade		Rural solid waste management
	Fishery		Rural water policy, institutional and capacity development
	Forestry		Rural water supply services
	Irrigation		Water-based natural resources management
	Land-based natural resources management		

Link to ADB Sectors and Themes

Which sector does this article primarily address? Please select (✓) more than one but not more than three sectors.			
✓	Agriculture and natural resources		Health
	Capacity development		Industry and trade
	Climate change	✓	Information and communications technology
	Economics		Poverty
	Education		Private sector development
	Energy		Regional cooperation and integration
	Environment		Social development and protection
✓	Finance sector development		Transport
	Gender		Urban development
	Governance and public sector management		Water

Link to Sustainable Development Goals

Choose which Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) is most relevant to this article. Please select (✓) up to 3 SDGs only.			
✓	Goal 1: No Poverty		Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities
✓	Goal 2: Zero Hunger		Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
	Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being		Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
	Goal 4: Quality Education		Goal 13: Climate Action
	Goal 5: Gender Equality		Goal 14: Life Below Water
	Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation		Goal 15: Life on Land
	Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy		Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
✓	Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth		Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals
	Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure		

Provide a comprehensive summary of the technology/project highlighting the main argument(s) and supporting argument(s). Discuss its practical implications for a program, project, and/or policy. Cite key evidences and analysis of results strengthening the main argument. Also, describe research method employed for key findings.