

Press Release



BASF creates chemistry with stakeholders to tackle the challenges of sustainable food in Chicago

>> Science-based event will address plant science, agriculture, nutrition science, and food waste

FLORHAM PARK, NJ, June 23, 2015 – BASF is hosting a Science Symposium in Chicago to address one of the world's pressing future challenges: sustainable food. Under the banner of "Sustainable Food Chain – From Field to Table," eminent scientists, academics, and thought leaders from a variety of disciplines are meeting to discuss how food production can be more sustainable along the complete supply chain necessary to feed a growing world population. The symposium is part of a co-creation program marking BASF's 150th anniversary.

The symposium features six sessions that highlight the focus areas of organic synthesis, metabolic engineering & plant science, agriculture, and food & nutritional science. Attendees will discuss topics such as how to enhance crop yields, how to advance plant science at the molecular and physiological level to impact crop productivity, and how to improve the delivery of quality food to consumers.

"With a projected 9 billion people to feed by mid-century, the need for building greater efficiency, flexibility, and resiliency into the food supply chain cannot be overstated," said Martin Brudermüller, Vice Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors and Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of BASF SE. "Addressing these challenges will require innovation along the whole food chain. This is why we are bringing experts from various disciplines together in Chicago."

In a keynote address titled "Ending World Hunger – A Solvable Problem," Josette Sheeran, President & CEO, Asia Society, and former executive director of the United Nations World Food Program (WFP), stated: "Over the next 40 years, the world will need to produce more food than in the last 8,000 years combined. But this battle is winnable – avoiding food crises requires a paradigm shift in commitment, strategy, innovative models and alliances."

Alongside the Creator Space Science Symposium in Chicago, BASF is also hosting experts from across the food value chain at "Creator Space – The Future of Food," a global co-creation event connecting all areas of the food industry. The initiative, launched in Washington D.C., earlier this year, brings together more than 40 food industry professionals, scientists and opinion leaders to ideate around the focus topics – water and nutrient management in agriculture, nutrient-rich food and personalized nutrition – and to develop tangible proposals and prototypes for the future. The goal is to establish collaborative partnerships to drive forward projects resulting from the workshop and make a tangible difference to the future of food.

150 years of BASF

BASF is celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2015 and has embarked on a yearlong program to collaborate with multiple stakeholders in an approach known as "co-creation" to focus on three global challenges: smart energy, food and urban living. The cornerstone of BASF's 150th anniversary celebration is the Creator Space™ tour, a series of six, week-long programs occurring in: Mumbai, India; Shanghai, China; New York City; São Paulo, Brazil;

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Barcelona, Spain and BASF's hometown, Ludwigshafen, Germany. The science symposium in Chicago is the second of three science events aimed to drive innovative solutions held in Ludwigshafen (smart energy), Chicago (food), and Shanghai (urban living). Discussions on the three global topics are also taking place on Creator Space online, a global, collaborative internet platform.

About BASF

BASF Corporation, headquartered in Florham Park, New Jersey, is the North American affiliate of BASF SE, Ludwigshafen, Germany. BASF has more than 17,000 employees in North America, and had sales of \$20.6 billion in 2014. For more information about BASF's North American operations, visit www.basf.us.

At BASF, we create chemistry – and have been doing so for 150 years. Our portfolio ranges from chemicals, plastics, performance products and crop protection products to oil and gas. As the world's leading chemical company, we combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. Through science and innovation, we enable our customers in nearly every industry to meet the current and future needs of society. Our products and solutions contribute to conserving resources, ensuring nutrition and improving quality of life. We have summed up this contribution in our corporate purpose: We create chemistry for a sustainable future. BASF had sales of over €74 billion in 2014 and around 113,000 employees as of the end of the year. Further information on BASF is available on the Internet at www.basf.com.