



PRESS RELEASE

For release on 17th of November 2022

SATO and FINISH Mondial join forces to unlock appealing and affordable sanitation options for households across Asia and Africa

Finance options for consumers and businesses combined with innovative products bridge critical affordability gap

The Hague and Leiden – Award-winning social business SATO, part of LIXIL, and FINISH Mondial, a global programme working towards safe sanitation and financial inclusion, launch today a collaboration to accelerate the SDG6 goal of safely managed sanitation for all by 2030. The partnership aims to provide safe, well-maintained, toilets to households and link them to waste management systems and focuses particularly on women and girls, across Africa and Asia.

"The potential is big and if we do it right, we can make it a real driver for change," remarked Valentin Post, CEO of FINISH Mondial, on the scale of the new partnership, "There is very strong alignment with both SATO and FINISH's market-based approach to support innovation in climate resilient, gender and socially inclusive sanitation systems."

"Affordability is a substantial barrier to both households and entrepreneurs in improving sanitation and growing a sanitation business. Building on smaller, local finance partnerships in SATO, FINISH is our first collaboration aimed at unlocking financial access at a global scale," underscored Erin McCusker, Leader of SATO.

The partnership aims to increase the accessibility of innovative toilets systems to more users by bridging the affordability gap and offering financial services to households and local sanitation entrepreneurs through partnerships with financial institutions, The partnership is also expected to develop and test innovations along the sanitation value chain and engage in joint learning, dissemination, and outreach activities by using feedback garnered from this partnership to provide actionable insights to the broader sector.

About SATO, part of LIXIL

SATO is an award-winning social business that has improved the lives of more than 35 million people across 44 countries. SATO's purpose is to empower people everywhere to live a better life, every day, and to enjoy a brighter future through innovative sanitation and hygiene solutions. By designing affordable, sustainable, and accessible products based on the specific wants and needs of customers, we aim to improve sanitation and hygiene for 100 million people by 2025. www.sato.lixil.com

About FINISH Mondial

Established in 2009, FINISH Mondial envisions a world in which people are financially included and have access to safe sanitation. The public-private partnership uses a multi-stakeholder approach to tackle both the supply and demand sides of the sanitation challenge and financially empower underserved communities and businesses. FINISH Mondial has so far constructed 1.5 million safely managed toilets, improved the lives of 7.5 million people toilets, created over 16 million workdays for local sanitation entrepreneurs and mobilized 280 million euro in investments in sanitation and loans for households and local sanitation businesses.

For more information or to request an interview, please contact:

Jan Shepherd, Leader, Marketing Communications, SATO. Telephone: +44 (0)77 14151036, Email: jan.shepherd@lixil.com

Anja Bruschweiler, Communications and Media Contact, FINISH Mondial, telephone +34 664870530, email: abruschweiler@waste.nl