From:	███████████████████ @villagedata.io>
Sent:	Tuesday 24 May 2022 16:55
To:	CAB URPILAINEN CONTACT
Subject:	EU Partnership with Africa / developing countries - European Technology

Dear Ms Urpilainen,

I hope you are well.

I represent the European technology company Village Data Analytics (VIDA) and am reaching out to you, because I believe that our work in developing countries, especially in Africa, supports the goals of the EU in international partnerships / Africa, and is worthy of your support. Like you, we also believe in a balanced, intensified and innovative partnership with Africa.

With VIDA, we provide the digital infrastructure to channel investments into physical infrastructure linked to the Sustainable Development Goals. This could be energy access, access to healthcare, education, water/agriculture, and others. Our work (software+AI+services) has shown that a transparent, data-driven approach can ensure that investment and aid are implemented at the scale and speed needed to meet the urgency of our time. Africa's food security, job creation potential, protection of ecosystems, and ultimately peace and prosperity, which is so central to Europe's future, requires a much accelerated investment effort. Our innovative technology helps bring that about.

Since we went live, just over a year ago, we already work in 25 countries (mostly in Africa) to analyse around 30,000 villages and several large cities, and channel $1.5 billion into development infrastructure (mostly via large development banks, such as the World Bank). VIDA is also used by African governments, such as the government of Nigeria, to plan development investments and it is used by African and international companies offering e.g. electrification or agricultural products.

We are currently the only European technology company offering state-of-the-art data and software technology in the African development space (as far as we can tell). Our data approach is in line with European guidelines and we seek to empower our African users. ████████████████████████
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We would love an opportunity to introduce you to VIDA, to learn what kind of support is available, and discuss how we might be able to contribute to a European development data ecosystem.

With my kind regards,

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Further background:

VIDA, headquartered in Munich, is supported by the European Space Agency and by Germany's leading AI incubator, appliedAI. We have won several prizes, including, most recently, the German Innovation Award for Climate and Environment ([link](#)). Our team of 17 consists of a mix of software/AI engineers and development experts from Europe, Asia and Africa.

www.villagedata.io