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U.S. Gulf Coast Set for Major Offshore Drilling Kickoffs

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U.S. Waste-to-Energy Generation Remains Minimal Despite Project Activity

The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) notes waste-to-energy (WTE) power generation accounts for less than 1% of the U.S. energy mix, but Industrial Info is tracking \$1.68 billion worth of related projects--inc [...]

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Ohio Leads U.S. in Number, Value of Active Amazon Projects

With more than \$22 billion planned for investment in 180 projects, e-commerce and data services giant Amazon.com Incorporated (NASDAQ:AMZN) (Seattle, Washington) has become one of the leading companies for industrial con [...]

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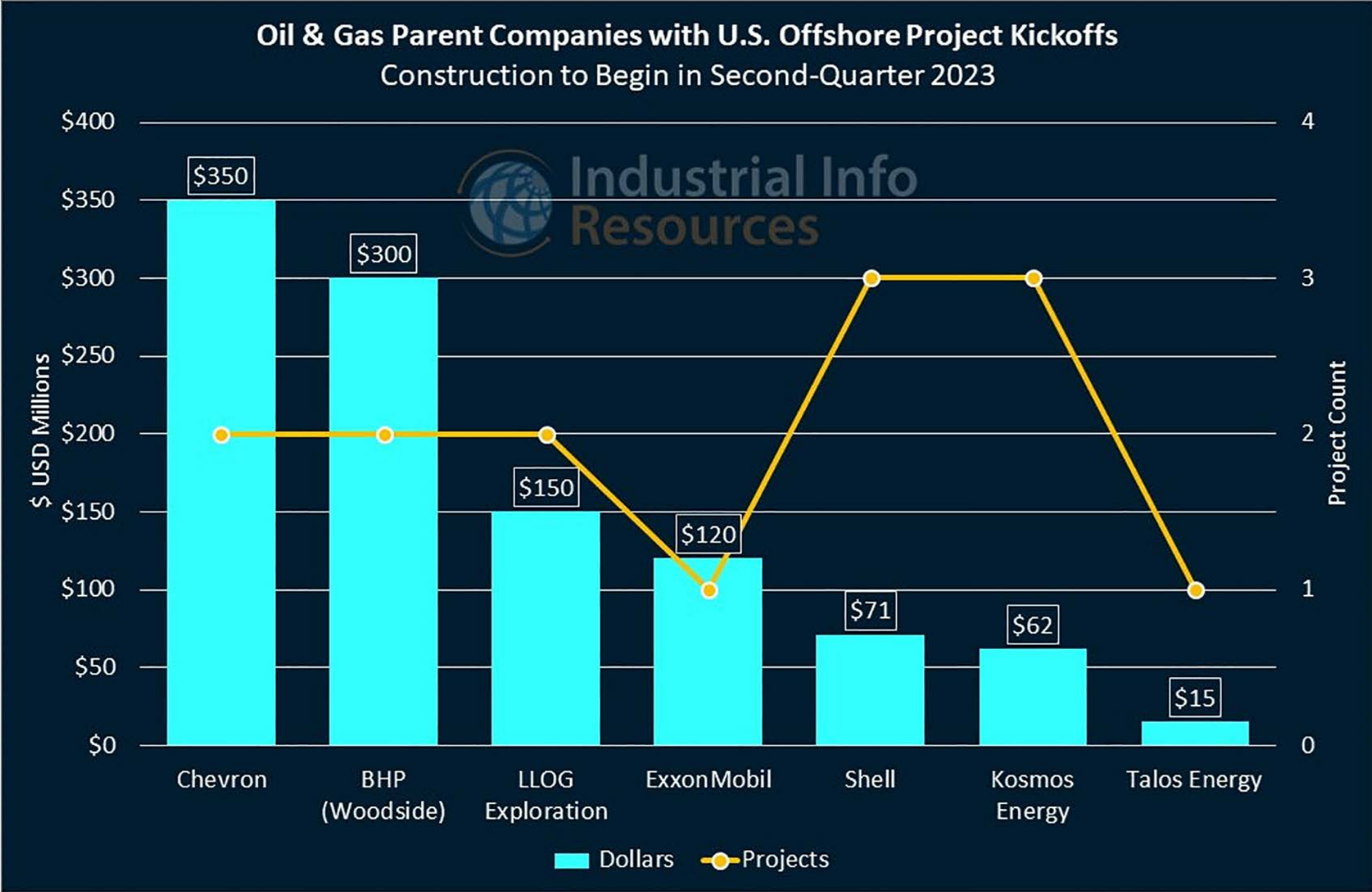


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U.S. Gulf Coast Set for Major Offshore Drilling Kickoffs

U.S. oil and gas developers are expected to spend \$17.5 billion on offshore drilling projects this year, according to [Rystad Energy](#) (Oslo, Norway), as exploration companies continue their push for stronger development amid the energy transition. Roughly 15% of U.S. domestic oil production comes from offshore drilling. Industrial Info is tracking more than \$1 billion worth of U.S.-based offshore oil and gas development projects that are set to kick off construction in the second quarter.



Chevron leads among exploration companies with about \$350 million worth of second-quarter offshore kickoffs, as it prepares to begin activity at its **Ballymore Field development** in the Gulf of Mexico's Mississippi Canyon Block 607. Following the start of **platform construction** in the first quarter, Chevron expects to begin installing **subsea infrastructure**, including templates, wellheads and "Christmas trees," with actual **drilling** expected to begin in early 2024. First oil is expected in 2025.

The Ballymore discovery is a key factor in Chevron's plans to increase its production in the Gulf to more than 300,000 barrels per day (BBL/d) of oil equivalent by 2026. The company is setting aside more than 20% of its budgeted \$11.5 billion in 2023 upstream capital spending for offshore Gulf projects, including a new well in Mississippi Canyon Block 608, just to the east of Ballymore. Subscribers to Industrial Info's Global Market Intelligence (GMI) Oil & Gas Project Database can read detailed reports on Ballymore's [platform construction](#), [subsea infrastructure](#) and [drilling](#).

Chevron also is at work on one of the largest decommissioning projects in U.S. waters: the Pacific OCS (Outer Continental Shelf) program off the coast of California, which includes the **removal of the Grace Platform in the Santa Clara Field**, which was built in 1979. The platform removal is expected to wrap up in the fourth quarter, about one year after Chevron completed the well-plugging and subsea infrastructure removal. Subscribers can learn more from Industrial Info's [project report](#).

BHP Billiton Petroleum, now a subsidiary of [Woodside Energy](#) (NYSE:WDS) (Perth, Australia), narrowly trails Chevron with its \$300 million worth of second-quarter offshore kickoffs. The spending is related to BHP's **Shenzi North Oil Field Development** in the Gulf of Mexico's Green Canyon Block 653, where the company is preparing to **install subsea infrastructure** and begin **drilling two wells**, from which production capacity is expected to reach roughly 30,000 BBL/d of oil equivalent. Subscribers can read detailed reports on the [subsea infrastructure](#) and [drilling](#).

Woodside purchased BHP's oil and gas portfolio in June 2022, further bolstering Woodside's role in the global market for fossil fuels, including the increasingly popular liquefied natural gas (LNG).

"Oil will continue to be an important part of the energy mix for the next 30 years," said Meg O'Neill, the chief executive officer of Woodside, in a recent earnings-related quarterly conference call. "Whilst our foundation is LNG, the BHP Petroleum acquisition really does give us a lot of strengths in the oil side of the house. So we are open to continued investments in all three of these commodities."

[LLOG Exploration Company LLC](#) (Covington, Louisiana) is preparing to begin a **pair of drilling projects** in the Gulf's Keathley Canyon, in the **Leon and Castile fields**. The company expects to drill two production wells in Leon and another in Castile, following the installation of subsea infrastructure in both areas, which began in first-quarter 2023. First production from both developments is expected by mid-2025. Subscribers can read detailed reports on Leon's [drilling](#) and [subsea work](#), and Castile's [drilling](#) and [subsea work](#).

Oil produced from Leon and Castile will be collected at LLOG's **Salamanca Floating Production Unit** (FPU) in Keathley Canyon Block 689, which is being created by the refurbishment of an offshore production facility that had been decommissioned in 2019. Subscribers can learn more from Industrial Info's [project report](#).

"By modifying a previously built production unit, compared with constructing a new facility, we are able to reduce significantly the time and cost to bring these discoveries online," said Philip LeJeune, the chief executive officer of LLOG, of the Salamanca FPU, in a press release announcing the start of its development last year. "We are repurposing an existing unit, which reduces the emissions impact compared to the construction of a new unit by approximately 70%."

Subscribers to Industrial Info's GMI Project Database can [click here](#) for a full list of detailed reports for projects mentioned in this article, and [click here](#) for a full list of related plant profiles.

Subscribers can [click here](#) for a full list of reports for U.S.-based offshore oil and gas development projects that are set to kick off construction in the second quarter.



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U.S. Waste-to-Energy Generation Remains Minimal Despite Project Activity

The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) notes waste-to-energy (WTE) power generation accounts for less than 1% of the U.S. energy mix, but Industrial Info is tracking \$1.68 billion worth of related projects—including a plant expansion that would add new capacity.

Waste-to-energy generation involves burning waste, the heat of which is released to convert water to steam. The steam is then routed to a turbine generator to produce electricity.

Although WTE plants account for such a small portion of U.S. total power generation, the plants are a consistent source of baseload power, according to the EIA.

The agency said 60 WTE power plants were operating in the United States at the beginning of 2022—with a total generating capacity of 2,051 megawatts (MW)—and the majority are in urban areas along the East Coast.

One of the largest waste-to-energy-generation projects being tracked by Industrial Info is in Florida.

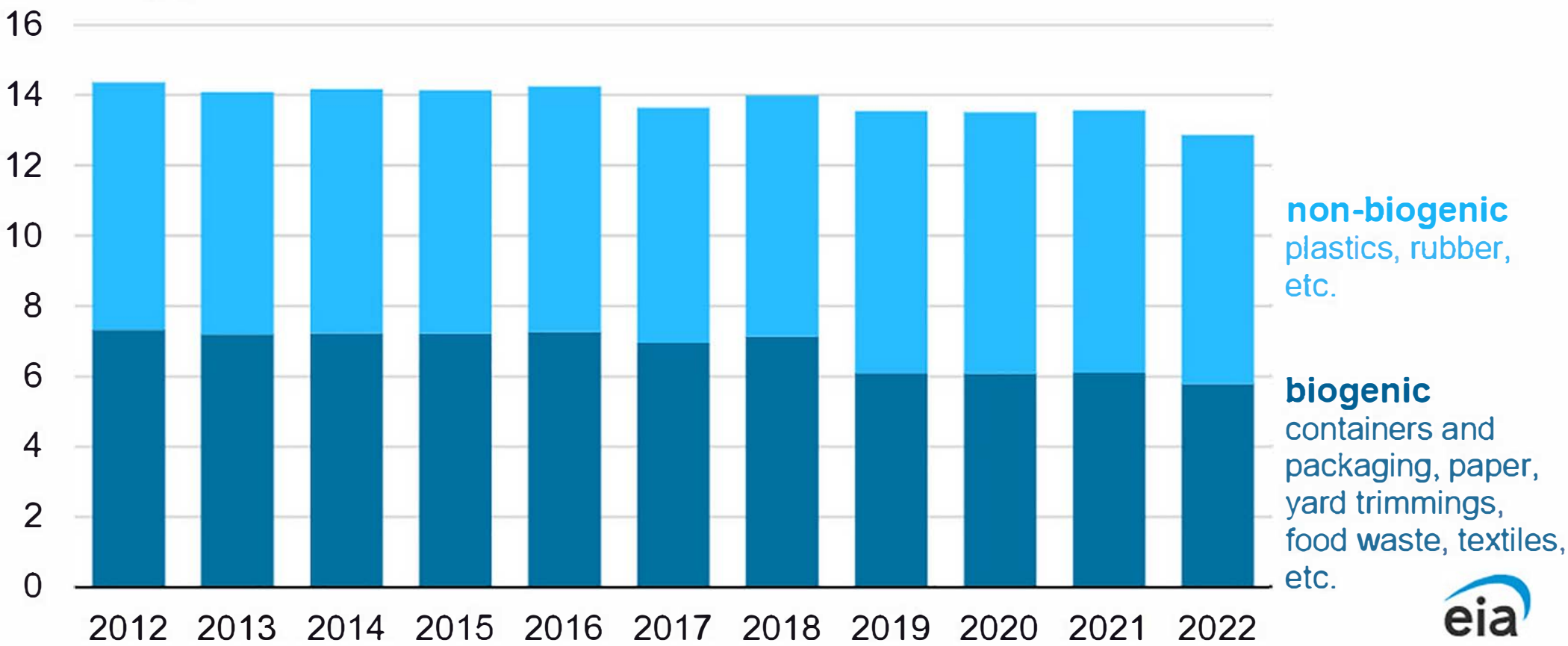
In Florida's Pasco County, [Covanta Energy Corporation](#) (Morristown, New Jersey) plans to begin construction in April on a **\$525 million waste-to-energy plant expansion** at Pasco County Solid Waste Department's Pasco County Resource Recovery Facility. The project entails installing an additional municipal waste combustor to increase waste processing by 475 tons per day with a new 15-MW steam turbine generator. Completion is expected in 2025. Subscribers can [click here](#) for the project report, and [click here](#) for a plant profile.

Subscribers to the GMI Project Database can [click here](#) for a full list of detailed project reports related to waste-to-energy power generation.

Waste-to-energy projects could receive a boost from the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), which modified the federal production tax credit (PTC) for electricity generated from certain renewable sources, including municipal solid waste. The IRA provision extended the construction-start date for projects eligible for the PTC, to those that begin construction before January 1, 2025.

However, waste-to-energy generation has been on the decline: from 2018 to 2022, 188 megawatts (MW) of WTE generating capacity was retired, the EIA noted last year—with another 36 MW to be retired by 2027. At the time, the EIA said, "low electricity prices, local opposition and continued policy concerns about emissions have pressured WTE plant owners to close in recent years." The agency also said related upfront capital-spending costs for constructing a new combustion plant "generally requires at least \$100 million to finance construction."

Annual electricity generation from municipal solid waste plants, United States (2012–2022)
thousand gigawatthours





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Ohio Leads U.S. in Number, Value of Active Amazon Projects

With more than \$22 billion planned for investment in 180 projects, e-commerce and data services giant [Amazon.com Incorporated \(NASDAQ:AMZN\)](#) (Seattle, Washington) has become one of the leading companies for industrial construction in the U.S. But which state is garnering the most activity from the company? A look at Industrial Info's Global Market Intelligence (GMI) Project Database reveals that Ohio leads the U.S. in both the number and value of active Amazon projects. Industrial Info is tracking more than \$8.3 billion worth of active projects in the state, spread over 26 projects.

Much of the reason for Ohio's taking a leading position for Amazon projects is due to a massive data center development planned for New Albany, in the northeast outskirts of Columbus. Amazon already has an existing data center and fulfillment center in the city, but the new data center is something different.

Earlier this year, local press reported that Amazon had acquired 400 acres near its existing data center and another 400 acres on a different parcel. Filings have been made for the construction of 18 buildings on the West parcel and 11 buildings on the East parcel, along with acreage for substations for both locations. The projects would be built in phases, extending construction for years, but provided permitting is in place, contractors could break ground on both of tracts of land later this year. Over the course of the project, spending could top \$7 billion for both sites. Subscribers to Industrial Info's Global Market Intelligence (GMI) Project Database can [click here](#) for a look at the related project reports.

Amazon also is planning expansions at its existing New Albany data center campus. Construction of a 170,000-square-foot building addition is expected to kick off soon, putting the project on track for completion by the end of the year. This could potentially be followed by another expansion, but Amazon has lately been pushing the pause button on some of its proposed developments as sales stabilize following a rapid escalation in the demand for the company's products and services in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic. Subscribers can learn more in the reports on the [Phase IV](#) and [Phase V](#) expansions.

But New Albany is not the only Ohio location for Amazon's data center projects. In Hilliard, also in the Greater Columbus area, Amazon will soon break ground on a data center campus with seven data center buildings and three support buildings. Phase I would include an approximately 152,000-square-foot data hall that will help further expand Amazon's web services in the region. The campus would be built in phases, with Phase I expected to wrap up in early 2024. Subscribers can [click here](#) for the related reports.

While Amazon expands its data center footprint in the state, it is also at work on providing product deliveries with the construction of fulfillment centers. In Union, on the northwest outskirts of Dayton, Amazon is underway with construction on a 2.8 million-square-foot, multi-story fulfillment center with supporting systems and equipment to pick, pack and ship smaller items such as books, electronics and other consumer goods. The facility is expected to go into operation later this year. Subscribers can [click here](#) for the full report.

Amazon is putting the finishing touches on another fulfillment center in Canton. The 1 million-square-foot building will feature 96 loading ramps and 390 trailer parking spaces. The selected site is on a former golf course, and the project involved demolition of existing buildings. Subscribers can [click here](#) to learn more.



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Join IIR for a Webinar on the Outlook for the Food & Beverage Industry

Industrial Info is pleased to be presenting a [complimentary webinar](#) on the global Food & Beverage Industry. The webinar will be held Wednesday, April 19, at 10 a.m. CDT (11 a.m. EDT) and will be repeated for audiences in Europe and the Asia-Pacific region.

2023 has presented a variety of challenges for the global Food & Beverage Industry. Inflation, supply-chain disruptions, geopolitical conflicts, and environmental and ethical concerns have forced consumers and investors to rethink where they should focus their spending.

Join our industry experts as they discuss the trends, capital expenditures and key geographical markets for the industry for the remainder of 2023 and into 2024. They will also take a deeper dive into industry sectors such as agribusiness, meat, poultry and seafood, beverages, packaged foods, dairy, and warehouse and distribution.

Topics to be covered include:

- Growth markets
- Food waste, upcycling and recycling
- Industry sectors
- Regional expenditures
- How inflation is impacting production and project spending

We hope you are able to join us for this timely and informative webinar! [Click here](#) to learn more and to RSVP.