



## Unigrains formalizes its CSR approach

*Sustainable agriculture and responsible companies committed to well-being*

*Appointment of Anne Perrot as Head of CSR in a newly created role*

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**Paris, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020** – Unigrains, the agri-food and agro-industry specialized investor, formalizes its CSR approach around its vision of sustainable agriculture and responsible companies committed to well-being and announces the appointment of Anne Perrot as Head of CSR.

Since its creation by the French Grain Growers in 1963, Unigrains has worked to strengthen the essential link between agriculture and the food industry, adapting agri and agro sectors to the growing global population, a crucial food security issue. Unigrains has thus accompanied more than 1 000 companies of all sizes, in France and abroad, operating across the entire agri-food chain in support of the most promising growth projects.

As an investor alongside management teams, Unigrains also intends to play a role by supporting its partner companies in their reflections on sustainability and social responsibility.

While many initiatives are already longstanding, the newly created role and the appointment of Anne Perrot as Head of CSR demonstrate a will to formalize, structure and systematize the approach. Anne Perrot will be responsible for coordinating and amplifying all existing CSR actions and implementing new projects and partnerships to meet the expectations and needs of partner companies.

To promote its vision of sustainable agriculture and responsible companies committed to well-being, Unigrains structures its approach around 5 axes:

- **Involvement within the sector:** as a stakeholder in the responsible approach included in the transformation plans of agri and agro sectors
- **Responsible investment:** training of the investment team, ESG analysis of partner companies, compliance with the Ethics & Responsibility Charter
- **Best practices exchange platform:** sharing of experiences with and between partner companies to support them in their initiatives, creation of a network of CSR experts
- **Support of FERT:** agri-agency created 40 years ago at the initiative of French grain growers, supported from the outset by Unigrains in its action working closing with farmers in developing countries
- **Internally at Unigrains:** quantification and reduction of the environmental impact, launch of the Unigrains Solidarity Initiative working with associations, notably in response to the Coronavirus or the humanitarian crisis in Lebanon

**Anne Perrot, Head of CSR with Unigrains,** declared: *“Whether their reflections are nascent or well advanced, the managers of our partner companies have expressed the need for exchange and dialogue, with us of course, but especially with other companies. With our portfolio of around 100 companies at every link of the agri-food chain and our network, Unigrains is well placed to act as a catalyst of new initiatives. It is together that we will be able to move forward on these vast and cross-cutting issues.”*

**Jean-François Laurain, CEO of Unigrains,** added: *“While CSR – just like internationalization, industry consolidation or innovation – constitutes a major axe for the future of agribusiness companies, there are a multitude of reflections at very different stages of maturity. As a strategic and specialized investor, ESG analysis enhances our understanding of companies, their efforts and their challenges, strengthening the added-value we are able to offer managers.”*

## Biography of Anne Perrot



Anne Perrot joined Unigrains in 1988. She has held numerous roles in the Economic Research Department, the Investment Department and in the Human Resources Department. With a perfect understanding of Unigrains' history and operations as well as expertise in agri and agro industries, she is appointed Head of CSR in 2020.

Anne holds an Agronomy Engineering degree from INAPG (AgroParisTech).



## About Unigrains

For over 55 years, Unigrains has accompanied the development of agri-food and agro-industry companies providing tailor-made financial solutions in equity and quasi-equity, as well as contributing its recognized industry expertise. Unigrains manages roughly 1 billion euros and is a partner for nearly 100 companies, operating at various stages of their development, notably capital restructurings, strategic investments and acquisitions, and ensuring national and international growth. For more information: [www.unigrains.fr](http://www.unigrains.fr)

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