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European Union



EIT Food Impact Funding Framework 2023-2025 Collaborative Missions Programmes FAQ

The following questions and answers refer to the **Collaborative Missions Programmes** funding opportunity.

Q: Is this funding open to any organisation?

A: Yes, as long as you meet the eligibility criteria as set out in the [Guidelines](#), you do not need to be a member of the EIT Food community to apply for this funding.

Q: Is there a minimum number of organisations and/or countries that need to form an applying consortium?

A: Yes, as per the eligibility criteria, a minimum of two organisations from two eligible countries are required to start off a programme – but there should be a convincing plan to bring in others that you need. ‘Collaborative’ programmes should be collaborative and pan-European in design. Proposals should be aimed at integrating innovation, skills and business creation across whole value chains, responding to one or more of our Mission targets and considering related strategic challenges.

Q: Is there a minimum and maximum funding amount available?

A: There is no specific minimum or maximum funding threshold, however annual programme budgets are expected to be between €250,000-€750,000. This can include programme management costs and also monitoring and evaluation for impact performance.

Collaborative programmes are likely to be multiannual and involve multiple organisations. As such programme budgets should be in line with the size of programme proposed. All proposals are evaluated against a clear set of criteria including Value for Money. The budget must therefore be commensurate with the workplan and proposed outcomes detailed.

Q: The Guidelines ask how a proposal would like to work with EIT Food. How should this be written into an application?

A: EIT Food is a pan-European network of food system changemakers. In addition to funding innovative ideas, we run skills programmes, entrepreneurship mentorship schemes and public engagement programmes.

Collaborative Programme proposals should seek to make the best use of what we already have in place, whether its finding connections between skills and innovation projects along a value-chain, or using our existing business programmes to implement outcomes. Perhaps your programme includes trialling an innovative technology however you have no commercial test bed environment – but we do. It could be that you have the basis of a successful education programme that could be rolled out

across Europe using our course development or online provision expertise. We invite proposals to suggest how you can best use our existing assets and infrastructure to further accelerate outcomes towards impact.

Q: Does this funding framework apply to existing EIT Food infrastructure programme facilitators?

A: No, existing EIT Food programmes like Seedbed, FAN and EIT Food Masters Label programmes are managed outside of this funding framework.

Q: My organisation is an NGO, do I still need to provide 30% co-funding?

A: The co-funding rate applies at programme level. This means that individual organisations may agree within their consortium to provide different levels of co-funding. For some consortia, this may mean that one organisation provides no co-funding at all, while others provide greater than 30%. This is at the discretion of the applying consortium.

Q: Can I use my own company's resources towards the 30% co-funding?

A: You should be able to identify and detail programme expenditure in your accounts. Eligible expenditure can be allocated towards the 30% co-funding. Full project cost eligibility can be found under the Horizon Europe regulations. Please refer to Article 6 of the [Model Grant Agreement](#) and the [Annotated Model Grant Agreement](#).

Q: I understand that you cannot use other Horizon Europe funding as part of the co-funding contribution. Does that mean you cannot fund programmes by consortia currently funded by EIT Food?

A: Existing EIT Food consortia can apply for new activities.

Q: What is expected in terms of sharing success or commercial risk?

A: If part of your programme includes activity that produces a commercial return, or creates an equivalent commercial value, such as an equity interest in new businesses, we'll ask the relevant benefiting partner to give a commitment to share some of that return as a form of reinvestment in our community under our Success Sharing Mechanism.

In return for de-risking your investment through our funding, we'll typically ask for a proportionate share in commercial gains you make. This allows us to reinvest in food systems change to benefit us all. That income sharing only arises if and when your programme goes on to generate new commercial income for you or others.

Your application should include a forecast of what that repayment might be. If we do ask for a share in your return, we will negotiate a mutually acceptable level of community reinvestment with you under the Success Sharing Mechanism.

We will then put in place a short additional agreement alongside the main grant funding agreements. Where we agree to fund activities generating limited cost-recovery income, we do so on the understanding that in lieu of a share in income on that funding, you must be able to demonstrate significant social return on investment in line with the impact measurement framework in our [Strategic Agenda 2021- 27](#).

Q: Now that the UK has associated to the Horizon Programme, does this apply to EIT funding?

A: EIT Food funding is part of the Horizon Programme. We are able to fund organisations from an eligible Horizon Europe country. Please refer to the [List of Participating Countries in Horizon Europe](#)

Q: If my proposal is unsuccessful in the first submission window, am I able to resubmit?

A: You are able to submit an improved proposal and should take into consideration the feedback that is provided as part of the evaluation process. The timetable for submission windows is outlined in the Guidelines.