

EIT Food Webinar: RIS - CEE Open Innovation Call 2023

EIT Food CLC NE
04.04.2023



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Agenda

1. EIT Food: Strategic framework & Impact
2. Introduction to Call For Proposals 2023
3. Call Specific Requirements
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5. Eligibility & Evaluation Criteria
6. Proposal Submission
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EIT Food: Strategic framework & Impact



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A GUIDE TO EIT FOOD

EIT Food **accelerates innovation** to build a future-fit food system that produces healthy and sustainable food for all

WE ARE

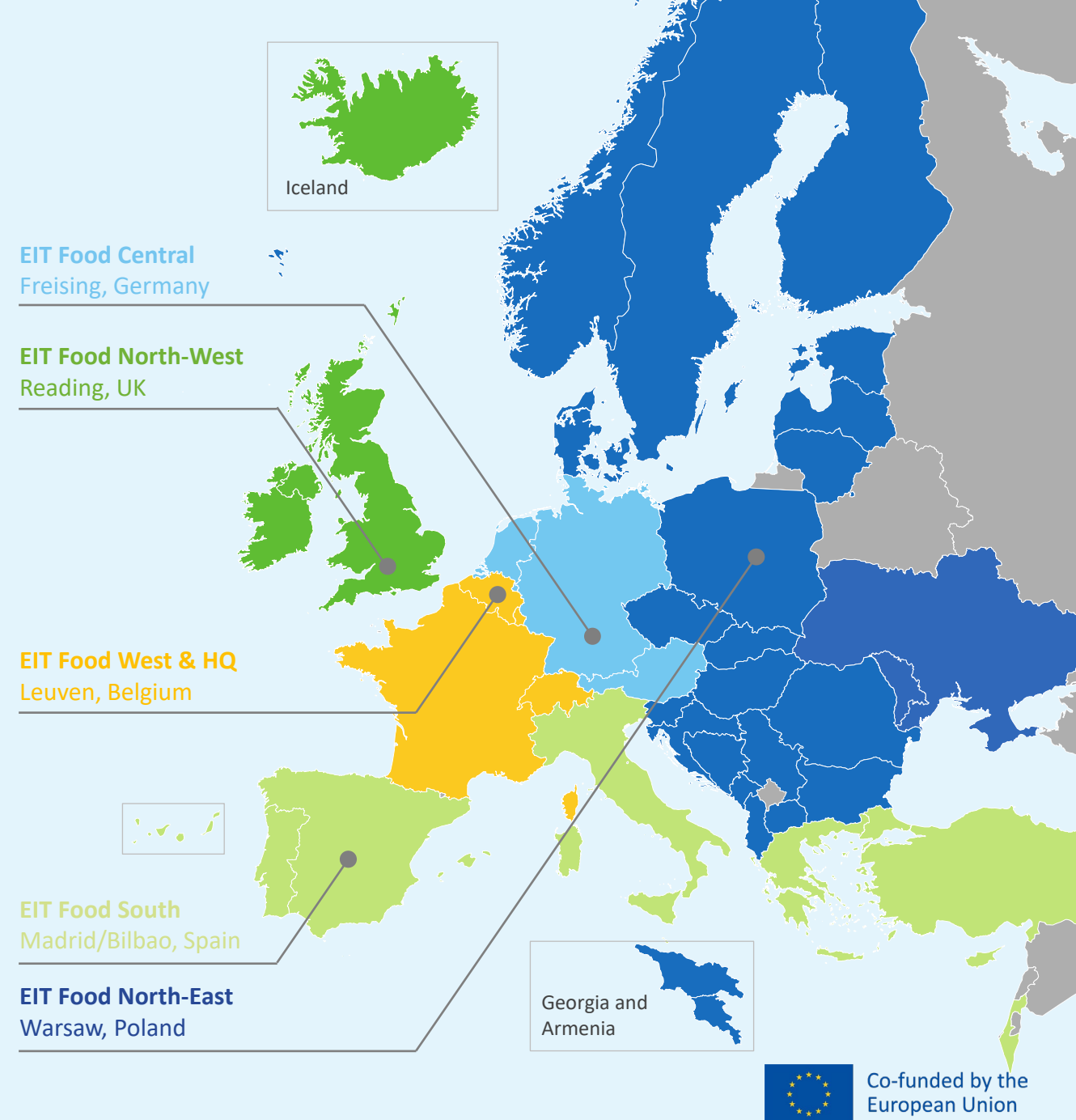
the world's **largest food open innovation community**, creating connections right across the food system. Supported by the EU, we **invest in projects, organisations and individuals** that share our goals for a healthy and sustainable food system.

WE BELIEVE

inclusive systems innovation, which **enables** all **people** and places to participate and benefit, is essential to a strong food system that is better for everyone.

TOGETHER

we will **build an innovative and resilient food system** that in turn creates a healthier society and planet.



Working together to achieve Impact: The Missions



Between 2021-2027, EIT Food will deliver:

- **210,000+ customers** engaged to define healthier, sustainable behaviour
- **700+ innovations** supported during their design and test phases
- **1300+ graduates** from EIT labelled MSc / PhD programmes
- **245,000+ online learners by 2027**
- **800+ companies** securing over €350M investment funding

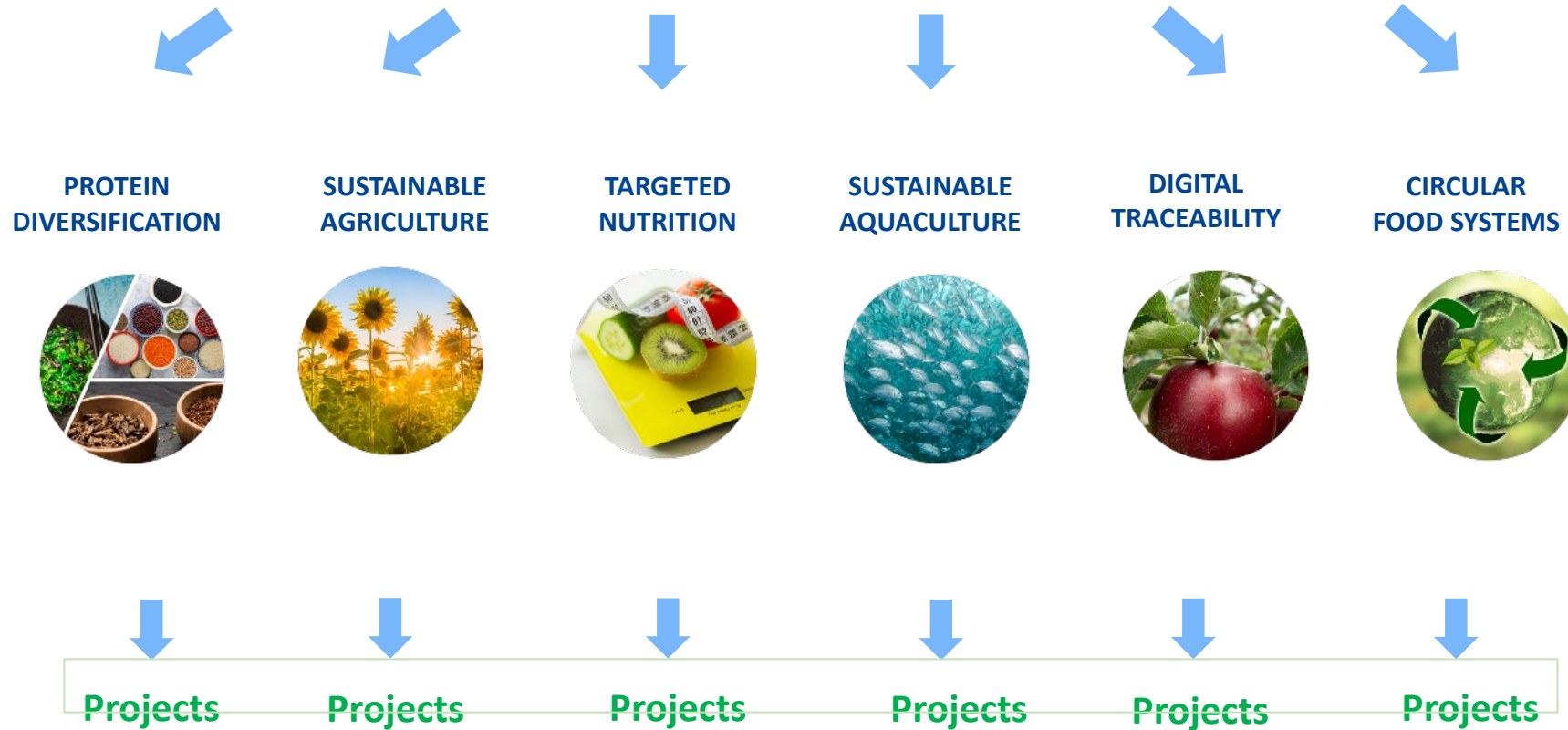
**Healthier Lives
Through Food**

**Net Zero
Food System**

**Fully
transparent, fair,
and resilient
food supply**

THREE MISSIONS

- ✓ Healthier lives through food
- ✓ A fully transparent, fair and resilient food system
- ✓ A net zero food system



EIT Food Focus Areas

Protein Diversification

Development and adoption of healthy, sustainable, appealing and affordable diversified protein-based solutions.

Circular Food Systems

Shift from linear to circular & sustainable systems in which resources are re-used, nutrients recycled, by-products reduced and what remains re-utilized.

Digital Traceability

Develop food supply chains that make the Food System Safe, More efficient, Sustainable and Transparent.



Sustainable Agriculture

Support European farmers in meeting sustainability requirements by co-creating climate-neutral, fair, resilient and economically viable farming practices.

Targeted Nutrition

Support the reduction in relative risk of obesity, non-communicable disease & malnutrition prevalence in target populations due to known dietary factors.

Sustainable Aquaculture

Transform the sector by reducing climate change footprint, transitioning to circular economy, ensuring food security & safety.

Call for Proposals 2023: Introduction



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Purpose of the call

Tackling significant issues of the agrifood supply chain in the CEE region

- **Pressure on the supply chain**
- **Low investment in intellectual property**
- **Lack of intra- and inter- sectoral cooperation**
- **Need for investment in sustainability**





We look for solutions that will bring about a positive change

Bridge different sectors and enhance **intersectoral collaborations**

Can be **applied universally** and significantly impact the food supply chain within selected industry/industries

Encompassing **open standards, protocols, tools, and technologies to promote collaboration and the potential for innovative solutions.** We prefer to support solutions with open access; however, it is not obligatory

Put new products on the market, introduce new and improved commercial processes and services

AND OF COURSE:

Help achieve EIT Food's Missions



Open elements – examples

- **Tools and applications** allowing cross-sector readable calculations of sustainability parameters (carbon footprint, waste, energy)
- Supply chain-oriented **protocols and standards** (e.g. product specification language, codes, norms)
- Universal **interfaces, control system drivers, libraries** facilitating better resource and process monitoring
- Manufacturing **standards, solutions and concepts** increasing safety, speed, and product throughput
- **Solutions applied in other industries that can be deployed in the ag-food sector**



Examples of identified challenges

ENHANCE THE FOOD CHAIN AGILITY AND RESPONSIVENESS TO SHOCKS

DIGITAL SYSTEMS FOR COORDINATION OF SUPPLY CHAIN OPERATIONS/SUPPLY CHAIN MODELLING AND FORECASTING

GENERATE QUICK, SIMPLE, AND SCALABLE TOOLS TO ASSESS AND MITIGATE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

SOLUTIONS FOR THE INDUSTRY HELPING TO ADJUST TO NEW TRADE MECHANISMS SUCH AS THE EU'S CARBON BORDER ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM



Examples of identified challenges

REDUCTION OF COSTS OF HEALTHY AND SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS

REMOVE BARRIERS TO UPSCALING TECHNOLOGIES FOR PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING OF DIVERSIFIED PROTEIN SOLUTIONS

REDUCE USAGE OF FERTILIZERS & PESTICIDES & DEVELOP BIOLOGICAL ALTERNATIVES

REDUCE USE OF FOSSIL FUELS IN THE FOOD SYSTEM (also fertilizers, processing)

REDUCING ANTIBIOTICS/ DEVELOP BIOLOGICAL ALTERNATIVES



Examples of identified challenges

DEVELOP APPROACHES ACROSS THE VALUE CHAIN TO PREVENT SUPPLY CHAIN IMBALANCES

DEVELOP APPROACHES ACROSS THE VALUE CHAIN TO PREVENT OVER-PRODUCTION

DEVELOP CIRCULAR FARMING APPROACHES

DEVELOP METHODS TO SUSTAINABLY DISPOSE OR REINTEGRATE WASTE / SIDE STREAMS BACK INTO THE system



Our priorities

Our specific priorities include
innovations and investments in sustainable biogas production
precision farming
carbon farming
regenerative agriculture
.....and other sustainable solutions and methods in
the food system

Call Specific Requirements



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Partners

Funding for this call is available to all organisations, both EIT Food partners and non-partners, from the following **eligible EU Member States**: Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, and **Horizon Europe Associated Countries**: Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Ukraine



Funding

The total financial allocation for this call is **1.5 million EUR** (500 thousand EUR/year). The maximum support for each recipient is **750 thousand EUR**

Activity duration is variable but **not more than 24 months of funding**

- **Reimbursement Rate:** EIT Food will fund up to 70% of total eligible costs of the Activity
- **Co-funding:** Consortia must co-fund minimum 30% of the total project eligible costs with non EU sources

Eligibility of Expenditures

All costs need to comply with **Horizon Europe** regulations regarding the eligibility of expenses

In addition to the guidance provided by Horizon Europe, the proposals must comply with the following maximum thresholds:

- **Subcontracting** can amount to a maximum of 15% of total costs
- **Depreciation** can amount to a maximum of 30% of total costs
- Participants **cannot give a subgrant to another third party**

Mandatory KPI

Proposals must include the following mandatory Innovation KPI:

EITHE02.4: At least one Marketed Innovation: Projects must deliver **at least one** marketed innovation, including documented and valid sales revenue of at least 10.000 EUR (ten thousand euros) **in the year the KPI is to be delivered, and no later than 6 months following the official end date of the Activity**

Deliverables

The following deliverables are required for each 24-month Activity:

- Design and development
 - DEL 01: A technical commercial plan
 - DEL 02: A communication and dissemination plan Up to 12 months
- Pilot and testing
 - DEL 03: A technical and commercial midterm report
 - DEL 04: A report on the Designed/Tested Innovation Up to 18 months
- Preparation of the launch of the report
 - DEL 05: A final commercialisation report
- Market launch
 - DEL 06: A final communication and dissemination report
 - DEL 07: A final technical and commercial report
 - KPI EITHE02.4: Marketed Innovation
 - DEL 08: disseminated results/GP - good practice/LL - lessons learnt

EIT Food Financial Sustainability



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What is Financial Sustainability?

A return on investment for EIT Food to gradually become financially independent from EIT funding, also as a “success fee”

A 20% fixed return within 15 months after the agreed end date of the project, as submitted in the original proposal (the completion date)

In the event that the project was not successful, and the return is not paid, EIT Food will initiate an IP recovery process in collaboration with the exploiting party(ies), and will look for alternative commercialisation opportunities

Eligibility and Evaluation Criteria



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Organisation Eligibility

Each participating organisation must:

- Be a legally incorporated entity in one of the EU or Horizon Europe eligible country listed above for a minimum of 3 years
- Have at least 3 years' published accounts showing business Activity
- Provide a PIC Number:
<https://www.eitfood.eu/files/PIC-Guidance.pdf>

Consortia Eligibility

To be eligible consortia must:

- Have at least **3 eligible organisations** committed to collaborating between **2 different eligible countries**, representing at least **two sides of the knowledge triangle**, with at least **one industry** organisation
- Each of the three organisations must be active participants in the consortium, showing a role, commiserate with the level of budget, and should not fall under the same ownership
- At least one Exploiting Party/Parties responsible for commercial exploitation resulting from the Activity

Proposal Eligibility

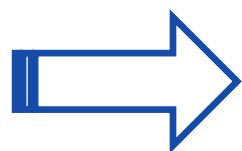
To eligible proposals must:

- Mandatory KPI
- Minimum **Co-funding 30% / Reimbursement Rate 70%**
- **Up to 30% CAPEX**
- Comply with **Financial Return Mechanism**
- Contribute to the EIT Food Missions
- Align with one or more EIT Focus Areas
- Submitted complete, on-time, in English and with all mandatory documents uploaded: Implementation Schedule; Business Model Canvas; Criticality Map; Proof of TRL 5; Commercialisation Strategy

Evaluation Process & Criteria

At least 3 external evaluators and 1 internal evaluator will evaluate each proposal based on the criteria below:

- Impact (50%)
- Excellence (30%)
- Quality and efficiency of implementation (20%)



Detailed criteria can be found in the Call Guidelines

Panel Meetings

The Panel is a chance for applicants, who score above the threshold in the remote evaluation, to present to evaluators:

- Activity Leader get an email with meeting time and evaluator feedback to assist in Panel preparation
- At the Panel Meeting each consortium makes an online pitch followed by evaluator Q&A session
- Following the Panel, evaluators enter final scores, rapporteurs compile reports to be shared with consortia

Proposal Submission



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Proposal Submission

The proposal's Activity Leader must complete the proposal submission process by providing the necessary information and documentation in **PLAZA**, the EIT Food portal. A short webinar about using Plaza is available on our [Call Page](#)

Please note:

- PLAZA registration is not automatic. Please register at least 5 working days before the call closes so we can check and approve your registration
- Once approved, you will receive a one-time password for you to log in and begin your proposal

Timeline

April 3-June 5	Launch Call
June 9-23	Remote Evaluation
June 29	Feedback Letters, Invitations to Panel Meetings
July 10-14	Panel Meetings
July 20	Preliminary feedback letters sent
July 24-August 21	Due Diligence by EIT Food and EIT
August 21	Official communication to selected projects

After Selection



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After Selection: Payment Schedule

EIT Food transfers funding in **instalments**

A proportion of the Activity budget will be **pre-financed**

Subsequent payments being linked to the **achievement of deliverables**

The majority of the grant will be transferred at the **end of the Activity**, once:

- Eligible costs have been determined
- Final Activity reporting completed
- Project Agreement fulfilled

After Selection: Monitoring

Monitoring will cover several aspects relating to the Activity implementation including, but not limited to:

- achievement of deliverables and KPIs
- risk management; financial management; quality assurance
- communication and dissemination
- progress towards commercialisation and exploitation of result

In the case of under-performance during the monitoring process, EIT Food reserves the right to discontinue or restructure the funding of the Activity

Matchmaking: Event to be announced soon!



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Questions and Answers



For guideline-related questions, please contact
ewa.karolewska@eitfood.eu

For technical and PLAZA-related questions, please contact
itsupport@eitfood.eu

