



IMPROVING FOOD TOGETHER

NOVEMBER 5TH 2024, PRAGUE

Dr Justyna Kulawik-Dutkowska



**Senior Key Account Manager / Strategy & Funding
Expert**

at EIT Food – looking after the
Partner community in
region North & East since 2018

justyna.kulawik@eitfood.eu

Today's agenda

Collaboration opportunities and support to innovation offered by the EIT Food Programmes dedicated to students, start-ups, researchers and government

- Introduction to EIT Food – world's largest food innovation community
- EIT food activities and programmes and how you can get involved
 - Impact Funding Framework and other funding opportunities
 - Networking & matchmaking opportunities at our events
 - Our programmes
- Our Partnership model

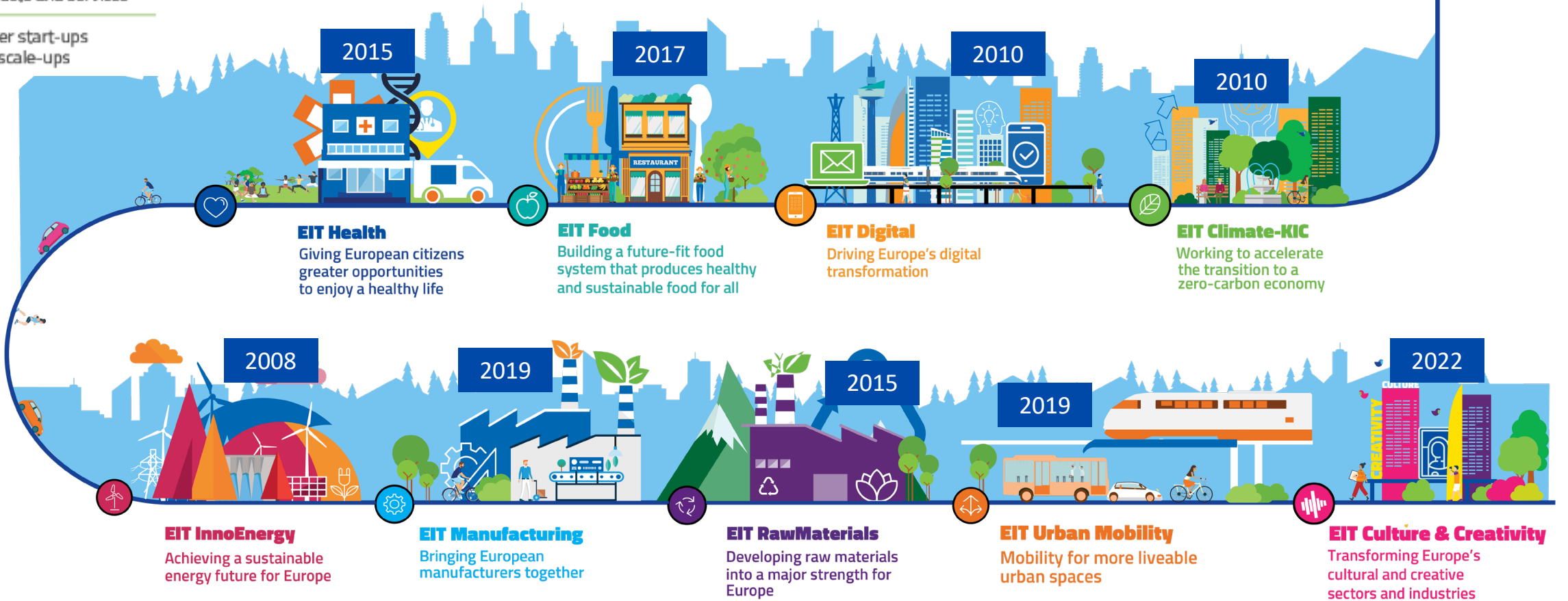


EIT Food and our community

WE'RE PART OF EIT: EUROPE'S ONE-STOP SHOP FOR INNOVATION

How does the EIT work?

- Trains a new generation of entrepreneurs
- Develops innovative products and services
- Power start-ups and scale-ups



FOOD SYSTEM CHALLENGES

Our current food system is a leading cause of some of the biggest challenges the world is facing, from climate change, resource depletion and waste, to malnutrition, obesity and other diet-related diseases.

SOCIAL



We need to feed **10 billion** people by 2050 (*UN, 2017*)



Over too **2 billion** people are currently overweight (*WHO, 2018*), while **800 million** are undernourished (*FAO, 2019*)



Up to **35%** of children under 5 globally are affected by stunting, wasting or overweight (*UNICEF, 2019*)

ENVIRONMENTAL



1/3 of our food is wasted globally (*FAO, 2019*)



70% of global freshwater withdrawals come from the food industry (*FAO, 2016*)



Food production accounts for **26%** of greenhouse gas emissions (*Science, 2018*)

ENTREPRENEURIAL



Only **3.4%** of all EU startups are in the food industry (*ESM, 2016*)



9 out of 10 startups fail due to lack of a market need for their products (*Munich Business School, 2016*)



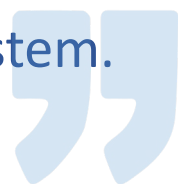
Meeting the UN SDGs could create innovation opportunities worth **US\$200 billion** for the European business sector in agrifood by 2030 (*BSDC, 2016*)

WE'RE THE WORLD'S LARGEST FOOD INNOVATION COMMUNITY



Our **VISION** is a world where everybody can access and enjoy sustainable, safe and healthy food, with trust and fairness from farm to fork.

Our **ROLE** is to bring all agrifood players together and guide and accelerate the innovation process that will transform our food system.



WHAT WE DO

At EIT Food we aim to overcome food system challenges **by accelerating innovation to build a future-fit food system that produces healthy and sustainable food for all.**

COLLABORATION

We connect stakeholders right across the food system that stimulate new ideas and invention to drive change. Together with our community, we will build an innovative and resilient food system that in turn creates a healthier society and planet.

IMPACT

Supported by the EU, we invest in projects, individuals and organisations that share our goals to deliver positive impact at speed and scale.

INCLUSION

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.

We are the world's largest and most dynamic food innovation community

A MISSIONS-LED APPROACH

HEALTHIER LIVES THROUGH FOOD



We will make a material difference to health adjusted life years by enabling more consumers to make better choices through access to healthier products and actionable information.

NET-ZERO FOOD SYSTEMS



We will enable a transition to a net zero food system, measuring and quantifying the change through reduced CO2 equivalent emissions.

A FULLY TRANSPARENT, RESILIENT AND FAIR FOOD SYSTEM



We will see the benefits of more resilient, trusted food supply chains with people experiencing greater food security and safety through widespread digitally enabled food supply chains.

Together with our community, we are addressing the complex and critical challenges of **sustainability and climate change**, of **non-communicable diseases and poor nutrition**, and of **consumer trust, scarcity and transparency** through a missions-led approach.

A MISSIONS-LED APPROACH

HEALTHIER LIVES
THROUGH FOOD



NET-ZERO FOOD
SYSTEMS



A FULLY TRANSPARENT, RESILIENT
AND FAIR FOOD SYSTEM



**Cross-cutting
high-value
areas**



Protein Diversification

Bringing protein diversification to the mainstream for people & planet



Regenerative Agriculture

Enabling Farmers to lead the transition to Net Zero



Labelling, Packaging & Transparency

Empowering people in their food choices

OUR COMMUNITY

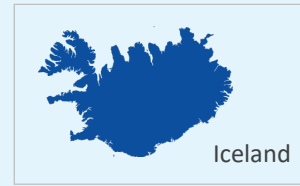
Our strength comes from our community, which brings together key players from **across the food value chain**. Our Partner Network is made up of industry organisations, businesses, research centres and universities from across Europe.



OUR REGIONS

With teams on the ground across Europe, we unlock innovation potential in businesses and higher education and create and scale agrifood startups to bring new technologies and products to market.

EIT Food is structured around 3 European regions with similar food system and market challenges and is managed by 6 regional offices.



West

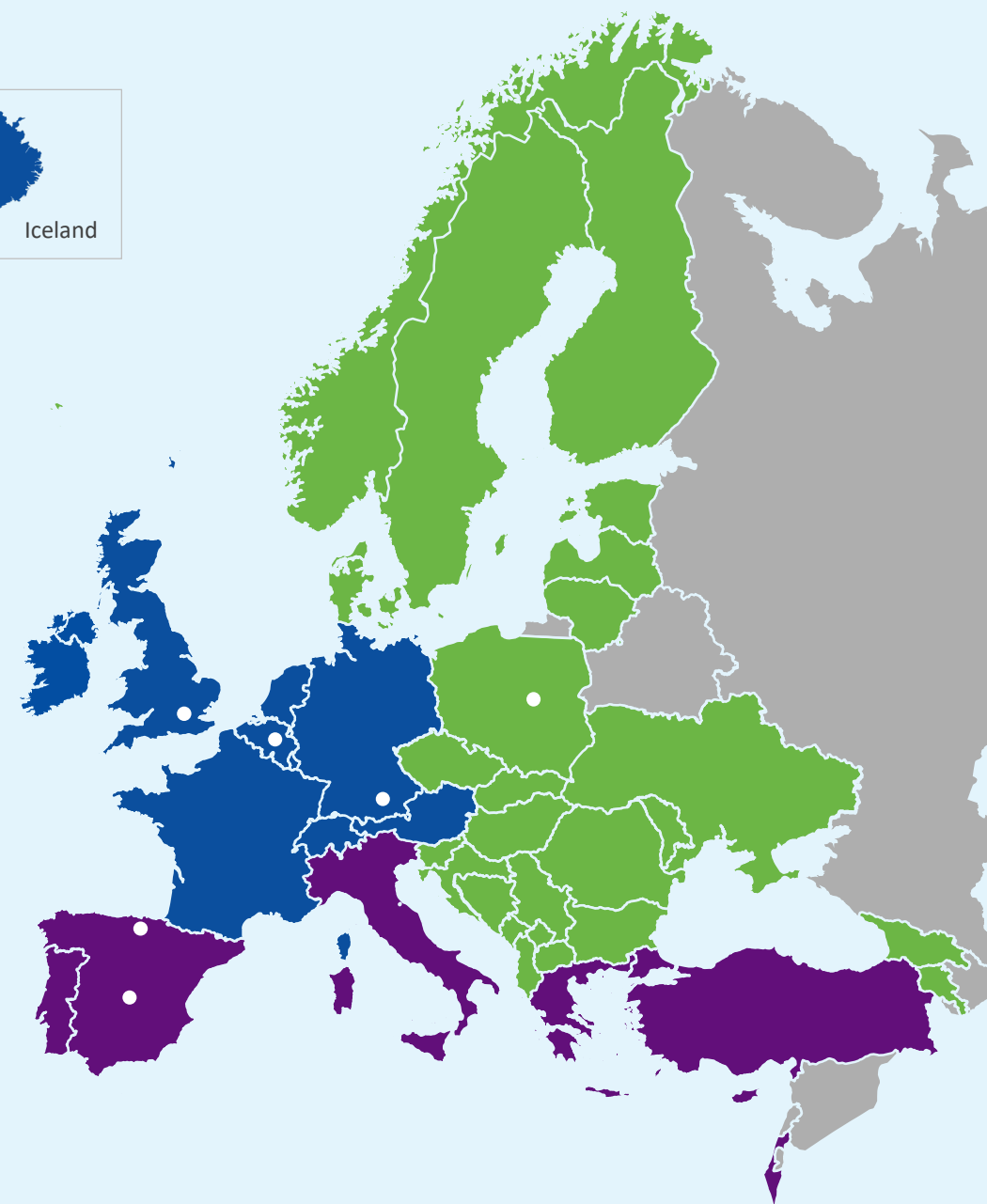
- Reading, UK
- Leuven, Belgium
- Freising, Germany

North & East

- Warsaw, Poland

South

- Bilbao, Spain
- Madrid, Spain



Meet **the North-East** Region

+190mIn
citizens

Working with
25
countries



EIT Food Hubs

CLC North-East

Bulgaria



Croatia



Czechia



Estonia



Hungary



Latvia



Lithuania



Romania



Serbia



Slovakia



Slovenia



Poland



CLC South

Greece



Portugal



Spain



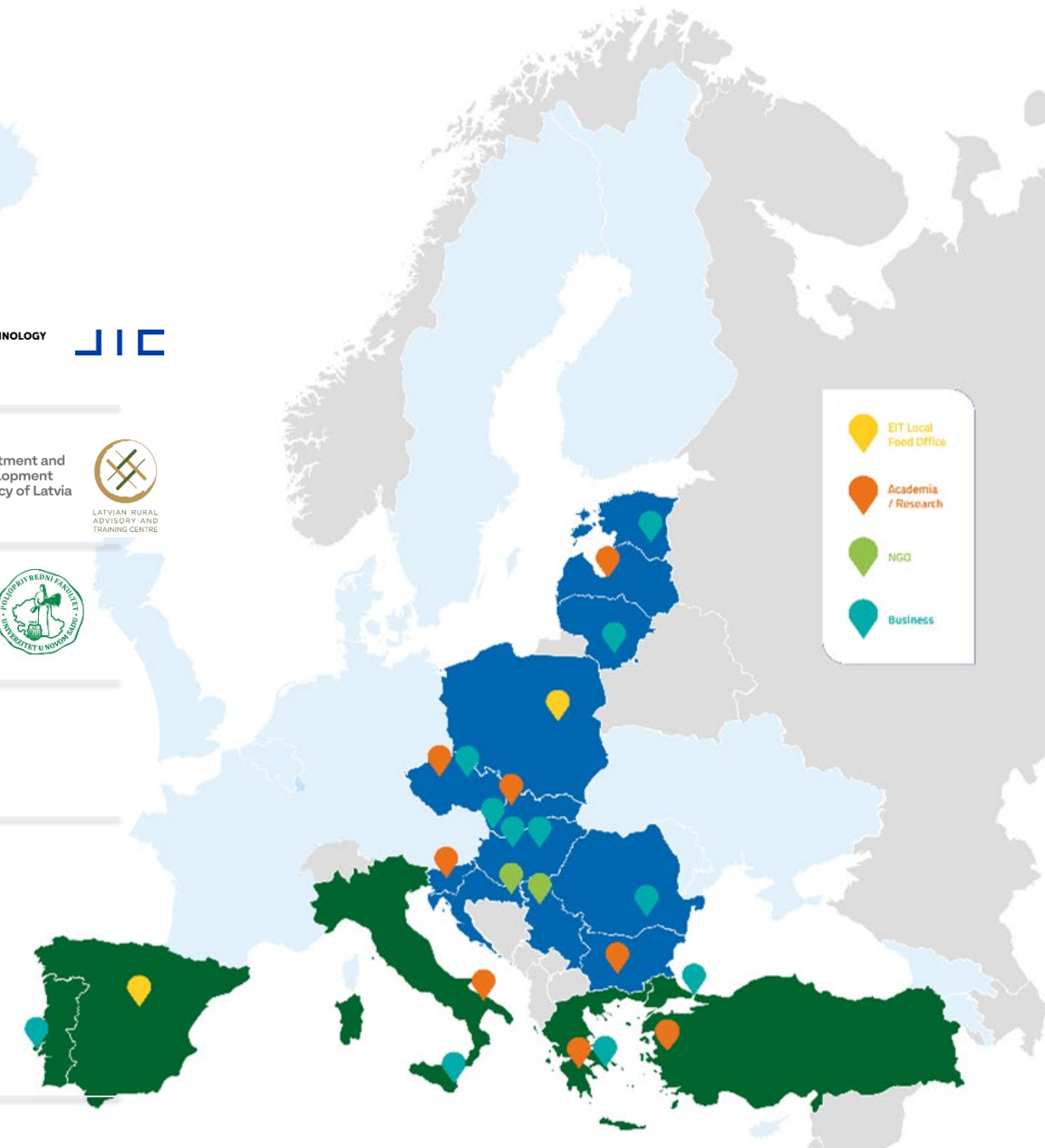
Italy



Turkey



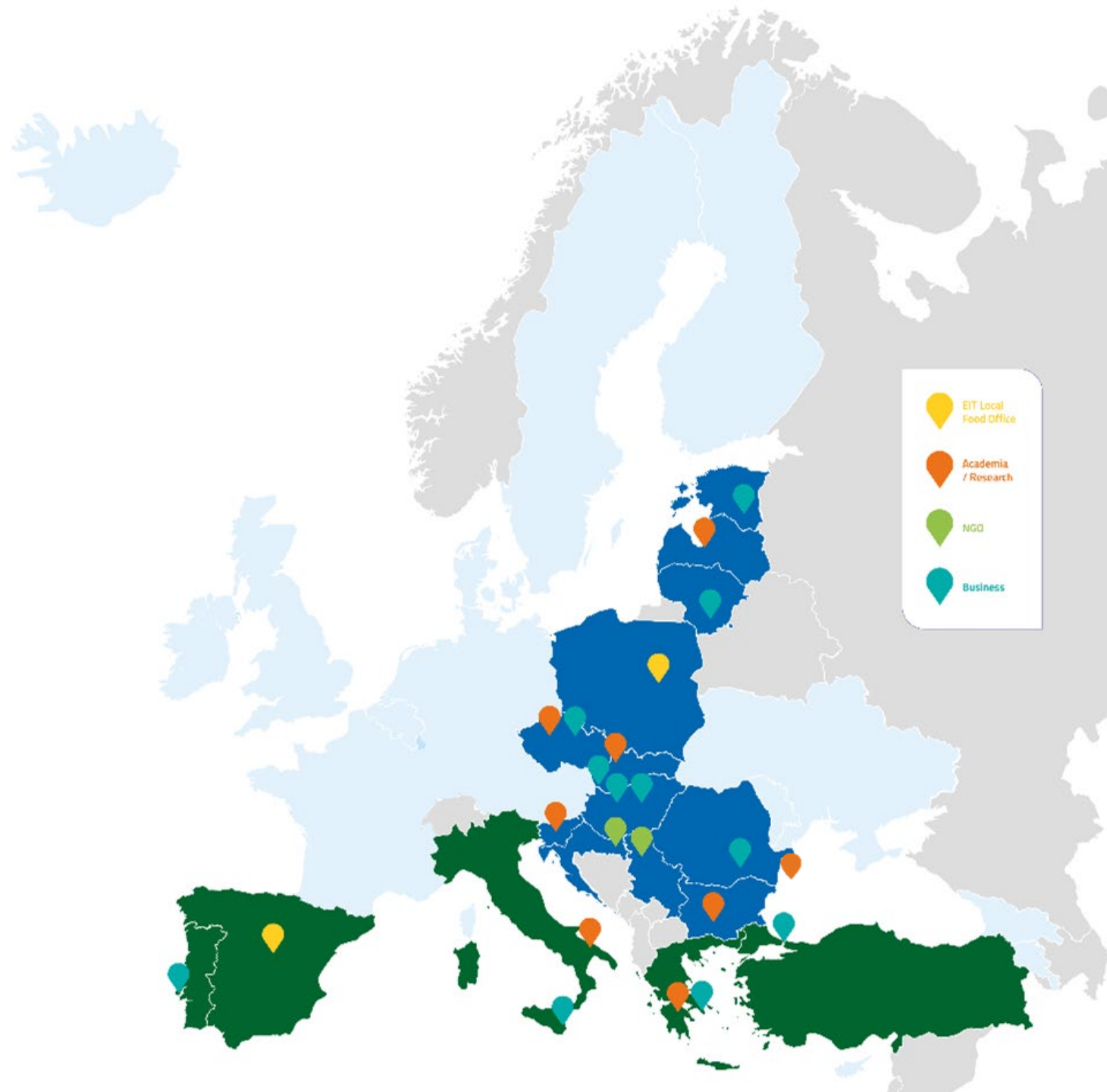
- EIT Local Food Office
- Academia / Research
- NGO
- Business



EIT Food Hub in Czechia



**UNIVERSITY OF
CHEMISTRY AND TECHNOLOGY
PRAGUE**



OUR STARTUP COMMUNITY

Startups play a crucial role in the transformation of the food



Kindwise



MEWERY
growing meat with love



THERMOSOLAR HIVE



FlockLock

A SELECTION OF CZECH STARTUPS THAT HAVE ENGAGED IN OUR PROGRAMMES

What EIT Food does and how you can get involved



OUR ACTIVITIES

EDUCATION

We equip the brightest minds all over Europe and beyond, with skills and knowledge to create a sustainable food system.



[READ MORE >](#)

INNOVATION

We guide and accelerate food innovation and focus on inclusive systems innovation, enabling all people and places to benefit.



[READ MORE >](#)

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

We support innovative impactful entrepreneurs and startups to deliver new food innovations and businesses across Europe.



[READ MORE >](#)

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

We design activities to engage people so that they can become agents of change in the food system.



[READ MORE >](#)

REGIONAL

We support the agrifood sector on the ground across Europe in our 3 regions: **NORTH & EAST**, West & South.



[READ MORE >](#)

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

We build institutional relationships and lead relevant policy discussions to drive the agrifood innovation agenda in Europe.



[READ MORE >](#)

PARTNER COMMUNITY IS DRIVING EIT FOOD IMPACT



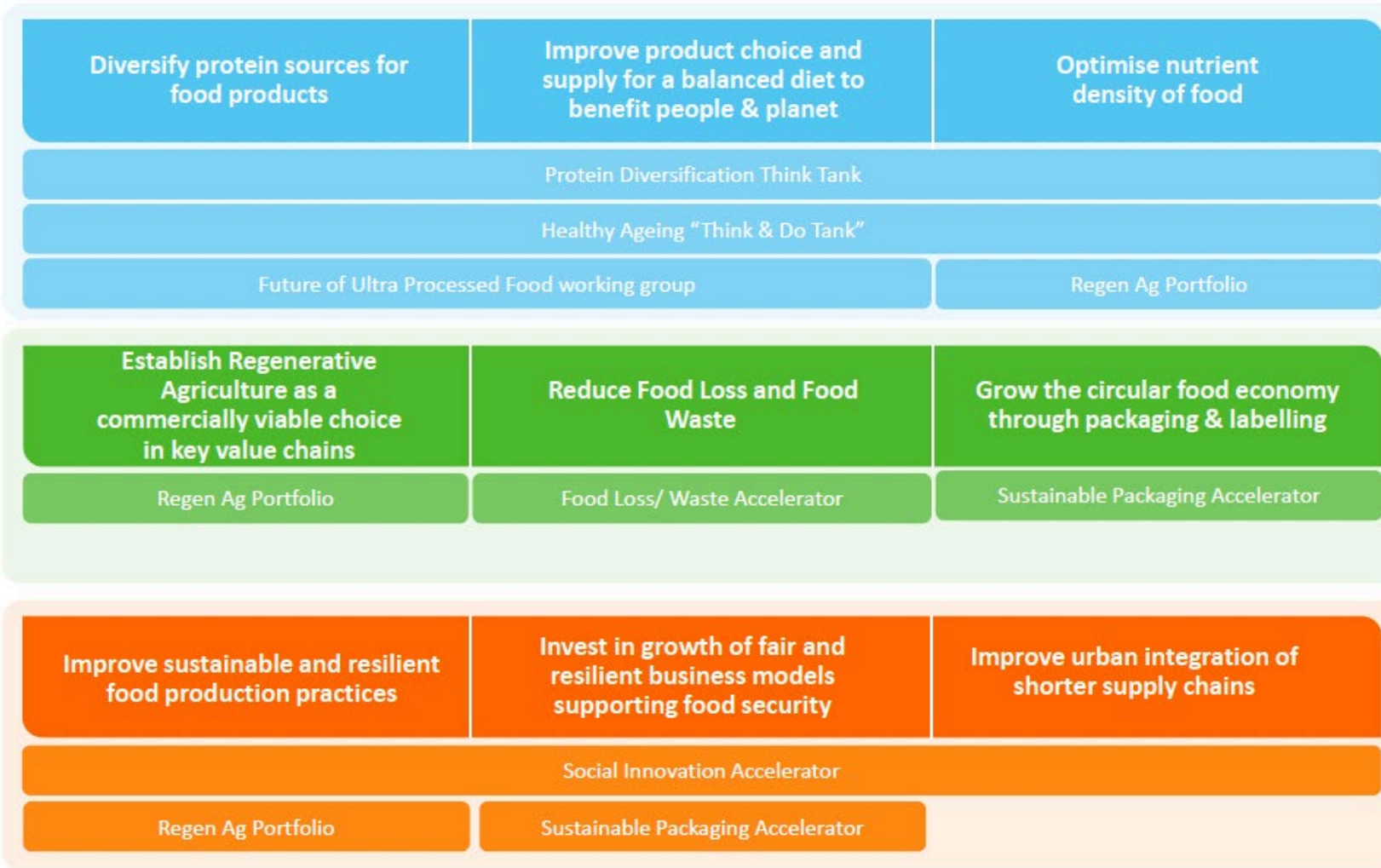
HEALTHIER LIVES THROUGH FOOD



A NET ZERO FOOD SYSTEM



REDUCING RISK FOR A FAIR & RESILIENT FOOD SYSTEM



Impact Funding Framework 2023 - 2025

If you've you got an idea that will change food systems for the better, we want to fund it!



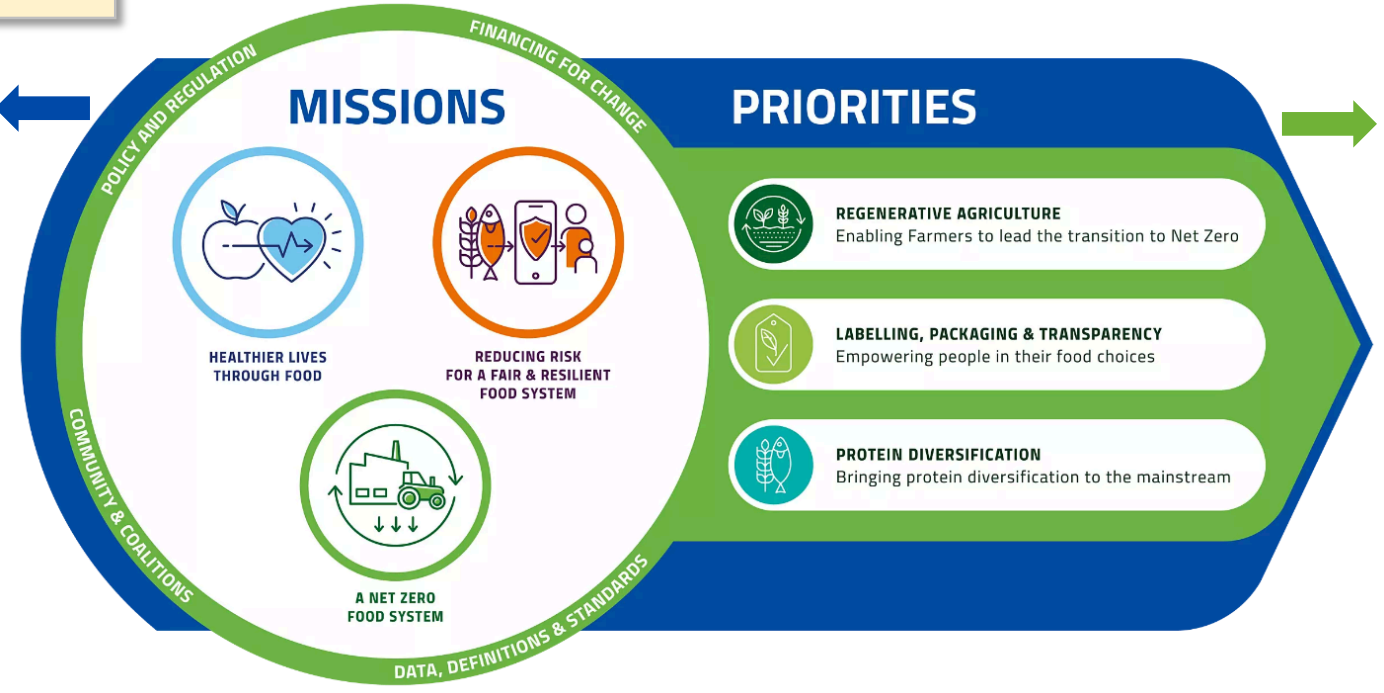
EIT FOOD IMPACT FUNDING FRAMEWORK



Larger-scale, multi-stakeholder, systems-change projects

Route 1: Collaborative Mission Programmes

- Large collaborative programmes leveraging existing EIT Food assets
- Address Mission targets
- Max €1,000,000 per year for up to 2 years
- 70% cofunding
- Success Sharing Mechanism for programmes with commercial outcomes



Route 2: Single Projects

- Innovative solutions addressing priority challenges
- Commercial (max €1,000,000 per project) or non-commercial (max €100,000)
- Deliver appropriate KPIs
- Up to 18 months
- 70% cofunding
- Success Sharing Mechanism for projects with commercial outcomes

Fast-paced, nearer-term projects delivering immediate innovation, education, and/or entrepreneurship impact

*Please refer to the **Mission Insight Reports** produced by the EIT Food community for ideas on the points of greatest need and greatest impact opportunities across the food system.*

EIT FOOD IMPACT FUNDING FRAMEWORK: IMPLEMENTATION SO FAR

76

Applications

58 Projects
18 Programmes

27

Awards

21 Projects
6 Programmes

36%

Success rate

Horizon Europe 16%
EIC 19%
ERC 14%

58%

Funding
committed

€30M Fund

95

Organisations
collaborating

3/7

Rounds
complete

€17,585,612

Grants awarded

€11,482,9621 Projects
€5,791,881 Programmes

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Multiple Submission Windows

Next deadlines: 14 Nov 2024 / 13 Mar / 10 Jul / 13 Nov 2025

Guidelines, Webinars & Other resources available on our website

www.eitfood.eu/open-calls/impact-funding-framework

Start a dialogue about your idea

Submit this Expression of Interest form if you are aiming for a collaborative programme

Getting in touch

Join the online community on [FoodHIVE](#)

Reach out to the Missions Teams missions@eitfood.eu

OTHER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES: FAST TRACK TO MARKET

A new opportunity to get your agrifood innovation, product, or service to market quicker and enhance your commercial success.

€250k per ticket

*available for each start-up,
with a call budget of €2M*

Revenue-share

*financing with a capped
maximum return*

Fast capital

*no need for extensive
negotiations or valuations*

Simple

*application, fast evaluation,
and minimal reporting*

30% co-funding

of total project costs

12 months

*for execution of selected
projects*

**Applications close on 26 Nov 2024
at 12:00 noon CET**

**Register your
interest!**



Get notifications

Subscribe to Open Call notifications: www.eitfood.eu/open-calls-subscribe

EIT FOOD FLAGSHIP EVENT – NEXT BITE 2024



931
ATTENDEES

190
PARTNERS

132
EXHIBITORS

2150+
MEETINGS



Join us in 2025 in Brussels!

NewAgVentures. CEE Food Innovators Meetup in Warsaw





Conference co-organised by Terra Nostra (Strategic Partner) and EIT Food to promote and exchanging practical knowledge in regenerative agriculture.



An infographic titled "Forum in numbers" with a green and white color scheme. It features the BIO_REACTION logo at the top left. The main text says "Thank you for being with us". Below this are four statistics in white text on green rounded rectangles: "845 guests in Pierzchno", "1878 guests online", "5 debates", and "5 presentations". The background shows a large audience seated in a hall. At the bottom, there are logos for the organizers: "Organiser: TERRA NOSTRA FUNDACJA" and "Co-organiser: eit Food". On the far right, there is a logo for the European Union with the text "Co-funded by the European Union".



Side Event – workshop with Regenerative Agriculture Programme Participants

Regenerative Agriculture Programme

EIT Food project contributors

BULGARIA



CZECHIA



HUNGARY



POLAND



SLOVAKIA



SERBIA



Farmers
Association

Startup/
Consultancy

Community and
Advocacy Organisation

Corporate
Foundation

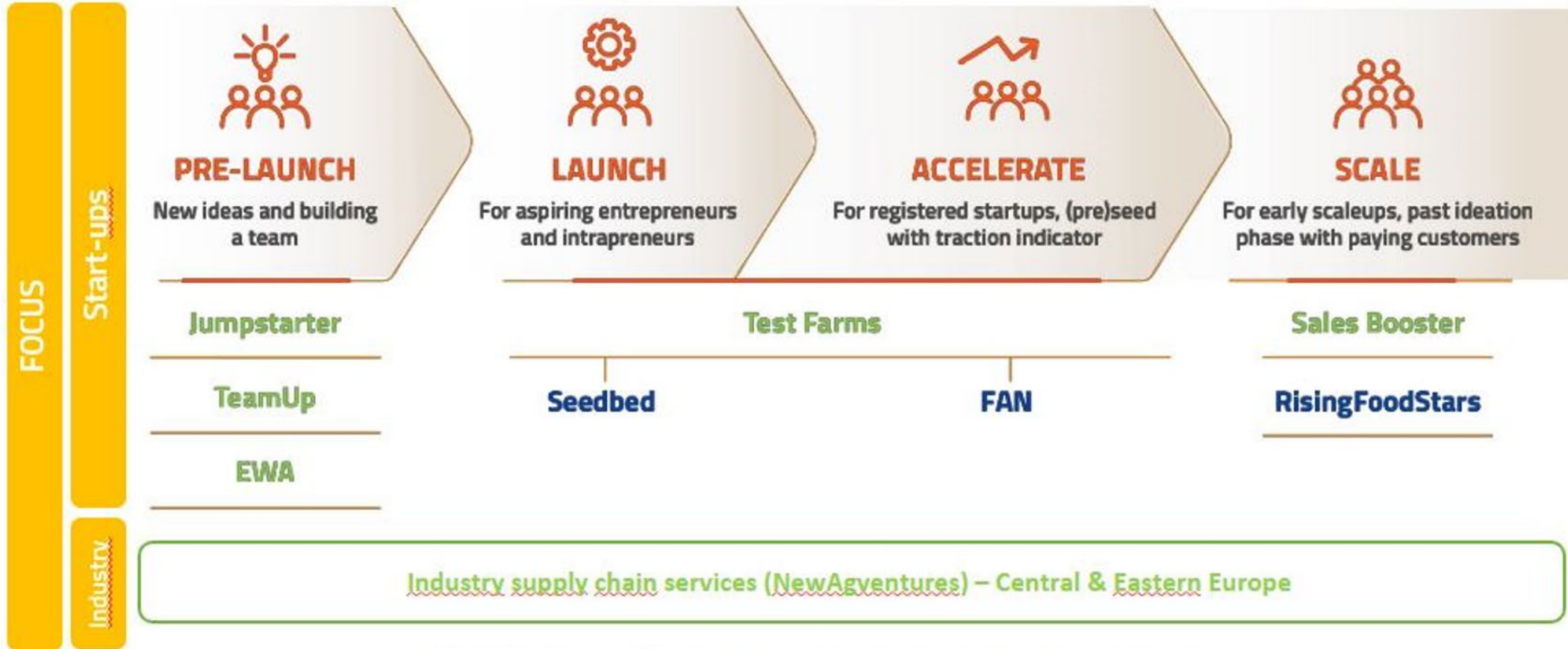
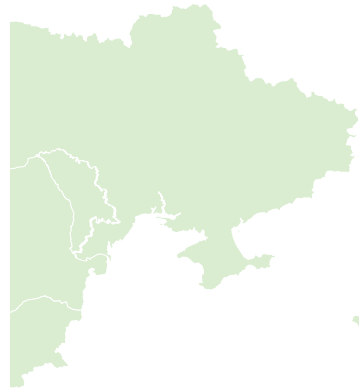
Large-Scale
Regenerative
Farm

Non-profit supporting
European
Protein Transition

EIT Food programmes



Support activities in CEE region



● All Europe ● For applicants from Southern and Eastern Europe

EIT Food Flagship programmes



Seedbed

For aspiring entrepreneurs and researchers looking for:

MARKET VALIDATION
TO COMMERCIALISE THEIR
INNOVATION

LAUNCH



Food Accelerator Network

For registered pre-seed startups with traction indicators looking for:

**TECH VALIDATION AND
BUSINESS ACCELERATION**

ACCELERATE



RisingFoodStars

For impact-driven aspiring scaleups looking for:

**COMMERCIAL CAPABILITIES
UPSCALING
FOR RAPID GROWTH**

SCALE

Applications for 2025 co-hort open mid December
You can already register at www.eitfood.eu/entrepreneurship

EIT JUMPSTARTER

EIT Jumpstarter is a Cross-KIC activity that supports scientific project teams, innovators, PhD candidates and students (pre-registration) with **promising ideas of innovative products and services** in the fields of:

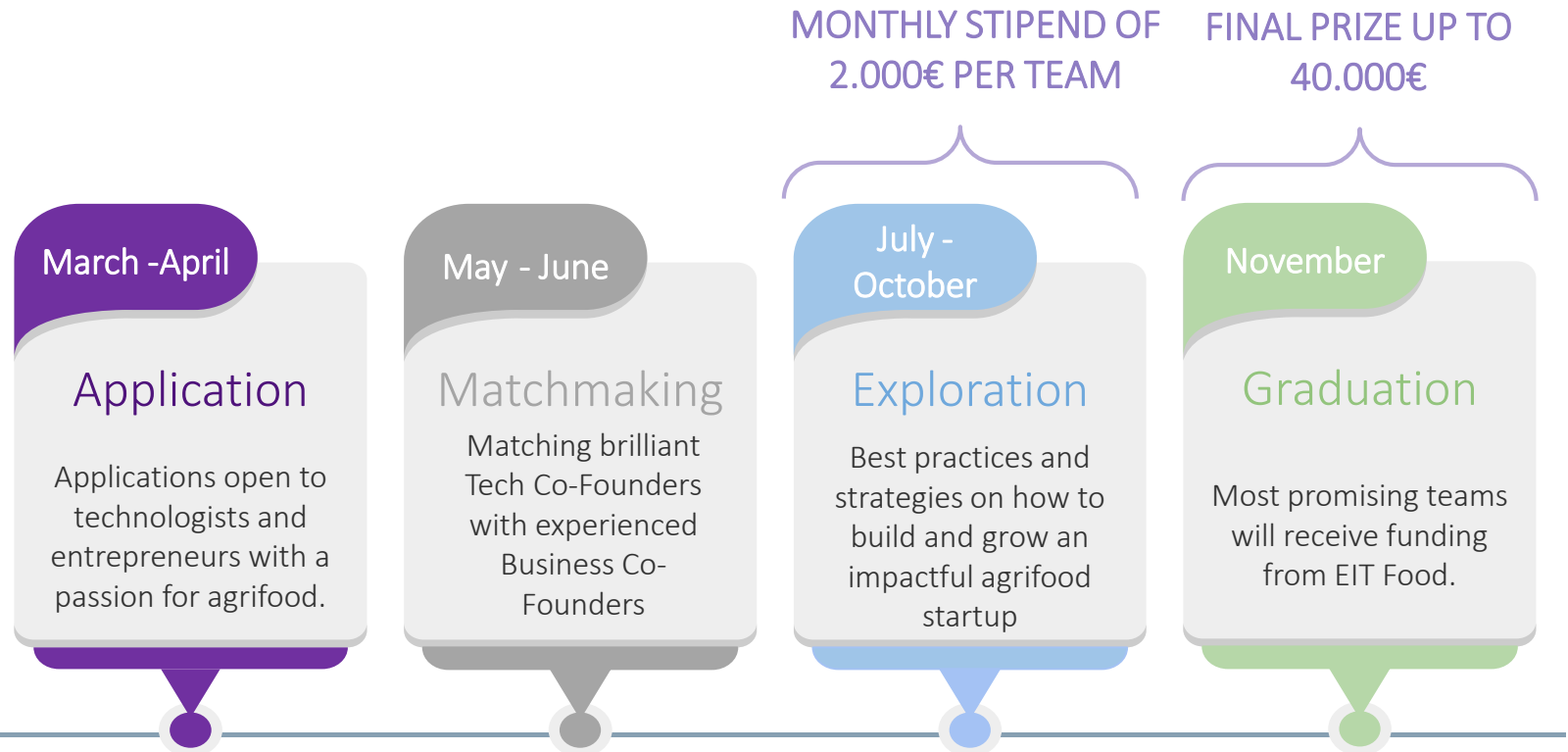
- agriculture, food processing and distribution
- healthcare
- energy, raw materials
- urban mobility, and
- manufacturing sector
- + special cohorts: Rebuild Ukraine, Western Balkans





Matching

- **Tech co-founders** who've a technology that can transform the food system but they struggle to commercialise it
- with
- **Business co-founders** that wish to to apply their business development experience and skills to commercialising an impactful agrifood solution.



FIND OUT MORE: www.eitfood.eu/projects/teamup

Empowering Women in Agrifood (EWA)

A 6-months programme to motivate **early-stage female entrepreneurs** to harness their power, understand their capabilities, equip them with the right knowledge, trust and networks to successfully start and develop sustainable businesses.

Ongoing support

- ❖ Over 30 hours of personalized mentoring, from specialists in various fields.

Dedicated trainings

- ❖ Tailor-made online and offline trainings on specific business topics.

Power of community

- ❖ Local and international events with high-level stakeholders.

Funding opportunities

- ❖ Up to 10 000 euros of financial support for the business idea development.

3 editions in Czechia so far (2020, 2022 and 2024, 30 participants in total)

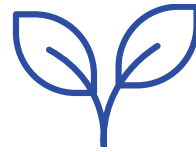
FIND OUT MORE: <https://www.eitfood.eu/projects/ewa-empowering-women-in-agrifood>



TEST FARMS



Calling for **incorporated startups, teams & individuals** with **innovative agritech** solutions that can be tested on farm, with crops or



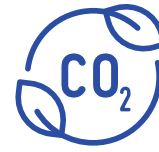
Sustainability (input reduction)



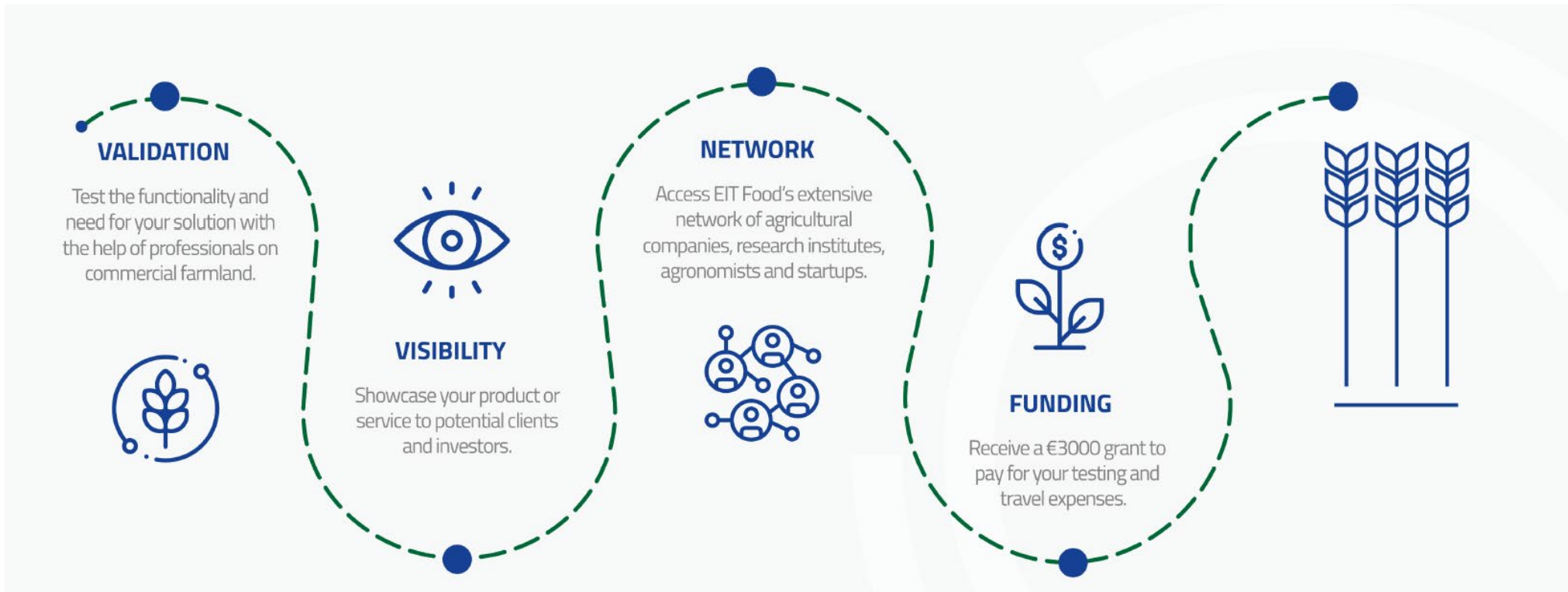
Precision agriculture



Digital traceability



CO2 monitoring



FIND OUT MORE: www.eitfood.eu/projects/test-farms

NEXT APPLICATION DEADLINE: **22 November 2024**

SALES BOOSTER

Sales Booster is a **custom-made** programme of EIT Food that helps innovative **startups explore and enter new agrifood markets in Europe**.

During this programme, a startup receives personalised **trainings, coaching, expert advice and network** to prepare for the development and **growth in the new markets**.

For startups

- With established sales in their local market
- Looking for international expansion
- With an impactful solution / product aligned with EIT Food's mission(s) OR one that can be applied in the agrifood industry.



FIND OUT MORE: www.eitfood.eu/projects/sales-booster

NEXT APPLICATION ROUND: SPRING 2025

ScaleUp Regenerative Agriculture

Goals of the programme:

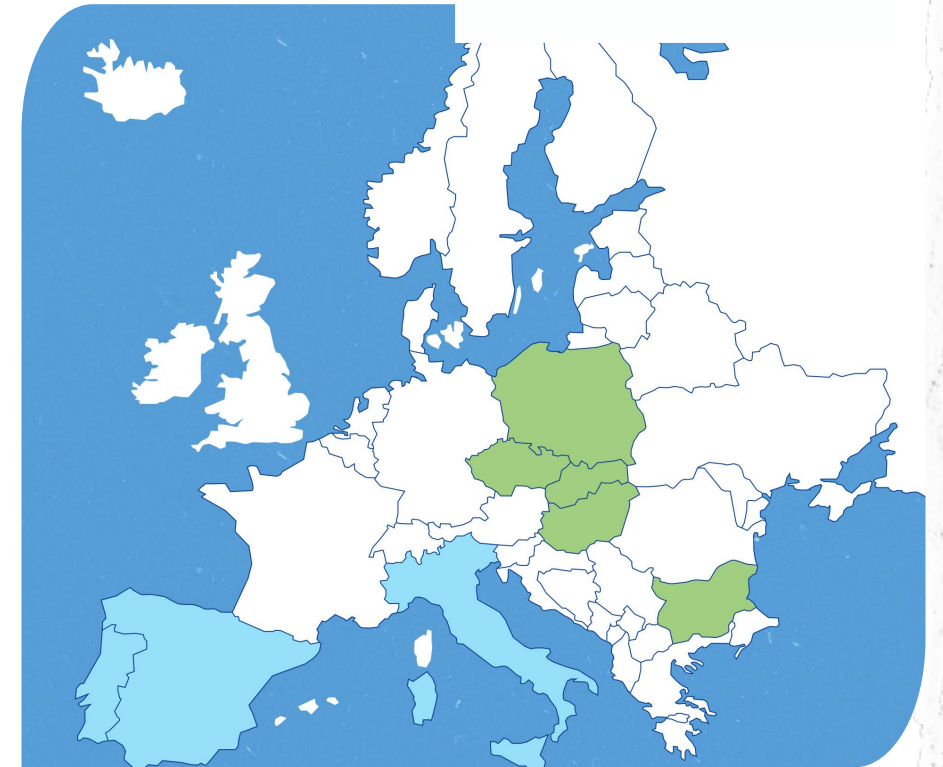
- Increase the uptake of regenerative practices by farmers and agri-food industry
- Raise awareness of citizens/society about soil health and its benefits for the environment and public health.

Programme structure (gradually rolled out to new countries):

- **STAGE 1:** 2-day trainings for farmers on principles of regenerative agriculture,
- **STAGE 2:** 3-year individual advisory transition programme (incl. farm audit, chemical and microbiological soil testing, development of an individual transition plan for the farm, ongoing remote agronomist support)
- **STAGE 3 & 4:** Stakeholder events and public engagement activities to promote regenerative agriculture practices (materials in Czech)



Co-funded by the
European Union



2021: Pilot in Poland

2022 – 2023: in 5 CEE countries

2024: in 6 CEE countries

FIND OUT MORE: www.eitfood.eu/projects/regenag-mentoring-farmers

ScaleUp Regenerative Agriculture in Czechia

Our partner for supporting farmers to transition to regenerative agriculture practices in Czechia:



114

Total farmers trained in CZ

2022

Start of programme implementation

18

Farmers enrolled in individual advisory programme



[Transforming Farming in Czechia](#)

CHALLENGE LAB IN CZECHIA

Challenge Lab

Druhý život pro bioodpad!

od 4. října do 17. prosince 2024

JIC



Co-funded by the
European Union



FIND OUT MORE: www.jic.cz/cz/akce/eit-challenge-lab-druhý-zivot-pro-bioodpad



EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

OUR ACTIVITIES – EDUCATION

We equip the brightest minds all over Europe and beyond, with skills and knowledge to create a sustainable food system



LEARNING SERVICES

Our EIT-labelled Learning Services for employers provide a comprehensive methodology and toolkit to support the upskilling and reskilling of staff in innovation competencies. The services allow tailor-made solutions to support HR and line managers while driving impact throughout clients' organisations.

[READ MORE >](#)



PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Our professional education portfolio includes programmes in entrepreneurship, leadership, food systems approaches and deep technical trainings which are not available through traditional providers of education and training in the food system. Examples are WE Lead, for women leaders, the Innovator Fellowship, for researchers, and Algal Biotech, for technical staff.

[READ MORE >](#)



THE REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE REVOLUTION

Our online courses have helped over 200,000 learners understand the food system, how to make better food choices and how technologies can contribute to sustainability. The Regenerative Agriculture Revolution is our newest addition and explores sustainable farming methods.

[READ MORE >](#)

EIT HEI Initiative: Innovation Capacity Building for Higher Education

Call to **higher education institutions** and **business partners** across Europe to collaborate on innovative projects, **transforming higher education institutions into hubs for innovation and entrepreneurship.**



The **funding rate is 100%**, but co-funding is encouraged. The funding per project is 1.34 million EUR over 25 months.

Eligible to apply: HEIs, SMEs and large enterprises, research institutes, public bodies at local, regional or national level, intermediary organisations or associations which represent HEIs, social enterprises and NGOs



FIND OUT MORE: eit-hei.eu/calls/call-for-proposals-4/

APPLY BEFORE DECEMBER 12, 17:00 CET

EIT RIS - 10TH ANNIVERSARY



Introduced in 2014 as EIT main tool for reducing Europe's regional innovation disparities and building the innovation capacity in RIS countries

Specific activities and tailor-made programmes to support moderate and emerging innovating countries, as well as the EU's Outermost Regions

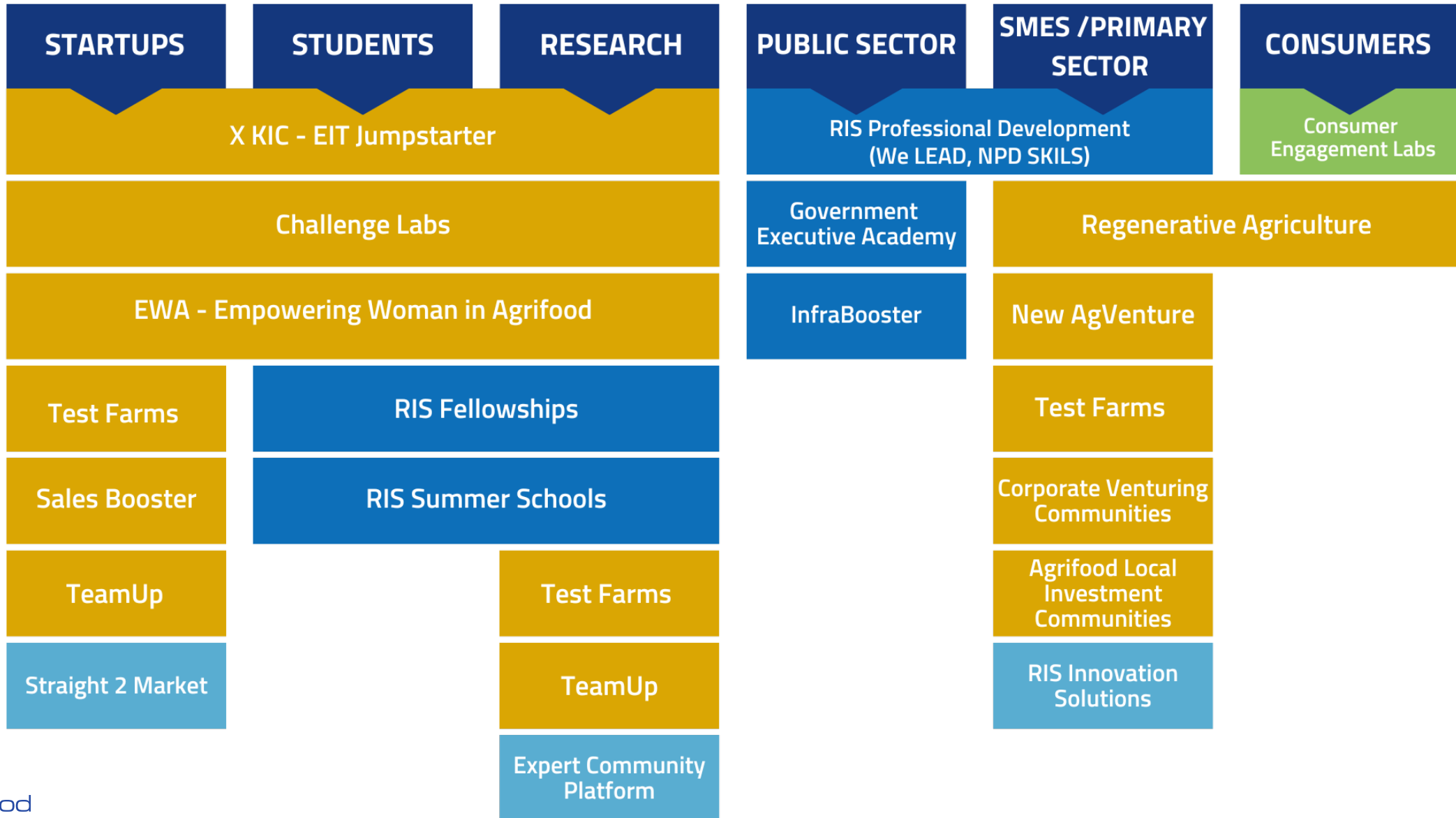
Activities addressed to businesses, start-ups, incubators, research institutions, and educational bodies.

Involves EIT's nine Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs)

€298.3M EIT grants went to RIS area countries

- Some figures:
- 360 Innovations launched by EIT community-backed local ventures
 - 17 EU countries + Outermost regions + 5 HE Associated countries

RIS TARGET GROUPS



Celebrating 10 years of the EIT Regional Innovation Scheme

28th of November 2024

Budapest, Hungary

The next decade of innovations for the future of Europe



What else to expect:

- **EIT Jumpstarter Grand Finals**
- Discover regional innovators from the Western Balkans and Ukraine through dedicated **EIT Infrabooster** and **EIT Red Kalyna Women Innovations** sessions.

VISIT EVENT'S SITE: <https://eit-ris.eu/eitris10event/>



Join the EIT Food partnership!

WHY SHOULD YOU JOIN THE EIT FOOD COMMUNITY?

PARTNERS...

gain unparalleled access to a network of Europe's leading agrifood businesses, startups, universities and research organisations

CURIOUS MINDS...

benefit from the latest online courses, education programmes and professional development opportunities so they can have a positive impact in society



Improving
food
together

ENTREPRENEURS...

are provided with expert mentoring, tailor-made entrepreneurship programmes and easy-to-access funding to enable them to launch, accelerate and scale agrifood businesses

THE PUBLIC...

can engage in a dialogue with the food industry and co-create the future food system through access to our innovative events, digital platforms and public engagement activities

CHANGEMAKERS...

are supported in taking their ideas from concept to market so they can launch new innovative products, ingredients and solutions to deliver healthier, trusted and more sustainable food

BECOME A PARTNER

We welcome impact-driven organisations of all sizes: from startups and SMEs, right through to large global corporates, universities and research organisations. [Choose the best path for your organisation.](#)

DELIVERY PARTNER



Organisations that want to focus on delivery of impact through projects and programmes

Includes community member benefits +

- ✓ Deliver a range of high-impact projects, or focus on one
- ✓ Run local activities and events with our support
- ✓ Benefit from dedicated account management and support in finding funding opportunities

STRATEGIC PARTNER



Organisations that want to set the agenda for a future-fit food system and have a strong influential voice in the EU and beyond

Includes delivery partner benefits +

- ✓ Shape our national, EU-wide and global flagship programmes with us
- ✓ Be a thought leader across the key challenges for the sector
- ✓ Get access to experts and talents to strengthen your organisation

BECOME A PARTNER

We welcome impact-driven organisations of all sizes: from startups and SMEs, right through to large global corporates, universities and research organisations. [Choose the best path for your organisation.](#)

COMMUNITY MEMBER



Organisations that want to be part of a dynamic network and to connect and collaborate with our strategic and delivery partners

- ✓ Benefit from our network of partners, sector insights and knowledge
- ✓ Take part in exclusive online and in person events
- ✓ Premium access to our dedicated digital community platform FoodHIVE

North-East Region Partners

Strategic Partners

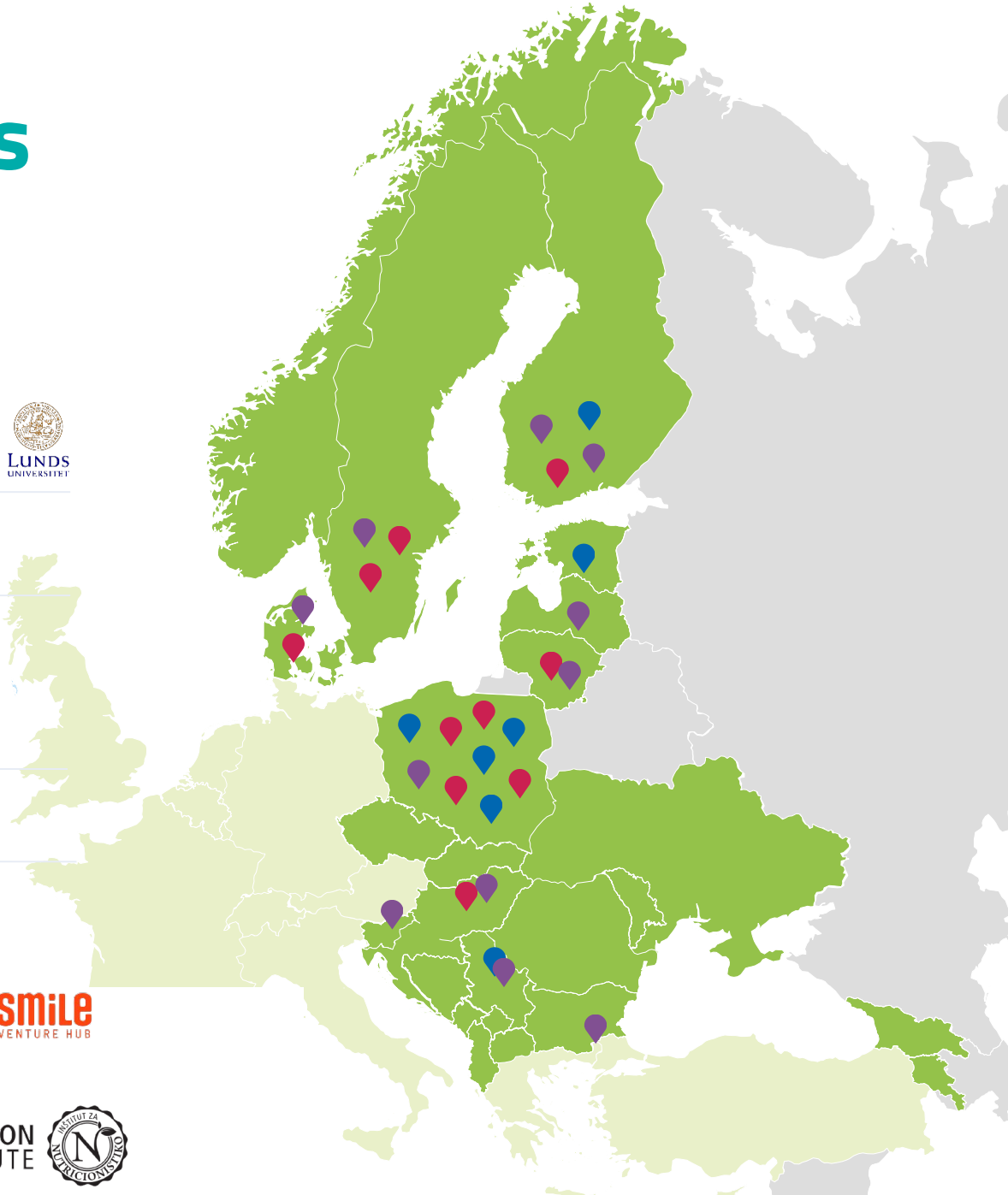
Aarhus University, Łukasiewicz, art21, UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI, UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW, HOOKED, LUNDS UNIVERSITET, Campden BRI, TERRA NOSTRA FUNDACJA, Institute of Animal Reproduction and Food Research Polish Academy of Sciences in Olsztyn, INSTYTUT EKONOMIKI ROLNICTWA I GOSPODARKI ŻYWNOSCIOWEJ PANSTWOWY INSTYTUT BADAWCZY

Delivery Partners

VTT, Food Bank in Olsztyn, NAPIFERYN BIOTECH, FINS, Lodz University of Technology, TF TAK, MASPEX

Community Members

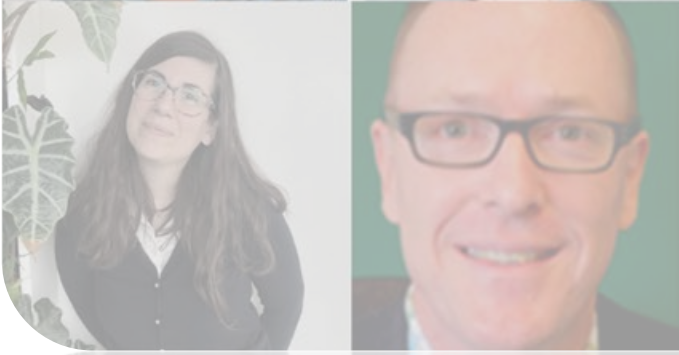
Food & Bio Cluster Denmark, BSAG, SOFIA UNIVERSITY ST. KLIMENT OHRIDSKI, grunt od nowa FUNDACJA, LoginEKO, smile VENTURE HUB, DOJUS group, jamk University of Applied Sciences, transfoodmission, LITHUANIAN RESEARCH CENTRE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY, Pfeifer & Langen Polska, NUTRITION INSTITUTE



EIT Food Protein Diversification Think Tank



Policy Brief: Accelerating Protein Diversification for Europe



Mission Accelerator: A framework to speed up mission delivery.

Target: Reducing Food Loss and Waste



Co-funded by the
European Union

Tuesday 25th June 2024
CLC NE Partners' June 2024 Catch-up Meeting

TRANSFORMATIVE GOALS

AIMS

01

Strategic contributions:
Generate a portfolio of actionable initiatives.

02

Innovation: Produce innovative solutions.
Ex: A zero-waste profitable business model

03

A holistic approach to reduce waste at the source, redistributes surplus, and repurposes inedible waste into valuable products.

DESIRED OUTCOMES

01

Increased quality and volume of proposals aiming at transformative change.

02

Leadership in addressing key food systems issues.

03

Mission “acceleration”:
Reduction of food loss and waste at European level.

EIT Food Partners Networking and Consortium Building Workshop 15th of April – in person

Free



Co-funded by the
European Union

IN-PERSON NETWORKING WORKSHOP FOR PARTNERS

15 APRIL | BILBAO, SPAIN



[EIT Food Partners Networking and Consortium Building Workshop | Events | EIT FoodHIVE](#)

Our active partners and **collaborative projects**



FEASTS

Fostering European Cellular Agriculture
for Sustainable Transition Solutions

In numbers

35

PARTNERS

16

COUNTRIES

36

MONTHS

7

MILION EURO

HEI Capacity Building

Consumer Engagement Labs

Infrabooster

EIT Food FAN

Government Executive Academy

GROW

New Product Development

Seedbed

RIS Fellowship

Food Systems Masters

Food Solutions

Consumer Observatory

WeLead

LET'S CREATE THE FUTURE OF FOOD TOGETHER!



Become part
of our
community



Share
your ideas



Help us
transform the
food sector

FIND OUT
MORE AT
EITFOOD.EU

CONTACT DETAILS
[justyna.kulawik@
eitfood.eu](mailto:justyna.kulawik@eitfood.eu)



Co-funded by the
European Union