

IMPROVING FOOD TOGETHER

Opportunities offered in EIT Food



Co-funded by the
European Union



Monika Tomaniová & Edita Ryšlavá
EIT Food Hub, University of Chemistry and Technology Prague

EUROPE'S ONE-STOP SHOP FOR INNOVATION

The [European Institute of Innovation and Technology \(EIT\)](#) drives innovation by supporting entrepreneurs, innovators and students across Europe to turn their best ideas into reality. For each major societal challenge, there is an ecosystem of partners, the EIT's Innovation Communities, that creates and finds innovative solutions.



EIT Climate-KIC

Working to accelerate the transition to a zero-carbon economy



EIT Digital

Driving Europe's digital transformation



EIT InnoEnergy

Achieving a sustainable energy future for Europe



EIT Health

Giving European citizens greater opportunities to enjoy a healthy life



EIT RawMaterials

Developing raw materials into a major strength for Europe



EIT Food

Building a future-fit food system that produces and sustainable food for all



EIT Manufacturing

Bringing European manufacturers together



EIT Urban Mobility

Mobility for more liveable urban spaces



EIT Culture & Creativity

Transforming Europe's cultural and creative sectors and industries



EIT Water

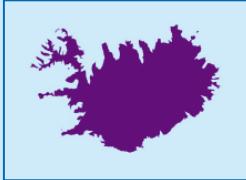
Contribute to a circular and sustainable water economy



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 managed by 6 regional offices.



NORTH & EAST

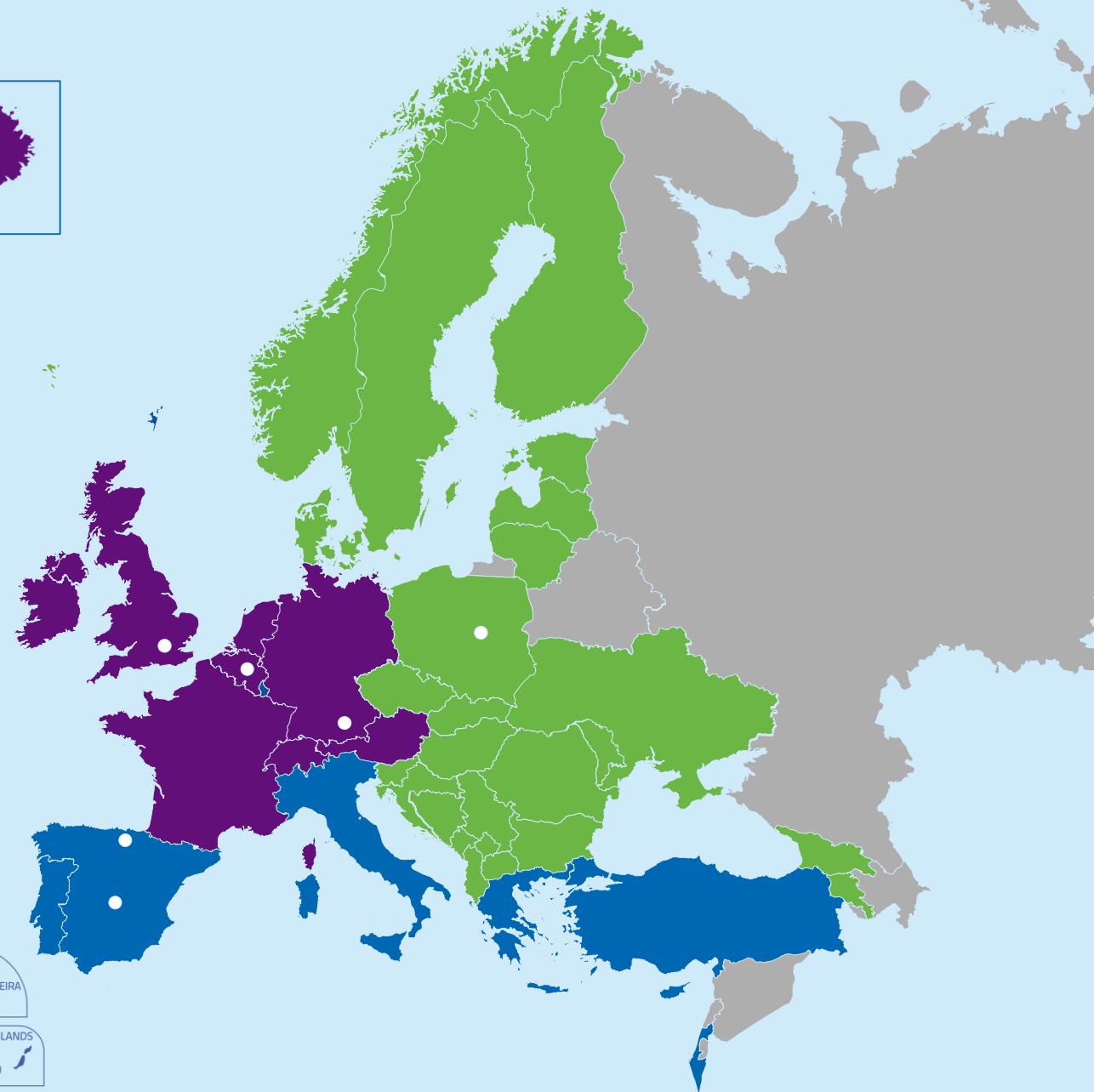
- Warsaw, Poland

WEST

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

SOUTH

- Bilbao, Spain
- Madrid, Spain



OUR MISSIONS

We operate through a **mission-led approach** which puts improving outcomes for people and planet as the starting point for our work.



HEALTHIER LIVES THROUGH FOOD

We will make a material difference to quality of life by enabling more consumers to have better choices through access to affordable, healthier products and actionable information.



NET ZERO FOOD SYSTEM

We will scale a systems approach that enables the transition to sustainable and regenerative agriculture practices, creates new markets and opportunities for food waste and loss reduction, and empowers all stakeholders to play an active role in the circular food economy.



FOOD SYSTEM RESILIENCE

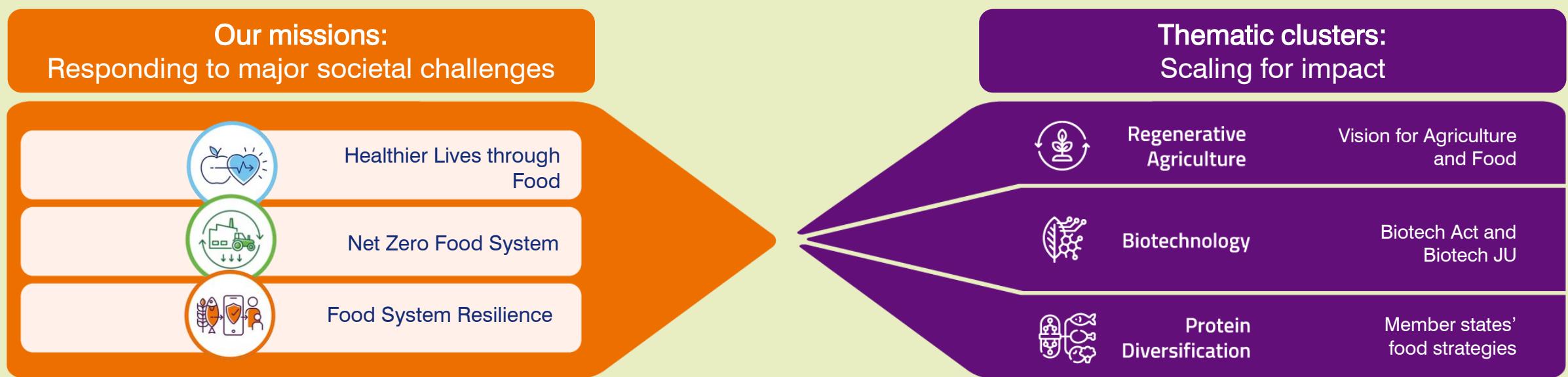
We will improve food security and safety for consumers everywhere by enabling and establishing resilient and dependable digitally enabled food supply chains.

EIT FOOD PRIORITIES OF FUTURE

The EIT's mission is to contribute to sustainable economic growth and competitiveness across the Union by reinforcing the innovation capacity of Member States in order to address major societal challenges.



EIT Food translates this mandate to **agriculture & food challenges**, aligning with the **Vision for Agriculture and Food**



Create an innovation ecosystem to tackle the challenges of the food system through **Knowledge Triangle Integration**

EIT FOOD THINK TANKS

Convening experts from across the food system to foster knowledge sharing, impactful initiatives, and drive policy conversations to accelerate food system transformation.

PROTEIN DIVERSIFICATION THINK TANK

Protein diversification should be at the forefront of all relevant policies, and it is the goal of the EIT Food Protein Diversification Think Tank to enable this by fostering dialogue. As a neutral, independent body, the **Think Tank engages all stakeholders of the food system to identify gaps, barriers, and opportunities.** Collectively, the Think Tank members also co-create evidence-based roadmaps and recommend actions and policies for protein diversification to drive the food systems transformation.

[READ MORE >](#)



HEALTHY AGEING THINK & DO TANK

The EIT Food Healthy Ageing Think & Do Tank brings together strategic partners across Europe to drive innovation, knowledge exchange, and impactful initiatives that support active and fulfilling lives for older adults across Europe. The Think Tank has established **three working groups focused on critical areas: dietary strategies for preventing non-communicable diseases, targeted approaches for healthy ageing, and enhancing well-being through microbiome health.**

[READ MORE >](#)



RESILIENT AGRICULTURE THINK & DO TANK

This initiative leads the way in the rapidly evolving agricultural landscape by uniting partners to influence policy, close critical systemic gaps, and translate insights into public awareness and actionable solutions. Our primary objective is **to accelerate the adoption of resilient agriculture to ensure food security and planetary health across Europe**, utilizing innovation to secure farmers' livelihoods and overcome key social, financial, technical, and regulatory barriers to transition.

[READ MORE >](#)



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What do we do?

THE THINK TANK FOSTERS THE DIALOG, BRIDGES KNOWLEDGE AND ACTION BY:



Convening experts and stakeholders to identify **gaps, barriers, and opportunities.**



Mainstreaming protein diversification for the benefit of people and the planet.



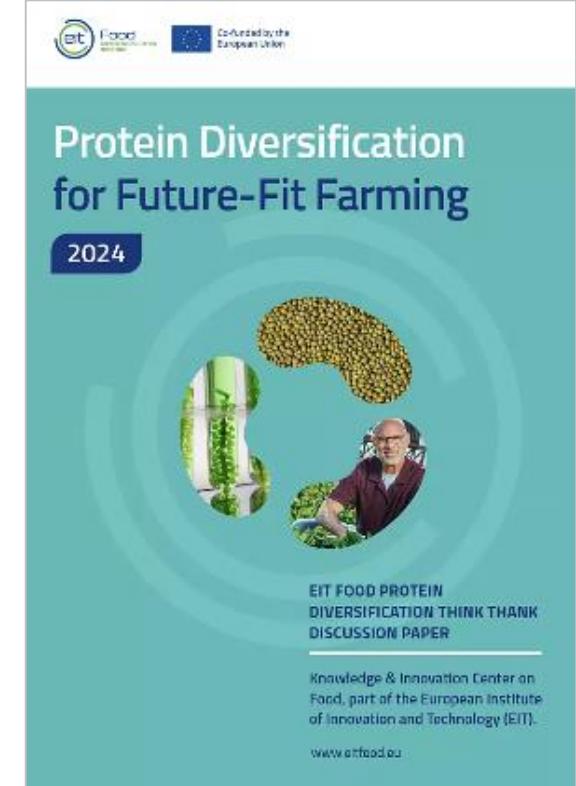
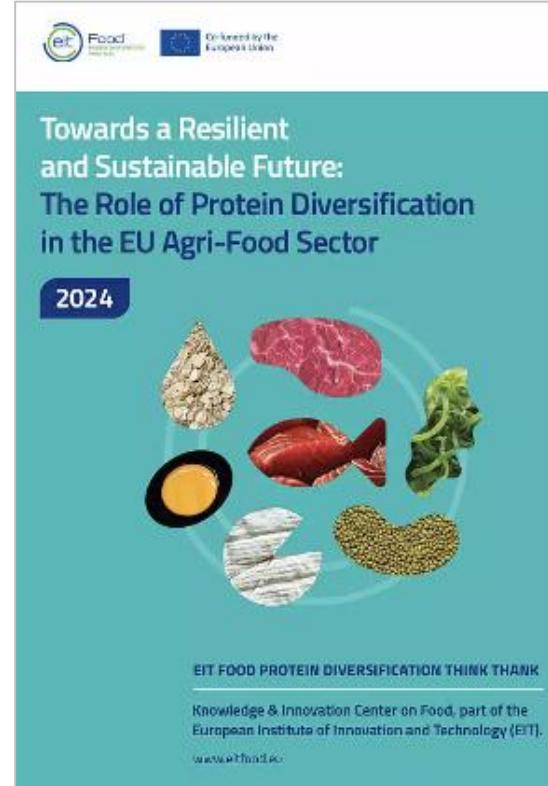
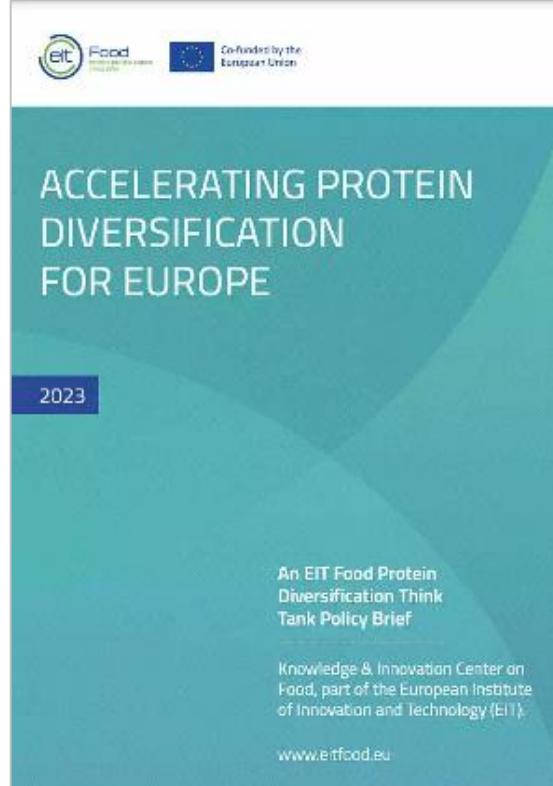
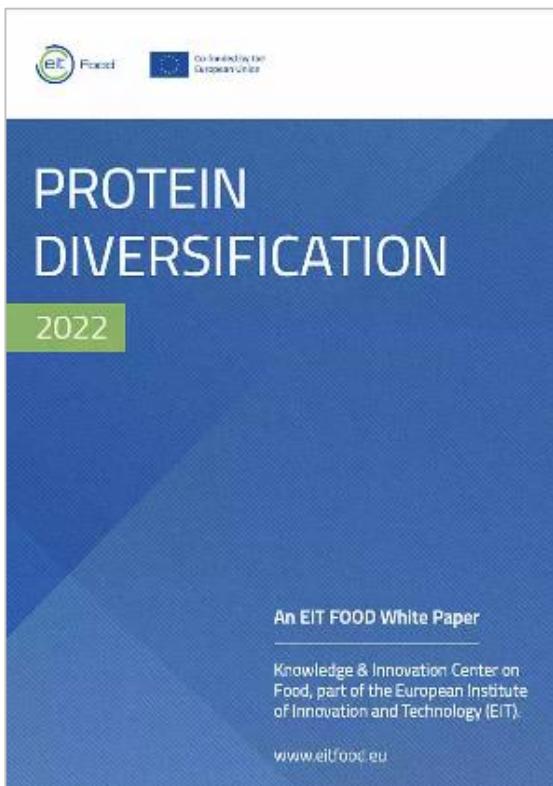
Providing policy recommendations and advocate for actions and policies to drive meaningful change



Ensuring every recommendation leads to real-world impact.



EIT Food Protein Diversification Think Tank - PUBLICATIONS



<https://www.eitfood.eu/projects/eit-food-protein-diversification-think-tank>

Consortia and project initiation

The Think Tank facilitated the emergence of 2 successful consortia in 2023-2024:



Fostering European Cellular Agriculture for
Sustainable Transition Solutions, funded by the EU



35

Partners

16

Countries

36

Months

€7

Million



EPIC-SHIFT



Securing Holistic and Impactful Food Systems Transformation
with Novel Foods based on alternative proteins

20

Partners

14

Countries

36

Months

€4,5

Million





European Agri-Food Biotech Alliance: From Vision to Action

16 October 2025



Co-funded by the
European Union



Why Biotech? The Opportunity

Global Growth

- Advanced food biotech projected to reach €250–300B global market by 2040 (McKinsey, 2025).

European Potential

- EU could unlock €30–50B and create 30,000 - 50,000 high-skilled jobs (PwC, 2025).

Commercialization Momentum

- Biotech foods moving from niche to mainstream.
- EU leads in R&D but lags in scaling - risking innovation flight outside Europe.

Sustainability Dividend

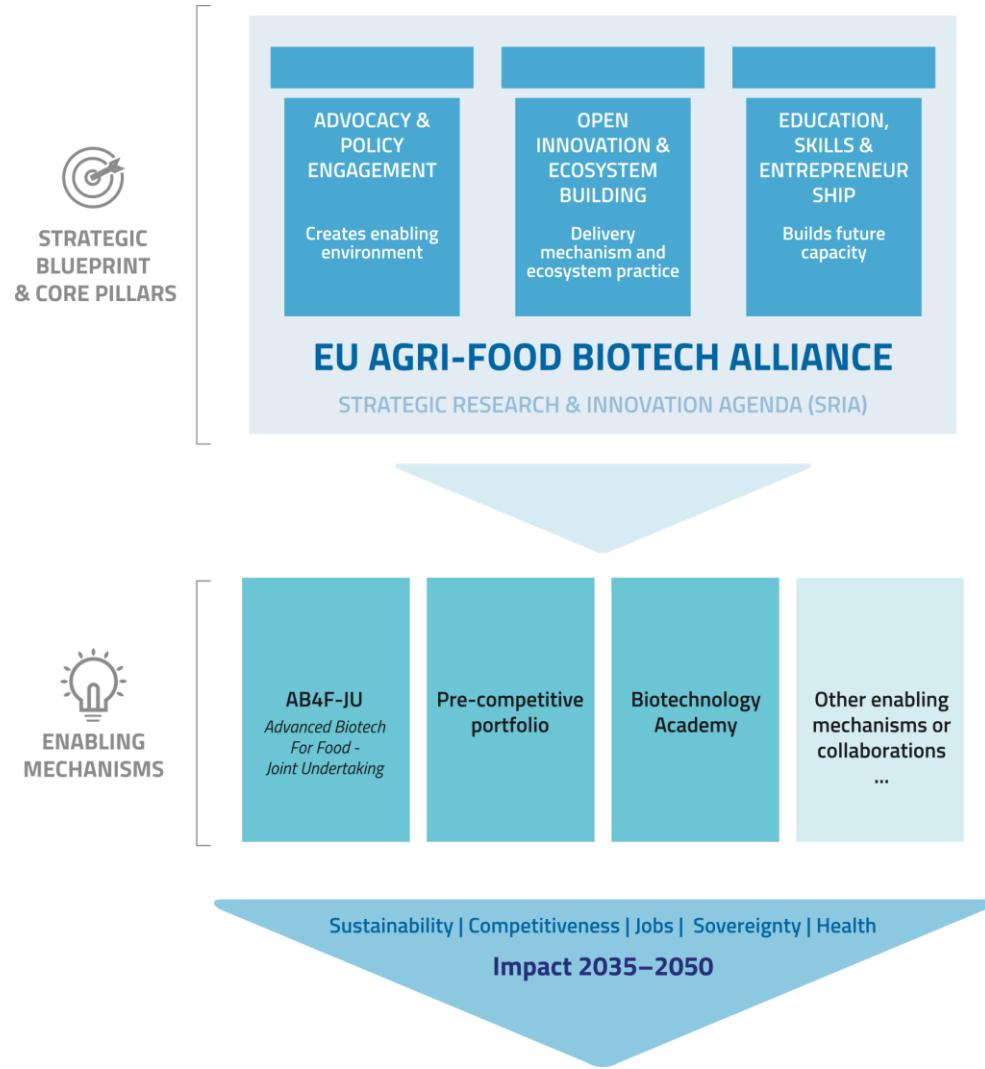
- Biotech can cut GHGs by up to 90%, land & water use by >70%, and valorise side streams (FAO, McKinsey).

Strategic Resilience

- Reduces import dependence and boosts EU food sovereignty (EC, 2023).



How we make this happen: strategic blueprint



Alliance: a shared umbrella and roadmap for action

- **The SRIA is our backbone:** a unified strategic roadmap that will guide our collective efforts and ensure we speak with one strong voice to EU institutions and key decision-makers.

Together, we move from vision to action — by co-developing enabling mechanisms like:

- **The Joint Undertaking:** EU + industry funding at scale
- **Pre-competitive Portfolio:** unlock private and public partnerships
- **Biotech Academy:** training the future biotech workforce
- **Other Strategic Collaborations**

LOWER SILESIA 360°

Regenerative Innovation Portfolio

Scaling regenerative
agriculture in Poland



WHY REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE MATTERS FOR EUROPE?

Improves soil health and biodiversity

Enhances the
nutritional value
of food

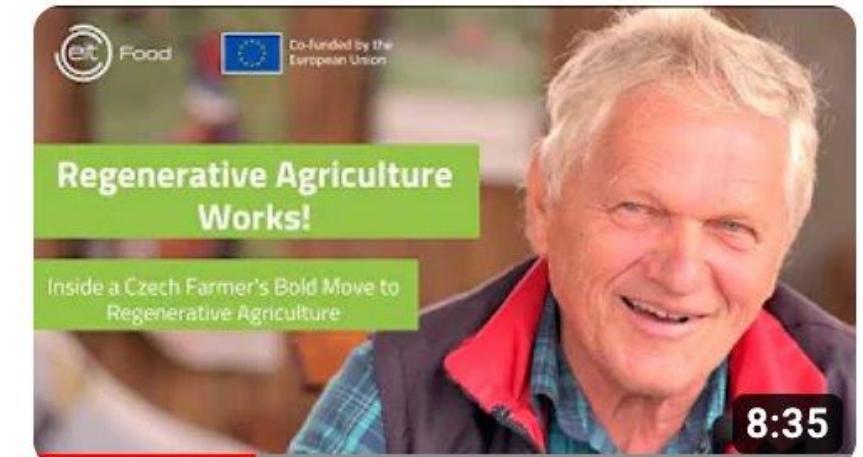
Supports climate
action through
carbon storage

Reduces
dependence on
synthetic inputs

Strengthens rural
economies and
farmer livelihoods

ScaleUp Regenerative Agriculture in Czechia

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



[Transforming Farming in Czechia](#)

EIT Food Funding Opportunities



Impact Funding Framework 2023 - 2025

- **Goal:** Funds collaborative projects driving sustainable food system change (Net Zero, Health, Resilience).
- **Two Tracks:** Offers Collaborative Missions (large-scale programmes) and Single Projects (fast-paced innovation).
- **Focus Areas:** Prioritizes Regenerative Agriculture, Protein Diversification, and Labelling/Packaging.
- **Eligibility:** Requires a consortium of at least 2 partners from 2 different countries with mandatory co-funding.



Biotech Innovation Call 2025

- The maximum funding amount allocated to this call was €3.000.000. We expect to fund commercial projects with EIT grant funding of maximum 400K€ per project over a period of no longer than 10 months initially.
- Participants from Member States of the European Union (EU) and from Horizon Europe Associate Countries.
- Project Duration – February 2026 – December 2026
- Topics:
 1. Design sustainable Downstream Processing to increase energy/water savings;
 2. Develop Real-time Process Monitoring and Control technologies.

2026 - 2028

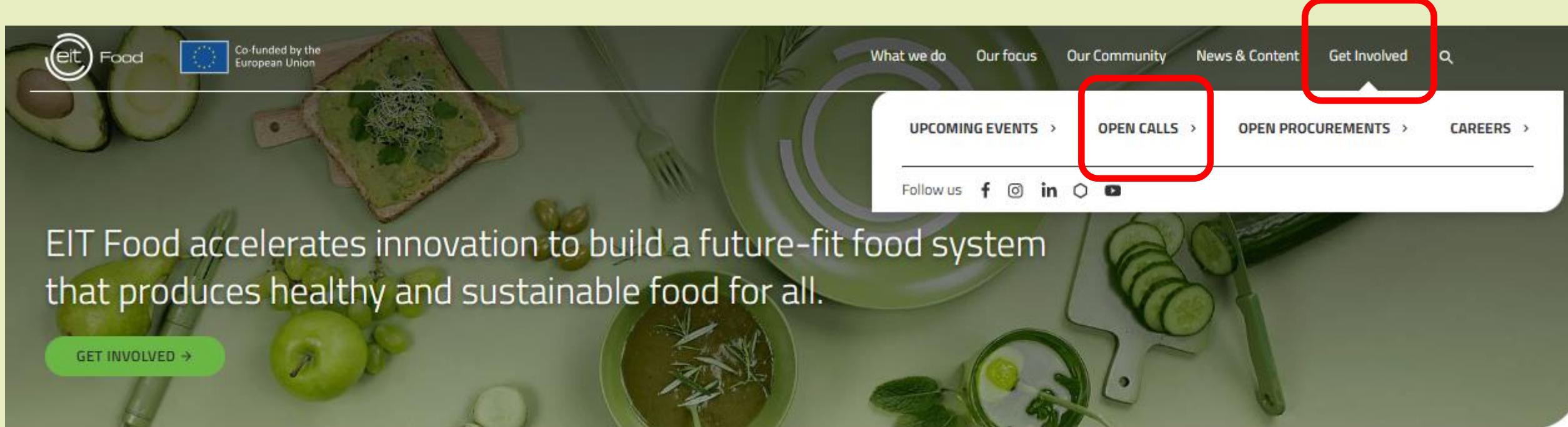
70% of EIT Food Budget
Financial Support for Third Parties
(FSTP)



Details of the calls will be
announced soon.

BE INFORMED ABOUT CALLS and other OPPORTUNITIES

<https://www.eitfood.eu/>



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

GET INVOLVED →

What we do Our focus Our Community News & Content Get Involved

UPCOMING EVENTS OPEN CALLS OPEN PROCUREMENTS CAREERS

Follow us    

Proposal Topics:

- Biotech
- Resilient / Regenerative Agriculture
- Protein Diversification
- Healthy Ageing
- Systematic Challenges in Agri-Food

Specialization:

Cluster 6
Widening

Preferred role in Consortium:

- Coordination
- Multi-actor approach
- Financial support to third parties
- Policy making and public engagement activities
- Communication and Dissemination



EIT Food's Entrepreneurship Programmes 2026-2028

CREATION

TECH TRANSFER – VENTURE BUILDING



Seedbed

**Aspiring researchpreneurs,
entrepreneurs supported by
Venture Builders & TTOs**
TRL 1-3

Turn IP into ventures with
tailored founder support

- Co-founder matching
- Market validation
- Technology building

ACCELERATION

TECH VALIDATION – PRODUCT LAUNCH – COMMERCIAL UPSCALING



EIT Food Accelerator Network

Early-stage startups with traction indicators
TRL 4-8

CORE PROGRAMME

Tech validation and business
acceleration

ON-DEMAND SPRINTS

Boost growth with focused
tailor-made support

NETWORK ACCESS

Corporate Access

Facilitating corporate
innovation by
connecting world-
leading industry with
impactful agrifood
startups.

Investment

Direct startup funding
for most promising
cohort startups and
alumni.



RisingFoodStars



SEAL OF EXCELLENCE FOR
ALUMNI

Our Impact

Through targeted funding and collaboration, EIT Food is driving tangible change that improves lives, strengthens resilience, and protects our planet. Every story here highlights the added value and the real-world impact of our shared mission.

<https://www.eitfood.eu/impact-stories>

Impact delivered since 2018

279

Marketed innovations

1,540

Individual startups and scaleups supported

316

Partners in our network

167k+

Learners benefitting



Co-funded by the European Union

PARTNERING FOR IMPACT

Our flexible partnering programmes are designed to support startups, SMEs, large global corporates, universities and research organisations.



DELIVERY PARTNERS

Helping you deliver excellence and impact through projects and programmes



STRATEGIC PARTNERS

Providing an influential voice at sector and policy levels both in the EU and beyond while shaping our strategic direction



OUR PARTNERS AND WIDER COMMUNITY

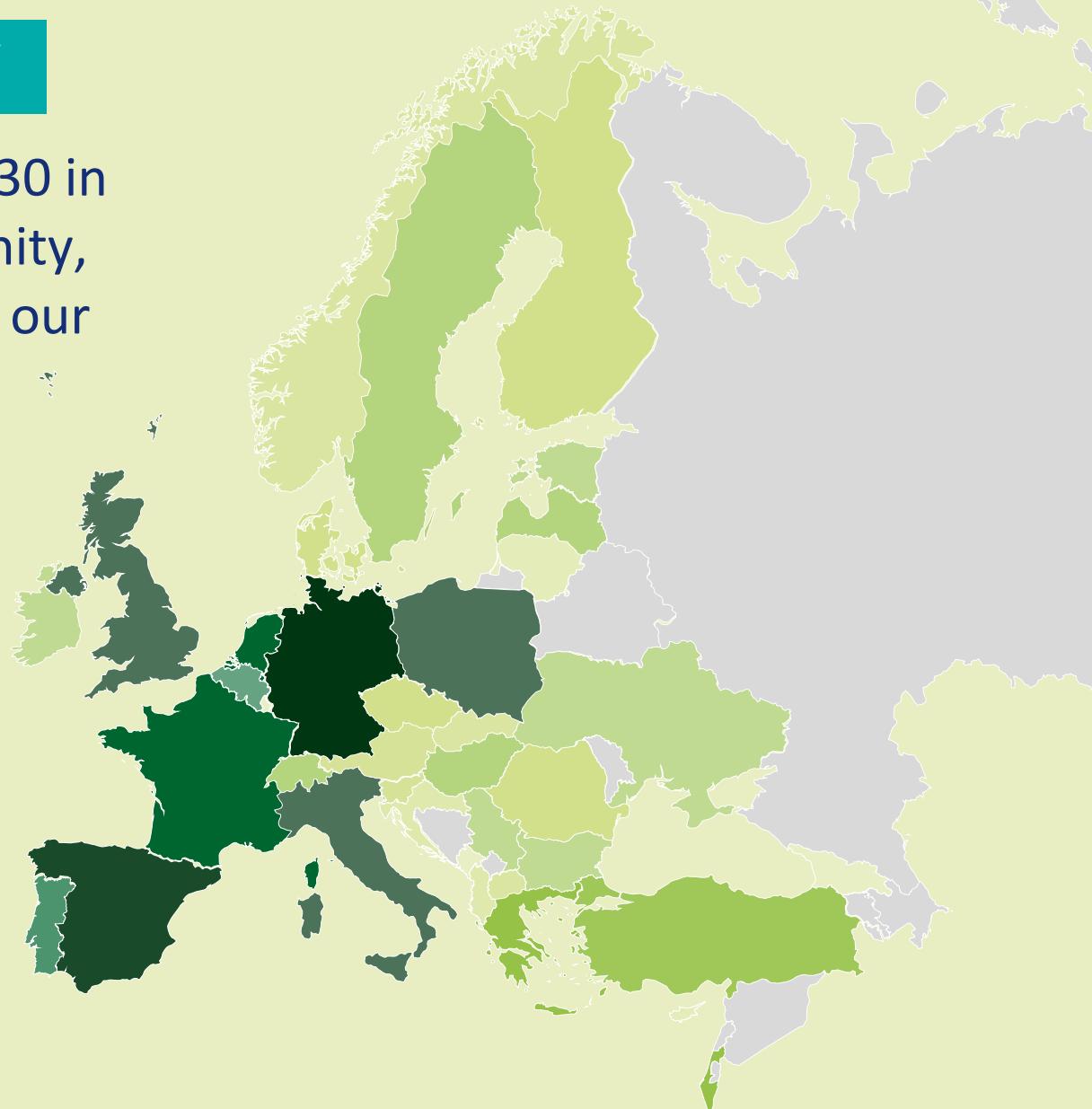
We've expanded our **Partnership network** from 130 in 2023 to over 200 today. Beyond this core community, we collaborate with 1,000+ organizations through our funding, programs and services.

Over 250 organisations in the EIT Food Partner network

433 organisations receiving funding in 2023 & 2024

27 organisations in our Corporate Venturing services

577 startups applied for the 2024 cohorts



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.



BETAVIA



BIOAZUL

CARBERY

Cargill

DANONE
ONE PLANET. ONE HEALTH

the helix way

HOOKED

INALCA®

LESAFFRE

MARS
Petcare

MOSA
Meat

PEPSICO

proveg
international

ROQUETTE
Offering the best of nature™

shakeup
factory

SOLMEYEA

TERRA
NOSTRA
FUNDACJA

zoetis

IRWIR PAN
Polish Academy of Sciences
Institute of Rural and Agricultural Development

INSTITUT EKONOMIKI ROLNICTWA
I GOSPODARKI ŹYWOCIĘŚCIOWEJ
PANSTWOWY INSTITUT BADAĆCY

QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST

LUND'S
UNIVERSITET

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE
IN KRAKOW

WAGENINGEN
UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH

AARHUS UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI

University of
Reading

UNIVERSITÀ
DI TORINO

UNIVERSITY
OF WARSAW

Campden BRI
food and drink innovation

DIL

HUB
INNOVAZIONE
TRENTINO

instituto
imdea
Instituto madrileño de estudios avanzados

Lukasiewicz
Poznański Instytut Technologiczny

INSA
Institut de Recerca en Nutrició
i Seguretat Alimentària

AZTI
MEMBER OF
BASQUE RESEARCH
& TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE

CSIC
CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTÍFICAS

gfi
Europe

GAME CHANGERS

Institute
of Animal Reproduction and Food Research
Polish Academy of Sciences
in Olsztyn

NEIKER
MEMBER OF
BASQUE RESEARCH
& TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE

swiss
FOOD
RESEARCH



OUR COMMUNITY

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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
www.eitfood.eu



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EIT Food: Pawel.Harycki@eitfood.eu

UCT Prague: monika.tomaniova@vscht.cz

