



Co-funded by
the European Union

Request for external support to generate and deliver valuable outcomes for policymakers working on Food Waste strategies

EIT FOOD

Bilbao, Spain

April 2024

[Eitfood.eu](https://eitfood.eu)

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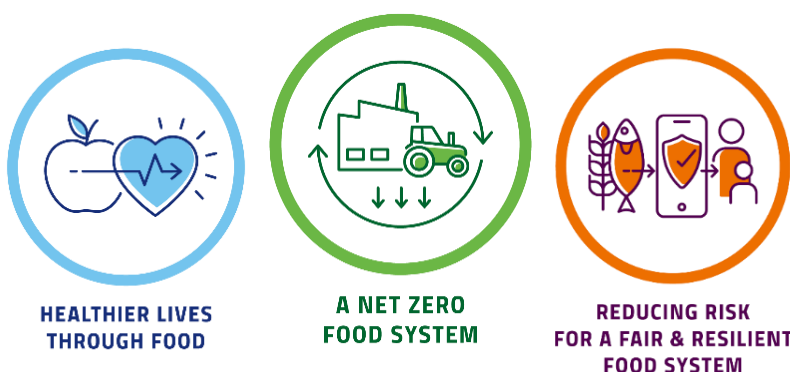
1. Introduction

1.1 About EIT Food

EIT Food is the world’s largest food innovation community, creating connections right across the food system. Supported by the European Union (EU), we invest in projects, organisations and individuals who share our goals for a healthy and sustainable food system.

We have built a unique not-for-profit business to carry out transformative programmes in skills, education, entrepreneurship, start-up investment and communications. We deliver these programmes in partnership with our members to create a culture and build a community which sees the long-term value in the food innovation we fund.

Our Missions



EIT Food’s Missions respond to major societal challenges within the food system. The alignment of our chosen challenges towards United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and EU policy is detailed in our main funding [strategy document](#) agreed with EIT (European Institute of Innovation & Technology). For more about our Missions-led approach please visit [our website](#).

1.2 About EIT Food Regional Innovation Scheme (RIS)

The EIT RIS is the EIT Community’s outreach introduced in 2014 to share good practices and experience emerging from EIT Community activities. The EIT RIS opens the activities of EIT’s Innovation Communities to innovators that are not partners, by providing targeted support to individuals and organisations to take part in and benefit from EIT Innovation Communities’ activities, services and programmes. EIT Food RIS aims at strengthening those regions in Europe which are modest and moderate in terms of innovation in the agrifood sector. This outreach scheme is open to innovators that are not partners of EIT Food and provides targeted support to EIT RIS stakeholders through a portfolio of projects.

Several activities are carried out by RIS, such as the AgriFood Expert Community and the RIS Policy Council.

AFEC AgriFood Expert Community

EIT Food generated through the years an Expert Community in form of LinkedIn group where over 800 members share knowledge and opportunities. In 2023, EIT Food is redefining the concept of AFEC into a platform more valuable for the organisations and the society, by designing services and opportunities linked with the knowledge contained in the community. More information [here](#).

RIS Policy Council

EIT Food RIS Policy Council (RIS Policy Council) is a policy advisory body established in 2019 to support dialogue and wider stakeholders interactions across EIT RIS countries, to contribute towards the further elaboration of EIT Food instruments and projects, as well as to promote linkages with government authorities and other stakeholders.

Its members should have impact on strengthening the agrifood ecosystem in their country, empowering Local Innovation Ecosystems to generate impact through funding schemes outside EIT Food and advising on financial sustainability for EIT Food activities. Meet the members [here](#).

2. Objective of the call

This Request for external support has the objective of selecting one organization from a Southern RIS country to generate and disseminate valuable outcomes about Food Waste. This work will be carried out considering the expertise of the members of our Expert Community (see above the AFEC definition) and the experience and reach of the RIS Policy Council members from Southern Countries.

3. Activity

Since Food Waste is a pivotal topic for the future of agrifood sector in Europe, EIT Food would like to raise awareness and generate impact on stakeholders, policies and society, willing to reduce the amount of food waste generated in Europe.

By summing the knowledge of specific AFEC members and the potential impact that RIS Policy Council member may generate, together with the support of corporates and organisations with trusted good practices for Food Waste reduction, EIT Food would like to generate an outcome that should be communicated to policymakers and society.

4. Expected tasks for the contractor

For the creation of this impact, EIT Food request for the support of an external company with enough skills and knowledge to generate the mentioned outcome.

The service to be offered must include:

- Review of the expert portfolio and selection of those with relevant expertise in Food Waste reduction.
- Review and meet first-hand the members of RIS Policy Council belonging to Southern Countries (Portugal, Spain, Italy, Malta, Cyprus, Greece and Türkiye)
- Design and implement a methodology for the creation of a valuable outcome, based on the work with AFEC experts and the Council members.
- Find companies and organisations with best or inspiring practices for the Food Waste reduction and engage them to take part in the outcome.
- Communicate adequately the outcome to the relevant audiences on 29th September 2024¹ (among others).

¹ Considering the Food Waste Day is 29th September, it would be nice the outcome to be ready for this date.

- Organisations of event to disseminate the outcome, which will include,
 - o At least 3 round tables with relevant speakers for each of the topics
 - o EIT Food staff members as part of the panels or speakers
 - o Engagement of relevant stakeholders as audience

5. The outcome

EIT Food is open to listed for different formulas of outcome. Independently of the chosen formula, the outcome must be grounded in the knowledge of the AFEC selected members and the RIS Policy Council members potential to impact, as mentioned before. EIT Food expects the outcome to be a useful tool, compiling best practices, success cases, results and recommendations etc for companies, research centres, policymakers, public bodies and authorities for the Food Waste reduction in Southern Europe countries.

The outcome can follow any structure and ambition, as long as it results in useful information for the work of the different stakeholders. Some examples could be:

- Study on Food Waste regulations in Southern Europe and tailor-made recommendation for each country.
- Catalogue of best practices available for food waste reduction.
- Foresight on Food Waste reduction scenarios in Southern Countries.
- Any other suggested by the contractor that fulfils with the expected impact

Independent of the chosen formula, the outcome must be disseminated to maximise its impact as requested in previous section.

6. Application Preparation, Submission & Evaluation

6.1. Timeline

Application Open	29.04.2024
Application Close	10.05.2024
Evaluation	13-15.05.2024
Communication to selected participants	16-17.05.2024

6.2. Application Submission

The deadline for the submission of full applications is **10th May 2024 at 23:59 (CET)**. The full application will consist of the PDF document of the signed by an authorized representative of the applicant.

All applications must be emailed in **English** to the following address within the deadline mentioned above:

Subject line: Food waste activity – Application Form [name of the applicant]

E-mail: inigo.rodilla@eitfood.eu

7. Evaluation and Selection Process

All submitted applications will undergo an eligibility check and evaluation to determine their feasibility and suitability for funding. The evaluation will be conducted by at least 3 evaluators, including at least 1 internal evaluator.

When relevant, the external evaluators will be selected in an open and transparent process. All evaluators, both internal and external, are trained extensively on the [European Union's Code of Conduct for Evaluators](#), namely on the importance of transparency, fair treatment of all applicants, confidentiality and how to avoid conflict of interest. Evaluators must contractually agree to recuse themselves in the event of a conflict of interest.

7.1. Eligibility

Please read Annex 1 carefully, in addition to the following eligibility criteria:

Organisation Eligibility	Each implementing participant must:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be a legally incorporated entity (for example company, incubator or accelerators, higher education institute, research institute, non-governmental organisation) in one of the EU or Horizon Europe eligible country listed above. • Operate in a country/region targeted by the call. • Be recognised as an expert of agrifood sector, specially when there is background on Food Waste activities • Be capable of organising successful events and workshops. • Be able to organize the Project activities in the timeframe from May to December 2024. • Have a wide network of business connections or capable to reach valuable experts especially in the agrifood sector.
Application Eligibility	The eligible applications must:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be complete, with relevant information to assess each of the categories included in the Evaluation process. • Be submitted on time via our application template, in English.

7.2. Evaluation Process

At least 3 evaluators, being at least 1 internal evaluator, will evaluate proposals based on the criteria below. All external evaluators have been selected in an open and transparent process and must contractually agree to recuse themselves in the event of a conflict of interest.

Category	Description	Score
1. Expertise and Qualifications	<p><i>Experience in food waste research or related fields.</i></p> <p><i>Relevant academic background (e.g., food science, environmental studies, sustainability).</i></p> <p><i>Track record of delivering high-quality studies or projects.</i></p> <p><i>Experience collaborating with relevant experts both from technology and industry, and Policies design.</i></p>	0-15
2. Methodology and outcome	<p><i>Definition of the outcome to be delivered .</i></p> <p><i>Clarity and appropriateness of proposed methods.</i></p> <p><i>Rigor and reliability of proposed data collection and analysis techniques.</i></p>	0-25

	<i>Demonstration of innovative approaches to studying food waste.</i>	
3. Relevance to Stakeholders	<i>Alignment with the needs and interests of stakeholders (e.g., academia, companies, government agencies, NGOs, food industry). Potential to address key challenges or gaps in current understanding of food waste.</i>	0-20
4. Dissemination and event organisation	<i>Strategy for effectively communicating study findings to relevant audiences. Plans for disseminating recommendations to policymakers, industry stakeholders, and the general audience. Utilization of diverse communication channels and formats to reach different stakeholders.</i>	0-20
5. Activity and budget execution management	<i>Realistic timeline for completing the activity. Availability of necessary resources (e.g. personnel, data). Alignment of proposed budget with the expected outcome impact. Clear communication and coordination plan with EIT Food</i>	0-20

Each evaluation sub-criterion will be scored from 0 to 20 using the following scoring system.

The application can receive a maximum of 100 points.

Score		Description
0	Not satisfactory	Not addressed or the criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses
5	Satisfactory	The proposal adequately addresses the sub-criterion but may lack some key elements. The quality of the proposal is acceptable, but there is room for improvement in certain areas.
10	Good	The proposal addresses the sub-criterion comprehensively and demonstrates a good level of understanding. The quality of the proposal is above average, with clear strengths in most areas.
15	Very good	The proposal thoroughly addresses the sub-criterion, providing clear and insightful analysis. The quality of the proposal is high, with few areas needing improvement.
20	Excellent	The proposal fully exceeds expectations for the sub-criterion, showcasing exceptional quality and innovation. The quality of the proposal is outstanding, representing a benchmark for excellence in this area.

8. Administrative Items

8.1. Appeal to Results

Applicants can submit an appeal within 5 days of result receipt, if:

The evaluation of their proposal has not been carried out in accordance with the procedures set out in this document.

For more details, please read [EIT Food Redress Mechanism](#).

8.2. Payment

The Payment will be paid in instalments, that may be proposed by the organisation in the application.

Please note that the following expenses are compulsory to be included by Selected Organization:

- in case of face-to-face events: event photography, video recording, catering, venue renting, facilitators and/or speakers' cost, VAT Included,
- in case of online events: streaming system, subtitling option or simultaneous translations English/native language facilitators and/or speakers' cost, VAT Included, additional training sessions (business, self-development etc.).

8.3. Monitoring

The project will be monitored and may be audited.

ANNEX 1 – Eligibility

Please Note:

1. Failing any of the above criteria will make your application ineligible. If an applicant is ineligible, the participant will be informed.
2. According to EU policies and measures, Russian entities will not be authorised to participate in any new grant under the EU Research and Innovation programmes. This ban applies not only to their potential participation as beneficiaries, but to their potential participation in any kind of role: beneficiaries, linked third parties/affiliated entities, subcontractors, in-kind contributors, international partners/associated partners, and third parties receiving financial support. Find the full statement from the European Commission [here](#).
3. Pursuant to Article 2 (2) of the Decision 2022/2506 of 15 December 2022 on measures for the protection of the Union budget against breaches of the principles of the rule of law in Hungary *where the Commission implements the Union budget in direct or indirect management pursuant to of Article 62(1) points (a) and (c), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046*, **no legal commitments shall be entered into with any public interest trust established on the basis of the Hungarian Act IX of 2021 or any entity maintained by such a public interest trust**. This prohibition applies to financial support to third parties (sub-grants and prizes), hence the proposal of any entity or group of entities where a Participant is included in the list of public interest trusts shall be considered as not eligible.
4. Applicants will be deemed ineligible if:
 - a. bankrupt, subject to insolvency or winding-up procedures, where its assets are being administered by a liquidator or by a court, where it is in an arrangement with creditors, where its business Activities are suspended, or where it is in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for under national laws or regulations.
 - b. it has been established by a final judgment or a final administrative decision that the organisation is in breach of its obligations relating to the payment of taxes or social security contributions in accordance with the applicable law.
 - c. it has been established by a final judgment or a final administrative decision that the organisation is guilty of grave professional misconduct by having violated applicable laws or regulations or ethical standards of the profession to which the organisation belongs, or by having engaged in any wrongful conduct which has an impact on its professional credibility where such conduct denotes a wrongful intent or gross negligence.
 - d. is found to be attempting to influence the decision-making process of the call during the process.
 - e. attempting to obtain confidential information that may confer upon it undue advantages in the call process.
 - f. it has been established by a final judgment that the organisation is guilty of fraud, corruption or money laundering.