

EIT Food Challenge Labs Ukraine 2023: Request for Subcontractor(s)

EIT Food CLC North-East launches the present call to select the organization that will organise and perform activities within the “EIT Food Challenge Labs Ukraine” project in 2023. The selection process is implemented as an open call managed by EIT Food CLC North-East, using clear and transparent selection criteria.

Application deadline: 26th of June 2023, 13:00 CEST

Further details about EIT Food can be found on <https://www.eitfood.eu/>, and the principles of the EIT Regional Innovation Scheme are described on <https://www.eitfood.eu/regional-innovation-scheme>. With respect to the present call, **EIT Food CLC North-East will not provide new information, that has not already been included in this call document** but can assist the potential applicants by explaining the contents of this document (please with inquiries regarding applications contact ewa.karolewska@eitfood.eu).

1. Overview of EIT Food

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 that sees the long-term value in the food innovation we fund through open, competitive calls.

EIT Food has a strategic approach to systems change to create societal and economic impact. This is underpinned by a robust Theory of Change and a clear set of impact indicators and goals published in our [Strategic Agenda 2021-27](#).

EIT Food CLC NE, one of the EIT Food co-location centres (CLC), is based in Warsaw covering a vast region of Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) and the Nordic countries. EIT Food CLC NE is also one of the two CLCs implementing EIT Regional Innovation Scheme (RIS) instruments, supporting those regions in Europe which particularly require fostering innovation in the agri-food sector.

EIT Food operates through a Mission-based approach which puts improving outcomes for people and the planet as the starting point for our work. EIT Food has 3 following missions: Healthier Lives Through Food, A Net Zero Food System, and Reducing Risk for a Fair & Resilient Food System.

EIT Food’s 6 focus innovation areas are delivered with a combination of industry, education and research partners to improve environmental and health outcomes by developing solutions in the most promising innovation areas. They include protein diversification, circular food systems, digital traceability, sustainable agriculture, sustainable aquaculture, and targeted nutrition.

1.2 About EIT Food Regional Innovation Scheme (RIS)

The EIT Regional Innovation Scheme (EIT RIS)¹ is the EIT Community's outreach scheme introduced in 2014 to share good practices and experiences emerging from EIT Community activities. The EIT RIS provides 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 agri-food sector. It is open to innovators that are not partners of EIT Food and supports targeted stakeholders through a portfolio of projects.

1.3 Background

The Ukrainian innovative ecosystem has been heavily negatively impacted by the Russian aggression and the EIT Food would like to contribute to the enhancement of the ecosystem and strengthening its capacity. Ukraine faces enormous challenges due to the war, but it has innovation and entrepreneurial potential, with bright scientific minds.

In 2022 EIT Food CLC NE implemented the following activities in Ukraine/addressed to Ukrainians in Ukraine and abroad:

- Go To Business – [link](#)
- E-learning platform – [link](#)
- Go Agri Tech – [link](#)
- Start-up Awareness event – [link](#)

Go To Business

Workshops for more than 120 participants were implemented by three Ukrainian organisations selected under the open Call for Subcontractors. The workshops were focused on supporting Ukrainian entrepreneurial talents with skills related to establishing a business, raising funds, and start-up career and they also provided knowledge on trends in the agri-food industry.

E-learning platform

The education platform was created to help entrepreneurial talents, founders, and startups to learn and gain new skills at their own pace under the harsh circumstances with electricity and Internet limited access.

The learning course with a focus on basic business concepts and business models, funding and investment for a start-up, and agricultural technologies: trends, challenges, and opportunities are available under the following [link](#). The course leads the students through the basic process of creating a start-up from scratch.

Following the successful implementation of activities addressed to the Ukrainian innovative ecosystem, EIT Food is rolling out the Challenge Lab in Ukraine to continue this work and collaboration with the Ukrainian ecosystem.

1.4 Challenge Labs: Overview of Activity

The Challenge Labs are a series of creative workshops designed to find solutions to current and future challenges in the food system.

The aims of the Challenge Labs are:

- ✓ to find innovative solutions to big, tangible problems faced by the local food sector. The core of the activity seeks to fully understand the perspective of a problem-holder, understand their needs, get to know their challenges, and check whether the designed solution (service, product, system, process) really meets these needs.
- ✓ to spark potential co-founder relationships, to bring together diverse groups of people: graduate and postgraduate students, technologists and scientists, experienced professionals, consumers and companies. Through ideation and design thinking methodologies, the Challenge Labs will lead to the creation of new businesses and build links between industry, academia and startups.
- ✓ to build capacity among the participants to develop entrepreneurial skills.
- ✓ to help the 'peripheral' regions of Europe have better access to the other Business Creation and Innovation programmes offered by EIT Food.

Outline of challenges for this year edition

As a result of the ongoing war in Ukraine, the agrifood industry is facing numerous challenges, but the most significant ones are:

1. **Disrupted supply chains:** the ongoing war has severely disrupted transportation and logistics networks in Ukraine, making it difficult for agri-tech and food producers to transport their goods and raw materials. This causes higher costs, delays, and reduced market access, negatively affecting business profitability and growth.
2. **Landmines and unexploded ordnance:** the war has left behind landmines and unexploded ordnance that threaten the safety of farmers and damage crops, irrigation systems, and agricultural equipment. This reduces the land available for cultivation, impacting food production and causing financial losses for farmers.
3. **Energy crisis and pressure on the energy network:** the war has affected its energy infrastructure, posing a risk to the agri-food industry. To mitigate disruptions, using renewable energy sources and energy-efficient equipment can provide reliable power to farmers and reduce interruptions to food production.
4. **Soil contamination** in Ukrainian agricultural areas poses a significant threat to public health and the environment, as it can lead to the contamination of crops and water sources and can have long-term effects on ecosystems.
5. **Economic instability and uncertainty:** the ongoing war has caused economic instability, making it challenging for farmers and food producers to plan and invest. Unpredictable market conditions and currency exchange rates increase production costs and reduce revenue, hindering investments in new technologies or equipment.

Below are 4 potential scopes of solutions that EIT Food would like to offer to the Challenge Labs Ukraine participants. They address the challenges faced by the agriculture and food production sector in Ukraine since February 2022:

1. **Digitalization, precision agriculture:**

One way to address the challenge of disrupted supply chains is by digitizing the agricultural value chain to make it more resilient, agile, and efficient. This can involve for example:

- Using digital technologies such as GPS tracking, supply chain management software, and blockchain to improve transparency, traceability, and efficiency in the supply chain.
- Using blockchain can help to verify the authenticity and quality of agricultural products, thereby reducing the risk of fraud and increasing market access.
- Leveraging digitalization and precision agriculture technologies can optimize production processes. By using data analytics, machine learning, and IoT devices, farmers and food producers can monitor crop health, resource usage, and transportation more efficiently.

2. **Developing digital non-military solutions for mine detection and clearance in the agri-food sector.**

By utilizing technological solutions adjusted from the other sectors, Ukrainian farmers can safely and efficiently clear landmines from their fields by themselves, without waiting for military support. Here are just a few examples:

- Drones equipped with high-resolution cameras and sensors can be used to survey and map areas suspected of containing landmines. This can provide farmers with a detailed picture of the land and allow them to avoid potentially dangerous areas.
- Ground-penetrating radar (GPR) technology can be used to detect landmines buried underground. This technology uses electromagnetic waves to create images of the subsurface, which can reveal the presence of landmines. GPR can be mounted on small vehicles or handheld devices, making it a portable solution that can be used by farmers themselves.
- Robotics technology. For example, robots equipped with sensors and cameras can be used to locate and safely remove landmines. This can be especially useful in agriculture areas that are difficult for humans to access.

3. **Sustainable energy and energy efficiency, examples of solutions**

- Adopting **energy-efficient technologies** in agricultural production. This can involve using efficient irrigation systems, upgrading machinery and equipment, and implementing energy-saving practices such as optimizing the use of lighting and heating.
- Adopting **renewable energy sources**: Farms and food producers in Ukraine can reduce their dependence on traditional fossil fuels and contribute to combating climate change by adopting renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, and biomass. These sources are abundant in Ukraine and can be harnessed to generate electricity and heat for agricultural production.
- Using **alternative fertilizers**, such as organic fertilizers (compost, manure, crop residues) and biofertilizers (nitrogen-fixing bacteria, mycorrhizal fungi), can enrich the soil and promote plant growth. These options are often less energy-intensive to produce than traditional chemical fertilizers.

4. **Innovative and sustainable solutions to restore the health of the soil, examples of solutions**

- **Soil remediation technologies** that can help remove pollutants and toxins from contaminated soil. These technologies could range from bioremediation to chemical treatment methods.
- **Agricultural solutions** such as crops that are resistant to soil contamination or methods to grow crops in a controlled environment, like vertical farming or hydroponics can be developed.
- **Soil testing and monitoring**: the participants can develop affordable and easy-to-use soil testing kits that can help farmers determine if their soil is contaminated. They are monitoring systems that can provide real-time data on soil contamination levels can also be developed.
- **Waste management** solutions that can help reduce the amount of hazardous waste that is released into the environment. This could include recycling or repurposing of waste materials.
- **Sustainable agriculture** solutions that can help reduce the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, which can contribute to soil contamination.

NB. The mentioned list of challenges serves just as a proposal, we kindly request that an applying organization submits a modified and refined plan featuring specific challenges tailored to the unique Ukrainian needs and goals in 2023 during wartime.

Another challenge or problem to solve may be defined by the Partner company and does not need to be connected with the challenges proposed by the EIT Food CLC North-East (but better be focused on agriculture or the food production sector). The applying organization shall propose **3 themes** of the Challenge Labs in the attached to this Call the Application form.

The Subcontractor(s) is authorized to carry out **multiple editions** of the Activity to achieve the required number of participants. The focus of each edition can be tailored to address different challenges.

1.3.1. Project structure:

1. Selection of the Subcontractor(s) and developing the detailed plan and agenda of this year's Challenge Labs edition.
2. Challenges identification – the final challenges will be agreed upon between the Subcontractor(s) and EIT Food. The challenges will respond to the specific needs and problems of agrifood company/ies, which will give participants an opportunity to interact with key executives and innovation staff and validate the solution's viability.
3. The Subcontractor(s) will identify and find partner/s, experts, and mentors. The chosen partner company will define its challenge or industry problem to solve by the participants.
4. Selection of the participants and establishing the interdisciplinary teams ensuring the best mix of expertise and skills in building the teams.
5. Implementation – providing online and/or in-person training and access to resources to build participants' entrepreneurship skills. Challenge solving – participants work together on solving the defined challenges together using their experience from different backgrounds. Access to finance – participants have the opportunity to win financial prizes or/and valuable prizes from the sponsor/s of the Activity. Also, they can take part in other EIT Food programs, relevant to their ideas and develop their own project.
6. Reporting, summarising, and after-event activities stage. The selected organisation will be asked to write a report on the execution and findings from the workshop, receive the participants' feedback, to send all necessary documentation.

2. Scope of work

2.1 Project activities format and requirements

The selected organisation will manage the following tasks within the Activity:

2.1.1. Stage 1 – Scouting phase

At the beginning of the cooperation between selected organization and EIT Food CLC North-East, the Subcontractor(s) is expected to support EIT Food in:

1. identifying agrifood company/ies who could be potential co-financing or strategic partners of the Challenge Labs. Getting preliminary or final confirmation from such companies to be the partner of the Activity in Ukraine.
2. approaching key representatives of companies mentioned above to invite and onboard them in the Activity, among them mentors and experts in relevant topics (e.g., entrepreneurship, business model, sales, pitching, marketing, customer discovery, policy making, etc.) have to be provided.
3. contracting selected Mentors and Experts based on the list of Mentor's responsibilities provided by EIT Food CLC North-East
4. identifying and signing up at least one Ukrainian university, scientific institute, or technological park to contribute and facilitate the participation of its students or/and P students in the Challenge Labs. (Universities in disciplines relevant to agrifood can bring their talents to the Challenge Labs to put together the young talents and large companies and establish closer collaboration between business and academia).
5. scouting potential participants of Challenge Labs other than university students (e.g., among start-up community members, entrepreneurs, researchers, academics, young farmers/food producers, agrifood sector employees, etc.)

Below please see a tentative schedule.

Stage 1 duration: **from July to mid-August 2023.**

2.1.2. Stage 2 – Recruitment of participants

Challenge Labs participants are divided into three groups:

1. **Workshop participants** – depending on the topic/challenge tackled, this varies from students, alumni, young researchers or PhD students, start-up founders, entrepreneurs, MBAs and professionals **interested in the agrifood system** or from areas of food technology, nutrition, biotechnology, marketing, business administration, chemistry, engineering and other areas with possible application in the agri-food sector. This group participates in the workshop going through each of the stages of design thinking/service design methodology with the aim to develop solutions for the challenges/problems identified by the partner(s) and defined before the Activity. We also recommend inviting Ukrainian veterans of the ongoing war against Russia to participate in the Challenge Labs Ukraine. Including war veterans in the project may not only provide them with an opportunity to engage in social activities but also leverage their battle experience in tackling challenges in the agri-food sector.
2. **Experts/mentors** – a group of experienced professionals acting on behalf of their employers, having experience in the agri-food sector in different roles such as R&D, Business Development, Innovation, Strategy, Sales, etc. Experts ideally would be coming from different organisations, companies, or NGOs relevant to the challenge tackled during the workshop. Also, it's key to involve expert mentors from the partner/s.
3. **Consumers/moderators** – selected organisation is also responsible for the recruitment of other actors important for the workshop: consumers who are giving their feedback on the solutions developed by the participants as well as moderators and hosts leading participants, experts, and consumers through the workshop (at least one for a team). Moderators are the persons from the selected organisation that help and coordinate the implementation of the Activity or its separate part (e.g., workshop, lecture).

The Subcontractor(s) is(are) expected to ensure **a minimum of 50 workshop participants** that have successfully finished the workshops, at least **12 experts/mentors** taking part in the workshop, and an appropriate number of **moderators and consumers**. It would be also the responsibility of the Subcontractor(s) to collect a minimum of 50 signed **Participant Consent Forms**, group presentations (as proof of gained skills) as well as necessary NDAs (to protect the project ideas).

Engaging the interdisciplinary team of participants is welcomed, as it ensures participants with diverse skill sets and experiences are in one group. Team members should explain their motivation to keep working together during the recruitment process. Participant Consent Form should be signed by **each** member of the team.

Scouting, recruitment of the participants, analysis of the applications, and their evaluation will be carried out by the selected organization. The EIT Food CLC North-East can follow and observe the recruitment process at any of its stages. A full description of the participants recruitment process, evaluation of participants' applications, detailed eligibility, and criteria of participants selection will be described in the Terms and Conditions document (which will be prepared for this Project jointly by Subcontractor and EIT Food CLC North-East).

Stage 2 duration: **from mid-August to October 2023.**

2.1.3. Stage 3 – Implementation of the Activity

Selected organisation(s) will be responsible for adjusting training opportunities to local ecosystem in a way which will develop expected competences of the participants (EIT Food CLC North-East will provide the organisation with framework of competences expected to be acquired upon the completion of the Activity).

Workshops' content:

The Activity aims to facilitate networking between participants and the local food and innovation ecosystem, including startups, investors, food companies, universities, research centres, and NGOs. It will provide a platform to discuss current challenges in the local agrifood system and showcase EIT Food's activities to the audience. That is why the workshops should include:

- training on specific elements of an innovative solution (product/process/service) creation like law, finance, marketing, logistics, etc. They can be dedicated to a specific aspect of the business idea development or can be focused on reinforcing specific skills such as product management, business planning, public appearances, pitching, sales, negotiations, etc.
- group sessions with thematic experts who support participants with their entrepreneurial skills development (e.g., design thinking, creative tasks, natural talents, emotional intelligence in business, and coaching tools).
- training about specific, relevant aspects of Intellectual Property (IP) rights in Ukraine and about the legal issues around product or technology creation are strongly recommended to be included in the event agenda.
- presentation and promotion of other EIT Food programmes in which Ukrainian participants are eligible to take part (also should be taken under consideration during the planning of the Activity's agenda).
- short introduction of the EIT Food Start-up Manual (provided by EIT Food CLC North-East in an online version and available on the webpage), expanding any specific topic during mentoring or training.

A final agenda should be sent and confirmed by the activity leader in EIT Food CLC North-East not later than 3 weeks before the Activity's implementation.

The training will be carried out in Ukrainian (with the translation of content provided in other languages, incl. English).

The Activity's implementation is supposed to culminate with a **pitching activity and/or teams' presentations**. It may be organized as a public speaking and business competition aimed at selecting the winners and connecting them with the local start-up and/or business ecosystem (investors, business angels, innovators, industry representatives, etc.).

Some separate tasks are included in the organisation of the pitching part of the event:

- a) design, organization, and promotion of the pitching activity including:
 - creation of a separate document indicating general rules/terms and conditions of the event on a basis of a template provided by EIT Food CLC North-East ;
 - creation of a final event agenda, considering that during the event participants will present their final pitches, which have to be evaluated by the Jury,
 - managing invitations and registration,
- b) contribute to the evaluation of participants' pitching presentations by providing at least 2 independent members to be part of the Jury. The example of the selection criteria for the participants' pitching evaluation will be shared by EIT Food CLC North-East with the selected organisation/s.
- c) evaluate the final business deck of each group/team and define the winners.

Organization of workshops:

- management of registrations and attendance.
- in case of face-to-face event – provide all necessary arrangements (contracting venue, catering, audio-visual materials, facilitators and speakers). In case of physical workshops, a venue shall be equipped with a bomb shelter or/and adjusted underground space to be used in case of air raid alerts and other situations that might impose a danger. The safety and wellbeing of the participants and Subcontractor(s) is a top priority and shall not be compromised. In case of an

online event – provide all necessary technical arrangements (communication platform, checked sound, and video equipment, etc.). In the case of hybrid model events, the organizer(s) should carefully plan and implement a safe and effective delivery model for both the online and offline components of the Challenge Labs.

- creating a landing page for the Activity or using any social networking platforms, where the participants could find the materials/updates/news/chat is highly recommended.

Applicants are very welcome to be creative and introduce more features to the proposed format of events. The selected organization will work closely with EIT Food CLC North-East on customising the format and schedule of the event to the specificities of the local agrifood and start-up ecosystem.

Stage 3 duration: **no later than the 8th of December, 2023.**

2.1.4. Stage 4 – Summary report

Selected organisation(s) will write a report on the execution and findings from the workshop and the ideas developed during the workshop.

The summary report is a crucial document that provides a comprehensive overview of the trainings that were conducted. It highlights the key takeaways, the topics covered, and the important points discussed during the training sessions. The summary report also provides valuable feedback to the organisers, allowing them to evaluate the effectiveness of the training program and make necessary improvements for future sessions. It also helps to identify any areas where participants may need additional support or resources.

Stage 4 duration: **after the implementation of the Activity – until 15th of December, 2023.**

2.1.5. Stage 5 – Promotion of the Activity

Together with the EIT Food team, Subcontractor(s) is(are) expected to promote the Activity within its network, in relation to recruitment and general awareness of the Challenge Labs programme. This includes:

1. Preparation of materials and visuals to onboard partners and attract participants (in line with the EIT Food branding guidelines).
2. Definition and execution of a social media campaign.
3. Contribute to the dissemination of the Activity's news, using adequate internal communication and social media channels, and prepare with EIT Food CLC North-East team coordination a separate communication and dissemination report on press appearances, number of social media publications and dissemination strategies after the implementation of the Activity.
4. Sending evidence of at least 3 media publications in the national press (digital or paper).
5. Ensure correct branding, and EIT Food visibility and respect its visual identification in all communication materials (online events, agendas, etc.) in accordance [with the guidelines](#) provided by EIT Food CLC North-East.
6. Provide EIT Food CLC North-East representative with events agenda, press release/social media or other communication information at least 3 weeks in advance, following the template provided by EIT Food CLC North-East.
7. Encourage and foster participation of the selected participants on social media, interviews on the national media and/or in EIT Food channels.

Stage 5 duration: **from July to December, 2023.**

2.1.6. Stage 6 – Activity internal coordination

Tasks of the organisation:

- Ensuring regular update to EIT Food CLC North-East Activity leader with any Activity's progress or action on top of the regular communication.
- Designation of a person managing the Activity to play the role of the permanent contact point for the EIT Food CLC North-East.
- Attaining update meetings (at least once a month) summarizing the Activity's implementation process, fostering synergies and networking.
- Distribution of additional materials for participants provided by EIT Food CLC North-East.
- Share Activity's success stories and best practices for Activity's development and growth in further editions.

Stage 6 duration: **July – December 2023.**

3. Applications to organise the Activity

3.1. Key dates

Stage	Date
Request for Subcontractor(s) – launch of the Call	mid-May 2023
Deadline for potential Subcontractor(s)	26.06.2023
Selection of a Subcontractor(s)	By July 2023
Launch of the call for participants (participants of the Activity, mentors, experts, consumers)	mid-August 2023
List of participants (participants of the Activity, mentors, experts, consumers) confirmed and announced	approx. mid-October 2023
Confirmation of the event agenda final version, preparation for the Activity's implementation	3 weeks before a planned event
Deadline for Activity's implementation	01.12.2023
Deadline for preparing and sending to the EIT Food CLC NE feedback survey, confirmations of acknowledgement of Activity Outcomes, Summary report and other necessary documents	no later than 8.12.2023
Final reporting, incl. sending the Summary Report, and required documentation.	8-29.12.2023

3.2 Eligible organizations to be considered in the call

In order to ensure that the Challenge Labs initiative of EIT Food achieves its intended impact and outreach in Ukraine, we are seeking collaboration with a local organization to assist EIT Food with the delivery of the Challenge Labs project that is(are):

- ✓ Registered company located in Ukraine; we strongly encourage consortia of the companies to apply for this Call;
- ✓ Legal persons (such as companies, incubators or accelerators, higher education institutes, research institutes, non-governmental organisations); *
- ✓ Knowledgeable and experienced in running workshops using different innovation methodologies.
- ✓ Able to sign a Subcontracting Agreement with EIT Food CLC North-East;
- ✓ Having prior experience / knowledge with the agrifood sector.
- ✓ Recognised as important players in the local entrepreneurship ecosystem with strong regional outreach.

- ✓ Having a wide network of business connections or capable to reach valuable experts, especially in the agri-food sector.

* Consortia of legal persons are also eligible and welcome to apply as Subcontractor(s) in this call. Consortia typically consist of several organizations (more than 1) with complementary expertise and skillsets. By working together, they can bring a wider range of knowledge and experience to the project. Consortia can share resources such as staff, equipment, and facilities, which can help to reduce costs and increase efficiency and capacity (by pooling their resources, consortia can often take on larger and more complex projects than any single organization could handle alone). When multiple organizations are involved, the risk of any one organization failing to deliver on its commitments in Activity management is reduced. This can provide greater assurance to the project sponsor that the edition of Challenge Labs in Ukraine will be completed successfully.

3.3 Benefits for organisation(s) selected as Project activities organizer(s)

Organisation/s chosen by EIT Food CLC North-East to organise the Project's activities will be offered the following benefits:

- Subcontracting Agreement with relevant EIT Food CLC North-East gross funding of up to **40 000 € gross** to cover the eligible costs of the Challenge Labs project activities.
- Ongoing support from EIT Food CLC North-East representatives in organising and implementing activities.
- Collaboration with EIT Food and the EIT community (as a Subcontractor in EIT Food activities) providing worldwide visibility, and collaboration in additional activities supporting the Project and other EIT Food initiatives both during and after the Activity. Being the organiser of the Activity can also serve as an opportunity to become an EIT Food-associated organization, establish relationships with its community, and potentially become more integrated into EIT Food activities, leading to increased visibility in local entrepreneurship ecosystems and a stronger position on regional and national levels while contributing to a significant social cause.

3.4 Selection process

Selection criteria

To demonstrate their interest in EIT Food, the Subcontractor(s) is(are) asked to submit a proposal that refers to the below-listed selection criteria:

1. The organisation's interest and expertise/experience in the agrifood system.
2. Links with agrifood companies in Ukraine.
3. Approach to solving the agrifood challenges and including local food industry/ecosystem participation.
4. Experience in running hackathons/prototyping/design thinking series of workshops in the past.
5. Broad network of people that would attend the workshops and approach their recruitment.
6. Approach to the general structure of the Activity and each of the tasks proposed above.
7. Experience in partners acquisition to co-finance the costs of events.
8. A detailed budget representing best value for money.

Above criteria will be evaluated on a 0-10 scale: 0 – not satisfactory; 5 – satisfactory; and 10 – very good. The application can receive a maximum of 80 points.

For this Challenge Labs edition, there is a budget of a maximum € 40.000. This budget will have to cover all costs related to the delivery of the Challenge Labs according to the work plan, including:

- recruitment costs (recruiting participants, experts, moderators, facilitators and consumers);

- costs of running workshops, e.g.
- in case of online events: streaming system, English/Ukrainian language moderators, experts and/or speakers' cost;
- in case of face-to-face events: event photography, video recording, catering, venue renting, English/Ukrainian language moderators, experts and/or speakers' cost, a venue equipped with a bomb shelter/underground shelter for cases of emergency;
- in the case of a hybrid model (online and offline components), it is important to carefully consider the costs associated with the delivery of the Challenge Labs for both parts of the event.
- cash and in-kind prizes for participants (applying organisation shall propose the prize scheme for the participants)
- promotion and information, incl. promotional materials – creation and printing, support in the preparation of Challenge Labs in Ukraine, 2023, creating of a landing page.

The Subcontractor will be paid additional remuneration for an agrifood company/nies acquisition ('success fee') of 30% of the total amount paid to EIT Food by the partner. *Example: Subcontractor has acquired a company that paid € 5.000 to EIT Food (based on a VAT invoice) for participation as a partner in the Challenge Labs. EIT Food will pay € 1.500 to the Subcontractor.* For the successful acquisition of an agrifood partner, there is a budget of a maximum of € 5.000.

When applying for the call, interested organisations should submit a tentative proposed agenda with the application form. EIT Food CLC NE reserves a right to:

- Select more than one organization to perform a role of a Subcontractor, based on provided applications, themes and expertise of applicants;
- Negotiate the proposal with the selected Subcontractor(s);
- Negotiate the budget.

Submission of the proposals

Interested and eligible organisations are invited to submit their applications by 26th of June 2023, 13:00 CEST using the attached template: "EIT Food Challenge Labs in Ukraine, 2023 Application Form". Please send the electronic version of the application, based on the form provided below and referring to the selection criteria outlined above to: ewa.karolewska@eitfood.eu

Applications submitted by ineligible organisations will be automatically rejected.

EIT Food reserves the right to designate the Subcontractor(s) only if the submitted applications ensure excellence and value for money, and to relaunch the call if the present selection process would not yield satisfactory results.

EIT Food reserves the right to contact the applicant organisations by e-mail or phone asking for additional explanations or supporting documents, and to schedule selection interviews with short-listed organisations.

All applications will be evaluated using standardized transparent selection criteria and the results of the process will be directly communicated to all organisations participating in the call; the chosen provider will be required to sign subcontracting agreements with EIT Food CLC North-East.

If for some reason the subcontracting agreement is not signed within a month after the announcement of the results, EIT Food may select another applicant based on the ranking lists without launching additional calls.