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Call for Laboratory Analysis of Soil Samples in Navarra 360 Landscape

EIT Food/ Call for Laboratory Analysis of Soil Samples in Navarra 360 Landscape/2026

EIT FOOD

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Call Fact Sheet

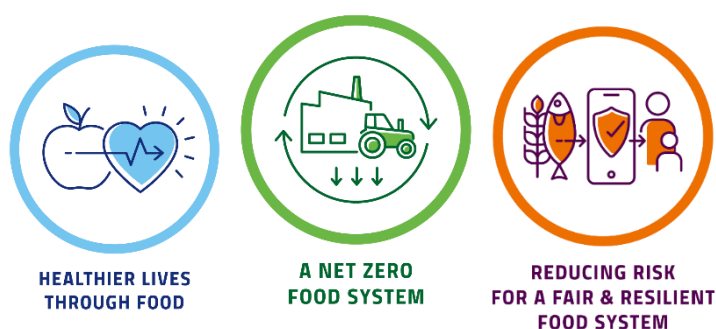
Title of Call	Call for Laboratory Analysis of Soil Samples in Navarra 360 Landscape
Objective and Scope	The objective is to select an entity to analyse soil samples being generated through the Navarra 360 project. The selected entity will analyse the soil samples for a range of parameters to meet the MRV methodology and corporate reporting requirements of the project.
Call Deadline	27 April 2026 12:00 CET
Available Funding	45,000 euros
Project Duration	June 2026 – December 2027
How to apply	MyEITFood Portal
Contact Information	Noemi.salazar@eitfood.eu

1. Introduction

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 which 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](#).

Regenerative Agriculture Landscape

EIT Food, in collaboration with its partners, has launched a Regenerative Agriculture Landscape Programme in Navarra, region of Spain titled **Navarra 360°**. This initiative aims to deliver measurable reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, improve soil health, enhance biodiversity, and support farmer wellbeing. The programme will contribute significantly to the decarbonisation of the partners' value chains through the promotion of sustainable and regenerative agricultural practices.

The objective of this call is to select a laboratory service provider to support this monitoring effort through soil sample analysis services in 2026 and 2027. There is potential to extend this service into further years.

Programme Objectives and Scope

As part of its broader [Regenerative Innovation Portfolio](#), EIT Food is developing regenerative landscapes across Europe, including **Navarra 360°**. The project will span an initial four-year period (2024-2027), targeting the **2025, 2026 and 2027 harvests** with potential for extension. During its first phase, it aims to engage up to 80 farmers and cover more than 3.000 Ha, primarily focused on four key crops: **wheat, malt barley, oat, rapeseed and sunflower**.

Infrastructure and Methodology

To ensure effective delivery and impact, EIT Food will invest in a strong digital and analytical MRV infrastructure, comprising:

1. A technologically advanced **data platform** with tools for quantifying emission reductions and co-benefits like soil health, biodiversity and farmer wellbeing.
2. A tier 3 **carbon model** for accurate carbon emissions and removals.
3. A comprehensive **MRV methodology**, including **soil sampling protocol**, to ensure quality assurance and transparency.
4. Ongoing **technical support** to ensure alignment across all elements of the MRV system.

The MRV methodology underpinning the project will align with the highest international standards. It will integrate services provided by the data platform and include a detailed technical framework for employing Tier 3 carbon models to quantify soil carbon sequestration. This methodology will form the foundation for incorporating emission reductions and carbon removals into the carbon inventories of participants. It will also support compliance with leading sustainability frameworks, including:

- **GHG Protocol (GHG-P), Land Sector and Removals Guidance (LSRG)**
- **Science-Based Targets initiative (SBTi)**
- **EU Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD)**
- **Carbon Removal Certification Framework (CRCF)**
- **SAI Platform.**

This methodology will be independently audited, verified and certified. The laboratory analysis of the soil samples is critical to the success of this MRV System and the project overall.

2. Adding Implementing Participants to Call for Laboratory Analysis of Soil Samples

This EIT Food Call for Proposals has the objective of recruiting an entity to conduct laboratory analysis of soil samples for various parameters in the Navarra 360 project in 2026 and 2027.

2.1. Description of Activities

The laboratory must be able to perform the following analyses:

FERTILITY:

Basic properties:

- Bouyoucos bait texture
- Moisture 105 °C
- pH (extract 1:2.5 H₂O)
- Electrical conductivity 25 °C (extract 1:5 H₂O)
- Organic carbon (C)
- Organic matter (W&B)
- Calcium carbonate equivalent

Nutrients:

- Total nitrogen (N)
- Phosphorus (P) - Olsen
- Potassium (K) - Ammonium acetate extract
- Calcium (Ca) - Ammonium acetate extract
- Magnesium (Mg) - Ammonium acetate extract
- Boron (B) - Mehlich extract
- Iron (Fe) - Mehlich extract
- Manganese (Mn) - Mehlich extract
- Copper (Cu) - Mehlich extract
- Zinc (Zn) - Mehlich extract
- Sulfur (S) - Mehlich extract

Relationships of interest:

- Carbon-nitrogen ratio

CARBON STOCK:

Basic properties:

- Moisture 105°C
- Elemental carbon (C)
- Organic carbon
- Inorganic carbon
- Calcium carbonate equivalent
- Dry weight at 105°C

MICROBIOLOGY:

Biological properties:

- Microbial biomass (mg PLFA/Kg)
- Total bacteria (mg PLFA/Kg)
- Gram positive (mg PLFA/Kg)
- Actinomycetes (mg PLFA/Kg)
- Total fungi (mg PLFA/Kg)
- Arbuscular Mycorrhiza (mg PLFA/Kg)
- Other fungi (mg PLFA/Kg)
- Protozoa (mg PLFA/Kg)
- Fungi/Bacteria ratio
- Gram (+)/Gram (-) Ratio
- Shannon Wiener Index

Physical properties:

- Acidity (pH)
- C-organic (%)
- Organic matter (%)
- C/OS ratio

The MRV methodology being developed will detail the exact number of samples and parameters required from the testing. There is potential for the implementing participant to analyse further samples taken for farmers in 2028.

This call laboratory has been divided into three bundles:

- ✶ Fertility
- ✶ Carbon Stock
- ✶ Microbiology

We request that cost quotations include:

- **Unit price per sample** for each service bundle listed above.
- **Price variations depending on sample volume**, provided in ranges (e.g., 0–50 samples, 50–100, etc. etc).
- Any **additional logistical or handling costs**, if applicable
- Timeline and estimated delivery dates

Additionally, please confirm the laboratory's capacity in terms of samples processed per day/week.

2.3. Deliverables and Milestones

The selected laboratory will be responsible for:

- Performing soil analysis following the described requirements of approximately 300 samples (subject to confirmation) in **July/August 2026**. There is potential for further sampling to be required in 2027 and 2028.

The entity will be required to:

- Processing samples within **7 days** of receiving them.
- Ensuring proper sample logistics, including sample preservation (e.g. refrigeration).
- Providing results in an **Excel-compatible format**, allowing seamless data integration into the Navarra 360 project platform via an API.
- Ensuring compliance with GDPR and other relevant data protection standards.

3. Description of Role & Profile

3.1 Role

The implementing participant will facilitate the processing and analysis of soil samples collected and sent by the project implementers, who have already been selected. The implementing participant selected in this Call are responsible for meeting the deliverables listed above.

3.2 Profile

The implementing participant should be an entity based in Spain. The Laboratory should demonstrate accreditations against ISO or similar standards covering Lab soil testing. It must have the capacity in terms of numbers and parameters required for the soil sample testing, including the Dumas dry combustion method.

4. Funding

This call is for a maximum of €45.000, with the actual cost determined by the number and nature of samples needed.

The implementing participant's part of the project runs initially from May 2026 to December 2027, with potential for a later extension. The total amount of funding will be finalised following implementing participant selection and confirmation of sampling dates and quantities. The payment schedule is as follows:

- 50% of the funding to be provided as pre-financing
- The remainder to be provided at the end of the calendar year, upon proof of costs incurred.

There is a 6 million EUR limit per participants from Member States of the European Union (EU) and from [Horizon Europe Associate Countries](#) for the whole 3-year Grant Agreement. Legal entities from non- Horizon Europe Associate countries can participate in consortia but are limited to funding of 60 000 over 3 years for a Grant Agreement. This funding is implemented under GA 101269771 . In those limits are included all the EIT Funding awarded to an organisation across all the activities and prizes for the 3-year grant agreement.

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

- Subcontracting is allowed to a maximum of 15% of the total grant requested.
- Participants are not permitted to give a subgrant to another third party.

5.1 Timeline

This funding opportunity follows the timeline below:

Call Open Date	26 March 2026
Call Deadline	27 April 2026 12:00 CET
Evaluation	27 April – 01 May 2026
Communication to selected participants	04 May 2026
Standstill period, Onboarding, Validation and Contracting	Until 04 June 2026
Indicative start of project implementation	05 June 2026

The standstill period is a set time after funding selection for appeals, final administrative checks, and compliance in the award process. The project cannot start before this period. The standstill period of 30 days applies to this call.

5.2 Application Submission

Applications must be submitted via [MyEITFood Portal](#), no later than the call deadline.

6. Eligibility, Evaluation and Selection Process

6.1 Eligibility

This call is open to legal entities who are accredited for soil sample analysis in Spain. Please read Annex 1, in addition to the following eligibility criteria:

Consortium or Entity Eligibility	At least one implementing participant must:
	• Be a legally incorporated entity in Spain for a minimum of 2 years. • Provide a PIC Number: https://www.eitfood.eu/files/PIC-Guidance.pdf
Application Eligibility	Each application must:
	• Be complete, with all mandatory application documents uploaded. Mandatory to upload a budget, using the EIT Food budget template provided in the call webpage. • Be submitted on time via myEITFood Portal. • Be fully written in English.

Equal opportunity: The call is open to all applicants, including those without an existing partnership agreement with EIT Food. All members of the KIC Partnership (as defined in the Partnership Agreement) shall have equal opportunity to participate in this funding opportunity.

6.2 Evaluation Process

All submitted applications will undergo an eligibility check and evaluation to determine their feasibility and suitability for funding.

During the eligibility check, if EIT Food identifies obvious or technical errors in a proposal, the applicant will have the opportunity to correct or resubmit their proposal within three (3) calendar days following the call submission deadline. Such errors may include system malfunctions, typos, or missing supporting documents.

The correction window is intended to ensure that these issues do not unduly affect the evaluation of otherwise eligible proposals. Please note that this opportunity is strictly limited to rectifying technical errors and does not permit substantive modifications to the proposal content.

The evaluation will be conducted by a minimum of 1 external evaluator and 1 internal evaluator.

6.2.1. Evaluation Criteria

The applications will be evaluated on the following criteria:

Criteria	Sub criteria	Score
Impact (50%)	Costs per sample, project budget, laboratory capacity including appropriate techniques, proposed work plan, turnaround time for results	1-5
Excellence (20%)	Experience with similar soil sampling and regenerative agriculture projects, experience with data integration, verification standards and soil health monitoring	1-5
Quality (20%)	Familiarity with agricultural context in Navarra (Spain), technical and economic scalability to other European projects	1-5
Strategic fit (10%)	Fit with wider EIT Food and regenerative agriculture initiatives	1-5

Each evaluation sub-criterion will be scored from 1 to 5 using the following scoring system.

The quality threshold for selection is a total weighted score of 3.5. The top highest-scoring applications will be selected.

Score		Description
1	Poor	The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses
2	Fair	Application broadly addresses the criterion but there are significant weaknesses
3	Good	Application addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present
4	Very good	Application addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present
5	Excellent	Application successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

All applicants will be alerted in writing to the outcome of their proposal.

The recipients of EIT Funding must take all measures to promote equal opportunities between men and women in the implementation of the action and, where applicable, in line with the gender equality plan. They must aim, to the extent possible, for a gender balance at all levels of personnel assigned to the action, including at supervisory and managerial level.

6.3 Appeal on Evaluation Results

Applicants can submit an appeal within 5 days of receiving their result, 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 refer to [EIT Food Redress guidance](#).

7. Administrative Items

7.1 Onboarding

Entities that have never been part of projects funded by the EIT Food and that do not have a PIC validated by the Research Executive Agency (REA) of the European Commission will be subject to a PIC validation process managed by the EIT Community Onboarding Service. All validated entities will proceed with the signature of legal agreements with EIT Food.

As part of the onboarding process, selected entities must:

- Sign and submit the Declaration of Size.
- Sign and submit the Financial Information Form.
- Register on EIT Food grants management platform.

Additionally, EIT Food reserves the right to request to the EIT Community Onboarding Service a Financial Assessment Capacity to check the financial capacity of any entity of a selected proposal. In such case, EIT Food may require:

- an enhanced financial responsibility regime, i.e. joint and several liability for all subgrantees or joint and several liabilities of Affiliated Entities if any
- prefinancing paid in instalments (multiple/additional prefinancing)
- (one or more) prefinancing guarantees

or

- propose no prefinancing or
- request that the entity be replaced or, if needed, might reject the entire proposal

In other words, if the assessment results are not satisfactory, the EIT Food might reject the participation of this entity and will then check whether the proposal is still eligible.

For further information on the project implementation, please read the [EIT Food Activity Implementation Guidelines for Participants](#).

7.2 EIT Food Legal Framework & Legal Documents to be signed

Selected applicants will receive a second communication with instructions regarding the completion of the following documents, as well as agreeing to EIT Food's conflict of interest policy:

To be signed between the participant and EIT Food:

1. **Framework Agreement**
2. **Kava Contract**

Any other legal agreements to make this grant eligible.

7.3 Payment Schedule

EIT Food will transfer funding in instalments.

- 50% of the funding will be provided up front.

- The remaining funds will be paid at the end of each year, based on the actual costs incurred.
- The number of samples and parameters required will determine the actual cost of the project. These will be determined in June 2026.

Please note: the amount and timing of funding is dependent on the dispersal of funds to EIT Food from the EIT.

7.4 Monitoring

The project will be monitored and may be audited. All Activities selected for funding undergo continuous monitoring by EIT Food to ensure effective progress and implementation in accordance with the Project Agreement.

EIT Food will request regular reporting of actual costs incurred with the subgrant, as well as regular reporting of KPIs and deliverables, together with the supporting documentation. The monitoring process may result in an amendment to the Activity workplan and/or budget.

In the case of under-performance, significant delay of implementation, misconduct, misalignment with the project specifications in the grant management system or any other reason jeopardizing the timely implementation of the Activity identified during the monitoring process, EIT Food reserves the right to discontinue or restructure the funding of the Activity at any point during the Activity duration.

7.5 Support

If you have any questions about this Request for Implementing Participants, please contact noemi.salazar@eitfood.eu.

Please visit our website for any updates to this call and information about upcoming events to support your application. You will also find our list of Frequently Asked Questions.

ANNEX 1 – Eligibility

Please Note:

1. Failing any of the above call specific 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 its 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.

