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Call for Expression of Interest for Experts for EIT Food Accelerator Network Programme (FAN)- Warsaw Hub

EIT FOOD ivzw

June 2026, Leuven, Belgium

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1. Invitation to Express Interest

EIT Food ivzw (hereinafter: the “EIT Food”) is looking for organizations or professionals (hereinafter: the “Consultants” or “Experts”) with relevant expertise in future resilient agriculture topics, to express their interest in joining the FAN Warsaw Pool of Experts (database) to support the coordination and implementation of the EIT Food FAN Warsaw Hub activities. We look for experienced agrifood technology validation, commercial readiness, investment readiness experts and other business coaches. This document, together with its annexes, constitutes a basis for the potential procurement of services as described herein.

Application deadline: Thursday, 9th July 2026, 12:00 CEST.

Further details about EIT Food can be found at: www.eitfood.eu, and the information on the FAN programme is available at <https://www.eitfood.eu/entrepreneurship/accelerate-food-accelerator-network>

With respect to the present call, EIT Food will not provide new information that has not already been included in this document but can assist the potential applicants by explaining contents of this document (please contact: Kamila Czerwinska, Regional Accelerator Programme Manager – kamila.czerwinska@eitfood.eu).

Call Fact Sheet

Title of Call	Call for experts for the EIT Food Accelerator Network Programme (FAN) Warsaw Hub
Objective and Scope	Creating pool of experts for EIT Food FAN Programme – the Warsaw Hub
Call Deadline	Thursday, 9 th July 2026, 12:00 CEST.
Eligibility criteria	• Natural person, natural person conducting business activity or registered legal entity, • Able to sign an agreement with EIT Food in a project funded based on Horizon Europe/EIT modalities, for 2026 with a possibility of extension for 2027; • Excellent command of English / Excellent written and verbal communication skills. • At least five (5) years experience in relevant domains gained within last three (3) years. • At least two (2) years experience supporting startups or SMEs, depending on the role.
How to apply	Read all documents, fill in the application form https://forms.office.com/e/1jrx5YvtAK and provide a link to downloadable CV, latest by Thursday, 9 th July 2026, 12:00 CEST.
Contact Information	Kamila Czerwinska kamila.czerwinska@eitfood.eu

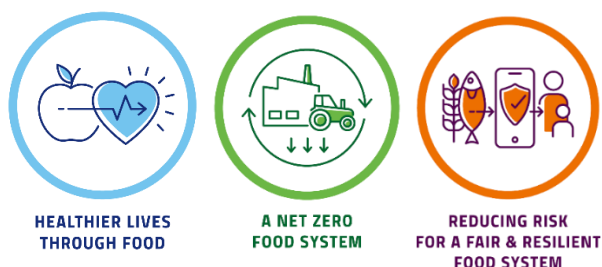
2. Introduction

2.1. 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 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](#).

2.2. The Food Accelerator Network (FAN) programme

The Food Accelerator Network (FAN) programme (the "Programme") is a 3-month, theme-based programme designed for seed startups with traction indicators looking for tech validation and business acceleration to drive a successful market adoption. The Programme connects impactful agrifood startups with industry-leading corporates, investors, research partners and industry specialists to help the transition from an early-stage company to an investment and market-ready business. The EIT Food Accelerator Network helps startups locate labs, pilot sites and agricultural land to help them pilot, validate and accelerate their tech innovation.

The Programme is designed for:

- registered companies established in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe-associated countries in or after 2016
- with business innovation underpinned by a technology with a prototype, or pilot project (paid or unpaid) with TRL 4-8

- falling under one of Programme themes
- pre-series A, with revenues up to €1 million and a team, no more than 20 people
- ideally, startups with completed customer validation, demonstrate traction, for example through letters of support, sales, or signed letters of intent.

As a cohort-style Programme is delivered across six thematic hubs: Warsaw, Catania, Helsinki, Munich, Paris, and Wageningen. Each hub delivers the Programme and has its own thematic focus looking for startups developing innovative technologies under the following themes:

- **Warsaw – Future-resilient Agriculture**
- Catania - Water-Smart Agrifood Systems
- Helsinki – Circular Solutions for Food Systems
- Munich – Smart and Low-Carbon Supply Chains
- Paris - Biotech Ingredients, Products and Processes
- Wageningen - Digital & Autonomous Farming Solutions

This Call establishes the Pool of Experts for the FAN Warsaw Hub.

2.3. FAN Warsaw Hub

The Warsaw Hub, with the accelerator's theme "**Future Resilient agriculture**", is run by the EIT Food, co-funded by the European Union and the EBRD – European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. It supports startups with technological solutions, services and products that can contribute to more resilient, sustainable and regenerative agriculture.

Specifically, the Hub will accept 10-15 startups developing solutions related to:

- soil health and regenerative systems
- climate-resilient crops and genetic innovations
- natural crop protection / bioinputs / carbon
- nitrogen and nutrient-efficient farming
- monitoring biodiversity
- and AI / digital / smart measurement and reporting (MRV) tools, platforms connected to these topics.

The Programme had the recruitment phase between February and June, it will onboard startups in June and run between September and November. It focuses on:

- connecting the startups with the Programme corporate partners, top industry experts and research institutions to identify and develop the areas where the startups need to validate or test their technology for the product-market fit (**technology validation and corporate readiness**), and,
- supporting the startups to raise investment (**investment readiness**) as an **additional component**.

The Programme dates might be subject to change.

3. Scope of the work

3.1. General objectives

EIT Food invites experts with relevant expertise, as described below, to express their interest in joining the FAN Warsaw Pool of Experts (database) to support the coordination and implementation of the EIT Food FAN Warsaw Hub activities. Experts expressing their interest will be evaluated against the selection criteria defined for each of four categories. Those meeting the eligibility requirements will be included in the FAN Warsaw Pool of Experts.

Experts may be engaged under both long-term and short-term assignments. Engagement of Consultants from the Pool will be based on their relevance to specific Programme needs, including alignment with curriculum topics, startups technologies and the requirements identified by the Programme Manager and participating startups.

We recruit following four categories of Consultants:

- 1) **Agrifood technology & technical experts within** the Warsaw Hub topics - soil health and regenerative systems, climate-resilient crops and genetic innovations, natural crop protection / bioinputs / carbon, nitrogen and nutrient-efficient farming, monitoring biodiversity, and AI / digital / smart tools connected to these topics. They will help startups to develop their technology, to analyse gaps, and build a “tech validation roadmap” to test, validate with the research & corporate partners. Please note that we look only for experts having specific technical knowledge related to the topics.
- 2) **Agrifood business consultants & corporate readiness experts & coaches:** to serve as coaches / mentors and advisors to help the startups joining the Programme to prepare them to collaborate with corporate clients, refine their business model, build a scaling up roadmap, sales strategies, or tackle corporate venturing legal issues, etc. These experts might also be contracted for ad-hoc assignments e.g. participation in panels and workshops. Please note that we look for experts having specific and specialised agrifood industry knowledge and expertise.
- 3) **Investment readiness experts:** to serve as experts for panels, and /or as coaches to help startups joining the Warsaw Hub Programme to prepare them to collaborate with investors.
- 4) **Business coaches:** to serve as coaches and advisors on other areas such as: leadership, team-work, responsibilities division in teams and between shareholders, leadership & management skills, public speaking, storytelling, public funding for startups, etc.

Proposed expert can apply to more than one role, in that case please specify it in the application and make sure to list relevant experience to all of the roles.

Below there is information regarding:

- the detailed explanation and key responsibilities for each role,
- the eligibility and selection criteria, deliverables, reporting, remuneration, and the selection.

3.2. Detailed scope of work

3.2.1. Agrifood technology validation / Technical coaches

We are looking for experienced technology experts to serve as long-term coaches or ad hoc experts to help startups to analyse gaps in their technologies build a “tech validation roadmap” to test / validate with the research partners and corporates. The plan will be built during the Programme (September and October) - the startups will also receive additional trainings on tech validation and corporate readiness. Once the tech validation roadmap is finalized, the startups will present it to EIT Food for funding, to carry out their validation. The aim is to successfully test at different scales the technology / solution proposed by the startup with a research centre. This role may also include delivering coaching, group coaching or mastermind groups for startups wanting to solve specific technical challenges related to their solutions.

Key responsibilities may include:

The Consultant will be expected to undertake selected tasks from the list of tasks mentioned below:

- Advise the FAN Programme Manager on the design and implementation of the Programme.
- Support the selection process startups shortlisted for the second evaluation stage.
- Prepare and carry out the assessment of selected startups, based on agreed evaluation criteria, in order to identify technology validation gaps and define tailored objectives for the Programme. This assessment shall inform the adaptation of Programme activities to the specific needs of each startup.
- Provide tailored support to assigned startups through individual and/or group coaching sessions (on an ad hoc or regular basis), including advisory support on the development of technology validation plans, identification of technological gaps, and facilitation of access to relevant expertise, networks.
- Support startups in preparing for technology validation processes, including alignment with the requirements of research institutes and corporate partners, and guidance on due diligence expectations related to technology and product validation.
- Assist startups in the preparation of their technology validation plans for presentation to Programme partners (indicatively in July). Each plan should include, at a minimum: validation objectives; a work plan with indicative timelines; clearly defined phases and activities; measurable milestones; required resources; roles, responsibilities, and commitments of relevant parties; expected results and potential use (exploitation) of outcomes.
- Facilitate connections with relevant research institutes, industry partners, and technical experts, if and when relevant.
- Where required, support startups in preparing presentations and pitches for the technological validation competition.
- If necessary, track and evaluate startups' performance and deliver reports to the FAN Programme Manager.

Location: The coaching will take place on-line. Consultants should arrange for logistics of on-line coaching in cooperation with assigned startups.

Expected engagement:

Long-term collaboration (Startup–Expert coaching)

Each startup will benefit from 15-25 hours of mentoring and coaching. The expected level of effort for a Consultant is approximately 2-10 hours per startup, per week over a period of up to 12 weeks (indicatively: from the end of August to September to mid-November), depending on the number of startups assigned).

Ad hoc expert support (Short-term assignments)

In addition to long-term collaboration, startups may request up to 10 hours of ad hoc, short-term technical support from experts included in the approved pool of Consultants. These assignments are expected to range between 1-3 per startup during the period from September to mid-November, depending on specific startup needs. The Project Manager will provide startups with a shortlist of the highest-ranked Consultants and will select experts that match the most startups' needs. The exact schedule and distribution of working hours will be agreed individually between the FAN Programme Manager, Consultant and each startup.

The exact schedule and distribution of hours, for both type of assignment, will be agreed individually between the FAN Programme Manager, Consultant and each startup. The workload may vary from week to week depending on the needs and activity level of the startups .

Key eligibility and selection criteria for this role include:

- At least five (5) years of demonstrated hands-on experience, gained within last three years, in technology validation, research and development (R&D), and technology product development, and/or the design and implementation of field trials and pilot projects. Experience should relate to one or more of the following areas: soil health and regenerative systems; climate-resilient crops and genetic innovation; natural crop protection, bioinputs, and carbon-, nitrogen-, and nutrient-efficient farming; biodiversity monitoring; and AI, digital, or smart tools applied to these domains (e.g. AI-based soil health platforms, AI-supported breeding tools, etc.). This includes geographic expertise: strong knowledge of the European agrifood landscape and/or specific European country contexts relevant to the assignment.
- Proven, two (2) years experience in providing advisory, mentoring, or coaching support to startups, particularly in the development and design of technology validation approaches or proposals.
- Strong understanding of the agritech sector, the role of innovation in enabling resilient and sustainable agriculture and the challenges associated with agriculture technology development and validation, including for artificial intelligence and machine learning applications, for example: experience working with or within research institutes, experience collaborating with private sector entities on proof of concepts or pilots (e.g. corporates), or experience in designing and implementing pilots, field trials in the agricultural sector, etc.

- Excellent communication and stakeholder management skills, with fluency in English.
- Availability during the Programme period.

3.2.2. Agrifood business consultants & corporate readiness experts & coaches

We are seeking experienced business consultants to act as coaches supporting startups in strengthening their corporate readiness, with the objective of enabling effective collaboration with corporate partners.

Both long-term and short-term engagements are foreseen.

Long-term collaboration (Startup–Expert coaching)

Consultants engaged under long-term collaboration will act as primary coaches/mentors to assigned startups, providing approximately 10–15 hours of mentoring, coaching, and advisory support per startup. Support may include, inter alia: refining business models; developing value propositions; designing technology validation plans and pilot projects with corporate partners; defining go-to-market strategies; developing product roadmaps and projects for corporate challenges; and conducting gap analyses. Corporate readiness support will be delivered between the end of August and the end of October, with initial input foreseen at the end of June, alongside activities related to technology validation. The overall objective is to prepare startups for effective engagement with corporate stakeholders, including improving their understanding of corporate environments, refining their solutions to better match or shape market needs, and supporting their scale-up.

Ad hoc expert support (Short-term assignments)

In addition to long-term collaboration, startups may request to the FAN Programme Manager ad hoc, short-term support from experts included in the approved pool of Consultants. This may include mentoring or advisory support on the topics defined above, or specific topics such as legal and regulatory aspects, corporate venturing frameworks, and funding opportunities as well as participation in group coaching, masterminds, or panels, etc.

Startups will be provided with the list of Consultants and will select experts through an online matchmaking process for long-term assignments.

Consultants may be engaged for short-term support as well. These assignments are expected to range between 3 and 45 hours per Consultant during the period from September to mid-November, depending on startup needs and the number of startups supported.

The FAN Programme Manager will each time specify the number of hours needed for each assignment.

Key responsibilities may include:

The Consultant will be expected to undertake the selected tasks from the list below:

- Advise the FAN Programme Manager on the design and implementation of the Programme.

- Support the selection process of startups shortlisted for the second evaluation stage.
- Prepare and carry out the assessment of selected startups, based on agreed evaluation criteria, to identify commercial readiness gaps and define tailored objectives for the Programme. This assessment shall inform the adaptation of Programme activities to the specific needs of each startup.
- Provide tailored support to assigned startups through individual and/or group coaching sessions (on an ad hoc or regular basis), including advisory support on business model refinement, value proposition development, technology validation planning, pilot design with corporate partners, go-to-market strategies, product roadmaps, and gap analyses, as well as legal, regulatory, and organisational aspects. This also includes facilitating access to relevant expertise, networks, and corporate partners.
- Support startups in preparing for technology validation processes, including alignment with the requirements of research institutes and corporate partners, and guidance on due diligence expectations related to technology and product validation.
- Assist startups in preparing proposals for corporate partner challenges and for startup–corporate matchmaking activities (indicatively end of October), as well as in preparing presentations for technology validation (indicatively 5th November).
- Facilitate connections with relevant research institutes, industry partners, and technical experts, including through the Consultant’s professional network.
- If necessary, track and evaluate startups’ performance and deliver reports to the FAN Programme Manager.

Location and timing:

The coaching will take place on-line. Consultants should arrange for logistics of on-line coaching in cooperation with assigned startups.

The expected level of effort is approximately 2–20 hours per startup over a period of 14 weeks (indicatively beginning of July, end of August and September–November).

The exact level of involvement may vary depending on the number of startups assigned and their specific needs. The detailed schedule will be agreed between Project Manager, each Consultant and the respective startup. Workload may vary over time depending on programme phases and startup activity.

Key eligibility and selection criteria for this role include:

- At least five (5) years of proven professional experience in the agrifood sector, gained within last three years, including:
 - advising startups on scaling strategies, sales, and collaboration with corporate partners;
 - designing and implementing proof-of-concept (PoC) and pilot projects with corporate partners;
 - supporting startups or companies in developing new business;
 - holding executive or senior management roles involving business growth and market expansion;

- coaching or mentoring agrifood startups in business development;
- working with high-growth organisations, including corporate or open innovation environments;
- addressing executive-level challenges in early-stage companies;
- working with international agrifood networks, businesses, and markets.
- Strong knowledge of the agritech sector, including its stakeholders, opportunities, and challenges, and the role of technology in future resilient agriculture.
- Excellent understanding of the European agrifood landscape and/or specific European country contexts.
- Specific expertise in at least one of the following areas: soil health and regenerative systems; climate-resilient crops and genetic innovation; natural crop protection, bioinputs, and carbon-, nitrogen-, and nutrient-efficient farming; biodiversity monitoring; and AI, digital, or smart tools applied to these domains (e.g. AI-based soil platforms, AI-supported breeding tools).
- At least two (2) years of experience in mentoring, advising, or coaching agrifood startups.
- Excellent communication and stakeholder management skills, with fluency in English.
- Availability during the Programme period (end of August and September–November).

3.2.3. Investment readiness experts

We are looking for experienced investment experts: to serve as experts for panels, workshops, and /or as coaches for the European startups joining the Warsaw Hub to help prepare them to collaborate with investors.

The investment readiness will be built throughout the Programme as an additional component. The objective is to help startups to adequately prepare to receive external funding from investors. We are looking for experts wanting to get involved either as guest experts in panel discussions and workshops, or as coaches. Please specify your preference and availability in application.

We are looking for candidates that have first-hand knowledge and experience in agrifood investment readiness support, investment funds, corporate venturing, startup analysis, financial analysis, financial planning, in working with investors and securing funding for companies.

We would like the candidate to be sufficiently experienced to provide guidance and coaching to the startups as they prepare for investment. In addition, the candidate needs to have a good understanding of the agritech sector and the role of technology in sustainable agriculture, to guide the startups effectively.

Key responsibilities may include:

- Guest experts and speakers: Serve as panel experts, workshop guest speakers, etc.
- Coaches:
 - Advise the FAN Programme Manager with Programme and activity design and implementation.

- Prepare and conduct the assessment of the selected 10 Startups, based on agreed criteria, to identify investment readiness gaps and objectives for the Programme, in cooperation with tech validation and corporate readiness coaches. This assessment will help adjust and tailor the Programme according to each of the entrepreneurs' investment needs.
- Support each startup with individual and group coaching sessions.
- Prepare startups for meetings with investors. This includes supporting startups in the preparation of their documentation, presentation and pitches to the investors, etc.
- Track and evaluate startups' performance and deliver reports to the FAN Programme Manager.

Location and timing: The coaching will take place on-line. Exact time involvement will depend on the role. We foresee time commitment between 1 h for panel involvement to 5 hours of coaching per startup. The timeline, intensity and schedule for experts will be specified between each coach and startup. The number of hours may vary according to the weeks and the startups' workload.

Key eligibility and selection criteria for this role include:

Candidates should demonstrate:

- At least five (5) years of proven experience in agritech venture capital, investment funds, corporate venturing, angel investing, or similar investment roles, gained within last three year
- At least two (2) hands-on experience supporting startups in fundraising, investment readiness, or transaction processes.
- Strong skills in financial analysis, financial modelling, and business case evaluation.
- Experience assessing startups and providing strategic feedback to founders or management teams.
- Ability to coach and communicate complex investment topics in a clear and practical way.
- Excellent understanding of the agritech sector and investment trends in sustainable and technology-driven agriculture.
- Strong professional network within the investment and innovation ecosystem.
- Excellent communication and stakeholder management skills, with fluency in English.
- Availability during the Programme period (end of June and September–November).

3.2.4. Business Coaches

We are seeking experienced business coaches to serve as experts in panels, workshops, and/or as coaches for European startups participating in the Warsaw Hub for other topics not covered by experts mentioned in points 3.2.1, 3.2.2 and 3.2.3.

Consultants will support startups and the Programme Team in, inter alia, the following areas: leadership & management skills development; teamwork; allocation of roles and responsibilities within

teams and among shareholders; AI automatizations, AI tools for work effectiveness, public speaking; storytelling; access to public funding for startups; and relevant legal aspects (e.g. IP rights, patents or GDPR etc.).

Applicants shall demonstrate proven experience working with international high-growth organisations, including startups corporate or open innovation environments, SMEs, and startups. In addition, a good understanding of the agritech sector and the role of technology in sustainable growth is required to effectively support participating startups.

Key responsibilities may include:

- Guest experts and speakers:
 - Serve as panel experts, workshop guest speakers, etc.
- Coaches:
 - Advise the FAN Programme Manager with the Programme and activity design and implementation.
 - Prepare and conduct the assessment of the selected Startups, based on agreed criteria. This assessment will help adjust and tailor the Programme according to each of the entrepreneurs' needs.
 - Support each startup with individual and group coaching sessions.
 - Track and evaluate startups' performance and deliver reports to the FAN Programme Manager.

Location and timing: The assignments will take place on-line (if otherwise, it will be specified between the FAN Programme Manager and the Consultant in a working mode). Exact time involvement will depend on the role. We foresee time commitment between 1 hour for panel involvement to 5 hours of coaching per startup. The timeline, intensity and schedule for experts will be specified between each coach, startup and the FAN Programme Manager.

Key eligibility and selection criteria for this role include:

Candidates should demonstrate:

- At least five (5) years of proven professional experience in the domain served and in working with international high-growth organisations, including startups SMEs, corporate or open innovation environments.
- At least two (2) years of experience in mentoring, advising, or coaching startups or entrepreneurs.
- Understanding of sustainability and knowledge of the agritech sector, including its stakeholders, opportunities, and challenges, and the role of technology in future resilient agriculture.
- Excellent communication and stakeholder management skills, with fluency in English.
- Availability during the Programme period (September–November).

3.3. Methodology of work

The Consultants must adopt a collaborative, coaching, mentoring and advisory methodology that:

- Leverages the strengths of startups.
- Responds effectively to startups needs.
- Ensures active collaboration between Consultant, the assigned startups and the Programme Manager.
- Adheres to the international coaching standards as defined by the ICF – the International Coaching Federation: [ICF Code of Ethics | International Coaching Federation](#)

The services should be provided in English.

Conflict of interest

The services should be performed in a confidential, fair, and equitable manner.

A conflict of interest could arise, in particular as a result of economic interests, political or national affinities, family or emotional ties or any other relevant connection or shared interest.

A disqualifying conflict of interest exists e.g. if Consultant if he/she or his/her organisation could stand to benefit, or be disadvantaged, as a direct result of the services carried out, has a close family relationship with any person representing a FAN Programme participant, etc.

Consultants should notify immediately about any potential conflict of interest and shall be excluded from participation in this call if they have a conflict of interest in connection with the EIT Food, and FAN Warsaw Hub participants.

Detailed information on Conflict of Interest for Horizon Europe can be found in Horizon Europe Code of Conduct: [Horizon Europe Code of Conduct](#)

3.4. Deliverables and reporting

Deliverables

The expected deliverables for long term assignments include, but are not limited to:

- developing a meeting schedule and working plan together with assigned startup.
- preparing set of questions for startup, data, information related to startups needs.
- facilitating relationships between startups, research institutes, potential clients, corporate partners and other relevant stakeholders.
- helping to prepare agreed outcomes for the assignment.
- preparing a 2 page summary report from the advisory work and collaboration with a startup (the „Report“) which should include the recommendations for a given startup from the collaboration, related to the startup objectives in the Programme.

For short term assignments like ad-hoc coachings or participation in panels, the tasks and deliverables will be agreed by the Programme Manager and the Consultant in a working mode.

Reporting

Each hour of work needs to be reported and confirmed by both Parties (the Project Manager, the Consultant and a startup) on monthly basis in the form of an email from the Expert to kamila.czerwinska@eitfood.eu summarizing the hours of coaching for the past month with remaining balance of the total hours agreed with the EIT Food, followed by confirmation e-mail from startup receiving Service. The screenshots of meetings should also be provided for the purpose of the audit.

3.5. Remuneration

Consultants accepted under this Call shall be included in the EIT Food FAN Warsaw Pool of Experts. Inclusion in the Pool does not constitute a commitment to award a contract or guarantee assignment.

Assignments will be made in line with the needs of the startups and the Programme.

If you accept an assignment, you will enter into a direct agreement with EIT Food. The Consultant must acknowledge the receipt of the request sent by EIT Food to the email indicated in the application form, from the EIT Food without undue delay. If the Consultant does not accept the assignment within three working days, EIT Food might choose a different expert.

EIT Food will pay contracted Consultants a fee of 145 EUR gross for natural persons or 145 EUR net + applicable VAT for legal entities, per hour of work. The number of hours will be assigned to a Consultant by Programme Manager, based on startups and Programme needs. The EIT Food will pay the remuneration for the performance of services in the amount of sum of confirmed hours multiplied by the agreed hourly rate.

Tasks will be remunerated only if accomplished in accordance with the provisions of the Contract, within the given deadlines, to the highest standards of quality and if they were approved by EIT Food.

The selected applicants will sign an agreement with EIT Food. The Consultants will be paid in 30 days after receiving an invoice/ receipt. The details will be specified in the contract. Please refer to Annex 1 for the template contract that shall apply to this procedure.

The Consultant has no right to claim for any additional costs, reimbursements, or fees on any legal ground except for the remuneration indicated by this procedure. The fixed remuneration is due in whole only if the Contractor fully fulfils the service. However, in case of the onsite meetings outside of the Consultant's seat, the EIT Food, upon prior approval, may pay the Contractor the lump sum to cover the travel expenses and allowance. The exact amount of the lump sum shall be agreed upon by EIT Food in a working mode, will depend on the meeting location, should be based on EIT Food travel policy and should not exceed the average, reasonable travel costs in the economy class.

4. Selection Process

4.1. Participation

Participation in this proposal procedure is open to all experts who fulfil the eligibility criteria.

4.2. Selection process and evaluation of applications

Applicants with relevant experience are invited to apply by Thursday, **9th July 2026, 12:00 CEST**.

Steps in the application and selection a process:

1. Applicants should fill out the application form in English, using the link <https://forms.office.com/e/1jrx5YvtAK> completing all required fields, providing relevant information, and providing a link to downloadable CV of the proposed expert.
2. Applications will be evaluated in accordance with the below mentioned award criteria. The award criteria will be examined in accordance with the requested service indicated in Section 3 of the document – for each role mentioned.

Experience and expertise, including proven track record in the expert areas – technology, corporate readiness, investment readiness and area expertise for business coaches.	Max. 20 points	40%
Experience with work with startups (coaching, or investment)	Max. 20 points	30%
Understanding and knowledge of the agritech sector, including its stakeholders, opportunities, and challenges, and the role of technology in future resilient agriculture.	Max. 20 points	30%

An eligible application can receive a maximum of 20 points. Each criterion will be evaluated on a scale from 0 to 20:

- 0 – not satisfactory;
- 5 – satisfactory;
- 15 – good;
- 20 – very good.

The applicant confirms that the individual submitting the natural or legal entity's proposal is duly authorized to bind its entity to the proposal as submitted. The tenderer also confirms that it has read the instructions to applicants included in this document and has the experience, skills and resources to perform, according to conditions set forth in this proposal and the tenderers' proposal.

The results of the award procedure will be communicated in writing (via e-mail) to the successful and unsuccessful applicants.

Applications not following the instructions of this document can be rejected by EIT Food.

4.3. Validity of the proposals

Applicants are bound by their proposals for 30 days after the deadline for submitting proposals or until they have been notified of non-award.

The selected applicants must maintain its proposal for a further 30 days to close the contract.

4.4. Requests for additional information or clarification

In case the applicants require additional information or clarifications, these should be addressed to the person indicated below. All communication between EIT Food and applicant is only possible in writing, all requests will be done and answered by e-mail only. All questions should be sent at least 5 days prior to deadline for requesting clarification as specified in Section 1.

Contact name: for the attention of Ms. Kamila Czerwinska **E-mail:** kamila.czerwinska@eitfood.eu

4.5. Costs for preparing the application

No costs incurred by the applicant in preparing and submitting the proposal are reimbursable. All such costs must be borne by the applicant.

4.6. Clarification related to the submitted proposals

After submission of the proposals, they shall be checked if they satisfy all the formal requirements set out in this document. Where information or documentation submitted by the applicants are or appears to be incomplete or erroneous or where specific documents are missing, EIT Food should request the tenderer concerned to submit, supplement, clarify or complete the relevant information or documentation within an appropriate time limit. All communication between EIT Food and tenderers is only possible in writing, all requests will be done and answered by e-mail only.

4.7. Appeals/complaints

Applicants believing that they have been harmed by an error or irregularity during the award process may file a complaint. Appeals should be addressed to EIT Food. The applicant has 5 days to file their complaint from the receipt of the letter of notification of award.

4.8. Signature of contract

Consultants accepted under this Call shall be included in the EIT Food FAN Warsaw Pool of Experts. Inclusion in the Pool does not constitute a commitment to award a contract or guarantee assignment.

Assignments will be made based in line with the needs of the startups and the Programme.

Please refer to Annex 1 for the template contract that shall apply to this procedure.

Within 5 days of receipt of the contract from EIT Food, the Consultant shall sign and date the contract and return it to EIT Food. Upon receipt, EIT Food shall countersign and return one signed copy of the contract to the Consultant.

4.9. Cancellation of the proposal procedure

In the event of cancellation of the procurement procedure, EIT Food will notify applicants of the cancellation. In no event shall EIT Food be liable for any damages whatsoever including, without limitation, damages for loss of profits, in any way connected with the cancellation of a proposal procedure, even if EIT Food has been advised of the possibility of damages.

4.10. Ethics clauses / Corruptive practices

EIT Food reserves the right to suspend or cancel the procedure, where the award procedure proves to have been subject to substantial errors, irregularities or fraud. If substantial errors, irregularities or fraud are discovered after the award of the Contract, EIT Food may refrain from concluding the Contract.

The Consultant shall take all measures to prevent any situation where the impartial and objective implementation of the contract is compromised for reasons involving economic interest, political or national affinity, family or emotional ties or any other shared interest ('conflict of interests'). The Consultant should immediately inform EIT Food if there is any change in the above circumstances at any stage during the implementation of the tasks.

4.11. Ownership and confidentiality of proposals

EIT Food retains ownership of all proposals received under this tendering procedure. Proprietary information identified as such, which is submitted by applicant in connections with this procurement, will be kept confidential.

The potential or actual supplier should accept that during the implementation of the contract and for five years after the completion of the contract, EIT Food has the right for the purposes of safeguarding its financial interests that the proposal and the contract of the supplier may be transferred to internal as well as external audit services.

4.12. Safeguarding of EU's financial interest

The potential or actual Consultant should accept that during the implementation of the contract and for five years after the completion of the contract, for the purposes of safeguarding the EU's financial interests, the proposal and the contract of the supplier may be transferred by EIT Food to internal audit services, EIT, to the European Court of Auditors, to the Financial Irregularities Panel or to the European Anti-Fraud Office.

4.13. Annexes

Annex I: Application form link and the GDPR information clause for the Application form

Annex II: Contract Template. The Contract Template and its Annex is provided for information purposes only and might be subject to considerable modifications.

Annex III: Declaration of Honour

Annex 1: Application form for the Call for experts for the EIT Food Accelerator Network Programme (FAN) Warsaw Hub and the GDPR information clause

APPLICATION LINK: Please fill in the application form available at this link: [Application for EIT Food FAN Warsaw Pool of Experts](https://forms.office.com/e/1jrx5YvtAK) : <https://forms.office.com/e/1jrx5YvtAK>.

DEADLINE: Please fill it in by: **Thursday, 9th July 2026, 12:00 CEST.**

GDPR INFORMATION CLAUSE:

1. Providing of your personal data is voluntary, however in the event of failure to do so, you will not be able to serve as a Contractor.
2. Your data indicated in the Personal Data Form will be processed by the Controller pursuant to art. 6 sec. 1 (b) of the general regulation on the protection of personal data of April 27, 2016 ("GDPR") in connection with the implementation of the contract for participation in the Activity, what includes: provide full service, including solving technical and organizational problems, contacting you in connection with registration to the Activity, defense against possible claims, statistical purposes, as well as for the purpose of reporting the Activity under the European Union's Horizon Europe Framework Program, including documenting and disseminating the Activity, and therefore, for this purpose, the image of participants of the Activity may be processed and disseminated, where appropriate.
3. Your personal data may be shared with:
 - a) other participants of the Programme in order to conduct the Programme,
 - b) other entities, persons or bodies that will process personal data as their independent controller - to the extent and on the terms set out in the law and the European Union's Horizon Europe Framework Program (e.g. project partners, EIT Food, entities authorized to conduct inspections and audits projects under the Horizon Europe Program - the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, the European Commission, the European Anti-Fraud Office ("OLAF"), the European Court of Auditors) as well as co-organizers of the Programme,
 - c) persons authorized by the Controller, his employees and associates who must have access to data to perform their duties,
 - d) processors to whom we entrust this task, e.g. those operating ICT systems, our advisors, related entities to the extent that they carry out data processing processes on our behalf (including EIT Food iVZW in the scope of providing us with resources, including ICT resources), entities providing photo/video services.
4. The Controller of your personal data in connection with the registration of participation in the Programme is EIT Food EIT Food ivzw, Ubicenter A, Philipssite 5. 34, 3001 Heverlee (Leuven), Belgium, e-mail: info@eitfood.eu
5. Your personal data will be stored for 5 years, due to the European Union's Horizon Europe Framework Program.
6. The Controller does not intend to transfer your contact data to a third country or international organization, unless it is needed to use special tools that meet criteria of the GDPR.
7. Your personal data is not subject of automated decision-making, including profiling.
8. You have the right to lodge a complaint, when you consider that the processing of your personal data violates the provisions of the GDPR, to the President of the Office for Data Protection (or the supervisory authority dealing with the protection of personal data in another country, in particular in the Member State of your habitual residence, place of work or place committing the alleged infringement. The list of competent authorities for the Member States can be found here: <https://www.dlapiperdataprotection.com/index.html?t=authority&c=PL&c2=>).

Annex II: Contract Template. The Contract Template and its Annex is provided for information purposes only and might be subject to considerable modifications.

Attached as two separate files, for information purpose only.