

Knowledge Hub on Food Systems Science

Preliminary Announcement



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The FoSSNet network is pleased to announce the launch of the “Knowledge Hub on Food Systems Science” scheduled for **3rd November 2025**.

This Knowledge Hub provides the unique opportunity to connect researchers from public organisations as well as from the private sector, civil society and policy to the existing Food Systems Science Network of the RIA FoSSNet (Research and Innovation Action: Food Systems Science Network).

Background and aim of the call

The EU-funded RIA FoSSNet aims to establish and strengthen a solid and sustainable academic network focused on Food Systems Science (FSS) throughout Europe. The development of the network and advancement of Food Systems Science and education is based on an inclusive approach to ensure participation from all relevant disciplines, researchers and non-academic actors.

To expand the existing network, address shortcomings in its composition, and bridging identified research gaps in the context of FSS, additional experts will be involved via a topic-driven Knowledge Hub (KH). The objective of the KH is to provide complementary contributions and solutions to the scientific challenges within the FSS network developed under FoSSNet.

Outline of the Knowledge Hub

The KH will be organised by the German Federal Office for Agriculture and Food (BLE) and chaired by the University of Barcelona (UB).

The KH will consist of 20 members, assigned to four thematic working groups according to their expertise and experience. The preliminary topics identified within FoSSNet are listed below; the final topics will be released together with the call announcement on the 3rd of November.

- Riga Territorial Lab: Leverage points for an inclusive K&I system for food systems.
- Catalan Territorial Lab: Scalability of agroecological initiatives for food systems transformation.
- Polish Territorial Lab: How can the knowledge system accelerate food systems transformation at the national level? Building a vision and a roadmap for sustainable food systems (SFS) to support public policy.
- Systemic Lab: Sourcing smarter in the local food system: Managing hidden social and environmental sustainability impacts using pricing and rewarding.

We are looking for members familiar with FSS based in universities and academic research centers, coming from the private sector, civil society, and government or non-academic organisations.

We especially encourage early career researchers, experts from Eastern and Southern European countries, researchers with a background beyond social and food sciences, and applicants from the private sector, civil society, and government or non-academic organisations to apply to the KH.

Call procedure and timeline

Interested candidates will have to submit an Expression of Interest (Eoi) using an online tool to provide information about their scientific expertise, motivation to join one of the working groups, and added value of their contribution to the network.

The selection of the members will be carried out by different committees, one for each of the thematic working groups, composed of FoSSNet partners.

Successful applicants will be invited to the Kick-off Meeting in February 2026 to begin developing the work plan and timeline for each topic.

The KH will run for one year, followed by a reporting period. The detailed preliminary timeline is presented in the table below.

Date	Action
03.11.25	Launch of the call and opening of the submission tool for applications
28.11.25	Deadline for the Eoi
01.-12.12.25	Selection of KH members
15.-17.12.25	Communication of results to applicants
09.-13.02.26	Kick-off meeting (tba)
09.-12.06.26	Mid-term meeting (Lund, Sweden)
11.-29.01.27	Final meeting
01.02.-30.04.27	Reporting period

Further information will be made available at the beginning of November at <https://fossnet.eu>.