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Food Systems
Science Network

Edition #1: May 2025

Welcome to the first edition of the FoSSNet Newsletter!

It's been just over a year since FoSSNet began, and we are excited to share some updates!

In this issue, we are looking back at the **First European Food Systems Science Conference: Establishing a Common Framework and Network**, which took place from 25–27 March 2025 in Oxford, UK. Whether you couldn't make it or just want to revisit some of the key moments, we have put together the main highlights and useful resources from the event.



Did you enjoy the conference?

Take a moment to fill out our quick,
2-minute survey and help us shape future events.

**Share your
thoughts**

A message from the FoSSNet coordinator



Stine Rosenlund Hansen

Roskilde University

After finalizing our first Food Systems Science Conference, FoSSNet is now working to integrate the many ideas, thoughts and questions that arose, while also working towards the many new initiatives that will be happening over the remaining years.

*Some of the overarching questions that crystalized over the course of the Conference regard building a clear vision of the Food System Science Network and the need for in-depth discussions of what food system science is. Building a strong vision requires a clear scope and value proposition of the network and a need for boundary setting. However, setting boundaries while taking the aim of inclusion seriously, is a constant balancing act that generates a need for transparency and for structures that help crossing those same boundaries. Or to speak with FoSSNet terms: **We need to bridge the layers of the onion in meaningful ways.***

Furthermore, the Conference confirmed a need for better understanding what food system science is. This includes questions of theorization and operationalization of concepts and frameworks, as well as a deeper understanding of the role of food systems science in the transformation of food systems. As a field strongly embedded in inter- and transdisciplinary traditions, food systems science has the potential to facilitate and engage in collaborations across different forms and domains of knowledge. In FoSSNet this potential, but also its challenges, is currently unfolded through transdisciplinary

territorial labs and an in-depth study of in- and exclusion mechanisms in agrifood collaborations and networks.

”

On behalf of the FoSSNet consortium, I want to thank the participants of the First Food Systems Science Conference in Oxford for your engagement, as well as welcome new participants. I hope you will continue to engage with the Food Systems Science Network through the many upcoming activities that you can learn about in this and following newsletters.

Meet our speakers

Get to know the experts behind the insights. Find the bios of our distinguished presenters and learn more about their backgrounds, expertise, and contributions to the event.



[Read more](#)

Presentations Archives

We have created a **central archive** on our website that brings together every slide deck, video link, and related resource shared during the three-day event, in one place.

See the
archive

Recommended Sessions

Whether you're revisiting your favorite talk or catching up on what you missed, this is the easiest way to explore the full range of insights presented at the conference. You can go to the conference page and scroll down to explore the full conference, **day by day** – or **jump straight to a session**:



Watch
Session 1



Watch
Session 2



Watch
Session 3



Watch
Session 4

From here to Lund 2026



The Food System Science Network (FoSSNet) is organising **a series of three interlinked conferences** over the next three years — each designed to build on the outcomes of the last and deepen our collective understanding of food system science in Europe.

Following this year's successful gathering, the next conference will take place on the **9 to 11 June 2026 in Lund, Sweden**, hosted by our partners from Lund University. This edition will focus on mobilizing knowledge for transformation, with a special effort to broaden participation beyond academia — engaging policymakers, industry leaders, NGOs, and early career researchers.

Our upcoming newsletter will include more details about the conference and provide an opportunity to pre-register. In the meantime, we encourage you to **save the date** by adding the event to your calendar.

**Read
more**

Add event to calendar



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FoSSNet Surveys

Help us build a strengthened and deepened academic network to support a new Knowledge and Innovation governance structure for Europe's food system.

Please take a few minutes to complete the FoSSNet surveys - your contribution is extremely valuable!



Research needs and knowledge gaps in Food Systems Science

Aimed at mapping research needs and knowledge gaps within the Pan-European food system by collecting data on existing research agendas.

[Go to survey](#)



Educational needs and knowledge gaps in Food Systems Science

Designed to gather insights on curricula, courses, and areas for development of food systems education.

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