



FOOD TRAILS PROJECT - "INNOVATIVE AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS": THE EUROPEAN CALL FOR STARTUPS AND SMES IS NOW OPEN

The call for startups and SMEs of the Horizon 2020-funded Food Trails project, which aims to develop solutions and projects to improve the sustainability of European food systems, will be open until 16 February 2023.

The [Municipality of Milan](#), lead partner of the European project [Food Trails](#), and the Italian innovation hub [Cariplo Factory](#), launched the call for startups and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) with the aim of identifying innovative solutions to **improve the sustainability of food systems in 11 European cities**.

Successful applicants will have the opportunity to **develop pilot projects** within the 11 'Living Labs' of Food Trails, establishing strategic alliances with one or more cities, collaborating with key stakeholders in the European food system and innovation landscape, and **meeting potential investors**.

The four-year (2020-2024) [Food Trails](#) project, funded by the EU Horizon 2020 programme, brings together a consortium of 19 European partners, including 11 cities, 3 universities and 5 organisations, led by the Municipality of Milan.

The project aims to support cities in designing, developing and implementing innovative, sustainable and inclusive food policies. These actions include the "[Sustainable Food Systems - Call for Solutions](#)", through which startups and SMEs will be identified in the cities participating in the project such as Bergamo, Birmingham, Bordeaux Metropole, Copenhagen, Funchal, Grenoble-Alpes Metropole, Groningen, Thessaloniki, Tirana and Warsaw.

There are **seven thematic areas** for which startups and SMEs can apply to develop innovative solutions and services:

1. Education and Training
2. Communication and Involvement
3. Reducing Food Waste
4. Data Collection and Monitoring
5. Access to healthy Food and production Processes
6. Urban agriculture and vegetable gardens
7. Food Packaging

The **application deadline** is **16 February 2023**. Afterwards, a technical committee - composed of Cariplo Factory, the Municipality of Milan, the foundation [Stichting Wageningen Research](#)



and representatives of the [11 Food Trails partner cities](#) - will evaluate and select the best applications.

Those selected at this stage will have the opportunity to participate in the **Matchmaking Day** to be held in **spring 2023**. Finally, a second phase will identify **the finalists who will have the opportunity to develop a pilot project within Food Trails**.

To participate in the call, please fill in the form at this link: <https://www.f6s.com/food-trails-call-for-solutions-sustainable-food-systems/apply>

For more information and to contact the promoters:

<https://www.cariplofactory.it/en/call-for-solutions-sustainable-food-system/>