

European partnership for a sustainable Future of Food Systems

Second Joint Transnational Co-funded Call



FutureFoodS Call 2025

Accelerating Food Sustainability - through Household Dietary Shifts, Trust and Transparency, and Innovations in Circular Food Processing Systems

Question and Answers Document

Based on the webinar held on 11 Dec 2025



Co-funded by
the European Union

Co-funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Research Executive Agency (REA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

Content

Consortium	3
Eligibility	4
Evaluation	8
Funding	10
Project Types	14
Scope / Topics	15
Theory of Change	20
Submission and Partnering Tool	21
Technology Readiness Level (TRL)	23
Other	24



Consortium

Question	Answer
Can associated partners reclaim any costs within the project, e.g. for travel?	No. Self-funding/ associated partners can join project consortia with their own resources and/or bring their own funding. They cannot claim costs. Self-funded partners will not be subject to national/regional eligibility assessments. They will appear within the project proposal as “associated partners” and will need to submit a “letter of commitment” (Annex E) with the full-proposal submission.
How can an organisation from a country that has no Funding organisation taking part in the Call (e.g. Swiss, Italian (except Bozen) or Czech or North Macedonian) join a proposal?	Those organisations can participate as associated partners.
Concerning the multi-stakeholder engagement, do you require all stakeholders to be consortium members?	No, Stakeholders can also be involved in other ways, for example through advisory boards or networks.
How important is the diversity of the participating countries? Could it be an obstacle for receiving the funding if all participating countries are rather from Northern Europe?	The minimum requirement is 3 fundable partners from 3 different countries. Since this is an EU/ transnational programme, added value on EU level is important. This can be achieved by involving a diversity of countries, but it is not a must. It could also be achieved by ensuring that results are transferrable and relevant on EU level. Please have a look at the evaluation criteria and supportive questions.
Can we have a partner from outside the EU?	Yes, you can have a partner from outside the EU. There is the possibility that partners from outside the EU participate as associated partners . For partners from Turkiye, Iceland and Norway there is also the possibility to participate as funded partner since there are funding organisation from Turkiye, Iceland and Norway involved in this call. Please take a look at Annex I containing the national regulations.

Eligibility

Question	Answer
Can you please clarify the application steps?	The co-funded call is conducted as a two-step-procedure. As a first step, a pre-proposal has to be submitted via the submission tool. In a second step – following an invitation, a full-proposal has to be submitted via the submission tool. Some funders may require additional procedures and/or documents according to their own national/regional or organisational regulations. Therefore it is important to check Annex I.
Are there any restrictions on who can be the coordinator, like needing a PhD?	There are no general restrictions. Some funders have specific requirements concerning the qualifications of the PI. Please check the relevant national/regional regulations carefully.
For disciplinary representation in our consortium – How are the life sciences and social sciences defined in this call, would nutrition/public health or agricultural science qualify as a "life science"?	The call announcement contains no specific definition for life sciences and social sciences. Depending on the focus, nutrition/public health and agricultural science can be both life science and social science. In the proposal you are asked to state the disciplines involved.
For Gender diversity & representation, would a consortium of all women be disqualified ?	No, the application would not be disqualified. Gender equality is not an eligibility criteria. However, the composition of the consortium is part of the evaluation. One of the subcriteria (Quality and Efficiency of the implementation; full-proposal only) enquires whether gender equality is sufficiently integrated in the consortia as well as the work plan, including the distribution of power and influence.
Can one organization submit 2 pre-proposals on different topics?	Yes, this is possible. Please note: The same person cannot act as Principal Investigator of a Coordinator for more than one proposal. Please additionally check the relevant nat/reg regulations (Annex I)

<p>If your consortium consists of organisations from three countries, what happens if the consortium meets requirements for funding from one or two countries, but not the other? Is the project then not eligible altogether?</p>	<p>The failure of one applicant to meet any of the eligibility criteria, including the national/regional eligibility criteria, will result in the rejection of the entire proposal.</p>
<p>Is the eligibility determined by country? So for example if my consortium has an SME in Spain, can a German university then still apply to a German call that does not allow SMEs but it does uni's</p>	<p>Proposals must be in line with the general eligibility criteria as described in the call announcement and comply with national/ regional criteria as established in Annex I respectively. A Spanish SME and a German University can both be partner in one consortium. It is important to consult the national/regional regulations (Annex I) carefully.</p>
<p>In the Appendix with the eligible countries, there is a list of beneficiaries. This list deviates from the list in the call for proposals. What is the difference?</p>	<p>Annex H lists those organisations which are consortium partners within FutureFoodS but are also allowed to apply for the call. This Annex is mandatory and has relevance for Conflict of interest. Annex H is only of importance for the organisations listed there. In order to check which countries/regions are represented by funding organizations, you'll need to consult table 3 in the Call Announcement or Annex B or Annex I.</p>
<p>Can the research team supporting the PI from an organization change between pre-proposal and full proposal? Is it possible to only name the PI and add the research team after pre-proposal approval?</p>	<p>Team members are not mandatory to be added in the proposal. However, this also means that the less information the evaluator has about the team, the more difficult the assessment may become.</p> <p>If not only the supporting team is to change, but a change of organization is planned, then the points mentioned in section 7.2.1 of the Call Announcement must be considered. The affected funders should be contacted in any case to discuss the details.</p>
<p>Is it eligible if team members do not have affiliation with the partner institution right now but in case of receiving funding in this project they will be employed at the partner institution?</p>	<p>Not all team members (of a partner) are known at the time of application. If a team member is not known, we recommend to leave this open (indicated as n.n.). The recruiting of a team member will then be part of the negotiations with the national/regional funder.</p>

Does every partner of the consortium have to get in touch with a National contact point or just the coordinator?

All partners applying for funding should ensure eligibility, thus we highly recommend to get in contact with their national/regional contact points.

What if national Funder does not fund Topic 3. We (NL) want to partner with partners from Germany but German funder is not funding Topic 3. This means DE partner cannot get funding and cannot be a partner, but associate partner?

Yes, in this case the German partner can only participate as associated partner.

What is the use of contacting your FO beforehand? So what exactly should be discussed with our FO before applying?

There are formal regulations for proposals which vary from country/region to country/region. If these regulations are not followed, the proposal is ineligible and will be rejected. This has consequences for the whole proposal.

While we generally recommend to get in contact, some funders insist that the respective project partner contacts them before submitting the proposal. Failure to comply will render the proposal ineligible.

You mentioned that an entity can only be eligible as a coordinating entity for one application – can you clarify if this as at the individual or the entity level – means an individual cannot be the coordinator on multiple proposals or the entity that the individual is associated with?

It is on individual level: The same person cannot act as Principal Investigator of a Coordinator for more than one proposal.

Do you need to have the consortium fully known at pre-proposal stage? Or is this more for full proposal phase?

The information given in the pre-proposals is binding and thus, no changes in the consortium composition of funded partners are allowed, unless in case of force majeure or explicitly requested by the IEP, a FO or the CB. However, all changes must comply with the requirements of the call and the respective FOs. Please have a look at the Call Announcement.

Can we apply with multiple partners from other countries than ours?

The minimum requirement for project consortia is to be comprised of at least three partners from at least three different Member States or Associated Countries participating in the call and eligible to request funding from the FOs participating in this call and providing funding for the selected topic and project type (Table 3). A proposal consisting of partners from only one country would not be eligible.

Evaluation

Question	Answer
Will different Evaluation criteria be Applied between preproposal and Full proposal?	<p>Eligible pre-proposals will be evaluated against the two equally weighted evaluation criteria excellence and impact, as described in section 8.2 of the Call Announcement. The evaluation procedure will be conducted as described in section 8.</p> <p>Eligible full proposals will be evaluated against the following three equally weighted evaluation criteria excellence, impact and quality and efficiency of the implementation, as described in section 8.2. The procedure will be conducted as described in section 8.</p>
What is the weight of the different sections of the proposals during the first stage evaluation?	The International Expert Panel will evaluate the proposals as a whole. There are no specific weightings for sections.
Are the suggested R&I aspects part of the evaluation rubric? and which topics are for "research" vs "innovation"	<p>Evaluation criteria and sub-criteria can be found in table 4 of the call announcement.</p> <p>Projects under all 3 topics can be either Exploratory Research Projects or Accelerating Innovation Projects. Please check which funding organisations support which topics and/or project types.</p>
Both project types will be evaluated separately. Will the composition of the evaluation committee also be different?	There will be two expert panels. The composition will vary in order to cover the requirements of the two project types to the extent possible.
If the project follows in between the two project types, Research and Innovation, how will this be assessed?	You will have to decide for one of the two project types.
How is the composition of the consortium rated?	In general there are two levels:

	<p>1) the eligibility level: the general eligibility criteria (chapter 6.2.1 General eligibility criteria) contain information on how to compose a balanced consortium and by this indicate how the consortiums' composition will be rated (number and work balance of the partners of a consortium)</p> <p>2) the expert evaluation: the evaluation criteria (Table 4, Call Announcement) provide information on how the composition of the consortium will be rated. The food system approach and the guiding elements, as stated in section 2 play an important role and will also be considered.</p>
<p>I had another question about gender diversity within the consortium team. There is no question on the submission platform asking about gender, how then can you evaluate the gender diversity of the consortium?</p>	<p>The excellence evaluation criteria states: "<i>Soundness of the proposed overall methodology, including the integration of the gender dimension in research and innovation content as well as open science practices/ including the underlying concepts, models, assumptions, inter-disciplinary approaches, appropriate consideration of the gender dimension in research and innovation content, and the quality of open science practices, including sharing and management of research outputs and engagement of citizens, civil society and end-users where appropriate.</i>"</p> <p>Evaluators will get information about the gender dimension by reading the information that each proposal provides, e.g. in the team compositions but mainly in the descriptive parts.</p>
<p>If we are resubmitting a proposal is it important to address all feedback received from evaluation committee for our previous submission?</p>	<p>There is no obligation to do so. However, if you received advice from the evaluators, you should take it seriously and carefully consider whether or not to incorporate it into the new proposal.</p>
<p>In the last call we were rejected mostly because of the impact plan. we had the impact plan in the pre-proposal but still evaluated not sufficient. any suggestion on what is expected there?</p>	<p>We cannot answer this specific question. In general, you can find information on the impact plan in Annex A. There you also find links towards online workshops about working with an Impact Plan. Otherwise, we can only refer to the feedback you have received from us.</p>

Funding

Question	Answer
<p>While the pre-proposal detail should reflect what the proposal aims to achieve and does not include the implementation description, it still requires a fixed and unchangeable budget, implying fully fleshed out idea, tasks and travel as a basis. Can pre-prop budget be more flexible?</p> <p>So you can't make any budget changes in the full-proposal? (as this is set up in the pre-proposal and binding?)</p>	<p>Indeed, the research idea and necessary budget for realization should be estimated clearly at the point of pre-proposal submission. One reason for this is the selection (as detailed in section 7.1.3), where the availability of funds is an important aspect to avoid high under- or over-subscription of funders in order to keep the success rates at a realistic level. The prior submission of a pre-proposal is a requirement for the submission of a full-proposal. The information given in the pre-proposals is binding. No change to the objectives outlined in a proposal is allowed. A limited number of changes with respect to the administrative details/ minor revisions may be allowed upon request and approval by the CO and the FOs concerned (see section 7.2.1); this also includes budget changes.</p>
<p>How is multi-stakeholder engagement funded, do all participating countries have budget to fund NGO, SME, public authority, civil society actors?</p>	<p>There are differences among the individual funding organisations. Please consult Annex I. There you find the info on which funder funds which organisation type.</p>
<p>Is it possible to involve non-eligible entities in a consortium by subcontracting them? This would mean that an eligible consortium partner receives the budget and then subcontracts a non-eligible entity that is best suited to deliver a specific service.</p>	<p>In general this is possible. If subcontracting is possible and under which conditions, is subject to national/regional regulations of the Funding Organisations. It is advisable to contact the respective funder in question directly and discuss the details.</p>
<p>Are we allowed to aggregate funding from different national bodies to scale the programme beyond the scope of a single funding source?</p>	<p>In principle this is what already happens in the transnational funding scheme which is applied in the FutureFoodS call. Every project must be comprised of at least 3 partners who are funded by funding organisations who participate in this call. Apart from this, there is no rule against bringing in own funding, but</p>

	you should consult with the participating funding organisation of this call whether there are limitations.
Is it true that with this funding scheme that some call topics will not be funded by some countries? E.g., is it correct that Topic 3 will not be funded for partners in Germany?	Yes.
Could you explain about the funding organisation and their support of specific topics please. If the nations FO only funds for example topic 2 does that mean that you can only partner with partners from other countries whose FO funds the same topic?	Yes. Project partners are only eligible for funding if there is a funder in their country/region that supports the relevant topic. Otherwise, the project partner can only participate as an associated partner.
When you say that "the project types will be evaluated separately", will there be a separate budget (and ranking) for each type?	Yes, there will be separate budgets and ranking lists for each type
We would like to initiate a project that focuses on the governance of food systems at the EU level, using an exploratory research approach. Do we need to secure co-funding from national project partners, or is there EU-level funding available that can fully support activities with an all-EU focus?	<p>FutureFoodS Calls work with a virtual common pot - this means that after the selection of the projects (to be funded), each project partner enters into funding negotiations with their own funding organization at national or regional level. No other funding sources are foreseen.</p> <p>Here - the term Cofund refers to the fact that the funding organizations receive a portion of their project expenses back from the European Commission (also called cascade-funding).</p>
Does the funding cover the actual overhead / indirect costs of salaries of our different universities? Or is it a flat EU 30% overhead cost?	This varies from funding organization to funding organization. EU Overhead of 30% is not relevant for this call. Please refer to Annex I or contact the relevant funding organization directly.

What is the required level of co-funding?	There is no general requirement of co-funding. Annex I should be consulted or respective the national / regional contact point should be contacted.
Can a project partner request funding from more than one national FO?	No, that is not possible.
If there are two partners from the same country can each of the partners apply for different funders within the same country.	Yes, in principle that's possible – provided both funding organizations are funding the same topic. Nevertheless, you should carefully review the national regulations to determine whether this is permissible for the funding organizations involved in each specific case. Also worth noting: Many funding organizations set a maximum funding amount not only per partner but also per project.
In a transnational project, with minimum of 3 funders, can you combine funding from a national partner that funds all three topics with a national partner that funds only 1 or more topic?	As long as all funding organizations involved in this respective project support the requested topic, everything is fine. Whether some of the funding organizations also support other topics is irrelevant to the project.
The separate evaluation of types of projects is an issue for projects that combine e.g. new knowledge creation with analysing pilots. Such “cross-over” projects that “fall in between” seem to have a disadvantage in evaluation: how will this be treated?	Each project is evaluated by three experts who possess the relevant knowledge and expertise. We strive to distribute the pool of evaluators evenly and in a balanced manner across all proposals. We will do our best and avoid any disadvantage in case of projects that span across project types.
Is the 39 Mil for the total of 6 calls or per call? What is an acceptable budget or budget max?	The 39 Mio Euro are allocated for the second FutureFoodS call. The budget of a project depends on the number of partners and the budget available to each partner. The call announcement states the following regarding the number of partners: <i>“There is no rule for setting out the maximum number of partners that may participate in a consortium. The</i>

	<i>number should be appropriate to meet the project goals and should remain manageable (experience from past calls indicates a range of 4-8 partners per project)"</i>
What happens if your project ranks high but the budget of one of the partners is already finished due to a higher ranked project?	Projects are selected as a whole project as long as funding is available, following strictly the ranking list
In which phase is the coordinator expected to deliver the full budget overview for the proposal?	The budget is already asked at the pre-proposal stage to allow full assessment of fundability.
European funding sometimes, if not always, doesn't allow double funding. If funded, are there limitations to get other, external funding during the project duration? Is it possible to get other fundings during the 2/3 years of being funded with this fund?	Double funding (Receiving funding twice for the exact same action) is not allowed.
Can we include compensation to non-academic community partners?	Please contact your national/ regional funding contact point. This may be possible if the nat/reg. regulations allow.

Project Types

Question	Answer
For partners in the project type “Accelerating Innovation”, is it a must to have an academic research partner? Or is it possible to apply with several NGOs specialised in food systems	There is no general rule that mandates that a project needs to have an academic research partner. But, some of the funders may have different national rules. Please carefully consult the national/regional regulations for this.
You mentioned that the different types of projects have different budgets. This difference is strategically important when seeking funding, but not clear/specified in the call document. Do we need to contact our respective funders for this information?	You can contact your national funding organisation for this question.
To what extent can research activities also be included as part of an ‘Accelerating Innovation’ project?	In general, the “Accelerating Innovation” projects are also R&I projects, and thus research should play an important role. For technology driven project the TRL of 6-8 might give some guidance. Please consult section 3 of the Call Announcement.

Scope / Topics

Question	Answer
So, the application can assess balanced intake of (macro- and micro-) nutrients, fibres, calories, and proteins?	Yes
Does the design of new foods (not focused on preservation but on improving nutritional properties) fall under this topic?	FutureFoodS follows a clear vision that goes beyond single attitudes (e.g. nutritional properties only). Please consider section 2 describing the ambition and Food System Approach which is central here.
Could you clarify whether the topic of genome editing applied to viticulture is within the scope of the FutureFoodS Call 2 2025, or whether it is more relevant to other agricultural partnership calls mentioned during the webinar? Could you please specify which call you were referring to?	Projects should focus primarily on the three call topics and not on the primary production aspects of food systems. The call we were referring to is the open call of the Partnership Agroecology: https://agroecology.ptj.de/call3
Can a project span two topics. For instance, in topic 3 if focus is around how we reach consumers and shape the system that affords certain behaviours this might also be regarded as topic 2 project.	We are aware of potential overlaps but you have to decide for one topic.
Is the focus of the call on new foods or new technologies?	The focus of the call is on more sustainable food systems. Please set the context.
Topic 2 says: Towards diverse, ..., and compositions tailored to diverse consumer groups. What is meant by "diverse" and "compositions" – final products or what? In	Topic 2 says: <i>"Making food value chains more sustainable is crucial in order to promote lasting health and societal effects and booster food sustainability transitions across multiple scales and food environments tailored to diverse consumer groups"</i> . The word compositions is not mentioned. By supporting

addition, what is the policy for funding the companies/industries involved?	different actors (multi-actor approach) to work together in FutureFoodS projects, the aim is to enhance applicability, relevance and impact.
What about food production by individuals and communities outside of the food industry (prosumption)?	Please note that primary production (on land and sea/water), such as growing food, agricultural production and other specific aspects related to it, as well as diseases related to nutrition and lifestyle are not in focus in this partnership. These aspects are covered in other Horizon Europe partnerships. However, dependencies and impacts related to these aspects may need to be reflected upon in a project to fully embrace a food systems approach.
Scope question: NCD's due to unhealthy lifestyles/nutrition or unhealthy food environments are in scope, focusing on, say diabetes is not in scope. Is this a correct interpretation?	Projects should focus primarily on the three call topics and not on questions dealing with health/ diseases. However, when appropriate, health effects could also be considered within the project, but they should not be the main research focus of the project.
Are the bioproduction (fermentation) of foods (such as the growth of biomass) with enhanced sustainability and nutrition quality included in the scope of FutureFoodS?	Yes, Topic 2
what level of detail is expected on project tasks in the pre-proposal, seeing that it should focus on the problem analysis and not the full impact plan?	Please have a look at Annex A "Impact Plan" and the pre-proposal templates (Annex C).

The following disclaimer applies: '[...]diseases related to nutrition and lifestyle are not in focus in this partnership'. I understand this to mean that diseases (e.g. diabetes) are not relevant to this call. Could you clarify what exactly 'health' means and includes, and what is not meant?

Projects should focus primarily on the three call topics and not on questions dealing with health/ diseases. However, when appropriate, health effects could also be considered within the project, but they should not be the main research focus of the project.

Please note that primary production (on land and sea/water), such as growing food, agricultural production and other specific aspects related to it, as well as diseases related to nutrition and lifestyle are not in focus in this partnership. These aspects are covered in other Horizon Europe partnerships. **However, dependencies and impacts related to these aspects may need to be reflected upon in a project to fully embrace a food systems approach.**

Is Food Education (schools level) be considered in the call – linked to consumption behaviour –so will it be topic 1?

Yes, Topic 1?

Would a project aimed at minimising food waste throughout the supply chain be encompassed in topic 1 or 2?

Depends, Food Waste reduction in households Topic 1, Food waste reduction in the processing systems: Topic 2

For topic 2: do the organizational or social innovations also count?

Topic 2 is on "processing systems" but in general, aspects that cover governance/ organisation or more social questions are in line with FutureFoodS ambition.

In topic 1 : how is the household defined?

There is no definition included in the call. One description (Eurostat) could be *"A household, in the context of surveys on social conditions or income such as EU-SILC or the Household budget survey (HBS), is defined as a housekeeping unit or, operationally, as a social unit:
having common arrangements;
sharing household expenses or daily needs;
in a shared common residence.*

	<i>A household includes either one person living alone or a group of people, not necessarily related, living at the same address with common housekeeping, i.e. sharing at least one meal per day or sharing a living or sitting room."</i>
Can topic 3 go beyond consumer choice and labelling and propose new methods of food systems governance?	Generally, please respect the scope of the call and the topic. In the call announcement it is written: <i>"Applicants choosing to address this call topic might touch upon some of the aspects listed below in their proposals. Applicants may choose to address other issues; either way a clear argumentation about how the chosen relates to the scope of this call topic is required"</i>
For topic 2: Is the inclusion of Novel Foods foreseen in this call, specifically foods that would require EFSA novel food authorisation before commercialisation? Is production not in scope, even if based on food sidestreams? but that post-production aspects might be? Could you confirm?	There is no exclusion of novel foods, but there might be a challenge to include this in a 3-year project. Please consider also nat/reg regulations of what can be funded. Food processing is in scope but primary production is not.
Food environment is mentioned in both Topic 1 and 3 what is the difference in the approach?	Food Environment is mentioned in both Topics, as it plays a vital role for consumer decisions. Please read the Topic descriptions to understand the difference between Topic 1 and 3.
Based on the short descriptions, "the way we govern food systems" does not seem to fit clearly under any of the three call topics. Could you please explain which call topic governance falls under and how it is considered within the call approach?	Research on governance aspects can be applied horizontally and you are right that there is no topic under this call which is purely focussing on governance. There is a clear link in Topic 3, e.g. "Investigate interlinkages between governance (who decides on data and formats, accounting of costs and benefits for different actors) and data (space and sovereignty, use of data infrastructures);"

Is it valuable for FOs to see applications that approach the three topics simultaneously? Or is it more valuable to focus on one of the topics?	You have to choose one Topic for the application, so it is advisable to concentrate on one Topic
For topic 1: you focus on household level -> so does this mean that for instance the processing that you evaluate should also be applicable at home? My question, to which extent do you need to apply to household level? Can these also be consumer tests for instance?	Please have a look at the Topic description of Topic 1 and 2. Topic 1 is not about processing methods, Topic 2 is.
Does the design of new foods (not focused on preservation but on improving nutritional properties) fall under this topic (Topic2)?	FutureFoodS follows a clear vision that goes beyond single attitudes (e.g. nutritional properties only). Please consider section 2 describing the ambition and Food System Approach which is central here.
If the project starts at TRL 3 and also includes the development of a prototype during its implementation, should we still select the "Exploratory" category, would the project still be considered exploratory?	Sometimes it is difficult to decide for a project type, because the project covers aspects of both research and innovation and spans several TRLs. In this case consider where the main focus of the project lies and choose this category.
can topics be combined? e.g. a german partner goes for topic 2, the others for topic 3?	In its application the consortium needs to decide and name the topic it wants to go for.

Theory of Change

Question	Answer
Hello, I will be very grateful if you could give us an example of theory of change justification for the food system (for some of the topics) as it is an unusual format for presenting impact. An in general --any guidance for system innovation and pathways. Many thanks!	<p>We cannot provide a full example of a theory of change for the food system. Please have a close look at the Call description and Annex A to gain understanding. Also, we recommend to visit the following info pages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• https://www.nwo.nl/en/impact-plan-approach• https://impact.nwo.nl/en/working-with-an-impact-plan
Should Theory of Change be included in the pre-proposal? In a previous proposal we submitted, it was stated in the call that ToC was to included in the full proposal. Despite this, the evaluation of the preproposal stated that the ToC was missing, apparently leading to a lower score! Confusing!	<p>The Theory of change is the framework for the impact plan we are using for this call. This means it plays a role from the very beginning. In the pre-proposal you will be asked to provide a problem and context analysis. In the full-proposal you will be asked to provide a full impact plan. The two things build upon each other. Please have a look at Annex A and C.</p>

Submission and Partnering Tool

Question	Answer
Can we include 5 publications from our whole team (not only the coordinator)?	Yes, you are free to decide which publications you want to include / which ones are most relevant to the project.
Referring to the pre-proposal template's CV of Coordinator, in which you need to list up to 5 publications by main researcher (?) If the project type is accelerating innovation, and the approach is very co-creative by nature, how significant role does the scientific background of one researcher play?	The CV should demonstrate the applicant's qualifications and experience. This should enable the evaluator to assess the applicant's skills and competencies. Evaluation criteria in the pre-proposal phase are excellence and impact. How exactly these are demonstrated is up to the applicants. Please also see the answer to the question directly above. There is no general rule that mandates that a project needs to have an academic research partner. But – some of the funders may have different national rules. Please carefully consult the national/regional regulations for this.
Are figures included in the 8000 characters of project description?	Figures are included using the figure provided as a file, so the content of the figure does not count. However, one need to insert the figure through a short code in the text, this is counted towards the characters. But this is only a few short characters.
Will there be a platform available for partner search?	Yes, the partner platform is open. https://futurefoods.ptj.de/call2/partnering
Is there a template for what needs to be included in the Letter of Commitment? and is this needed at the Pre-proposal stage?	Annex E is the Letter of Commitment template. It is available in the download section. LOC is only needed at full proposal step.
The partnering tool is only available after logging in as a partner or coordinator – correct? How does one do that	No, the partnering tool is available to everyone

if the partner/coordinator roles are dependent on the funder?	
Can we transfer data from previous application to the new one?	No
Can we provide a CV for each team member?	No, just one CV per Partner/Coordinator
Is there a standard budget table template similar to the table in the portal?	There is a pre-proposal template available which includes an example for a financial table.
How does the additional literature work. Should we treat these as end notes that correspond to the text in the project description? or can they be simply a list of the literature we consulted in developing the project description?	Both is possible, it is a non-mandatory field, you can use it as you see fit.
If I we want to register as a partner but not as a coordinator is the same log in and follow the coordinator registration?	A Partner will be invited by the Coordinator. No need to register yourself, only the coordinator registers. The Partner can login, after invitation, following "Partner Login"
Under project coordinator/partner info – you ask us to describe our tasks in the project in 2000 characters. Are these the tasks of the whole TEAM or the tasks of the PI ?	Please describe the task of your Team, not only the PI.
Where can we find the list of funders?	The list of funders can be found in the Call Announcement, it is Table 3.

Technology Readiness Level (TRL)

Question	Answer
What is the expected TRL level and the type of project anticipated under Topic 1	<p>Projects under Topic 1 can be either Exploratory Research Projects or Accelerating Innovation Projects.</p> <p>Exploratory Research Projects: For projects focusing on technical advancements these would cover the stages 3 to 5 according to the TRL scale.</p> <p>Accelerating Innovation Projects: These projects aim at developing and up-scaling science-based solutions in industry, policy and society and corresponding to stages 6 to 8 in the TRL scale (if applicable).</p>
You want rather high TRL....to make Impact; on the other side you want food system change and system approach....this is contradicting for me.	There is no contradiction between TRL levels and systems approach. Considering a systems approach does not mean that only basic research on the food system itself is allowed. It means that all proposals, no matter project type or TRL level, should consider the implications of their proposal for the food systems and the interconnection with food systems.
I would like to understand in what cases the TRL scales would not be applicable / not be taken into account into the project evaluation?	In cases where the project is not concerned with research on technology but rather societal or policy questions for example. For those categorization in TRL might not be applicable.

Other

Question	Answer
When can I expect the national details for the German BMFTR funding?	Details concerning national funding can already be found in Annex I and in the published national documents (Bundesanzeiger, published on 11 December!).
is the exact start date of the project decided by the consortium?	Yes, it also depends on the duration of national/regional contract negotiations. A joint project start of all partners within the timeframe given in the Call Announcement is the aim
If the project is exploratory but on novel foods does it need the regulation aspect?	This question is not clear. If you ignore regulatory aspects would you find the project sufficient and results applicable to achieve impact?