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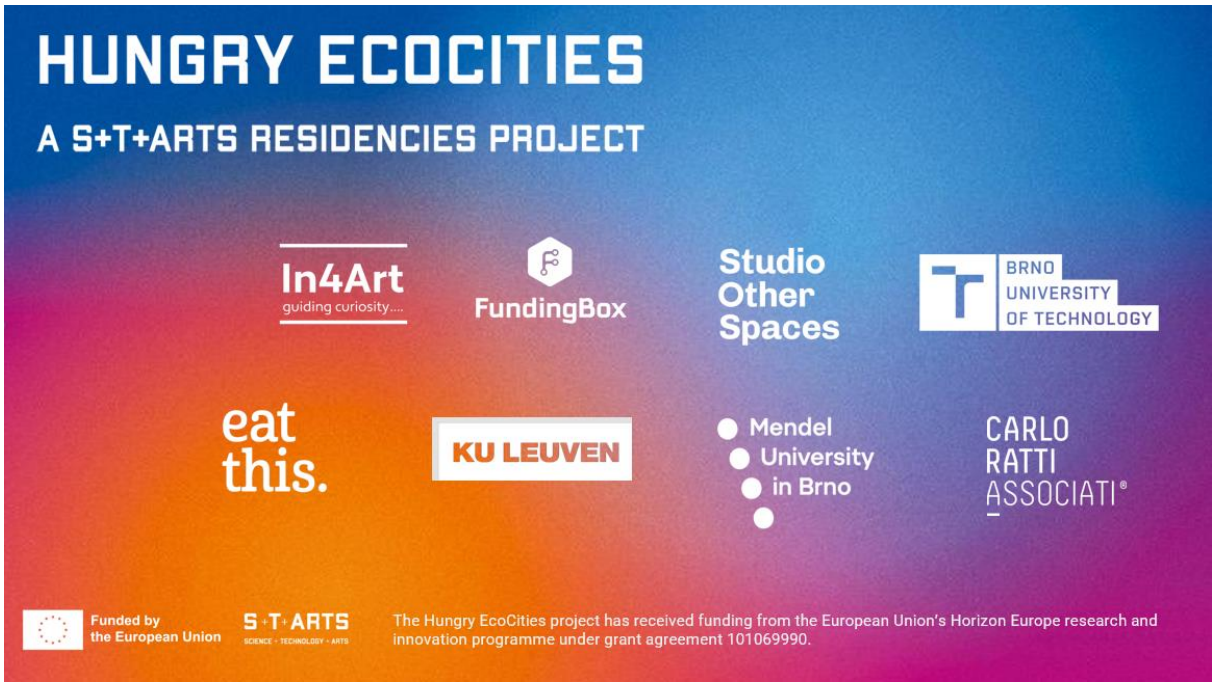

Deliverable 3.5 Call Announcement & GfA 1st stage 2nd OC

Version 1.0

Grant Agreement Number	101069990
Project title	AI enabled artistic solutions for sustainable food systems
Start date of the project	Sep 1st 2022
Duration of the project	42 months
Date of submission of the report	14.02.2024
Work Package No.	3

Project coordinator: Brno University of Technology (BUoT)
WP leader: Anca Marin, FundingBox
Lead author: Anca Marin, FundingBox
Reviewers: Jens Bürger, KU Leuven

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History of changes

Date	Version	Author	Comment
12.02.2024	1.0	FundingBox	Draft for review
13.02.2024	1.0	KU Leuven	Review
14.02.2024	1.0	FundingBox	Final

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1. Abstract

This deliverable includes the package of documents for the **Second Hungry EcoCities Call – Open Call for Art-Driven Experiments - 1st Phase - Call for End-Users** and it is composed of the open call announcement, the Guide for Applicants (GfA), the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) and the Application form. The deliverable 3.5 is linked to Task 3.1 for each open call, resulting in three distinct versions of the deliverables submitted, one corresponding to each phase of the 3 open calls.

This deliverable contains guidance documents that are targeting the potential applicants, individual Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), including Start-ups, active in the food chain, to participate and join the S+T+ARTS residency under Hungry EcoCities. The selected teams will consist of 1 End-User and 1 Artists, known as **Paths to Progress Experiments (PPEs).** The applicants interested in this open call are expected to apply through the dedicated open call platform at https://hungry-ecocities-end-users.fundingbox.com/ between 15 February 2024 and 15 May 2024.
The deliverable D3.5 including the package of documents for the second open call in Hungry EcoCities is part of WP3, Task 3.1 Preparation of open calls, where FundingBox is the work package leader and partners from BUoT, In4ART, SOS, CRA and NTWK have brought their contributions to defining the technical requirements and to ensuring the inclusiveness and coherency of the application process within the documentation. This deliverable related to T3.1 is the first step towards accomplishing the objective of launching and managing the last of the two open calls estimated in the Hungry EcoCities project, calls targeting to reach up to 300 Artists, select 20 S+T+ARTS residencies and identify 50 alternative AI methods/scenarios.
Next steps of the application and selection process as detailed in the Guide for Applicants, part of this deliverable, will make the object of Deliverable 3., after the Open Call is concluded.

The Call Announcement included in this deliverable has been posted online as well on the Participant Portal at:
https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/competitive-calls

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2. Call announcement

Announcement of an open call for recipients of financial support

Call title:	Hungry EcoCities Call for Artists
Full name of the EU funded project:	AI enabled artistic solutions for sustainable food systems
Project acronym:	Hungry EcoCities
Grant agreement number:	101069990
Call publication date:	15/02/2024 09:00 (Brussels Time)
Call deadline:	15/05/2024 17:00 (Brussels Time)
Expected duration of participation:	14 months
Total EU funding available:	Total planned budget for the second open call: 810 000 EUR The maximum amount of support per **Path to Progress Experiment (PPE)** - **81 000 EUR**, including a maximum grant of **45 000 EUR per End User** selected in this open call (Call for End-Users).
Submission & evaluation process:	The applicants can submit a proposal through the following website: https://hungry-ecocities-end-users.fundingbox.com/ The selection of the open-call proposals will be carried out in a three-step process. Step one will check the proposals against eligibility criteria and in/out scope verification. Step two will involve independent external and internal evaluation to assess the proposal according to the criteria. Step three will involve the Hungry EcoCities consortium voting on the list of pre-selected applicants in a Consensus Meeting. For further information see the Guide of Applicants.
Further information:	For further information about the Hungry EcoCities project, please visit the following website: https://starts.eu/what-we-do/residences/hungry-ecocities/ Email address for further information: hungryecocities@fundingbox.com
Task description:	The HungryEcoCities project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement 101069990. In this initiative, collaborative efforts between studios, universities, growers, agricultural specialists, artists, and creative thinkers aim to generate innovative ideas for the future of the food system. The

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	project plans to host 20 S+T+ARTS residencies, focusing on defining, designing, and developing AI-enabled responsible, art-driven solutions for end-users in the agri-food industries. In the second call (Call for Art-Driven Experiments), the project aims to identify 10 experiments known as Paths to Progress (PPE) experiments. These experiments involve collaboration between art, science, and industry, with one industrial end-user partnering with a core group of Hungry EcoCities organizations and a selected artist. Together, they will work towards reaching the prototyping stage within the project resources and specified timeframe, addressing challenges in a concrete test site provided by the end-user (e.g., supermarket, bio farm, community garden, production facility, restaurant). The first stage of the second Open Call, the Call for End-Users, will select 10 entities (SMEs including start-ups in the agri-food value chain) receiving a €45,000 lump sum to cover costs. These selected end-users will then collaborate with the Hungry EcoCities consortium to form a team with an artist for further participation in the support program. The selected end-users will enter a 14-month S+T+ARTS support program divided into three stages: Discovery (problem framing and scientific start), Prototype and Set-up (testing digital prototypes, scientific research, and creating the innovation monitoring plan with the selected artist) and Demonstrate (real environment testing). Artists will have a separate application process in the second phase of the Hungry EcoCities Call for Art-Driven Experiments, where an Expression of Interest application process will be initiated.

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Guide for Applicants (GfA)

Hungry EcoCities Second Open Call

Open Call for Art-Driven Experiments 1st Phase - Call for End-Users

Application submission starts on 15 February 2024 at 09:00 CET (Brussels time).
Submission deadline is 15 May 2024 17:00 CEST (Brussels time).

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History of changes

Date	Version	Author	Comments/Changes
19.12.2023	1.1	FundingBox	All Sections
15.01.2024	1.2	FundingBox	Updates by In4Art
31.01.2024	1.3	FundingBox	Version for PO
12.02.2024	1.4	FundingBox	Final after PO input

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Must Read Brief

WHY this Open Call?

We need a future where we use resources responsibly to produce and consume food.

Hungry EcoCities is dedicated to creating innovative prototypes for products and services in the agri-food sector. Our approach involves seeking artistic inspiration to address industrial and societal challenges in unconventional ways. The project will include 10 collaborative experiments between art and industry, which we refer to **as Paths to Progress Experiments (PPEs).**

HOW do we intend to make this possible?

Through responsible development and deployment of AI and digital technologies to reduce resources used in the production, processing, logistics, transportation, consumption and waste of food.

The PPEs will demonstrate how **AI-enabled artistic experiments** can effectively lead to human-centered sustainable working prototypes for new agricultural products and services. They will increase inclusiveness, explore ethical considerations, and realize technological progress in unusual meetings of minds from the technological, artistic, and industrial world leading to innovative experiences and artistic prototypes exploring alternative futures for agriculture and food systems design. The experiments will be tested, demonstrated, and showcased with the purpose of developing Technology Readiness Level **5/6** (also known as **TRL,** see the definition and stages of TRL in FAQ) **prototypes** tested in the actual environment of the 10 industrial partners along the **agri-food value chain**.

The PPEs are defined as consortia consisting of 2 entities, so that **one industrial End-User (the entity) and one artist (the natural person) collaborate as a team**, to reach the tested prototyping stage with the project resources and within the established timeframe.

The 2nd Hungry EcoCities Open Call - Call for Art-Driven Experiments - consists of two phases:

1. **1st Phase: Open Call for applications from individual End-Users** interested in improving their product/services design and/or production/processes in the agrifood value chain. By submitting an application, the End-Users will enter a selection process and, if selected, will be invited to the programme and start their project implementation in Stage 1 of the programme. Then the HungryEcoCities

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consortium will enable a matchmaking process with an Artist partner to form the team and prepare an artistic prototyping proposal for collaboration in the PPE support programme. The team will collaborate in Stages 2 and 3 of the programme.

2. **2nd Phase: Open Call for individual Artists** interested in combining technology, art and science who have knowledge or relevant experience in the food domain. All information regarding the application and selection process for the Artists will be available in the documents for the 2nd Phase of this Open Call - Call for Artists.

The total budget available for up to 10 PPEs (1 End-User + 1 artist) in the **Second Hungry EcoCities Open Call – Call for Art-Driven Experiments is up to 810 000 Euro.**

This Guide for Applicants summarises the main features of the **Call for End-Users**, as a preliminary phase to join the 2nd Hungry EcoCities Support Programme (Paths to Progress Experiments, '**PPEs**').

- Maximum funding per PPE (per consortium, where there must be 2 entities): up to **81 000 EUR**
- Maximum funding per End-User (relevant for this 1st phase - Open Call for End-Users): up to **45 000 EUR**
- Maximum funding per Artist: **up to 36 000 EUR (**relevant for the 2nd phase - Open Call for Artists. The Open Call for Artists will be announced in summer 2024**).**
- Duration of the PPE support programme for End-Users: **14 months**
- Number of selected applicants: up to **10 End-Users**

Resources for this Open Call, **1st Phase: Open Call for applications from individual End-Users**:

- Guide for End-Users Applicants (this document)
- Frequently Asked Questions for End-User Applicants
- Application Form template for End-User Applicants
- Online application form for End-User Applicants

In case you still have doubts or questions after going through the available resources, feel free to reach out by email at hungryecocities@fundingbox.com or write to us through the Hungry EcoCities community.

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Basic Info about Hungry EcoCities

Hungry EcoCities aims to explore one of the most pressing challenges of our times: **the need for a more healthy, sustainable, responsible, and affordable agri-food system for all.**

The ambition of Hungry EcoCities is to accelerate responsible innovation by rethinking the existing technology design and development of agri-food value chains and networks across Europe through the lens of art-driven experimentation and prototyping. Through a series of experiments and use cases, this second open call for art-driven experimentation will demonstrate that with a proper standardization and development framework, European agri-food business can multiply their capacity to deliver AI-enabled responsible innovation for a sustainable food chain.

In this call for art-driven experimentation, artists and End-Users come together to address specific local challenges for artist-driven experiments conducted in local test sites.

The selected PPEs are expected to work together on a proposal to tackle a challenge in a concrete test site provided by the End-User (e.g., supermarket, bio farm, community garden, production facility, restaurant).

Hungry EcoCities has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement 101069990. It is part of the S+T+ARTS programme and consists of 8 partners across 6 EU countries.

The project consortium is coordinated by Brno University of Technology (CZ) and includes KU Leuven (BE), CRA – Carlo Ratti Associati (IT), Studio Other Spaces (DE), In4Art (NL), Mendel University (CZ), NethWork (NL), FundingBox Accelerator (PL).

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Summary of the 2nd Open Call Process

The first phase in the 2nd Open Call - the Call for End-Users will be open from **15 February 2024** at 09:00 Brussels time (CET) until **15 May 2024** at 17:00 Brussels time (CEST)
In this first phase of the Call for Art-Driven Experiments, the Hungry EcoCities consortium is looking for **End-Users active in the agrifood value chain (SMEs). All eligible applicants are listed in section 4.1. of this Guide for Applicants.**

The main objective of the first phase of the 2nd Open Call - the Call for End-Users is to find the most relevant test sites in the food and agriculture sectors, demonstrating a potential to experiment with digital technologies.The End-Users will then be joined by Artists with prototyping skills to ensure that a successful PPE can be created.

The selected End-Users will be assisted by the Hungry EcoCities consortium to form the team with the Artist which will further collaborate in the support programme.

Artists will be invited to apply separately in the second phase of the Hungry EcoCities 2nd Open Call - Call for Art-Driven Experiments where an application process for Artists will be launched.

The steps within the 2nd Hungry EcoCities Open Call until the collaboration of End-Users with the matched Artists within the Paths to Progress Experiments are as follows:

1. **Application Form** submission by End-Users;
2. **Selection of the 10 End-Users** demonstrating the best fit and relevance for the project;
3. Application Form submission by Artists;
4. **Start of the PPE for the 10 selected End-Users (signature of the Subgrant Agreement by the selected End-Users)**. Important information for End-Users: the selected End-Users will be invited to sign the Subgrant Agreement, which will last 14 months. For the first 6 months, the end-users will work individually, while for the next 8 months together with the Artists selected in the 2nd phase of this Open Call - Call for Artists. Therefore, the Subgrant Agreement for the end-users will include:
    - relevant provisions for the first 6 months of individual project implementation (milestones, deliverables, deadlines etc) - Stage 1 and
    - requirements that must be met by the end-users to continue the project implementation for the next 8 months - Stage 2 and 3, in particular: achieving the milestones envisaged for Phase 1 in scheduled deadlines; fulfilled all obligations as per Subgrant Agreement; participation in the matchmaking session and matchmaking screening; finding the right Artist matched to the end-user and its acceptance by the Hungry EcoCities consortium; participating as 'coach/ mentor' with 2 finalists-Artists on needs/ fit/ access; preparing the testing environment; signing the

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appropriate amendment to the Subgrant Agreement, which will include cooperation with the Artist, necessary modification of the End-User Individual Mentoring Plan, and others if required. Otherwise, if the requirements are not fulfilled, the end-users will be invited to leave the programme.

5. **Pre-validation of the Artist** applicants;
6. End-Users´ **challenges and opportunities posted on the HECLab[1];**
7. **The matchmaking process on the HECLab with pre-validated Artists reaching out to the End-Users to collaborate**. The process will also be supported by the Hungry EcoCities consortium;
8. **Pre-selection of 20 Artists** with the assistance of the End-User beneficiaries (2 Artists per 1 End-User beneficiary);
9. **Artistic prototyping proposal** preparation on concrete industrial end-user scenario challenges, with the support of the End-User beneficiaries;
10. **Selection process of the 10 Artists to enter the PPE support programme (1 per End-User beneficiary).** This step will be fully detailed in the Guidelines for Artists.
11. **Start of the 8-month collaboration of 1 Artist (natural person) + 1 End-User (entity)** in the Paths to Progress Experiments (signature of the Subgrant Agreement by the selected Artists)

Please refer to the FAQ for a complete and detailed timeline of the application and selection processes involving both the end users and the artists.

[1] The HECLab is the digital environment built by Hungry EcoCities to facilitate matchmaking between testing environments and high potential art-driven innovation prototypes.

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What do we offer?

As mentioned before, Hungry EcoCities will fund **10 Paths to Progress Experiments (PPEs) via the Call for Art-Driven Experiments. During the 1st phase - Call for End-Users - Hungry EcoCities will select up to 10 End-Users**

Up to **EUR 81,000 (total lump sum)** will be distributed to each one of the selected PPEs (creating a consortium of 1 artist and 1 end-user), based upon the successful delivery of technical and business reports along the 14-month **Paths to Progress Experiments**. This lump sum will be distributed among the PPE partners as follows:

- End-Users: up to EUR 45,000* (relevant for this 1st phase - Open Call for End-users). Thus, the maximum grant amount that can be awarded to each End-User in the Subgrant Agreement is EUR 45,000)
- Artists: up to EUR 36,000

*Up to EUR 35.000 for End-User beneficiary expenses (personnel, travel, consumables, overhead) and up to EUR 10.000 for subcontracting and dissemination expenses for agreed purposes of the 2-member PPE consortium.

HungryEcoCities will provide to the 10 selected End-Users:

1. **A fixed lump sum of up to EUR 45,000;**
2. **14-month support programme** to unravel and test the identified issue/problem by the End-User to contribute to a future food system that is more healthy, sustainable and/or responsible;

- Access to **scientific expertise and input** from the Hungry EcoCities scientist group;
- **Artistic experimentation/testing** through art-driven innovation future product/service: demonstration of the prototype in the relevant environment;
- **Access to creative studios** with creative storytelling knowledge;
- Access to the **project tools** from the Hungry EcoCities digital prototypes;
- Access to the **network of the knowledge HUBs**.

The End-Users selected in the second Hungry EcoCities Open Call will start the three stages PPE support programme:

- **Stage 1:** Discovery: Problem definition and solution framing, including the matchmaking with artists, identifying scientific input needs and selecting the Hungry EcoCities digital prototype for testing.

- **Stage 2:** Prototype Development and Test Set-up: focus on collaboration with the artist to prepare the selected prototype solution for testing in the real business/ operations environment of the End-User. Additionally, there will be testing of the Hungry EcoCities digital prototypes (minimum of 1) and scientific input integration.

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- **Stage 3:** Demonstrate: Prototype validation in the real business/ operations environment of the End-User to verify the prototype system: existing field testing, prototype iteration and experiment validation.

Applicants can submit a proposal through the following website: https://hungry-ecocities-end-users.fundingbox.com/.

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Admissibility and Eligibility Criteria

We will check the admissibility and eligibility of all proposals submitted before the deadline via our online application form. All the admissibility and eligibility criteria are listed in this Section of this Guide for Applicants. The projects that do not comply with those criteria will be excluded and marked as ineligible. We will check the admissibility and eligibility criteria based on the information provided in your application during the whole evaluation process.

Who are we looking for?

We are looking for individual (single) agri-food SMEs[2], including Start-ups[3], registered before the start date of the Second Open Call as a company in any of the eligible countries listed below[4]:

- The Member States of the European Union[5] and its Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) or
- Associated Countries to Horizon Europe[6].

To be eligible, the End-User[7] must be involved in the food industry, a qualification that will be confirmed through the business code in the registration documents.

The **Hungry EcoCities** consortium partners or their affiliates or employees or permanent collaborators are not eligible for funding within this open call.

Project Ambition

The End-Users, artists, project partner studios and university experts collaborate on the production of innovative solutions that tackle the selected food industry challenges. The expected outcome is:

[2] **SME definition**. An SME will be considered as such if it complies with the European Commission's Recommendation 2003/361/EC. As a summary, the criteria defining an SME are Headcount in Annual Work Unit (AWU) less than 250; Annual turnover less or equal to €50 million OR annual balance sheet total less or equal to €43 million. Note that the figures of partners and linked enterprises should also be considered as stated in the SME user guide. For detailed information check EU recommendation: https://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition_en or https://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/sme-definition_en

[3] SMEs must have a product on the market with a sufficient track record and real environment to test in.

[4] The applicants who are subject to EU restrictive measures under Article 29 of the Treaty on the European Union (TEU) and Article 215 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU) are not eligible to participate in this open call. Please note that the EU Official Journal contains the official list and, in case of conflict, its content prevails over that of the EU Sanctions Map.

[5] https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/country-profiles_en

[6] **AC as of 15.02.2024:** Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Türkiye, Tunisia, Ukraine, for the most up-to-date list please first part of this document.For the avoidance of doubts, New Zealand and the United Kingdom are not eligible in this open call.

[7] An industrial End-User in the context of the agrifood chain refers to an entity actively engaged in one or various capacities within the agricultural and food production ecosystem. Depending on their role, these End-Users can be categorized as input providers, producers/growers, traders, processors, transporters/distributors (including packaging), retailers/chefs, consumers, or waste treaters, all demonstrating available infrastructure and resources for use-case experimentation.

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- a novel product or service prototype in line with a human-centred and sustainable approach to innovation.

Irrespective of the outcome, the results of the PPEs need to (1) make the food chain more transparent, inclusive, and sustainable, (2) build connections between different stakeholders in the food chain, and (3) promote more informed and sustainable consumption patterns.

By the end of the support programme, the PPEs will have delivered 10 use scenario prototypes based upon challenges and tested within the industrial use case environment. These artistic prototypes will have reached TRL level 5/6 and are developed in line with a human-centred approach to innovation and with the sustainability goals embedded throughout the development fellowships in dedicated art-industry R&D project collaborations.

What types of projects can be funded?

For the second Hungry EcoCities Open Call, the selected projects will focus on the art-driven **collaborative experimentation between artists and End-Users** in sectors related to the agrifood value chain.
In this context, the End-Users as applicants in this first phase of the Art-Driven Experiments Call must clearly describe the challenges/problems they want to address and that will become the object of artistic and digital experimentation along with the test site and resources they enable throughout the PPE.
All digital technologies can be explored by the Artists in relation to the challenge and test site provided by the End-User, but in particular Artificial Intelligence.
The artistic prototyping proposal (as described in section 2 of this Guide for Applicants) to be submitted in a later phase by the Artist based on the End-user challenge should address social, business or sustainability challenges in the agriculture value chain.

The proposals submitted in this phase of the Open Call by the End-Users need to describe:

- the identified challenge/problem of the test site within the project objectives;
- the relevance for the food sector & agriculture;
- the potential of the test site to experiment with digital technologies;
- the motivation to collaborate;
- the potential for impact.

The proposals by the End-Users are expected to cover the following aspects:

- Provide a clear description of their activities and facilities and access to test in a real environment, as well as commitment to test;
- Present a clear connection to the food value chain/ EU topics[8] /Hungry EcoCities directions.

[8] According to EU2023 Policy these are:

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How to apply?

We know it. Applying to an open call takes time and dedication and we are grateful you take up the challenge of applying to the **Hungry EcoCities** open call. We are here to support and help you understand the process and the eligibility requirements you have to comply with.

- **Be on time and use our system:**
  Make sure you submit your proposal through the online form https://hungry-ecocities-end-users.fundingbox.com/ before the **deadline** of **15th of May 2024, 17:00 Brussels time (CEST)** (admissibility criterion). If you submit the form correctly, the system will send you a confirmation of your submission. Get in touch with us if it is not the case. You need to know that we will not be evaluating any proposal sent after the deadline and submitted outside the dedicated form. Interested applicants must meet the deadline.
- **English language:**
  Your proposal must be written in **English** in all mandatory parts to be eligible. Only parts written in English will be evaluated. If the mandatory parts of the proposal are in any other language, the entire proposal will be rejected (admissibility criterion).
- **Every question deserves your attention:**
  All mandatory sections of your proposal - generally marked with an asterisk - must be filled in (admissibility criterion). Make sure that the data provided is true and complete. This is crucial for us to properly assess your proposal. Conversely, any additional material that is not specifically requested in the online application form will not be considered for the evaluation.
- **Have a European dimension:**
  Your proposal should have a clear *European* dimension meaning all your actions, results and methodologies must be carried out according to European standards and overall, keeping in mind that they can be used in different member states across the European Union once the project is finished. The proposal should be

1. Governance for food systems change
2. Urban food system transformation
3. Food from the oceans and freshwater resources
4. Alternative proteins for dietary shift
5. Food waste and resource-efficient food systems
6. The microbiome world
7. Nutrition and sustainable healthy diets
8. Food safety systems of the future
9. Food systems Africa
10. Data and digital transformation
11. Zero Pollution food systems

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relatable to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)[9] and the European Green Deal (EGD) goals[10].

- **Be exhaustive:**
  Have you answered all the sections of the form? It won't be possible to add any information after the deadline. However, you will be able to modify the form as much as you like even *after* the proposal is submitted, **if it is done before the deadline**.
- **Multiple submission:**
  Though applicants can submit multiple applications, neither team members nor any legal entities can be funded twice by Hungry EcoCities. If more than one proposal with any similar team members or from the same organisation will be among the selected projects, only the one with more points will be funded.
- **No double funding rule applies:**
  No costs for the same activity can be funded twice from the EU budget. You cannot be awarded twice for the same project. While filling in the application form you will be asked to provide further details about your participation in other projects granting EU money, in particular with regard to the projects under the S+T+ARTS program. We will investigate potential double-funding risks. Please note that in case of a successful application in another Horizon Europe or S+T+ARTS project simultaneously, when double-funding risk is recognized, you will have to choose only 1 project which you will participate and receive funding from.
- **Conflicts of interest:**
  We will take into consideration the existence of a potential **conflict of interest** between you and one or more **Hungry EcoCities** Consortium partners. Indeed, consortium partners, their affiliated entities, employees, and permanent collaborators cannot take part in the **Hungry EcoCities** programme as applicants or beneficiaries. All cases of potential conflict of interest will be assessed case by case.
- **Healthy finances and a clean sheet are a must:**
  We won't accept entities that are under liquidation or enterprises in difficulty according to the Commission Regulation No 651/2014, art. 2.18. Neither will we accept proposals from entities that are excluded from the possibility of obtaining EU funding under the provisions of both national and EU law, or by a decision of both national and EU authority. We also do not accept entities that are meeting national regulations regarding bankruptcy.
- **It is *your* proposal:**
  Your project should be based on your original work. If not, that's okay, just make sure your right to use the IPR is 100% certain. Going forward, any foreseen

[9] https://sdgs.un.org/goals
[10] https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en

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developments must be free from third-party rights and if not, these third-party rights must be clearly stated.

- **Acceptance of the open call rules:** to apply for this open call you have to accept its rules and regulations detailed in this Guide for Applicants.

Hungry EcoCities planned two online webinars on **February 27, 2024**, **and April 2, 2024**, about this open call to clear doubts and answer questions live. They will be announced at the Hungry EcoCities Community Space and on the Open Call microsite, so sign up and stay up to date.

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How will we evaluate your proposal?

Our evaluation process is transparent, fair and equal to all our participants with a clearly defined complaint procedure (See section Complaints). We will evaluate your project in 4 phases. For this call, we are looking for the best fit for our project and we expect a high number of applications since we are much more concerned with quality than quantity, we suggest that you put effort into how you present your project in the best possible way, providing as much detail as you can, to support us while evaluating your application and identify the main key points and how it fits with the overall **Hungry EcoCities** scope. Hungry EcoCitites is committed to an inclusive selection process, with an explicit focus on increasing the ethnic, socio-economic, and gender diversity within the project.

Admissibility and Eligibility Check

Once the open call is closed, we will check whether the proposal meets the admissibility and eligibility conditions set up in **Section 4**. We will do it based on the statements included in your proposal. At this stage, the eligibility criteria are checked against a Declaration of Honour or self-declarations included in the application form. Later on, during the evaluation process, the above criteria will be verified during the whole evaluation process (including the final formal check). The projects that do not comply with these criteria will be rejected.

IN/OUT Scope Screening

The In/Out Scope Screening will be done by the Selection Committee, which means that each proposal may be reviewed by one partner from the following list of partners: BUOT, IN4ART, CRA, SOS, NTWK.

The overall summary/general objectives of all proposals included in the 'List of Eligible Applications' will be reviewed to evaluate the following items:

- **Scope.** The objectives of the proposal must fit within the scope of the project as described in this Guide for Applicants (GfA), Section 4.3.
- **European Dimension.** The project should have a European dimension as described in this Guide for Applicants (GfA), Section 4.4.

The **Selection Committee** will assess if your proposal complies with the aspects above on a YES/NO basis and will provide reasoning in the cases where no compliance evidence is found.

The Selection Committee will meet to review the partner's assessment and validate the ones proposed, generating an 'In Scope List' and agree on the ones to be excluded.

Be aware that proposals that do not comply with any of the aspects described above will be rejected. The ones complying with all of them will move on to the experts' evaluation phase.

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We will inform you about the results of the eligibility and admissibility check and the in/out scope screening.

Internal/ External Evaluation

Each proposal that has reached this stage will be evaluated by **2 external and independent evaluators and 1 internal evaluator** appointed according to the specific characteristics of the applicants from the pool of Experts.

These are the criteria they will consider to evaluate your proposal:

Motivation

Motivation to work in a multidisciplinary team structure

Motivation to work on tech-driven innovation challenges

Motivation to contribute to the EU and Hungry EcoCities project goals on sustainable food systems.

Fit

With Hungry EcoCities scope and aims

With the Food value chain

Challenge/Problem fit with the possibilities of Hungry EcoCities

Environment

Feasibility of the testing environment

Availability and suitability of the team.

The evaluators will score each criterion on a scale from 0 to 5:
0 = The proposal fails to address the criterion, or it cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.
1 = Poor – The criterion is inadequately addressed or there are serious inherent weaknesses.
2 = Fair – The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.
3 = Good – The proposal addresses the criterion well but there are a certain number of shortcomings.
4 = Very good – There is a small number of shortcomings but overall, the proposal addresses the criterion very well.

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5 = Excellent – The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion with no or minor shortcomings.
Each evaluator will produce an Individual Evaluation Report. Your final score will be calculated as an average of the individual assessments provided by the Evaluators.
For each section (criterion), **the minimum threshold is 3** out of 5 points. **The total** maximum score will be 15 points, with a **minimum threshold of 10 points**.
In case of ties, the following criteria will be used to rank the projects, in order:

- The highest score in the Excellence Section.
- Other factors related to the objectives of the call are to be determined by the Selection Committee.

After carrying out the Independent Individual Evaluation, experts who have evaluated the proposals will join a **Consensus Group**, to agree on a common position, including comments and scores for all evaluated proposals. The Consensus Group will specially discuss the cases where there is a significant divergence between the evaluators' scoring. In case no consensus is reached between the evaluators, an additional evaluator will be included to provide an extra evaluation. FBA will moderate it to make those evaluations as aligned as possible.
As a result of the Independent Evaluation, a 'Ranking List' will be produced.
All proposals that reach the threshold or are scored above the threshold, will pass to the next phase. Please note that we need time to process all the proposals in this phase, so you probably won't hear back for a while.

Consensus Meeting

Following the external/internal evaluation, a 'Selection Committee' formed by BUOT, IN4ART, CRA, SOS, NTWK, and FBA, will decide by consensus (or minimum ⅔ majority votes) on the "List of Jury Day's participants" to move on to the next phase. The discussion will be based on the ranking obtained as a result of the External Evaluation. 2 External Evaluators from the External Evaluation phase will be invited to attend the Consensus Meeting but in an advisory capacity (with voice but without vote).

Bear in mind that even if it is normally the best-marked proposals that are selected for funding, the Selection Committee may have fair reasons for objecting to the selection of a specific candidate. These reasons can relate to:

- The alignment with the **Hungry EcoCities** goals and scope.
- The ability to achieve the strongest possible impact.
- Positive impact on the agriculture value chain.
- The existence of a potential conflict of interest.

In case a top-ranked application is rejected, we will consider selecting the next best-ranked proposal. Although the **Hungry EcoCities** project aims to select a portfolio of proposals that will result in a balanced outcome among the different application

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technologies/challenges/countries, the final decision as to proposals approved will be made based on the quality and potential of the submitted applications.

Finally, the exact number of proposals approved will be decided based on the overall **quality**
of the proposals (up to 10 in this open call). The 'Selection Committee' will decide by consensus (or minimum ⅔ majority votes) on the 'List of Finalists' as well as the "Reserve List".

After the Consensus Meeting, we will communicate the results to the Applicants.

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Formal Check, Subgrant Agreement Preparation and Signature

Before you get started with the Hungry EcoCities programme, you need to sign the SubGrant Agreement with the **Hungry EcoCities** Consortium.

The SubGrant Agreement will be signed for a period of 14 months. After the first six months of the programme, you will need to sign an amendment to the SubGrant Agreement due to the launch of your collaboration with a matched Artist. Please review section 2 of this Guide for Applicants for more details.

Before signing the Agreement, you should provide documents regarding your formal status. The **Hungry EcoCities** Consortium will verify them, to prove your eligibility. Please do it within the deadlines that will be communicated to you. If you fail to deliver the requested documents on time, without clear and reasonable justification, we will exclude you from the further formal assessment and you will be replaced with the company from the Reserve list.

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Our Support Programme and Payment Arrangements

Once your eligibility has been confirmed following the formal check and the SubGrant Agreement signed, you will be an official beneficiary of the **Hungry EcoCities** programme.
Selected beneficiaries acting as End-Users will receive a fixed **lump sum** of **up to €45 000.** The lump sum is a simplified method of settling expenses in projects financed with Horizon Europe funds. It means that you are **not** required to present strictly defined accounting documents to prove the costs incurred (e.g., invoices). However, you are obliged to demonstrate that the implementation of the project is in line with the milestones set for it. The milestones (deliverables, Key Performance Indicators - KPIs and ethical recommendations) will be defined and calendared in the 'Individual Mentoring Plan' elaborated at the beginning of the programme. In short, we will carefully assess your progress and the quality of your work during Interim Reviews, not your accountancy. Bear in mind that the lump sum does not release you from the obligation to collect documentation to confirm the costs under fiscal regulation.
Financial support in the different phases is made across the accomplishment of several milestones/KPIs/deliverables. Payments will be made in the form of lump-sum grants as follows:

- **Stage 1 Discovery**

The beneficiaries will receive 25 % of the financial support upon **validation of the End-User Individual Mentoring Plan.** This is planned for the first month of the support programme for the End-User.

- **Stage 2 Prototype Development and Test Set-up:**

The beneficiaries will receive 50% of the financial support upon **validation of the Individual Mentoring Plan, elaborated in collaboration with the Artist.** This is planned for M7 of the residency for the End-User (M1 of residency for the Artist).

- **Stage 3 Demonstrate**

The beneficiaries will receive 25% of the financial support upon validation of the final deliverable (experiment validation), **elaborated in collaboration with the Artist.** This is planned for M14 of the residency for the End-User (M8 of residency for the Artist).

These 'Individual milestones' will be evaluated based on the quality and quantity metrics set up in the 'Individual Mentoring Plan'. The beneficiaries will deliver the Individual Mentoring Plan and the Mentoring Committee will assess it.

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The Mentoring Committee will evaluate the beneficiaries' performance at the Milestone Review (established every time a payment is due), according to the following criteria:

- Deliverables' quality. To be scored by the Mentoring Committee based on the Deliverables established in the 'Individual Mentoring Plan'.
- Technical performance indicators. To be scored by the Technical Mentors based on the KPIs established in the 'Individual Mentoring Plan'
- Deadline Compliance. To be scored by the Mentoring Committee.

Each criterion will be scored from 0 to 10 and the weight of each one of these criteria, in the final score, will be as follows:

- Deliverable quality (30%).
- Technical performance indicators (60%).
- Deadline Compliance (10%).

According with this final score:

- **Beneficiaries over the threshold** (which is 7 points) will successfully receive the full payment agreed in the SGA.
- **Beneficiaries under threshold**. The beneficiaries who haven't reached the threshold will be proposed by the Mentoring Committee as candidates to leave the Program. And, if this decision is finally ratified by the 'Selection Committee', they will have to leave the Program and won't receive the payment.

Once the milestones and payments to each beneficiary are approved by the 'Selection Committee', according to the Milestone Review Process, the relevant tranche will be transferred to the beneficiary.

Lastly, for a more detailed payment schedule, you can read our Frequently Asked Questions.

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Contact us!

How can we help you?

If you have extra questions regarding our Open Call process, feel free to get in touch with us:

- Ask your question in the Helpdesk space of **Hungry EcoCities** Community
- Send us an email to the following address: **hungryecocities@fundingbox.com**.

In case of any technical issues or problems, please include the following information in your message:

- your username, telephone number, and your email address;
- details of the specific problem (error messages you encountered, bugs descriptions, i.e. if a dropdown list isn't working, etc.); and
- screenshots of the problem.

Complaints

If, after receiving the results of one of the evaluation phases, you consider that a mistake has been made, you can send us your complaint in English by email to hungryecocities@fundingbox.com including the following information:

- Your contact details (including email address).
- The subject of the complaint.
- information and evidence regarding the alleged breach.

Important note regarding the timeline:

You have **3 calendar days** to submit your complaint starting from the day after the communication was sent. We will review your complaint within no more than seven calendar days from its reception. If we need more time to assess your complaint, we will inform you by email about the extension.

We will not review anonymous complaints as well as complaints with incomplete information.

Please take into account that the evaluation is run by experts in the agrifood and business consultancy fields, and we do not interfere with their assessment, therefore we will not evaluate complaints related to the results of the evaluation other than related to the mistakes in the evaluation of the first eligibility criteria.

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Last but not least - final provisions

Any matters not covered by this Guide will be governed by Polish law and rules related to the Horizon Europe programme and EU grants.

Please take into account that we make our best effort to keep all provided data confidential; however, for the avoidance of doubt, you are solely responsible for indicating your confidential information as such.

Your IPR will remain your property.

For the selected beneficiaries, the SubGrant Agreement will include a set of obligations towards the European Commission (for example: promoting the project and giving visibility to the EU funding, maintaining confidentiality, IPR, understanding potential controls by the EC/ECA, EPPO, and OLAF).

The **Hungry EcoCities** Consortium might cancel the call at any time, change its provisions, or extend it. In such a case we will inform all applicants about such a change. The signature of the SubGrant Agreement is an initial condition to establish any obligations among applicants and any Consortium partners (concerning the obligation of confidentiality of the application).

Did not find what you were looking for? Contact us and we will happily answer all your questions. You may want to check our Frequently Asked Questions Section.

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Extra hints before you submit your proposal.

A proposal takes time and effort and we know it. Here are a few crucial points you should read before submitting your proposal.

- Is your project in line with what **Hungry EcoCities** is looking for? Not 100% sure? You can consult this section as well as this one.
- Did you present your project in a way that will convince evaluators? Go back to this section if you have any doubt.
- Is your project fulfilling all the admissibility and eligibility requirements described in the Guide for Applicants? Check again this section.
- Are you sure you can cope with our process of the SubGrant agreement signature and payment arrangements for selected proposals? You may want to go over this section.
- Do you need extra help? Get in touch!

Good luck!

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4. Frequently Asked Questions

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Hungry EcoCities Second Open Call

Open Call for Art-Driven Experiments 1st phase - Call for End-Users

Application submission starts on **15 February 2024 at 09:00 CET (Brussels time)**.
The submission deadline is **15 May 2024 17:00 CEST (Brussels time)**.

PUBLIC

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History of changes

Date	Version	Author	Comments/Changes
08.01.2024	1.0	FBA	All Sections

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Frequently Asked Questions and Tips for Applicants

These Frequently Asked Questions concern the main features of the Hungry EcoCities Second Open - 1st phase - Call for End-Users, as a preliminary step to join the Second Hungry EcoCities Support Programme (Paths to Progress Experiments, 'PPEs').

What is Hungry EcoCities?

Hungry EcoCities, an initiative conducted by 8 partners across the European Union, aims to establish synergies among technology, agri-food, and the arts to enhance awareness and the impact of technological tools on responsible resource use.

Hungry EcoCities advocates for a high-level alliance between science, technology, and the arts to explore how digital technologies can contribute to reduced food waste, more sustainable value chains, eco-friendly practices, and ethical food consumption. This project brings together renowned art studios, leading AI and agricultural experts, and a network of over 40 European agricultural companies to develop a healthier, sustainable, and affordable agri-food system.

For this part of the project, where we invite End-Users to join us, the goal is to develop, test and validate innovative applications of (AI) technology with food chain End-Users leading to:

A] lasting innovative results for the SMEs/ End-Users
B] wider effects on the food chain
C] proving the value of creatives (artists) as innovators.

This project is funded by the European Commission under the Horizon Europe program framework.

Where can I find more information about the project?

Project website: https://starts.eu/

Open Call website: https://hungry-ecocities-end-users.fundingbox.com/

Community: https://spaces.fundingbox.com/spaces/smart-manufacturing-hungry-ecocities/category/helpdesk-hec

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/starts-eu/

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Open Call helpdesk email: hungryecocities@fundingbox.com

Why should you apply?

Hungry EcoCities, in its Second Open Call, provides the opportunity for End-Users to collaborate with our consortium and ultimately (in the second stage of this Open Call) form a team with an artist (Artist-End-User team). This opportunity will secure funding for projects to address key issues related to the food ecosystem, and environmental issues and raise awareness across the European Union. This stage of the second Open Call covered in this FAQ is dedicated to End-Users (the entities). This project offers an opportunity to work on innovation challenges in a multi-disciplinary setting.

Who should apply?

If you represent a small or medium-sized enterprise (SME[11]) including a start-up [12] registered as a company before the start date of the Second Open Call. The above-mentioned SMEs will be eligible if they have a product on the market with a sufficient track record and a real environment to test in. Additionally, they must be involved in the agri-food sector, interested in innovation and new opportunities, and commit to making the food chain more transparent, inclusive, and sustainable. If you aim to build connections between different stakeholders in the food chain and promote more conscious and sustainable consumption patterns, this project is tailored for you. All eligible applicants are listed in section 4.1. of the Guide for Applicants.

Your involvement can contribute to the actions proposed by Hungry EcoCities and foster your professional development, ensuring a more significant impact from your work.

What could be a perfect candidate for this call of Hungry EcoCities?

If you're an entity (the full scope of the entities is specified in detail in section 4.1. of the Guide for Applicants) involved in the food system seeking to shift the perception of the food chain, open to collaborating with those in the realms of art and science, and eager to enhance your capabilities in delivering AI-driven responsible innovations for a sustainable food chain, you're an ideal fit for this project.

[11] **SME definition**. An SME will be considered as such if it complies with the European Commission's Recommendation 2003/361/EC. In summary, the criteria defining an SME are: Headcount in Annual Work Unit (AWU) less than 250; Annual turnover less or equal to €50 million OR annual balance sheet total less or equal to €43 million. Note that the figures of partners and linked enterprises should also be considered as stated in the SME user guide. For detailed information check EU recommendation: https://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition_en or https://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/sme-definition_en

[12] The applicants who are subject to EU restrictive measures under Article 29 of the Treaty on the European Union (TEU) and Article 215 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU) are not eligible to participate in this open call. Please note that the EU Official Journal contains the official list and, in case of conflict, its content prevails over that of the EU Sanctions Map

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In short, we search for End-Users (the entities):

- active in the food chain,
- interested in innovating around a complex challenge,
- looking to improve (their part of) the food chain,
- open for collaborations within the Hungry EcoCities support program with:
    - technology scientists (AI / Robotics / IoT / Biotech)
    - world-leading creative studios (SOS, CRA, AMO)
    - artists with innovative prototypes.

What types of projects will be appropriate in this call?

The experiments will centre around a complex challenge from the specific / local context of the SME.
A complex challenge is a challenge which requires multiple disciplines to tackle.
It is a system level challenge which has technical, business and societal implications.

Art-driven experiments are projects where we use artistic research, curiosity and ideas to define and design the project goals and execution.
Local test sites are the production / working environments of the SME companies themselves. These will be the locations where the experiments will be taking place.

A few examples of complex challenges which would be in scope of this call (please note these are random examples which are intended to provide some context and inspiration to develop your own challenge):

A. A greenhouse grower is faced with a lot of biological waste from foods which have been discarded in the process. How can these foods be (re)used so that no produce goes to waste?
B. A dairy farm cooperative has the ambition to support the farmers they work with in caring for their animals. With a lot of experience and knowledge around milk processing, they already support the farmers in selecting the right food, but they want to do more.
C. A chocolate factory is dealing with a lot of packaging waste. Cardboard, plastics. A lot of packaging for packaging. This must be possible to do smarter.
D. A supermarket wants to know what the true cost of their shelf products are. Not just the purchasing cost, but what implications their products have on people and planet.
E. A restaurant wants to design their menu on the basis of responsibility rather than availability. By taking into account the footprint of ingredients, the seasonality, the

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nutritional value and more, they are interested in creating their menu around these parameters in the future.

F. A food logistics startup is making it possible for customers to shop directly at dozens of local farmers and get the products delivered to their house. This digital supermarket wants to help customers choose for fresh local produce by offering them added value over regular supermarkets. How could technology, interfacing and digital communication support this is the question.

What is the EU food policy (EU topics) and how does it relate to the proposal by the End-User?

The European Union has set out a framework for the development of the food industry under Food2030.

It will concentrate on 11 areas known as pathways for action:

Governance for food systems change
Urban food system transformation
Food from the oceans and freshwater resources
Alternative proteins for dietary shift
Food waste and resource-efficient food systems
The microbiome world
Nutrition and sustainable healthy diets
Food safety systems of the future
Food systems Africa
Data and digital transformation
Zero Pollution food systems

The challenges identified by End-Users have to fall under the 11 areas above and fit into the Food2023 policy.

What happens if I do not submit my application within the deadline?

We do not accept applications after the deadline. We strongly encourage you not to wait until the last minute to submit your proposal. Failure to meet the submission deadline for any reason, including extenuating circumstances, will result in the rejection of the proposal.

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How long does it take to fill in the application?

Once you collect all the required information and depending on the complexity of your proposal, filling in the application form online on the dedicated portal can take from 3 to 6 hours.

What are the criteria to assess the proposals?

All the admissibility and eligibility criteria are defined in section 4 of the Guide for Applicants. Those criteria will be evaluated according to section 5 of the Guide for Applicants.

Are there any webinars planned?

Two webinars with a Q&A session are planned - one on February 29, 2024, in the afternoon and the other on April 2, 2024, in the morning. Exact times and links for registration will be provided on the call microsite and STARTS webpage. In case you cannot make it to the webinar, the webinars will be recorded and made available to watch afterwards.

Where can I go for support if I need help with preparing an application?

If you have any doubts during the preparation of the proposal, make sure to check the Guide for Applicants and the FAQ documents. If you do not find the answers, you can still contact us at hungryecocities@fundingbox.com or write to us in the Hungry EcoCities community. Make sure you join the community to stay up to date with events and register for the online webinars where we answer all your questions.

How to write a proposal that convinces evaluators?

To improve your chances, make sure to include all the guidelines as suggested in the open call description in the Guide for Applicants. Make sure you do not leave any information out of your proposal. Be specific and provide precise answers to the questions in the application form. If you want to stand out, quality is the way to go.

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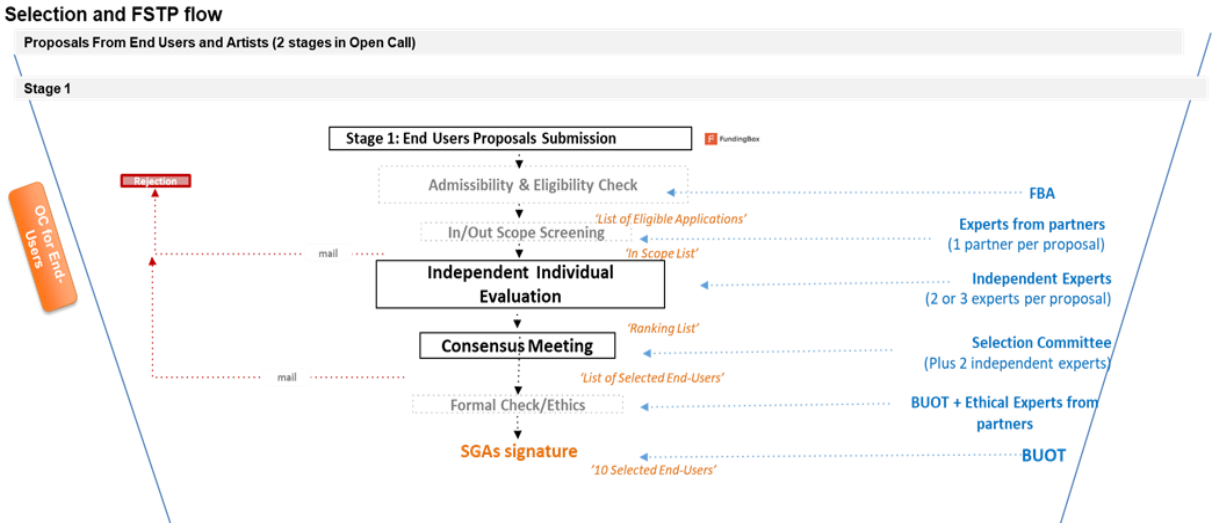
What are the different evaluation phases?

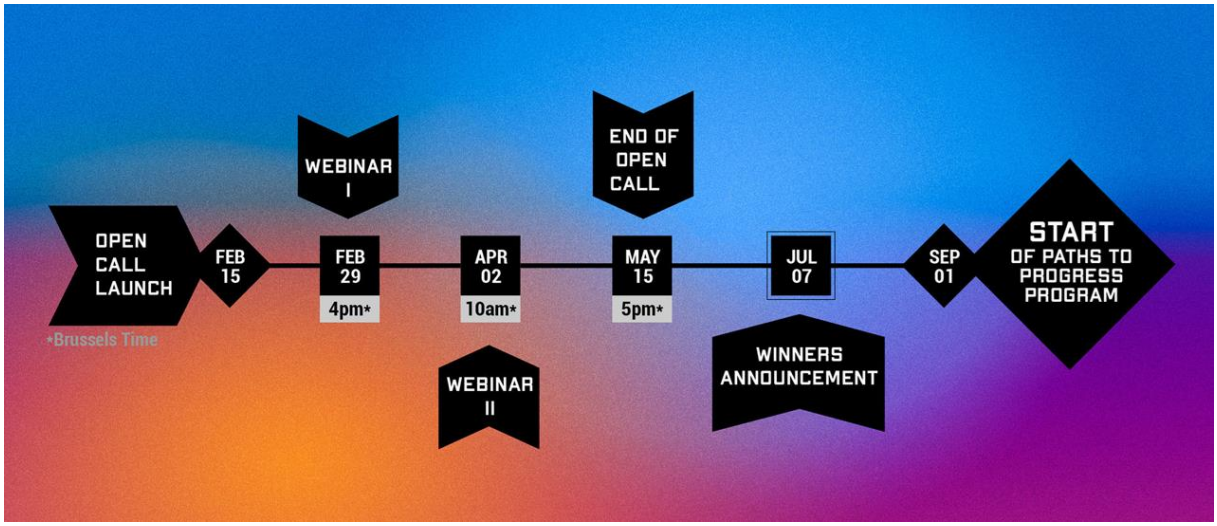
The selection of the open-call proposals will be carried out in a four-step process that will last approximately 2 months. Step one will check the proposals against admissibility and eligibility criteria and step two is in/out scope verification. Step three will involve independent external and internal evaluation to assess the proposal according to the criteria detailed in the Guide for Applicants. Step four will involve the Hungry EcoCities consortium partners voting on the list of selected participants scoring above the threshold in a Consensus Meeting scheduled for June 28, 2024*.

**Dates are estimated. If any changes occur, all applicants will be notified.*



What is the expected timeline of the call?

The table below presents the successive phases of the Open Call for End-Users.



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Please consider that this is an estimated timeline, and it may change at any time. Changes will be communicated in due time.

What are the Paths to Progress Experiments (PPEs)?

Paths to Progress Experiments (PPEs) is a 14-month support programme to unravel and test the identified issue/problem by the End-User to contribute to a future food system that is more healthy, sustainable, and/or responsible in a concrete test site (e.g., supermarket, bio farm, community garden, production facility, restaurant).

The PPEs are defined as consortia consisting of 2 entities, so that **one industrial End-User (the entity) and one artist (the natural person) collaborate as a team**, to 1) respond to the question (challenge/problem) raised by the End-User and 2) reach the tested prototyping stage with the project resources and within the established timeframe.

The PPEs will demonstrate how **AI-enabled artistic experiments** can effectively lead to human-centered sustainable working prototypes for new agricultural products and services. They will increase inclusiveness, explore ethical considerations, and realize technological progress in unusual meetings of minds from the technological, artistic, and industrial world leading to innovative experiences and artistic prototypes exploring alternative futures for agriculture and food systems design.

What do the different phases of the program consist of?

The Paths-to-Progress experiments consist of 3 stages:

- **Stage 1: Discovery:** Problem definition and solution framing; including matchmaking with artists, identifying scientific input needs and selecting the Hungry EcoCities digital prototype for testing.
- **Stage 2: Prototype Development and Test Set-up:** focus on collaboration with the artist to prepare the selected prototype solution for testing in the real business/ operations environment of the End-User. Additionally, there will be testing of the Hungry EcoCities digital prototypes (minimum of 1) and scientific input integration.
- **Stage 3: Demonstrate:** Prototype validation in the real business/ operations environment of the End-User to verify the prototype system: existing field testing, prototype iteration and experiment validation.

Throughout the support programme, the assigned mentors will assist you in establishing a framework of the PPE (experiment and testing), support in the collaboration and

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necessary support to focus on the execution of the PPE to realize the prototype solution and to verify the prototype system.

What will be the result of the PPE?

By the end of the support program, the PPEs will have produced 10 prototype scenarios addressing challenges, rigorously tested in an industrial setting. These imaginative prototypes will have attained a TRL (Technology Readiness Level) of 5/6, aligning with a human-centered innovation approach and integrating sustainability goals across the development fellowships in specialized art-industry R&D project partnerships.

What is a TRL?

TRL - Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs) are indicators of the maturity level of particular technologies. This measurement system provides a common understanding of technology status and addresses the entire innovation chain.

There are nine technology readiness levels: TRL 1 being the lowest and TRL 9 being the highest. In our project, we refer to section B of General Annexes to the Horizon Europe - Work Programme 2021-2022 (Horizon Europe) for a full description of TRLs.

What does TRL level 5/6 mean?

TRL level 5 typically indicates that the technology has been validated in a relevant environment. It means that the technology has undergone testing and demonstrated its functionality in a simulated or prototype environment, but it might not yet be ready for widespread commercial use. In essence, TRL 5 suggests that the technology is in an advanced development stage, moving closer to practical application.

TRL 6 signifies a higher level of technology readiness in the development process. At this stage, the technology has typically undergone testing and validation in a relevant environment or prototype system. The focus is on demonstrating the technology's functionality, performance, and potential for integration into practical applications. TRL 6 represents a significant advancement, as the technology has transitioned from a prototype to a stage where it is closer to being ready for deployment in real-world scenarios.

Which actors are defined in the agrifood chain?

For the Hungry EcoCities Second Open Call, we refer to the following actors in the food chain (as presented in the graph below):

- Input providers
- Producers / Growers

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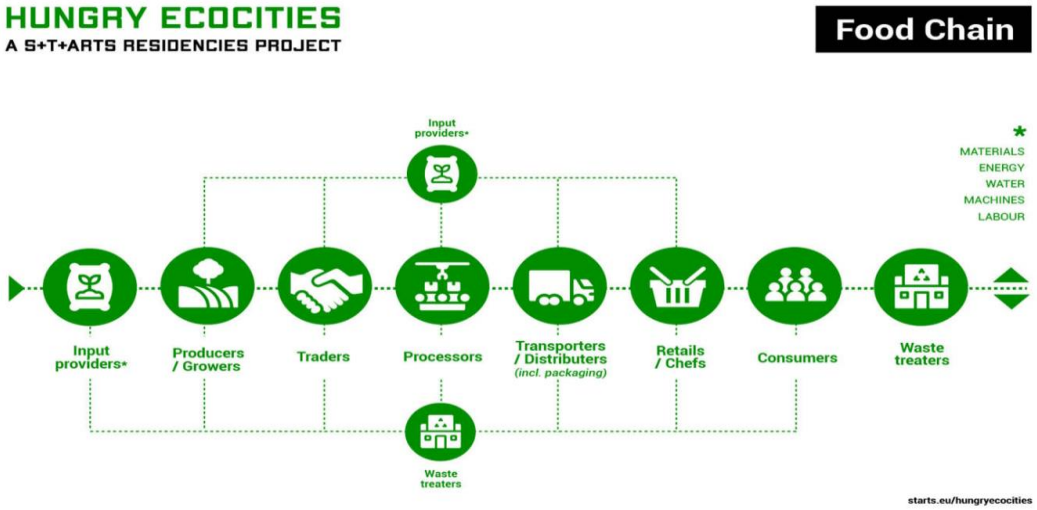
- Traders
- Processors
- Transporters / Distributers (inc. packaging)
- Retails / Chefs
- Consumers
- Waste treaters

We expect the End-Users to be active in one or multiple parts of this chain. For more information, please read our article: Hungry EcoCities: A journey through rebuilding the food chain.



When taking part in an open call, should we invite the artist to collaborate with us?

No, it is not necessary. The Hungry EcoCities consortium will enable a matchmaking process seeking an artist (through a call for the Artists in the second stage of this Open Call) to complete the team and prepare an art-driven prototyping proposal on the joint collaboration of End- Users and Artists in the PPE support programme. The full description of the steps within the second Hungry EcoCities Open Call is presented in Section 2 of the Guide for Applicants.

What are the payment conditions?

For the sake of simplicity and transparency, the Financial Support (up to 45 000 Euro grant for End-Users) will be paid against specific Deliverables/Milestones/KPIs defined in the 'Individual Mentoring Plan' (IMP) elaborated at the beginning of the programme. The IMP

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will become an Annex to your SubGrant Agreement. Please find more details in section 7 of the Guide for Applicants.
The payment schedule can be found below - in the question "What is the payment schedule".

What is the payment schedule?

Payment Milestones	Deliverable	Payment Milestone	% Total Grant	Fixed Lump Sum per project
Open Call for End-Users				
Stage 1 Discovery	Challenge Definition and Card on HEClab	First stage (End-User IMP)	25	11 250 €
Stage 2 Prototype Development and Test Set-up	Use case design	IMP approval (joint)	50	22 500 €
Stage 3 Demonstrate	Experiment Validated	End of Stage (joint)	25	11 250 €
	Total		**100%**	**45,000 €**

What services does Hungry EcoCities offer in the Support Program?

Apart from the lump sum, you can expect a service of support through the mentoring sessions on diverse topics as well as several possibilities for networking and learning new skills at different events and conferences. You will become part of the Hungry EcoCities community and have your mentor from the studios, connected to university knowledge and a perspective on responsible arts-based innovation, to guide you through the entire process. The Hungry EcoCities network also includes several experts in communication and dissemination that will help you maximise the impact of the project outcome.

Do I need to travel for the project?

Yes, traveling is part of the PPE. We expect the End-User to join at least one collaborative knowledge-sharing meeting as part of the Hungry EcoCities project. The details of this collaborative meeting will be discussed and formed according to the needs of the different participants and will take place after M7, when the artists join the End- Users, forming the team. We do recommend a second trip to make use of the network opportunities coming from the Hungry EcoCities partners.

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Is any accountability required on the way the funds have been used, e. g. invoices and other financial documents? Are there any specific restrictions on how the funds are utilized?

The Hungry EcoCities 2nd Open Call FSTP beneficiaries acting as the End- Users will receive a fixed lump sum of up to 45 000 € - wherein up to EUR 35.000 for End-User beneficiary expenses (personnel, travel, consumables, overhead) and up to EUR 10.000 for subcontracting and dissemination expenses in agreement with the Hungry EcoCities consortium.

The lump sum is a simplified method that means that the financial support recipient is not required to present accounting documents like invoices, timesheets, etc, to prove that the cost was actually incurred. However, Hungry EcoCities will assess your progress and the quality of your work during Interim Reviews, not your accountancy. In this sense, we will ask you to demonstrate the implementation of the project in line with the milestones set. In any case, the lump sum methodology does not release you from the obligation to collect documentation to confirm the costs under fiscal regulation..

Which are the eligible costs for my proposal?

Lump sum budgets are based on a cost estimation which means that you need to provide us with a detailed budget table with realistic cost estimations for each cost category (personnel costs, subcontracting costs, purchase costs, overheads, and other costs) per beneficiary.

These cost estimations and the resources you commit for the purposes of implementing the project are the basis to justify the lump sum. The cost estimations must be an approximation of your actual costs.

The costs are eligible if they meet the following requirements:

- they are set out in your project budget in the 'Individual Mentoring Plan';
- they are compliant with the same eligibility rules as in actual costs grants (a reference to actual costs as described in Art. 6 of AGA – Annotated Grant Agreement);

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- they are in line with your normal practices, usual accounting and management principles (e.g. subcontracting must be awarded using the beneficiary's usual purchasing practices - provided these ensure subcontracts with the best value for money (or if appropriate the lowest price) and that there is no conflict of interest)).;
- they are reasonable/not excessive;
- they are in line with and necessary for the implementation of your project, and the corresponding tasks and part of your project have been properly implemented and the expected milestone/deliverables have been achieved;
- they must be actually incurred by you;
- they must be incurred only during the lifetime of the project. The period of costs' eligibility is from the SubGrant Agreement signature date (from the start date of the programme period of your project) until the end of the project period.

Subcontracting may cover only a limited part of the action, up to 10 000 Euro. If the subcontracting budget is higher than 10 000 Euro, the beneficiary must and should justify it properly.

How should we estimate the budget?

Each project proposal will include a cost calculation in the Implementation section of the application form. Checking the consistency between these costs and the expected work of the project will be part of the evaluation of proposals.

The total cost of each project should be estimated based on the following criteria:

1) **Personnel costs:** costs should be calculated with the estimation of the required effort
2) **Travel costs: Costs should be calculated with a min. of 1 European trips;**
3) **Consumables, equipment depreciation, etc.:** Estimated by a standard practice of the applicant; if relevant (for example: headsets/software/sensors)
4) **Subcontracting**: up to 10 000 Euro; if relevant
5) **Overheads** (25% of sum of 1+2+3)
6) **Total costs** (1+2+3+4+5)
7) **Requested funding amount:** Maximum amount 45 000 Euro.

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If I foresee subcontracting in my project, should the offers of subcontractors (from which I select a subcontractor) be included in the indicative budget allocation (in the application form)?

You are not required to include offers when estimating the budget. However, please consider that when subcontracting, core activities of your proposal have to be done by you and not third parties. Subcontracting may cover only a limited part of the action, up to 10 000 Euro (to cover technical expertise and e.g. support on communication/ video documentation). Also, subcontracting must be awarded using each beneficiary's usual purchasing practices — provided these ensure subcontracts with best value for money (or if appropriate the lowest price) and that there is no conflict of interest.

What could the collaboration with technology scientists (AI / Robotics / IoT / Biotech) look like?

In Hungry EcoCities we intend to work on increasing the trust and acceptance of digital technologies, in particular AI, within the food chain. AI is believed to have the potential to offer insights and tools into how we can grow and provide food for a growing global population while minimizing our dependence on fossil fuels and increasing the well-being of local environments and people.
The universities (belonging to the partners) provide access to an impressive digital toolbox consisting of available knowledge, programs, solutions and equipment to support the development. This toolbox is divided into three groups: AI tools, Biotech tools, and Digital tools:

- VR
- UAV Robotic Systems
- Explainable AI
- Sociality of AI
- Algorithmic Supply Chains
- Advanced Sensing / Sat data
- Molecular Biology
- Algae/ plant cultivation

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- Plant acoustics and spectra
- UV analytics

In specific the universities offer collaboration on the following possibilities:

Leuven.AI:

Leuven.AI is one of the first four "KU Leuven Institutes" bringing together KU Leuven's world-class AI experts from diverse disciplines in an interdisciplinary research network with societal relevance. Within the Path-to-Progress experiments, they will be available for advice and suggestions on a needs basis to support the PPEs (experiments) from their research in the domains of AR/ VR, Explainable AI, Sociality of AI and Algorithmic Supply Chains. Next to that, they will run specific thesis projects that in particular will focus on following topics;

- 3rd scope of emissions
- Future forecasting and AI
- Recommender system for food (biases)
- Impact of AI decisions in the food system on sustainability, food waste and carbon

The thesis project will be carried out via students of the Master AI program with scientific guidance and components, which would provide the End-Users access to (scientific) knowledge and talent. The End-User shall start in September 2024 to collaborate on the definition of a thesis project by providing applicational context and guidance – this will be done together with a KU Leuven researcher assigned to the End-User.

Mendel University:

The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at Mendel University in Brno is a hub of scientific excellence and education, offering a wide array of research capabilities in several fields. Their expertise in Molecular Biology is essential for groundbreaking discoveries in molecular aspects of plant and algal production. In Algae and Plant Cultivation, they excel in optimizing growth environments and exploiting bioproduct potential, paving the way for sustainable advancements. Their research in Plant Acoustics and Spectra is revolutionizing the understanding of plant-environment interactions, essential for the development of advanced agricultural technologies.

They aim to provide support and consultancy for End- Users. Partnering with us not only gives access to their knowledge but also to a robust research network and state-of-the-art infrastructure. This combination makes them an ideal ally for those looking to develop innovative prototypes and conduct cutting-edge research, driving forward the boundaries of Hungry Eco Cities.

Brno University of Technology:

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The team representing the Knowledge Technology (KnoT) Research Group, Faculty of Information Technology, Brno University of Technology, offers collaboration on various aspects of applied machine learning, large language models, embedded intelligence, power-aware computing, IoT, natural user interfaces, automation, and robotics. They will provide consultancy and support experiments in generative AI, advanced retrieval models for relevancy estimation of scientific data, claim detection and fact-checking, long-life battery operation of IoT devices in agriculture, and automation in waste management. As the faculty is also involved in the cooperation with the Czech supercomputing centre IT4Innovations (which is interlinked with pan-European HPC and supercomputing initiatives) and the team members can offer expertise in optimization and scaling of machine learning tasks, they are also available for advice and help in training and adapting large machine learning models for specific tasks, their quantization, and federated learning.

The team members also lead many student projects and supervise Bachelor and Master theses. In addition to the above-mentioned domains, they will offer the following topics to perform research, test hypotheses, and improve prototypes either resulting from our previous research or developed as a result of the student work. The following laboratory experiments and thesis topics could particularly benefit from the evaluation in the non-academic environment and natural conditions of the participating SMEs:

- Environmental claim identification, extraction of evidence from scientific literature, and fact-checking based on the semi-automatic assessment of the veracity of internet information sources.
- Generative AI and large language models for retrieval-augmented generation and automatic summarization of expert knowledge available in extensive collections of documents.
- Low-power and ultra-low-power IoT data collection, edge-based processing and communication, power-aware computing and dynamic off-loading in the edge-cloud continuum.

In the opposite direction, involved SMEs would take advantage of the young talents that will get familiar with their practical problems and the environment, and could extend their collaboration beyond their study or the specific thesis or project. The student's involvement in an SME's application area and the research/thesis supervision by the experts from BUoT will contribute to successfully realising the Path-to-Progress experiments.

What do we mean by the Hungry EcoCities directions?

In Hungry EcoCities we work around 3 directions which are the visions on the future of food as developed by the three residency hosting partners, also known as hosting studios in Hungry EcoCities: Studio Other Spaces (GE), CRA- Carlo Ratti Associati (IT), EatThis (NL)

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('The Studios'). The End-Users will work closely with the Studios in sharpening the challenge and designing the solution component(s).

The three directions for the End-User applicants to consider as potential reference or input in the application process are as follows:

1) **Mega-scale – EatThis**
   This direction explores the relative spatial and cultural distance we built between food production and the city: society considered food production as something that didn't require serious cultural attention, while it prioritized cheaper and easier access. How and where it was made or grown wasn't of great interest. This left production in the hands of a purely industrial rationale, a relentless yet arguably successful form of modernism, and transformed it into a black box not to be seen by society. The role of society was mainly the consumption of its output. Food marketers were tasked to make up the space in between with faux-idyllic romanticism which were accepted against one's better judgement. We want to explore these challenges by trying to find an interface where 'our' intelligence matters and can provoke new considerations and thoughts. At a planetary level, we are interested in the logic of production site locations (Where to grow?), including how the urban level seeks to address the opposition between the scale of production needed and urban space available (Gigafactory for Food). On a cultural level, we are interested in exploring how trying to fuse hi-tech and alternative food growing cultures can lead to alternative futures. In each one the role of a specific form of growing, e.g. Controlled Environmental Agriculture (CEA), can be taken as a starting point.

   Where do we grow the additional food we need with respect for nature, humans, and culture? What would it mean if a city is to sustain itself? Would it require a giga factory for food production? How will such an integrated system look like? What will it grow? How could technological scaling be combined with alternative growing techniques? Where should we grow in a warming world?

2) **City+Farming Synergies - CRA - Carlo Ratti Associati**
   The urban population is projected to grow consistently over the coming decades. For this reason, the urgency has never been greater for cities to establish more efficient and sustainable agricultural practices to keep their residents fed and healthy.

   Fortunately, the contours of a functional and sustainable urban agriculture system are beginning to emerge. Stakeholders from different fields are engaging in various forms of experimentation to bring our vision closer to reality. For instance, rooftops, basements and other under-utilized spaces – including ones made redundant by

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the COVID pandemic – have been converted into hotspots for crop cultivation; Experiments take place in controlled environments to imagine what it would take for farms to be placed vertically on building facades; Forward-looking prototypes have been unveiled at design weeks to involve diverse communities in the conversation.

Among most of these novel endeavors, CRA-Carlo Ratti Associati believes in the use of sensors, artificial intelligence and other digital devices to realize what had not been feasible. Over the years, our studio has undertaken various projects to harness the power of automation with intention and adequate planning, with the goal to help contemporary urban farmers do more with fewer resources. As part of the Hungry EcoCities consortium, CRA will offer its expertise in architectural design and technological innovation its collaboration with the selected SMEs to make agriculture an integral element of the urban landscape, in turn exploring the possibilities of territorial regeneration in urban and peri-urban areas.

3) **Local Conditions - Studio Other Spaces:**
This direction will focus on food cultures and investigate how they must reflect the needs of our bodies, of our communities, of the planet, and the agri-food sector's role in shaping more sustainable cultures. Cooking and sharing food is an activity that ties habitats, communities, individuals and agricultural methods together. Reducing energy consumption in agricultural food production and fostering biodiversity are key goals for us throughout this phase of the project. We believe that conscious awareness of the role of food cultures, including the impact of agricultural practices on our diets, health, and relationships with the environment can lead to more sustainable and resilient food system practices. Our hope is that widespread awareness and collaborative momentum can catalyse novel solutions for feeding the growing global population while respecting planetary boundaries. Today, lighthouse projects already exist in, for instance, regenerative agriculture and circular food systems. **How do we scale smaller, experimental projects of this kind that value regeneration, resilience, and fairness in the agri-food sector**? Studio Other Spaces wishes to support projects that contribute to solving this challenge.

How will local solutions in agriculture and food cultures shape what we grow, what we eat, when and with whom we eat? Can learning about our food systems and telling new stories lead to innovation in, development of, and scaling up regenerative and integrative agricultural practices? Can it help reconnect people living in urban, peri-urban, and rural communities? Can it radically reimagine sustainable markets and modes of distribution of farm goods? To that end, through outreach and a different kind of storytelling about food systems, can agriculture become a vocational calling for the people who perhaps least expect it?

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Who are the Creative Studios in Hungry EcoCities?

Studio Other Spaces (SOS) was founded by artist Olafur Eliasson and architect Sebastian Behmann in Berlin in 2014. Their shared interest in spatial experimentation led them to the holistic approach that defines Studio Other Spaces.

CRA - Carlo Ratti Associati is an international design and innovation office based between Turin and New York City. Founded by MIT professor Carlo Ratti, CRA explores the intersections between the natural and the artificial in the built environment, often tapping into digital technologies to develop projects on every scale of intervention. The office has a long history of putting forward experimental visions for the future of food systems.

EatThis is an international network and movement bringing together over 40 companies from the food sector in a joint mission to realize a sustainable and healthy food system for all. EatThis has a double role in Hungry EcoCities, feeding the project from the industry as well as functioning as a studio headed by Stephan Petermann and Rem Koolhaas, founder of OMA. Rem and Stephan are involved in the project on a personal title.

How does Hungry EcoCities stimulate diversity and inclusion?

Hungry EcoCities encourages applications stimulating diversity and inclusion, referring to different country of origin, country of residence, identity, age, background, impact of the proposal. In Hungry EcoCities, we try to organize diversity and inclusion in different ways: firstly, by asking applicants to take the topic into account in their applications. Secondly, by paying attention to this topic in the evaluation. Thirdly, by organizing for a diverse and inclusive evaluation process and evaluators. Fourthly, by paying continuous attention to this topic throughout the residences and finally by making it part of the dissemination approach.

Beneficiaries of the first open call apply for the second one?

No, beneficiaries of the 1st Open Call cannot apply to the Second Open Call.

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What is a Conflict of Interest?

Conflict of interest may occur, if there are capital or personal connections between two or more entities (Applicant, Consortium partner or any person involved in the selection process), in particular, it should be understood as:

- any ownership relations - ownership of shares, financial links and economic connections - like joint venture, holding, joint participation, silent partner. E.g., the Applicant entity owns shares in the Consortium partner company or Consortium partner company own shares in the Applicant company (it also refers to the Applicant partner/linked enterprises). As economic connection we can understand exclusive license, sale agreements if they concern product or solution covered by your application;
- family and personal relationships, in particular: with marriage, kinship, a relationship of affinity to the second degree in a straight line or lateral line, adoption, custody or guardianship or actual life and other close personal ties binding the Applicant and Consortium partner or any person involved in the selection process (it refers also to employees, shareholders, members of the management body, members of the board, managers, subcontractors etc.) – e.g. person representing the Consortium partner company has family/personal relationship with any person representing the Applicant company;
- the existence of material, especially financial relationships (such as the receipt by a person involved in the selection process from Applicant any significant gifts, donations, future contracts or employment, etc;
- relationships based on employment, cooperation or existing civil contract between the Consortium partners and people involved in the Applicant structure, including managerial or supervisory functions, position in managing or supervising bodies. For example, the Director of the Consortium partner is involved in the management bodies of an Applicant company; the Applicant employees involved in the Project are employed or contracted by the Consortium partner company;
- remaining in a legal or factual relationship that may give rise to justified doubts as to the impartiality of the people involved in the selection process (expert/evaluator/employee/member of the management bodies of any of the Consortium partners).

The reasons set forth above may result in a conflict of interest if they occur at the time of an action or have occurred in the past (during the last 3 years before the action starts). Time limits do not apply to family and personal relationships.

Remember that the concept of conflict of interest should be understood widely, so if you have any doubts about the conflict of Interest please consult with our team. All cases of conflict of interest will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

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Are UK entities eligible under this open call?

No, UK entities are not eligible at this time to receive funding. The UK applicants, starting from the 1st of January 2024, are able to participate in the Horizon Europe calls for award procedures implementing the European Union budget for the year 2024 and onwards, which means that the UK applicants are **ineligible** for FSTP Open Calls funded under older budgetary appropriations and Work Programmes (like our Project). UK entities/natural persons can apply in the Hungry EcoCities Second Open Call but will be rejected after the first evaluation phase (Admissibility and Eligibility Check) and will not sign the Sub-Grant Agreement in this project.

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The Hungry EcoCities Consortium

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5. Application Form Template

HUNGRY ECOCITIES
A S+T+ARTS RESIDENCY PROJECT

https://starts.eu/what-we-do/residences/hungry-ecocities/

Welcome to the Hungry EcoCities Second Open Call!
Open Call for Art-Driven Experiments
1st Phase - Call for End-Users
https://hungry-ecocities-end-users.fundingbox.com/

The Deadline for this Call is Monday 15 May 2024 at 17:00 (CET)

Only applications in English will be admitted.

Before applying, read carefully the Open Call related information (**Guide for Applicants, 3 Directions Booklet & FAQ**), which includes all the necessary information on the application process, evaluation criteria, and the proposal's requirements.

A practical point: you can save your application as a draft and continue later.

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1. Basic Information

Before applying, read carefully the Open Call related information (Guide for Applicants & FAQ), which includes all the necessary information on the application process, evaluation criteria, and the proposal's requirements.

A practical point: you can save your application as a draft and continue later. You can also add other members of your team as contributors to help you complete the application form. You can change it until the deadline of May 15, 2024.

Project Acronym*:
Please, enter the project's acronym. Text (50 characters)

Project Title*:
Please, enter the project's title. Text (200 characters)

Name and Surname of the Contact person*:
Enter your complete name (first name and last name), please.

Contact person email address*:
Please, enter the email address (mail@mail.com format) where we can contact you and send all the communications.

Contact person phone number*:
Remember to include your country code in brackets. E.g.: (+xx) xxxxxxxxx.

2. Company and project information

The following information will enable us to contact you and verify that your organisation fills out the eligibility criteria for participating in the Hungry EcoCities project. (see the requirements in the Guide for Applicants).

Legal name of your entity*:
The legal name in the country where the company is incorporated.

Size of your entity*:
Please indicate Number of people employed in the entity:

- 2-10
- 11-49
- 50-99
- 100-249
- 250- 500
- Over 501

Type of your entity*:
Please select the appropriate option according to the Commission Recommendation of 6 May 2003 on the definition of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (please see: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32003H0361):

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- SMEs, including starts-up
- Mid-Cap
- Large Company
- Other

VAT number (if applicable):
Text (50 characters)

Country where the entity is registered*:
Take notice that only countries indicated in the Guide are eligible for application.

Date of registration of the entity*:
Text (50 characters)

Address of the entity *:
Text (200 characters)
Website URL*:
(https://... or http://...)

Please select which part in the food value chain your company is active: (please see: https://starts.eu/hungry-ecocities-a-journey-through-rebuilding-the-food-chain/)

- Input providers
- Producers / Growers
- Traders
- Processors
- Transporters / Distributers (inc. packaging)
- Retails / Chefs
- Consumers
- Waste treaters

3. Fit with HEC

Tell us about your current activities, highlighting how you operate in the food value chain and how you relate to Food2030 topics (see: https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/environment/bioeconomy/food-systems/food-2030_en) *:
Can select multiple:

- Governance for food systems change
- Urban food system transformation
- Food from the oceans and freshwater resources
- Alternative proteins for dietary shift
- Food waste and resource-efficient food systems
- The microbiome world
- Nutrition and sustainable healthy diets
- Food safety systems of the future

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- Food systems Africa
- Data and digital transformation
- Zero Pollution food systems

Please, give a short explanation why you have a fit/ work towards that*:
Text (1200 characters)

Tell us about your current activities emphasizing how you act in the food value chain and how you relate the Hungry EcoCities directions (Mega Scale, Local Condition and/or City+Farming Synergies) *:
Text (1200 characters)

Please select which part in the food value chain you would like to tackle in this project (please see: https://starts.eu/hungry-ecocities-a-journey-through-rebuilding-the-food-chain/)*:
Can select multiple:

- Input providers
- Producers / Growers
- Traders
- Processors
- Transporters / Distributers (inc. packaging)
- Retails / Chefs
- Consumers
- Waste treaters

Please describe the problem/ challenge in your business you would like to tackle in this project in its current situation. Make sure you illustrate the relevance of the problem/challenge in your daily operations. *:
Text (1200 characters)

Please describe the digitalization level of your company. Which processes are automated and to what extent? Do you work data-driven in any process? If so, which ones? Do you use robotics, IoT systems, AI systems or other digital technologies in your operations today? *:
Text (1200 characters)

Do you have experience with technology-related projects? *.
- Yes
- No

If Yes, text (1200 characters)
Do you have experience with designer/artist collaborations? Please elaborate? *.
- Yes
- No

If Yes, text (800 characters)
Do you have experience with collaborating with researchers from universities? Please elaborate? *.

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- Yes
- No

If Yes, text (800 characters)

Have you received any previous funding within S+T+ARTS program ? if yes please provide further details, so we can assess potential double-funding risks*:
a. Name and description of the project
b. Grant amount and receipt date of the grant

- Yes
- No

If Yes, text (800 characters)

Are you applying in parallel for another S+T+ARTS program ? (if yes please provide further details, so we can assess potential double-funding risks) *:
a. Name and description of the project
b. Grant amount you are applying for
Please note: If selected for another S+T+ARTS project, you must choose which project to participate in and receive funding from.

- Yes
- No

If Yes, text (800 characters)

4. Motivation and Environment

Before completing this section, please read the Guide for Applicants and the FAQ.

Describe why you are motivated to join Hungry EcoCities in the form of a letter. *
In your answer, please reflect upon your motivation to work in a multidisciplinary team including creative studios, scientists, artists; your motivation to work on tech-driven innovation challenges; your motivation to contribute to the EU and project goals on sustainable food systems.
Text (2500 characters)
Provide details on the test environment you will provide access to for this project (operational environment access/ testing infrastructure). *
Text (1200 characters)

Which companies/institutions do you believe are relevant and can interact with the development of your project at any stage and in any form? *
Text (1000 characters)
Describe your team and relevant resources you will employ for this project as well as your (team) availability for the support programme. *
Text (1000 characters)

Video/ Slideshow (e.g 3-5 min) to show the test facilities/ introduce the team/ person(s) who will be involved (max 10MB) *
Click to upload (pdf, max 10 MB)

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Video/ Slideshow (e.g 3-5 min) to show the test facilities/ introduce the team/ person(s) who will be involved (URL)
Please provide an URL address.

5. Resources - Budget

Before completing this section, please read the FAQ, which includes all the necessary information on the budget calculation.

Budget	Value	Required
(1) Personnel costs	Number (20 characters)	Yes
(2) Travel costs	Number (20 characters)	Yes
(3) Consumables, equipment depreciation, etc.	Number (20 characters)	Yes
(4) Subcontracting	Number (20 characters)	Yes
(5) Overheads (25% of sum of 1 + 2 + 3)	Number (20 characters)	Yes
(6) Total costs (sum of 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5)	Number (20 characters)	Yes
(7) Requested amount (Maximum amount 45 000 Euro)	Number (20 characters)	Yes

6. Declaration of Honour

Please read carefully the statements below. You will not be able to change the statements after the deadline [or after submission if you are not letting them modify application]

By ticking the boxes below, I confirm that	Type of Answer	Mandatory?
I have read and understood the information about the project, as provided in the Guide for Applicants (GfA)	Yes/No	*
I accept all the rules and regulations of this open call as detailed in the GfA	Yes/No	*
I acknowledge that the evaluators and the European Commission and its bodies and agencies may have access to the data collected under the open call	Yes/No	*
The data provided in the application form are true and up-to-date	Yes/No	*
The entity I represent meets the eligiblity conditions described in the GfA, in particular is an SME	Yes/No	*

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There is no conflict of interest between the company I represent and any of the consortium partners	TRUE/FALSE	*
Moreover, the entity I represent , or persons with power of representation, decision-making or control over the aforementioned legal entity:		
is/ are not listed on the EU sanction list : https://www.sanctionsmap.eu, which means that is/are not subject to EU restrictive measures under Article 29 of the Treaty on the European Union (TEU) and Article 215 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU))	TRUE/FALSE	*
is /are not bankrupt or being wound up, is not having its affairs administered by the courts, has not entered into an arrangement with creditors, has not suspended business activities, is not the subject of proceedings concerning those matters, or is not in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations	TRUE/FALSE	*
has/have not been convicted of an offence concerning their professional conduct by a judgment which has the force of res judicata	TRUE/FALSE	*
has/have not been guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any means which the contracting authority can justify, including by decisions of the European Investment Bank and international organisations;	TRUE/FALSE	*
is/are in compliance with their obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions or the payment of taxes in accordance with the legal provisions of the country in which it is established or with those of the country of the contracting authority or those of the country where the contract is to be performed;	TRUE/FALSE	*
has/have not been the subject of a judgment which has the force of res judicata for fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organisation or any other illegal activity, where such illegal activity is detrimental to the Union's financial interests;	TRUE/FALSE	*
is/are not subject to an administrative penalty for being guilty of misrepresenting the information required by the contracting authority as a condition of participation in a grant award procedure or another procurement procedure, or failing to supply this information, or has/have not been declared to be in serious breach of their obligations under contracts or grants covered by the Union's budget.	TRUE/FALSE	*
I did not make false declarations in supplying the information required, as a condition of participation in the Open Call or do not fail to supply this information	TRUE/FALSE	*

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I voluntarily agree to be registered at Hungry EcoCities Community and I understand that I can delete my profile from the above-mentioned Community by informing the Hungry EcoCities Team via helpdesk mail	Yes/No	

7. Processing of Personal Data

I confirm that I read and understood the information clause concerning processing of the personal data provided above.	Yes	*
I confirm that I have legal basis for processing personal data of the team members listed in the application form.	Yes	*
I will pass the information clause provided above to all team members mentioned in the application form.	Yes	*

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Information clause for personal data processing in the 2nd Open Call organized under Hungry EcoCities Project

Grant Agreement No. 101069990

CONTROLLER`S IDENTITY AND CONTACT DETAILS
The data controllers are all entities in the FundingBox capital group as the Joint Controllers. All FundingBox entities have agreed on common data processing purposes. In all matters regarding personal data, you can contact us using the following email address: privacy@fundingbox.com. The essence of the arrangement is available here.

PURPOSES, LEGAL BASIS AND PROCESSING PERIOD		
The purpose and legitimate interest of processing	Legal basis for processing	Period
1) To run an Open Call and collect data necessary to evaluate applications submitted in the Open Call.	Legitimate interest of FundingBox (based on Art. 6.1.f) of GDPR) which is fulfilling the obligations and our other interests related to implementation of the Project.	6 years from the end of the year in which the Project ended.
2) To realize the Project goals described in the Grant Agreement (e.g. communication, reporting, collaborating with other project partners).		
3) To consider potential complaints and defend against them.		
4) To investigate a potential conflict of interest (processing includes, among others, examining family, financial, business or organizational links).		
5) To gather feedback from applicants when the Open Call is over to improve processes.		
6) To send newsletter about other FundingBox activity (e.g. information about other funding opportunities).		
If an applicant has been selected to become the beneficiary of the project:		

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7) To collect the applicant's details and documentation necessary to verify its legal status. Data will be collected in separate form via FundingBox platform.	Processing is necessary for the performance of a contract (based on Art. 6.1.b) of GDPR).	

Important:

Data collected for the purpose of investigating a potential conflict of interest will be stored for the indicated retention period and will not be deleted even at the request of the applicant before the end of the retention period.

DATA RECEIVERS

The Joint Controllers will transfer personal data only to trusted recipients such as IT service providers, accountants, law firms, postal and courier companies (who process personal data on the controllers' behalf).

Due to the fact that we use the services of Google LLC, your data may be transferred to the USA. We have concluded an agreement with those entities – the so-called Standard Contractual Clauses. This means that in accordance with the decision of the European Commission No. 2021/914 EU of June 4, 2021, your personal data may be processed by this company in the USA. More information about the decision at: https://fundingbox.com/trust/transfer-outside-eea/.

To realize the Project, data can be transferred also to Project Partners (complete list of the project partners is available at the email address: privacy@fundingbox.com) and European Commission.

RIGHTS OF DATA SUBJECT

Due to the fact that we process your personal data, you have the right to:

1) request access to your personal data,
2) demand the rectification of your personal data,
3) request to remove or limit the processing of your personal data,
4) data portability,
5) complain with the supervisory authority (https://edpb.europa.eu/about-edpb/about-edpb/members_en).

You also have a right to object to processing of your personal data for all purposes indicated above (according to the Article 21 of GDPR).

INFORMATION ABOUT VOLUNTARY OR OBLIGATORY DATA PROVISION

Providing data is voluntary, although it is necessary to participate in the Open Call. Without providing your data, it is not possible to contact you and evaluate the application.

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6. Reflections and Lessons Learned

Since this deliverable is mostly a joint document of the open call package of documents, its elaboration entailed the participation of all partners involved in the Open Call launching and management. For the completion of the individual documents forming this deliverable, the work package leader created the initial drafts and uploaded them to the project working space, Project Place, for the related parties to review and collaborate on the documents.

This approach proved to be very efficient as all project partners could view and contribute on the same version of the documents simultaneously while seeing others' suggestions and inputs. This collaboration on the second set of documents for the Open call enabled all partners to reflect on the expectations from the third-party beneficiaries of Hungry EcoCities and clarify aspects related to the selection process.

Some lessons learned in the process:

- It is important to plan the tasks in this work package in close connection to the results of related work packages.
- Set-up meetings to clarify doubts and involve all relevant partners.
- Provide support documentation, such as annexes to the guide, for the applicants to get a clear overview of the process.
- Prepare further support materials to use in communication with applicants, such as webinars, in order to give further insights on the call.

This deliverable is the second version related to the launch of the next open call in Hungry EcoCities, where the document package has been tailored to a specific type of applicant. Although the content differs from the documents available in the first open call, as a result of the type of activities and the type of applicants, the structure has been maintained, and the lessons learned from the first open call have served as good practice in completing this document.

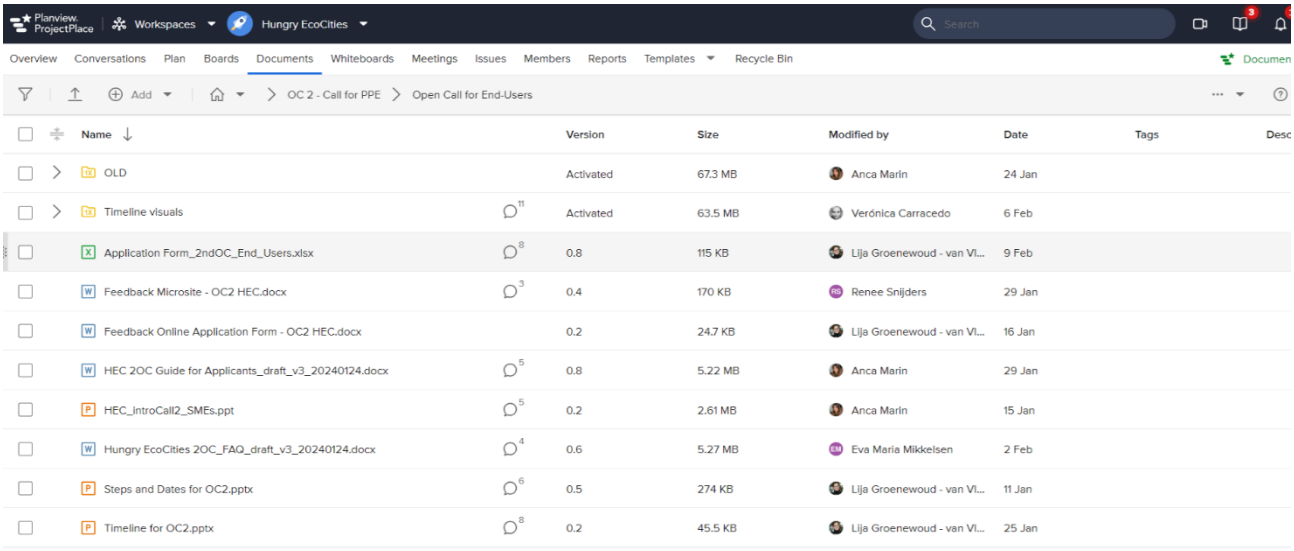

Figure 1 – Partners collaboration for the Open Call Package of Documents

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7. Partners Hungry EcoCities

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