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SUMMARY

I-RESTART
TRAINING CONTENT
COMPLETED AND
AVAILABLE ONLINE



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We are excited to share that the I-RESTART training content has now been fully developed and is available on the project's learning management platform: know how to join!

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In January, Rome hosted two key initiatives that will shape the future of European agriculture: Forum 2050 and **AgriFoodSkills**, a new Erasmus+ project focused on upskilling professionals in the agri-food, veterinary and animal sectors.



FORUM 2050 &
AGRIFOODSKILLS:
BUILDING A SKILLED
AND RESILIENT
AGRI-FOOD SECTOR

DRAFTING
THE EUROPEAN
STRATEGY



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Working closely with I-RESTART consortium partners, **Wageningen University & Research** (WUR), has submitted the first draft of the European strategy.

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The **AgriFood Pact for Skills**, held in the 13 and 14 of May, united stakeholders all across Europe in a two day event, where I-RESTART had the opportunity to share some of its experience.



ANNUAL EVENT OF THE
AGRIFOOD PACT FOR
SKILLS HELD IN
BRUSSELS



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I-RESTART TRAINING CONTENT COMPLETED AND AVAILABLE ONLINE

by Konstantina Ntrallou,
AARHUS UNIVERSITET

We are excited to share that the I-RESTART training content has now been fully developed and is available on the *project's learning management platform!*

The content offers a comprehensive, innovative approach to addressing urgent skill needs within the Food industry, Animal production and Veterinary sectors. It is designed to help professionals enhance their skills and adapt to emerging industry challenges.

I-RESTART is dedicated to creating training content for evolving job roles across three key sectors: Food Industry, Animal Production, and Veterinary Activities. The training is organized around micro-credentials, providing flexible, targeted certifications for specific skills, totaling 1074 hours of training.

This approach enables individuals to efficiently upskill or reskill and customize their learning journeys to address the industry's emerging needs.



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TRAINING OVERVIEW:

ONE-HEALTH FOR VETERINARIANS AND LIVESTOCK FARMERS

Key modules include: “Understanding the One-Health Approach”, “Food Safety Awareness”, “Antibiotic Resistance”, “Sustainable Disease Control Strategies” and more. These modules promote a holistic understanding of health across human, animal, and environmental systems.

FOOD INDUSTRY AND PROCESSING

This section covers vital skills in sustainability management, digital tools for circular traceability (e.g. blockchain), food innovation with new ingredients and technologies and sustainable packaging solutions. These modules ensure participants are equipped with the knowledge to drive forward-thinking, sustainable practices in food production.

ANIMAL PRODUCTION

Key training areas include data-driven livestock farming, sustainable and digital management in livestock production and animal welfare in compliance with modern regulations. This ensures participants are ready to tackle the future of animal husbandry with cutting-edge, ethical approaches.



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by Konstantina Ntrallou,
AARHUS UNIVERSITET



VETERINARY ACTIVITIES

Focused on data science for veterinarians, the responsible use of medicines and chemicals aligned with One-Health principles, and veterinary business management skills, ensuring professionals are equipped to navigate both the clinical and business aspects of veterinary care.

ADVANCED ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS FOR AGRI-FOOD PROFESSIONALS

Training modules cover essential areas such as business preparedness, innovation management (including product, process, and organizational innovation), leadership skills, and conflict resolution, providing professionals with the entrepreneurial mindset needed to drive growth and innovation within the sector.

★ The content is modular and flexible, allowing trainers to adapt the material based on the specific needs of their trainees while staying aligned with the overall curriculum goals. This makes it easier to implement in various contexts and provides learners with the ability to focus on specific skills that are crucial to their roles.

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I-RESTART TRAINING CONTENT COMPLETED AND AVAILABLE ONLINE

WHO CAN BENEFIT FROM THE TRAINING CONTENT?

Our training program is completely free and online, designed to meet the needs of farmers, food industry professionals, foresters, veterinarians, advisors, educators and students.

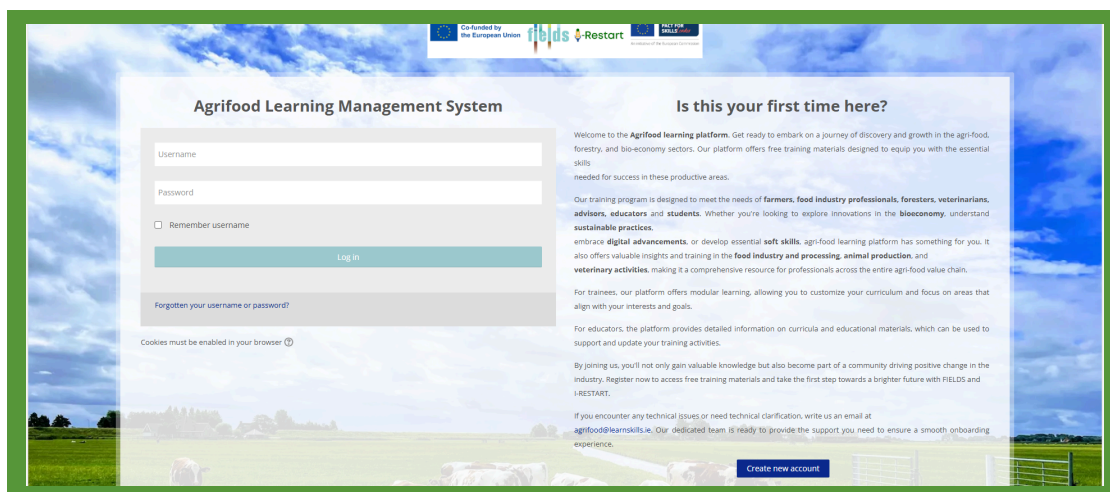


HOW CAN I JOIN THE I-RESTART LEARNING PLATFORM?

It's quite simple!

To access the training contents of the I-RESTART project, all you have to do is visit the **project's website** and, on the home page, select the **'Training Courses'** menu.

Then you just have to sign up and you can start your journey!



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FORUM 2050 & AGRIFOODSKILLS: BUILDING A SKILLED AND RESILIENT AGRI-FOOD SECTOR

by Cátia Rosas
CONFAGRI PT

How can we ensure the agri-food sector is ready for the challenges of tomorrow?

The answer lies in investing in skills, innovation, and collaboration. This question took center stage in January 2025, as Rome hosted two key initiatives shaping the future of European agriculture: Forum 2050 and **AgriFoodSkills**, a new Erasmus+ project focused on upskilling professionals in the agri-food, veterinary and animal sectors.



Experts, policymakers, and industry leaders gathered to discuss strategies for a more robust agri-food sector.

Forum 2050, held on January 29, explored the long-term challenges facing European agriculture under the Food4All partnership. Discussions emphasized the importance of fostering collaboration between industry, agriculture, and academia to enhance resilience across the agri-food value chain. The next Forum 2050 meeting is scheduled for September in Brussels.

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FORUM 2050 & AGRIFOODSKILLS: BUILDING A SKILLED AND RESILIENT AGRI-FOOD SECTOR

by Cátia Rosas
CONFAGRI PT

The **AgriFoodSkills** project builds on previous initiatives such as **FIELDS** and **I-RESTART**, aiming to:

-  **Map current and future skill needs in the agri-food sector;**
-  **Develop training solutions, including micro-credentials and mentoring programs;**
-  **Establish a strategic community of practice within the *Agri-Food Skills Pact*;**
-  **Additionally, an observatory on agri-food sector employment will provide insights into future workforce needs.**



By fostering collaboration among key stakeholders, these initiatives will drive a sustainable and innovation-driven agri-food sector. Empowering professionals with future-proof skills is essential to overcoming emerging challenges and ensuring long-term sector resilience.

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DRAFTING THE EUROPEAN STRATEGY

by Hanh Tran and Renate Wesselink
WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH

As part of the I-RESTART project, we are working on the Work Package 7.3 – designing a European strategy to promote the upskilling and reskilling of the workforce in the agriculture, food industry and veterinary sectors.

Working closely with I-RESTART consortium partners, **Wageningen University & Research (WUR)**, the lead partner of the work package, has submitted the first draft of the European strategy. Our aim is to further align this strategy with activities happening in other work packages of the I-RESTART to ensure coherence and synergy.

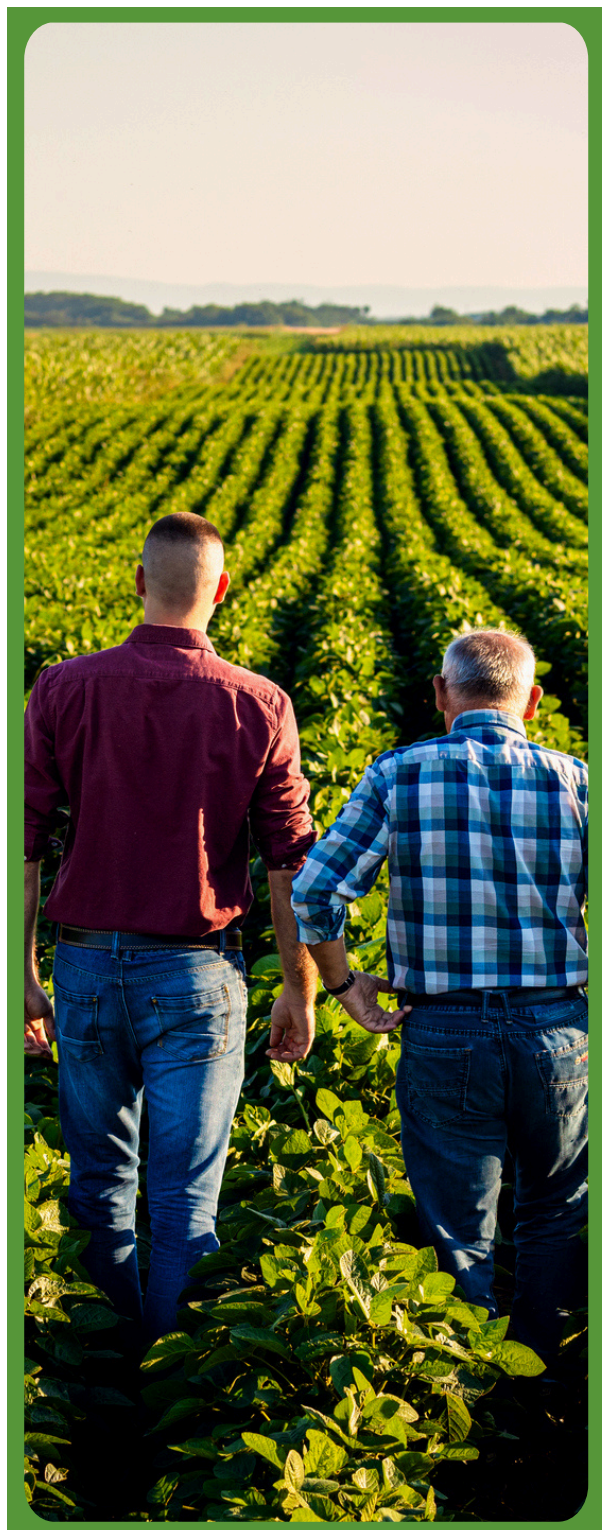


In the first draft of the EU strategy, we build on the foundation of the previous **FIELDS** project. This includes the proposals for three kinds of hubs to strengthen the EU network: knowledge, networking and guidance hubs. These hubs are key components in shaping a skill ecosystem and will function as a starting point for developing the national roadmaps. While these hubs can be recognized in Large-Scale Partnerships (LSPs), we are also exploring whether Regional Skills Partnerships (RSPs) might leverage the use of these functionalities - acting as an add-on to LSPs and increasing the impacts at the local level.

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Currently, we are focusing on how these hub models can be applied at the local level – particularly through RSPs. These collaborative networks bring together local stakeholders to support working-age people in a region to learn new skills or improve existing ones.

The local skill partnerships share close ties either geographically or economically, and some of these partnerships are already active or being established. By learning from these existing initiatives, we want to explore whether the scaling up of RSPs would be valuable.

To understand better the potential roles and willingness to involved in RSPs of skill partners, we are developing a survey. The survey will identify gaps, ambitions and ideas to create a structure for collaborations, and explore additional services that the hub model can offer RSPs. Our plan is to disseminate the survey widely to skill partnership members.

Finally, the EU strategy will recommend key aspects and general guidelines, which will be further elaborated and contextualized in the national roadmaps in WP 7.4.

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ANNUAL EVENT OF THE AGRIFOOD PACT FOR SKILLS HELD IN BRUSSELS

On 13 and 14 May, in Brussels, stakeholders from across the agri-food ecosystem took part in discussions about the future of skills in the sector, explored innovative approaches to workforce development and promoted collaboration between businesses, educational institutions and policymakers.

This annual event of the **AgriFood Pact for Skills** provided an unique opportunity to exchange insights, showcase successful upskilling and reskilling initiatives, and strengthen partnerships to address the skills gap in the agri-food sector.



PACT FOR
SKILLS *Leader*

AgriFood
Ecosystem

An initiative of the European Commission



CONVERTING SKILL NEEDS INTO TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE AGRIFOOD SECTOR: THE I-RESTART EXPERIENCE

As part of this Annual Event, the I-RESTART project was presented by Luis Mayor from the **ISEKI-Food Association**.

Highlighting the project's bottom-up approach to workforce upskilling and reskilling, Luis explained how the project engaged a wide range of stakeholders across the agri-food value chain, including farmers, cooperatives, food companies, advisors, veterinarians, universities and VET providers, in order to identify the skill needs.

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ANNUAL EVENT OF THE AGRIFOOD PACT FOR SKILLS HELD IN BRUSSELS

Based on these insights, project partners with proven expertise in training design developed targeted learning materials on key topics such as:

-  Sustainability;
-  Digitalisation;
-  One Health;
-  Business and soft skills;
-  Sector-specific trends;

Luis also introduced the *AgriFood Learning Platform*, where all these training resources are freely accessible to anyone interested.

AN UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

The *AgriFood Pact for Skills* event under the theme “Building Skills for Tomorrow: Empowering the Agrifood Workforce” was an inspiring event, where professionals of the sector united to exchange ideas, share best practices, and build new partnerships.

As such, speakers, partners and participants from all over Europe, demonstrated how through a strong collaboration, it really is possible to create new strategies to reskill and upskill our food system workers, and shape the future of skills development.



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ANNUAL EVENT OF THE AGRIFOOD PACT FOR SKILLS HELD IN BRUSSELS

Drawing renewed awareness to the skills needs of the European agrifood workforce, this two day event included:

-  **Dynamic discussions on EU strategies and public-private collaboration;**
-  **Future skills foresight and ways to attract the next generation;**
-  **National insights from Ireland, Portugal, Italy, and the Netherlands;**
-  **The exciting launch of the Agrifood Pact for Skills Observatory;**
-  **Showcasing progress from EU-funded projects;**



WHAT IS THE PACT FOR SKILLS?

The ***Pact for Skills***, a flagship initiative under the European Skills Agenda, launched by the European Commission, emerges to address the rapidly changing global landscape at a time when technological advancements, demographic shifts and evolving labour market demands are reshaping the skills required in the workforce, and there is a need for continuous upskilling and reskilling. The European Commission has taken a proactive stance, realising that a collaborative effort public-private is essential to navigating the challenges and opportunities of the future, aligning

efforts, promoting lifelong learning, and addressing the skills gap effectively.

Partnerships between public and private entities, including educational institutions, businesses, and social partners, are encouraged to leverage resources, expertise, and networks. These partnerships foster innovation, facilitate knowledge exchange, and create a holistic ecosystem for skills development.

This involves developing flexible training programs, recognising prior learning, and promoting digital and soft skills.

NOT A MEMBER? Know how to join, [here](#).



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STAY TUNED



MEET THE PARTNERS



Co-funded by the European Union