



**PACT FOR  
SKILLS** *Leader*

**Agrifood  
Ecosystem**

An initiative of the European Commission

# Advancing Skills for the Agri-Food Ecosystem Partnership

## NEWS

Agrifood Pact for Skills Annual Event 2026

21 April 2026 | Brussels



The **Agrifood Pact for Skills Annual Event 2026** “*Shaping Skills for the Future*” will bring together stakeholders from across Europe’s agri-food ecosystem to shape the future of skills and talent development.

This year's edition will focus on inspiring and attracting the next generation of professionals to careers in agri-food, while addressing the sector's evolving skill needs.

The programme will feature high-level dialogues, project showcases, and interactive exchanges, highlighting successful initiatives and EU-funded actions that make the agri-food sector more attractive, future-proof, and inclusive.

Join industry leaders, educators, policymakers, and young professionals to co-create actionable solutions supporting the twin transition and the sector's long-term resilience.

For more information, [visit the event page](#)

## Agrifood Pact for Skills Observatory launches Annual Survey 2025

The **Agrifood Pact for Skills Observatory (OAF)** has launched its first Annual Survey to collect insights from organisations across Europe on workforce developments, up- and re-skilling activities, and key sectoral trends in the agrifood sector.

The survey aims to:

- Assess current trends in **workforce development, digitalisation, sustainability**, and other drivers shaping the agrifood sector.
- Strengthen the **evidence base on the Pact's collective progress and impact**.
- Ensure future reports and analyses **reflect members' needs and priorities**.

**Take** **the** **survey** [here](#)

**Deadline:** Monday, 30 March 2026

By participating, you will contribute to a **shared understanding of skills needs** and benefit from **aggregated, anonymised insights** that support strategic planning and decision-making.

*The results will inform the design of **evidence-based skills initiatives** across the European agrifood sector.*

*The Observatory is an integral part of the AGRIFOODSKILLS project, supporting data-driven decisions and stronger skills partnerships across Europe.*

## KEY PROJECTS



Co-funded by  
the European Union

The [AGRIFOODSKILLS](#) project continues to advance its activities and support the Agrifood Pact for Skills, with the Observatory of the Agrifood Pact for Skills (OAF) serving as a central platform for skills intelligence, collaboration, and knowledge exchange across the sector.

During the first year of implementation, the Observatory's governance and working structure were successfully established, bringing together partners through an Executive Core Group, Joint Assembly, and dedicated Working Groups. These structures support coordinated activities aimed at monitoring skills needs, identifying funding opportunities, and strengthening cooperation among Pact for Skills stakeholders.

Several project activities have already contributed to strengthening skills development across the agrifood ecosystem. Open Days organised in 10 countries engaged more than 500 participants,

combining modular training sessions, company or farm visits, and stakeholder discussions to address urgent skills needs in the sector. At the same time, the project is advancing skills intelligence activities, including the monitoring of existing training initiatives and the analysis of emerging skills needs across plant production, animal production, food industry, and veterinary sectors. These efforts are supported by stakeholder consultations, focus groups, and the Policy Forum 2050, which brings together experts and policymakers to discuss future scenarios and long-term skills priorities for the agrifood sector.

Through these activities, AGRIFOODSKILLS continues to support the Pact for Skills community by generating evidence-based insights, strengthening cooperation across Europe, and contributing to a more resilient and future-ready agri-food workforce.

Learn more: [www.agrifoodskills.eu](http://www.agrifoodskills.eu)



The Erasmus+ project **I-RESTART** continues to support the objectives of the Agri-food Pact for Skills by translating skills intelligence into concrete training and upskilling actions across Europe. Following the identification of emerging skills needs and the development of new curricula, the project is delivering pilot training programmes in 8 European countries, engaging students and professionals in learning activities aligned with the green and digital transitions of the agri-food sector. Alongside the pilots, work-based learning is underway, giving learners the chance to apply new skills in real workplaces. These activities strengthen education–industry partnerships and expand opportunities for reskilling and upskilling Europe’s agri-food workforce.

Building on these activities, I-RESTART is also implementing the EU strategy for skills development in the agri-food sector at national

level. Each partner country establishes National Working Groups to develop national roadmaps, adapting the European strategy to local contexts and ensuring alignment with the Pact for Skills. These roadmaps identify national priorities, target groups, key stakeholders, and necessary resources, linking pilot trainings and work-based learning activities to broader EU objectives.

All training materials developed through I-RESTART are available to learners, educators, and companies via the free online platform [here](#), providing easy access to modules, resources, and micro-credentials designed to support reskilling and upskilling in the European agri-food sector.

Learn more: [www.erasmus-i-restart.eu](http://www.erasmus-i-restart.eu) , [Training platform](#)



### **VET and academic training**

The second phase of the piloting of the AGRIFOOD4FUTURE courses and curricula is now starting. Following an initial pilot phase in Italy, Greece, and Spain, the developed curricula (EQF levels 3–7) are now being offered beyond the project consortium.

Institutions interested in testing these courses are invited to express their interest. More information on the courses is available [here](#).

### **Life Long Learning opportunities**

[Online](#)      [Agricultural](#)      [Advisors](#)      [Training](#)

This programme has been specifically designed to support and upskill advisors in the context of digital transformation and sustainable agriculture. The course is certified with a micro-credential.

Duration: 18 hours

Cost: free of charge

[MOOC on Digital Skills in the Agricultural Sector](#)

This 10-hour online course is intended for those interested in exploring the topic of digitalisation in agriculture.

Duration: 10 hours

Cost: free of charge

As part of its commitment to supporting farmers, advisors, students, and training providers in their digital transition, AGENSO has developed the [AGRIFOOD4FUTURE Digital Toolkit](#) — a growing collection of smart farming solutions with a focus on precision agriculture.

Designed to make technology accessible, practical, and meaningful, the toolkit provides concrete support for the everyday challenges faced across the agrifood chain.

### **Invest in global talent, empower your company**

The project has launched a [platform](#) to help students find internship opportunities abroad in Italy, Greece, Spain, Portugal, France, and Belgium, preparing them for an increasingly international job market.

New companies interested in joining the **AGRIFOOD4FUTURE internship programme** are encouraged to express their interest.

Internships will focus on the following topics:

business sustainability and resource valorisation

digitalisation

resilient and sustainable food system

Join the national Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVEs) or thematic Working Groups. [Learn more here.](#)

## **FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

Looking for EU funding to support your upskilling and reskilling initiatives? The Pact for Skills can help!

The funding opportunities database and search tool is updated monthly with the latest open and upcoming calls from major EU programmes, including Erasmus+, Digital Europe, Horizon Europe, and Creative Europe.

You can browse by theme, sector, or programme to find the most relevant opportunities for your organisation.

Don't forget: you can also explore the EU Funding and Tenders Portal to discover additional calls, connect with potential partners, and submit your proposals.

[Explore the opportunities](#)

## HOW TO JOIN THE PACT

It is important to quote the Agri-food LSP registration number on the application. The number to quote is **916**.

[Download the guidelines.](#)

## SHARE WITH US

[Please complete this form](#) to share your events, news, or project outcomes with the Pact for Skills members.