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# EIT Food Government Executive Academy

Edition 5th (2022)

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 15 MARCH 2022

ACADEMY: MAY-NOVEMBER 2022 (delivered online)

<https://gea.eitfood.eu>

<https://www.eitfood.eu>



UNIVERSITY  
OF WARSAW



# Contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. Overview of the EIT Food Government Executive Academy | 3  |
| 2. Program   | 6  |
| 3. Participants and rules of admission                   | 8  |
| 4. Partners  | 10 |
| 5. Dates of the program                                  | 12 |
| 6. Application   | 12 |
| 7. Contact   | 14 |



# 1. Overview of the EIT Food Government Executive Academy

EIT Food Government Executive Academy brings together public sector representatives from countries of the Southern and Eastern Europe, covered by EIT Regional Innovation Scheme (EIT RIS). Participants, with professionals working in the field of agri-food innovations from industry, academia and European institutions. The Academy is an advisory and capability building program that offers insights into the challenges related to food system innovations and regulations. It is also an opportunity to exchange best practices that will contribute to further improvements of Research & Innovation Smart Specialisation Strategies (RIS3) and inspire the future development of operational programs based on the EU Structural and Investment Funds as well as networking opportunities for public sector representatives from different regions and countries.

## Key features

- workshops focused on real-life challenges experienced by global food industry players and actual needs of industry and customers
- lectures offering insights into the complexity of food system, state-of-the-art technologies and innovations developed by the agri-food industry
- highly interactive learning program based on case-studies and real-life examples
- working with European experts in agri-food industry and innovation management
- participants do not pay tuition and receive lump sums to cover travel and subsistence
- excellent opportunities to build an international network of policy makers working on the agri-food related Research and Innovation Smart Specialisation Strategies (RIS3), exchanging experiences to continuously improve the national and regional policies.

## you will meet

You will be part of a cohort including government representatives from countries of EIT Regional Innovation Scheme , involved in the design, implementation and/or monitoring of Research & Innovation Smart Specialisation Strategies (RIS3) related to agri-food industry or in defining regulatory policies related to agri-food industry. During the Academy, you will meet government executives, directors, managers, scientists and other experts working in the agri-food industry, non-governmental sector, European institutions and media.

## you can expect

The Academy will supply you with expert knowledge on challenges faced by the global agrifood industry, state-of-the-art technologies relevant to the contemporary food system and best practices in innovation management. With our guests and experts from the field, you can expect to strengthen the innovation eco-systems in your country, increase the internationalization of your country's agri-food companies and increase success rates of new product launches to leverage the benefits of public funding for Research & Innovations.

You will also have an opportunity to share good practices, benefit from lessons learned of other countries and participate in an international network of policy experts involved in the updates of RIS3 and the development of the future operational programs based on European Structural and Investment Funds, 2021-2027.

The Academy in 2022 will also include discussions related to the resilience of European food systems, policies, practices and tools that can stimulate innovations and address societal challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemics.





*"I knew from the very first moments this is going to be interesting for networking, which is important in our daily work. My lab is very strongly connected with our region. I thought this is going to be interesting for our regional network and it would help to develop our regional activities in our field"*

**Eda Maria Flores Rodas,**  
Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale del Lazio e della  
Toscana, Italy.

## 2. Program

The program is comprised of three days of classes, workshops and meetings delivered by leading European experts in agri-food industry, innovation management, regulation and MBA level leadership programs. It is highly interactive and features a variety of teaching tools (simulations, case-studies etc.). A crucial part of the program are workshops presenting real-life challenges experienced by global food industry players and actual needs of customers.

The Academy graduates will be given a unique collaborative experience in the EU operating standards, and their specific expertise will be officially certified at the end of the course.

The EIT Food Government Executive Academy lectures and workshops will be run by educators, researchers and policy experts from the University of Warsaw, EIT Food, VTT, Danone and BIOAZUL, as well as guest speakers.

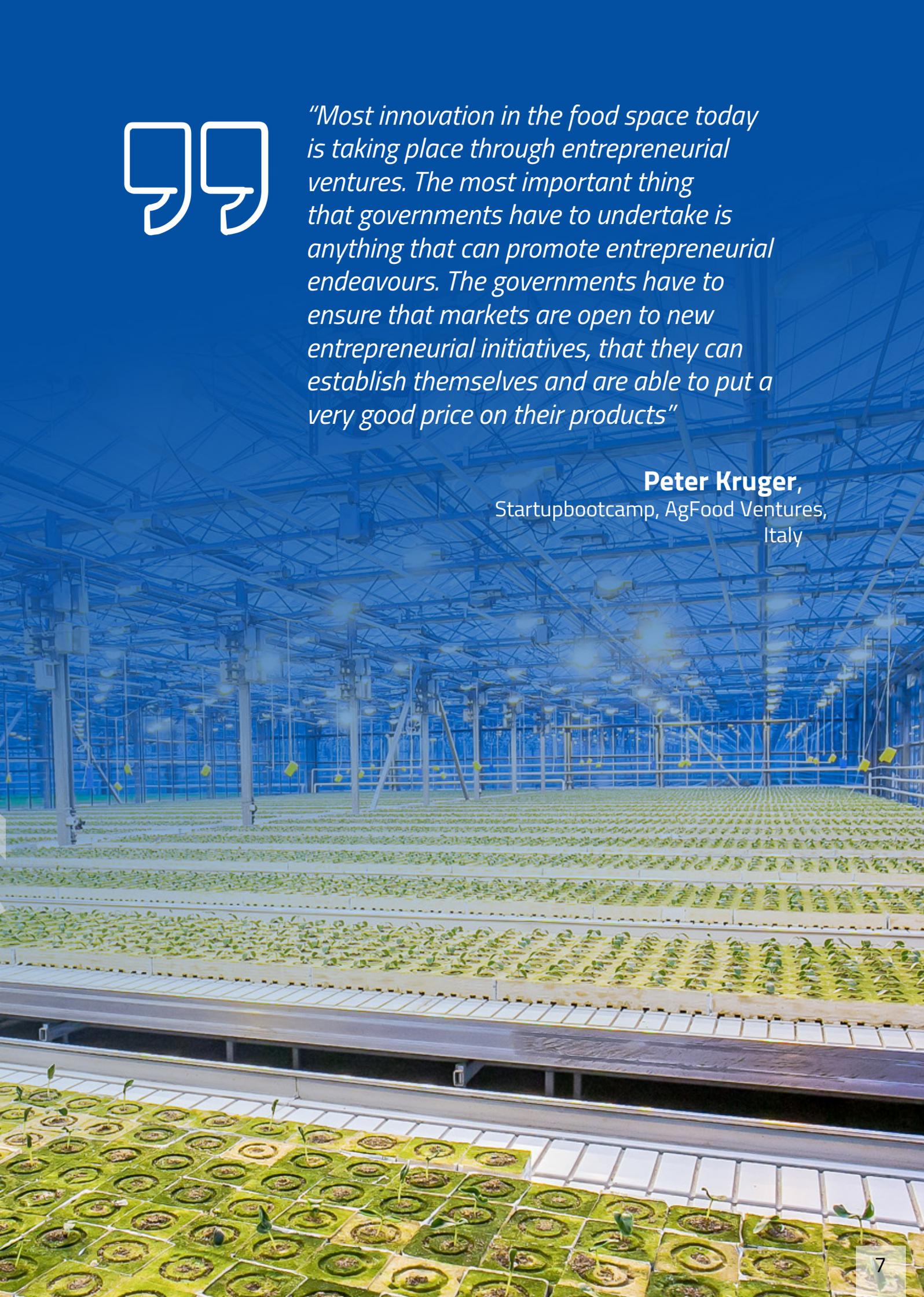




*“Most innovation in the food space today is taking place through entrepreneurial ventures. The most important thing that governments have to undertake is anything that can promote entrepreneurial endeavours. The governments have to ensure that markets are open to new entrepreneurial initiatives, that they can establish themselves and are able to put a very good price on their products”*

**Peter Kruger,**

Startupbootcamp, AgFood Ventures,  
Italy



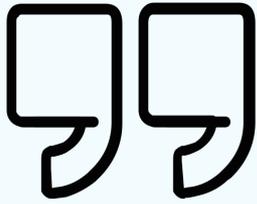
# 3. Participants and rules of admission

We aim at outstanding public sector representatives (including regional and central government officials as well as professionals working in state agencies, regulatory bodies, public universities or public research institutes) from countries of the EIT Regional Innovation Scheme (EIT RIS): Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Macedonia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine.

## **The ideal applicant should:**

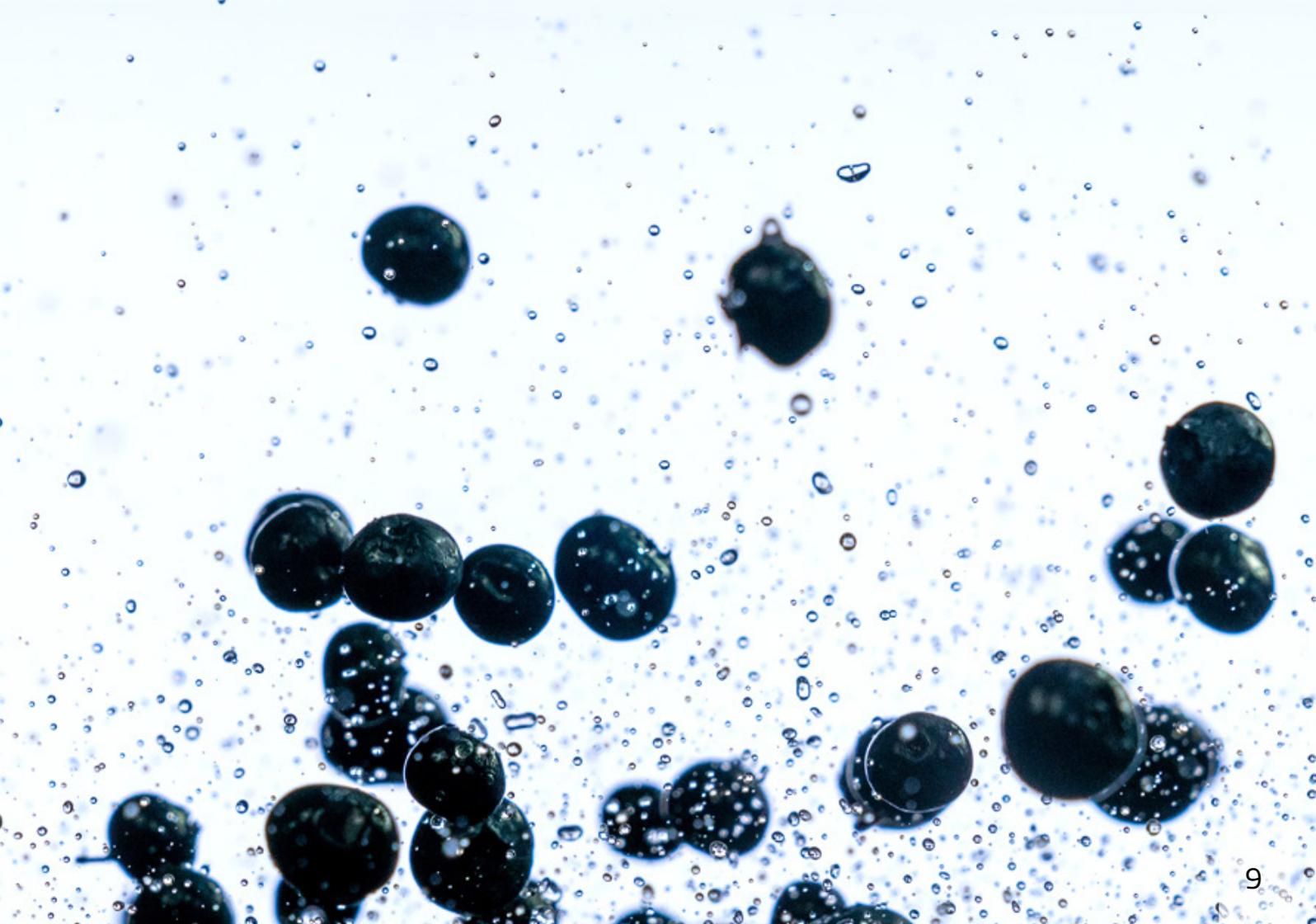
- Be involved in the design, implementation and/or monitoring of Research & Innovation Smart Specialisation Strategies (RIS3) related to agri-food industry or in defining regulatory policies related to agri-food industry in her or his country;
- Have relevant knowledge and experience in public policy development on a regional or national level;
- Have a leadership potential which means she or he has a track record in coordinating projects or contributing to organizing new ventures and inspiring people to act;
- Have an entrepreneurial approach to problem solving and willingness to share her or his knowledge with other participants of the EIT Food GEA;
- Bring diversity. We strongly encourage applications from women and various geographical regions submitted by specialists in multiple fields

**All workshops will be held in English and therefore at least working knowledge of this language is required.**



*"I joined the EIT Government Executive Academy to learn how other countries face their food challenges and to network with the Polish enterprises, with government officials from other European Union countries. I wanted to learn from their experience. We had spent three very busy days learning from big companies like Pepsico or Danone about how they innovate and about the tools they use"*

**Martins Kokalis,**  
Ministry of Economics, Latvia



## 4. Partners



Danone is a multinational food and beverage corporation headquartered in Paris, France, with four different product categories: Essential Dairy and Plant-based Products, Waters, Early Life Nutrition, and Advanced Medical Nutrition, and employs over 110,000 people worldwide. Danone Nutricia Research, the Research and Innovation organisation within Danone, is at the heart of Danone's strategy: innovating to bring health through food to as many people as possible. Worldwide Danone Nutricia Research builds bridges between science and food according to our company vision "One Planet, One Health". Our teams of 1,700 R&I employees partner with recognized scientific communities, suppliers and innovators and through these collaborations, create unique consumer experiences and bring health and well-being at every stage in life.

More: [www.danone.com](http://www.danone.com)



BIOAZUL is an engineering and technology consultancy, very active in R&D and innovation projects. The company is focused on the development of eco-innovative and sustainable solutions for the treatment and reuse of water resources, with over 40 international projects. In addition, BIOAZUL commercializes highly innovative products in the fields of environmental protection and energy efficiency.

More: [www.bioazul.com](http://www.bioazul.com)



VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland Ltd is the leading research and technology company in the Nordic countries. Our research and innovation services give our partners, both private and public, all over the world a competitive edge. We pave the way for the future by developing new smart technologies, profitable solutions and innovation services. VTT creates new businesses for the food and beverage sector. Our pilots and even ready-to-launch products present new opportunities for any size of food industry.

More: [www.vttresearch.com](http://www.vttresearch.com)



*"We have many opportunities to learn about strategies and learn how to improve our agriculture and food sector, to help manufacturers to get better chance in market. Also, I am really glad to have new contacts, have [encountered] different people and different measures and different meanings, and I hope this will help me in my future job"*

**Anamarija Matić-Kardoš,**  
Department of Economy, City of Osijek,  
Croatia

## 5. Dates of the program

The EIT Food GEA will be held online with activities scheduled between June and November 2022. Education will be delivered online (using video conferencing platform, requires Internet connection to participate), and will involve a final team project.

## 6. Application

To apply to the EIT Food GEA, please visit the EIT Food Application Portal, set up an account and fill in the application form.

### 1. Become an applicant

### 2. Fill in the EIT Food GEA application

<https://gea.eitfood.eu>

Link to the EIT Food application platform is available from the EIT Food GEA website. You can interrupt the registration process and come back to your application later.

**The application deadline is 15 March 2022.**



*“For Castilla and Leon, it is absolutely compulsory to be linked and connected with other regions and stakeholders to produce an open innovation in the agri-food sector. We need to cooperate if we want to produce more economy [outputs] and if we want to increase knowledge to create new jobs in the food industry of our region. The EIT Food Government Executive Academy can provide us with opportunities to get this”*

**Pablo Gomez,**  
Regional Agrifood Ministry,  
Castilla y Leon, Spain

# 7. Contact

We will gladly answer to any of your questions regarding the EIT Food Government Executive Academy. Please email us.

## **EIT Food Government Executive Academy**

University of Warsaw Project Team:

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You may also talk about the Academy with EIT Food regional offices of EIT Food CLC South, Elvira Domingo ([clcsouth@eitfood.eu](mailto:clcsouth@eitfood.eu)) or EIT Food CLC North-East, Milda Kraužlis ([clcnortheast@eitfood.eu](mailto:clcnortheast@eitfood.eu))

More information about the Academy, including testimonials of participants in previous editions, photos and videos, is available on the website of EIT Food Government Executive Academy, maintained by

**University of Warsaw:**  
<https://gea.eitfood.eu>

EIT Food Government Executive Academy is developed and coordinated by the University of Warsaw (<http://en.uw.edu.pl/>), the leading research university in Poland, and one of the most active supporters of entrepreneurial initiatives for agri-food sector in the region. We leverage our competences to help governments across Europe improve innovation policies, establish a network of contacts and offer opportunities to participate in EIT Food initiatives. The Academy is delivered by Faculty of Management, a business school with multiple international accreditations, an extensive portfolio of MBA, executive-level educational programs and numerous ongoing EIT Food projects.

You can also read about **European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)** at: <http://eit.europa.eu> and about **EIT Food** at: <http://www.eitfood.eu>



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