

Process for investment - Cutting-edge research and innovation with high potentials for a sustainable agri-food system

In this document actions on the part of the AgriFoodTure Partnership, unless otherwise specified, will be conducted by the Mission Director, drawing on resources at her disposal and seeking approval by the Board of Directors as and where required.

a. Call text and application format

As the Mission Partnership is governed using the Grand Solutions rules and guidelines, these also apply to *Cutting-edge research and innovation with high potentials for a sustainable agri-food system* projects unless otherwise specified.

Announcement of the call has been approved by and coordinated with Innovation Fund Denmark, who will also make the calls available through their channels.

Applications must be created, completed, and submitted via the electronic application system [Filkassen](#).

b. Assessment criteria

1. EUREKA:

Evaluation of assessment criteria 1-3 will be undertaken by the international EUREKA experts. Please refer to the grand solutions guidelines section 2.2 ([that can be found here](#)) for details. These cover the areas quality of the idea, impact, and quality of execution (covering sections 1, 2 and 3 of the application template).

2. Partnership Board of Directors, Advisory Panel and Mission Director:

Second, Section Evaluation of assessment criteria 4 will be evaluated by the Board of Directors, Advisory Panel and Mission Director. The criterium assess the strategic fit between the respective project and the AgriFoodTure roadmap and mission.

c. Evaluation and consultation

EUREKA: Proposals are assessed by EUREKA, an external panel of international experts selected by Innovation Fund Denmark, who give motivated scorings for evaluation criteria 1 (Quality of the Idea), 2 (Impact) and 3 (Quality of Execution).

Applicants will receive the EUREKA evaluation via the Filkassen submission system.

Applicants will be invited to reply to the EUREKA assessments and submit their response via Filkassen.

Innovation Fund Denmark will provide the mission secretariats with digital copies of the submitted proposals, along with the necessary metadata (external evaluations, project lists, tables, etc.).

AgriFoodTure Partnership: An internal body (group or individual) will assess the proposals in relation to criteria 4, (*Strategic fit to the AgriFoodTure roadmap and mission*). This will be either the Partnership Board of Directors, Advisory Panel or Mission Director, or a combination of those. These persons cannot evaluate projects where there is a conflict of interest. Should a situation arise where it is not possible to find one or more people capable of evaluating the proposal, due to conflicts of interest, the Board of Directors will decide the course of action.

d. AgriFoodTure Partnership Shortlisting and Decision

The AgriFoodTure Partnership will assess the EUREKA scorings, taking outliers in scorings as well as applicant's responses into account. Proposals with low scores or outliers in the EUREKA evaluation, to which the applicant has made reasonable objections, may be included in the shortlist for full consideration by the Partnership.

Members of the Board of Directors can, through their places of employment or association, have conflicts of interest in relation to individual proposals. Members must declare in which proposals they have conflict of interest. Board members will not take part in deliberations or decisions in relation to proposals for which they have conflict of interests but will be provided the abstracts and EUREKA evaluations for deciding on the final project portfolio. The full Board of Directors will partake in the final discussions and deliberations about creating and submitting the full pool of *Social Solutions for Sustainable Agri-Food Systems* project portfolio to Innovation Fund Denmark for approval.

To ensure full transparency in the selection/prioritization of projects, Innovation Fund Denmark will oversee the process and act as an observer at the Board meetings where selection/prioritization takes place. Innovation Fund Denmark will ensure that the proceedings are conducted in a proper and orderly manner. It is up to the Board of Directors to qualify the selection/prioritization of projects. The draft motivations are augmented by the deliberations and considerations of the Board of Directors, who will formulate the motivation for the final decision regarding accepting or rejecting each proposal. Innovation Fund Denmark will oversee the process described in this document, and upon selection ensure that the rules specified by the General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER) are adhered to. Innovation Fund Denmark's Board of Directors will make the final formal approval of project investment decision.

e. Call announcement

Innovation Fund Denmark will set up the call in Filkassen. The deadline is agreed between Innovation Fund Denmark and the AgriFoodTure Partnership. The date for Filkassen opening must be agreed prior to the call being announced.

The call is announced on the websites of the [AgriFoodTure](#) and the [Innovation Fund Denmark](#) website.

f. Administrative support during the application phase

Any questions regarding the call documents prepared by the AgriFoodTure Partnership will be answered by the Partnership Secretariat. The Partnership Secretariat is not allowed to advise on

the specific content of an application, and neither can the Board of Directors. See contact details for the AgriFoodTure Partnership Secretariat [here](#).

Any questions regarding Filkassen will be handled by Innovation Fund Denmark.

g. Fitting project budgets to available investment budget

The Board of Directors recommends a project portfolio for investment. The Board of Directors can decide to award full or partial project budgets. Final approval is dependent on each project's acceptance of the AgriFoodTure Partnership investment agreement, and an agreement about project execution, including but not limited to governance, timeline, and budget.

Should a project default during negotiations or prior to signature of the investment agreement, it is at the discretion of the Board of Directors to decide if the next project on the list will be selected for funding.

h. Rejections

Letters of rejection will be sent to applicants who are not selected for funding. The letter will refer to the evaluation criteria and be sent to the applicant via e-mail. A virtual feedback meeting will be offered.

i. Complaints

Any complaints regarding the submission or evaluation process must be directed to Innovation Fund Denmark.

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Innovation Fund Denmark will consult the AgriFoodTure Mission Director and/or Board of Directors, should input be required to respond to a complaint. Input from the Partnership will be made by the Mission Director in collaboration with two non-conflicted members of the Board of Directors or Advisory Panel. Only complaints made over formal or procedural errors related to the evaluation will be assessed and processed.