

FOODEDUCATORS

2023 Action Report



 **foodeducators**

 **eit Food**

 Co-funded by the European Union



We are pleased to share with you the significant accomplishments of the FoodEducators project in 2023. We have grown in size and **now offer our Lesson Plans in an improved format and in 10 languages on our new website.**

Around **1500 teachers have taught our Lesson plans**, reaching more than **36000 students**, and we have showcased the careers of **92 agrifood professionals** to more than 800 students.

We have presented our project and its results to peers around Europe and tested our new activities with our stakeholders... And more!

Reading this report, you will see in detail all the activities we've put in place and the impact we have managed to have this year. I want to thank our team of experts and our partners that have contributed to this success and continuously ensure the quality of our work and the local reach of our activities.

As a community, EIT Food is dedicated to addressing the challenges faced by the agrifood sector in Europe (see our mission-driven approach). Recognising the critical role of awareness and education, we aim to equip future generations with the knowledge and

tools necessary to foster a healthier and more sustainable food system.

And our commitment doesn't end here. In 2024, we will continue to empower the next generation by supporting educators around Europe. We are expanding our outreach and engagement efforts, continuously seeking new opportunities and partnerships.

Please feel free **to reach out to us!**

Fabienne Ruault,
FoodEducators Lead



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zrodu Zwierząt
dań Żywności
skiej Akademii Nauk



About FoodEducators

FoodEducators is an EIT Food programme that **provides teachers with fun, creative and thought provoking educational materials** to engage children and teenagers.

Our easily accessible, **science-based food education materials** enhance students' learning so they can become better informed and conscious consumers of the future.

Food is an emotive topic. Throughout our materials, we teach students the practical skills to separate fact from fiction when it comes to trending claims about the health and sustainability of food.

OUR VISION

A world where all young people have access to food education and are aware of exciting and innovative agrifood careers.

OUR MISSION

To support educators to teach, engage and inspire young people about the food they eat and consider a career in agrifood.

We continually evaluate and seek new insights into how to deepen learning experiences around food, promote health and sustainability, and motivate future generations to pursue careers in the agrifood sector.



Our Objectives

Our programme focuses on these main learning objectives and outcomes:

SYSTEMS THINKING

Broadening thinking to identify different elements* within food systems and understand their complexity and interrelations (*sustainability, health, technology, justice, careers and more!).

SUSTAINABLE AND HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

Understanding healthy and sustainable eating patterns to become well-informed, conscious consumers - from farm to fork to disposal.

AGRIFOOD CAREERS

Inspiring leadership, food science literacy, entrepreneurial mindsets, and vocational possibilities among young people aged 8 to 18 years old.

In 2023, FoodEducators worked on both national and EU-level to inspire educators and students in order to **transform our food systems and create a healthier, more sustainable and tastier future.**

Discover our activities on the next pages!



HIGHLIGHT OF 2023

Career Days

We promote Career Days to illustrate to the next generation of children and teenagers the necessary higher education pathways, leading to meaningful and exciting careers that innovate the agrifood sector across the entire value chain.

At our career days in 2023...

in total,
804 students
in **8** countries
participated and
94 professionals
were involved



WE LEARNT ABOUT AGRIFOOD CAREERS IN SPAIN

In Bilbao 82 secondary school students joined the Food4Future expo to learn more about the agrifood industry.

WE EXPLORED INDOOR AEROPONIC GROWING RESEARCH IN THE UK

In London, students visited an indoor growing research facility and observed the cutting-edge technology of aeroponic technology.

WE TOOK THE FIRST STEPS TOWARD PLANT-BASED CAREERS IN HUNGARY

In Budapest secondary students in catering learnt about plant-based food careers by participating in a plant-based discussion class, a hands-on cooking session, a site visit and a panel discussion with experts.



Read more about our activities on our new website: foodeducators.eu

HIGHLIGHT OF 2023

Our map is expanding

POLAND

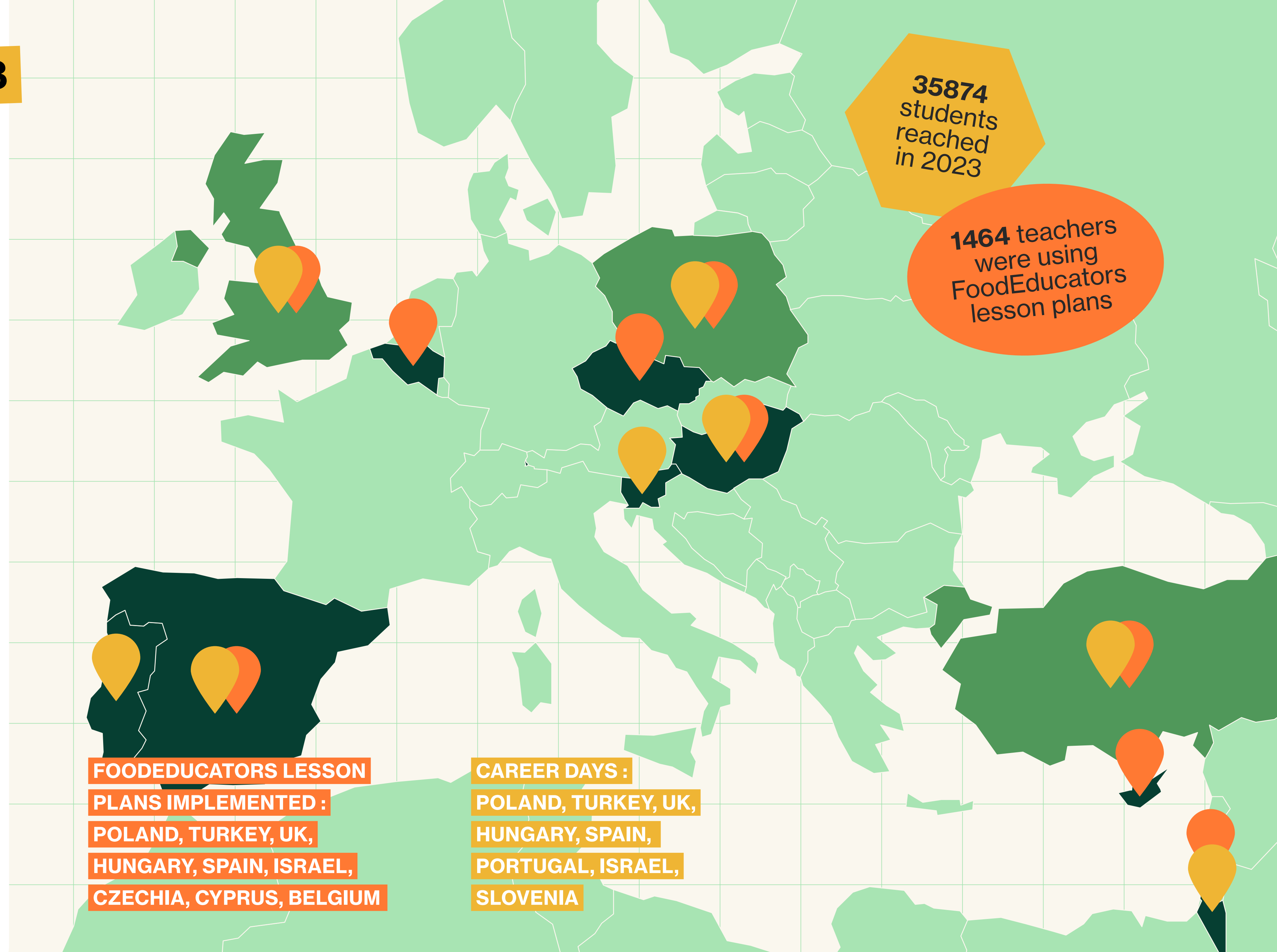
Institute of Animal Reproduction and Food Research, Polish Academy of Sciences (IARFR) is at the forefront of research and innovation, carrying out interdisciplinary research explaining the mechanisms of environmental impact on the well-being of humans and animals..

TURKEY

Established in 2009, the Sabri Ülker Foundation is a veteran of the Turkish food industry, making significant contribution towards improving public health in Turkey and beyond.

UNITED KINGDOM

LEAF Education works to engage, inspire and motivate young people and wider society to be conscious consumers who feel empowered to make decisions that ensures we have a world that is growing, eating, and living sustainably.



HIGHLIGHT OF 2023

Sharing our knowledge at international events

To transform our societies and create a more sustainable and healthier future, we believe food education should be a core element of school curriculum all around the EU. We are spreading this message at international events.

We went to discuss food education...

AT WORLD FOOD FORUM IN ITALY

Our team demonstrated FoodEducators resources at the WFF organised by the Food and Agriculture Organization.

AT THE ESERA CONFERENCE IN TURKEY

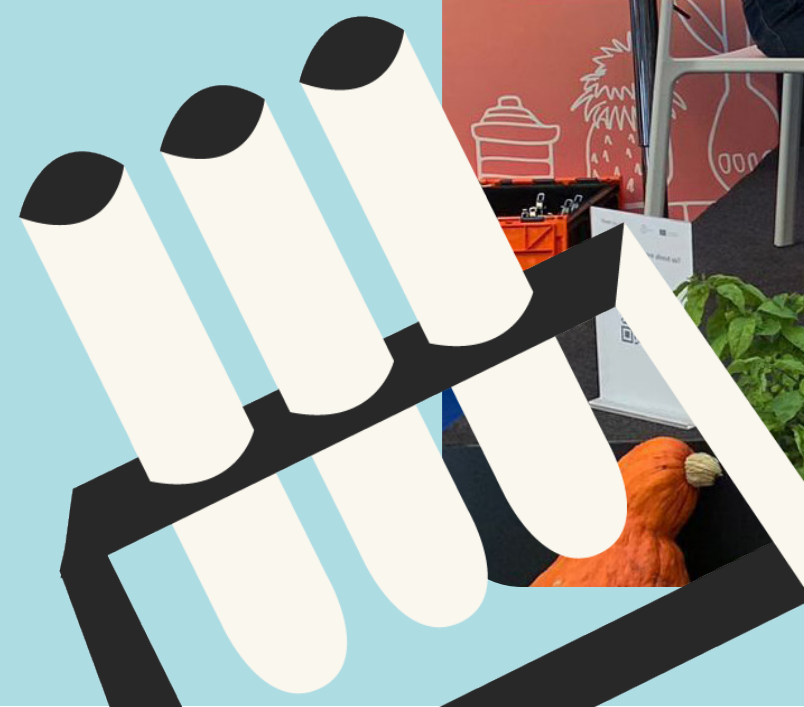
We introduced FoodEducators to the wider science education community in Cappadocia.

AT NEW SCIENTIST LIVE IN THE UK

Project Lead Fabienne Ruault explained the gut system at one of the biggest European science engagement fairs.

AT GENB COMMON GROUND CAMP ON BIOECONOMY EDUCATION IN ATHENS

Collaborating with relevant EU projects, Implementation lead Keren Dalyot, presented our resources and achievements in a fruitful partner co creation workshop on Bioeconomy education.



HIGHLIGHT OF 2023

Food-related competitions

FOOD WASTE IN THE SPOTLIGHT: LOS SALVACOMIDAS SCHOOL CONTEST

One FoodEducators project, Los Salvacomidas reaches out to Spanish schools associations to teach students about making healthy food choices and finding sustainable solutions to food waste.

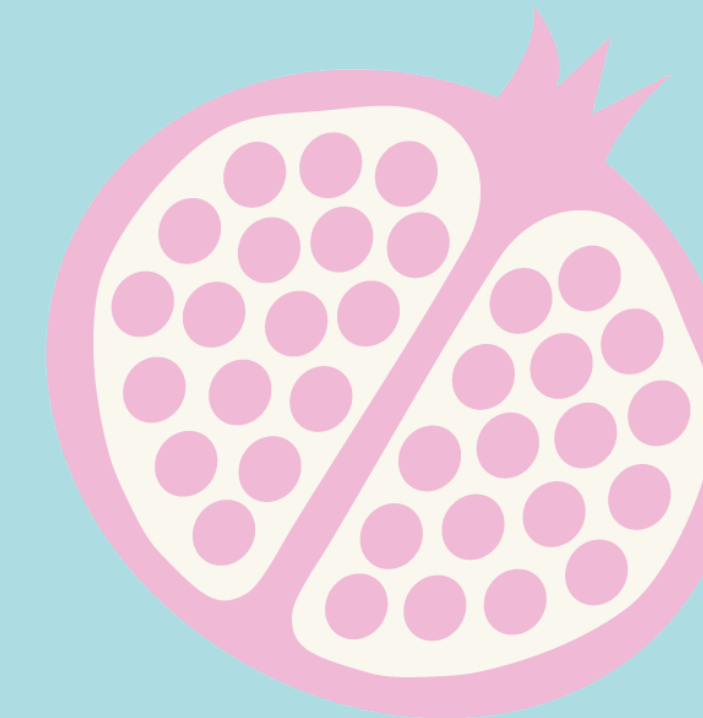
Throughout the programme, children are encouraged to participate in food-themed classes and collaborative projects to foster discussions. Interactive resources like video games and worksheets consolidate their learning process.

Children can participate in the School Contest, where they showcase their experiences and learnings about healthy eating and zero waste habits in their most creative manner, whether with a newspaper cover or a TikTok video.

ALL FOR FARM AND FOOD FOR ALL: NATIONAL PRIMARY COMPETITION

FoodEducators resources were featured in the National Primary Competition organized by our partner organisation LEAF Education revolving around food production, farming and environmental sustainability. LEAF Education supported teachers with learning experiences and resources to engage their students in the classroom, while up to 200 winning pupils were offered a chance to experience sustainable practices within the agriculture industry first-hand - by visiting a real farm.

ACTION REPORT 2023



Los Salvacomidas reached **563** teachers from **535** schools and **30013** students all over Spain.



HIGHLIGHT OF 2023

Our lesson plans are available in new formats!

We have a new website! Check out our educational resources at foodeducators.eu

In 2023 we have converted all our lesson plans into individually downloadable versions including agendas and detailed instructions, editable presentations, work sheets and extra resources. Our resources can be tailored to various age groups and class length.



HIGHLIGHT OF 2023

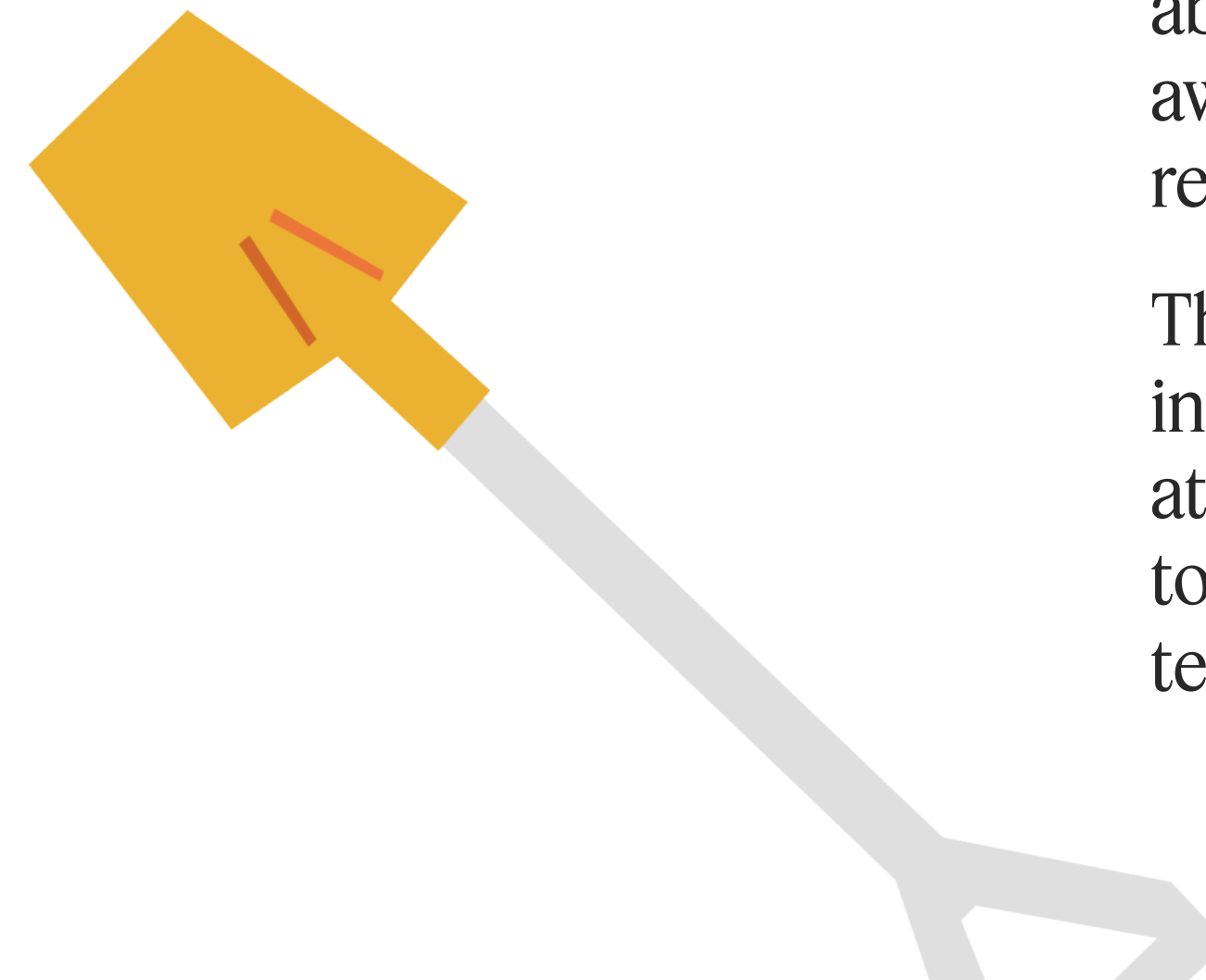
Our very first zine: meet Gigi the goat!

“From Soil to Toast” is a foldable magazine which unfolds into a colourful A2-sized poster to hang.

Gigi is the newest member of the FoodEducators family. She is a little goat with a bright entrepreneurial spirit who lives in Explora Valley. When Gigi finds out that there is no carrot jam on sale, she embarks on a journey of food discovery, learning about farming, mastering new cooking skills and, ultimately, setting up her own carrot jam shop.

This Zine aims to encourage children to think critically about the food system and raise awareness about exciting careers related to the food sector.

This playful, creative and informative Zine can be used at home or in the classroom, together with FoodEducators’ teaching materials.



HIGHLIGHT OF 2023

We released 6 new agrifood career videos!

The “A Day in the Life of” video series enables young people to learn about the day-to-day tasks and responsibilities of a particular job in the agrifood sector. This helps them decide whether they would like to uptake a career in the job being profiled. In each video, we also provide the necessary careers information the viewer needs to kick-start their journey. The videos are also used in FoodEducators lesson plans.

In 2023, students can learn about the exciting tasks of a nutrition scientist, a fruit and veg buyer, a food photographer, a farm vet, a micro baker and even a bug breeder!

Check out our new
videos on EIT Food
channel [youtube.com/
@EITFood/playlists](https://www.youtube.com/@EITFood/playlists)



HIGHLIGHT OF 2023

What teachers had to say about our learning resources:



“Detailed lesson plan, additional interesting materials.”

Poland

“The lesson plans offer a very good model that everyone can adapt to their own age group. The links are also very useful for working through the topic.”

Hungary

“Well edited, child-friendly in length and content of the exercises. They particularly enjoyed the opportunity to actively prepare food.”

Hungary

“I appreciated the students’ involvement in the experiment and analysis. This way they remembered more.”

Poland

“For the first time kids in my class were exposed to thinking and learning about food within a food system approach. They were super excited and were keen on sharing their ideas.”

Israel

“Very interesting materials, smooth transition to other food-related issues.”

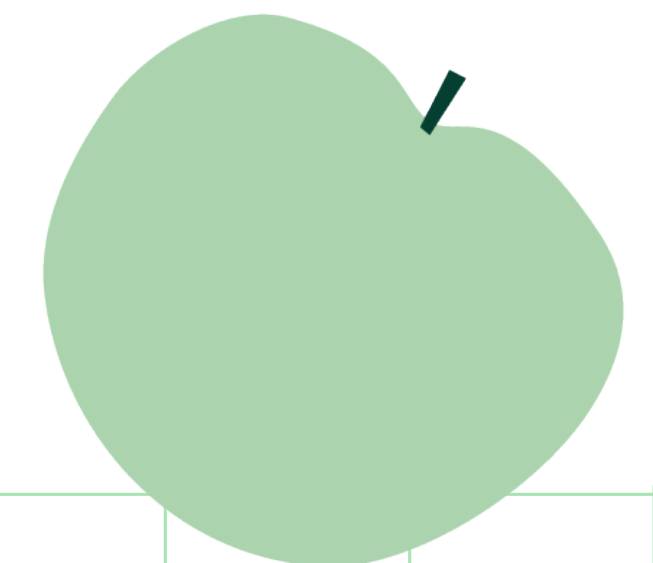
Poland

“They provide more visuals than the average lesson plan!”

Hungary

“What I liked most about the lesson plans is that they go around the topic in a way that all the information is new to the students. It didn’t repeat information that we had heard a thousand times before.”

Hungary



About EIT Food

EIT Food is the world's largest and most dynamic food innovation community. We accelerate innovation to build a **future-fit food system that produces healthy and sustainable food for all.**

Supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union, we invest in projects, organisations and individuals that share our goals and vision for a healthy and sustainable food system.

We unlock innovation potential in businesses and universities and create and scale agrifood startups to bring new technologies and products to market. We equip entrepreneurs and professionals with the skills needed to transform the food system and put consumers at the heart of our work, helping build trust by reconnecting them to the origins of their food.

We are one of nine innovation communities established by the European Institute for Innovation & Technology (EIT), an independent EU body set up in 2008 to drive innovation and entrepreneurship across Europe.

Find out more at www.eitfood.eu or follow us on our social media.

Follow our project and our activities on **Facebook** and **LinkedIn**

