

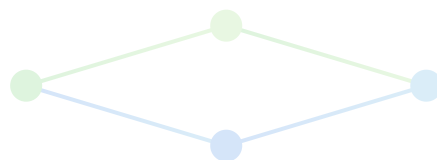


Founding Charter

of the Sustainnovation Hub Cluster



European Cooperation Network for Sustainable Innovation



Established 2025

Preamble

We, the undersigned founding members, hereby establish the Sustainnovation Hub Cluster, a European cooperation network dedicated to advancing sustainability, circular economy, gastronomy, mobility, digital innovation, and clean energy. This Charter formalizes the creation of the Cluster as an open, non-profit professional network, initiated by the World Gastronomy Network Ltd. (Hungary) in collaboration with European partners experienced in EU-funded innovation projects.



Sustainability



Innovation



Collaboration

Article 1: Name and Nature

1.1 The organization shall be named the **Sustainnovation Hub Cluster** (hereinafter referred to as "the Cluster").

1.2 The Cluster operates as a non-profit, open professional network, fostering collaboration among municipalities, universities, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), professional associations, and other entities aligned with its mission.

1.3 Headquarters: Salem, Germany

1.4 Legal form: Voluntary, open, non-legal entity professional cooperation.

1.5 Year of establishment: 2025.

1.6 Cluster Management Organization: World Gastronomy Network Ltd.

Article 2: Mission and Objectives

2.1 The mission of the Cluster is to promote the transition towards a greener, more resilient, and inclusive Europe, where sustainable development and innovation drive regional growth and social well-being.

2.2 The objectives of the Cluster are:

- To accelerate green and digital transitions across European regions.
- To foster cross-sector cooperation in sustainability, gastronomy, tourism, and smart mobility.
- To empower local communities through capacity building and knowledge transfer.
- To facilitate joint participation in EU funding programs, including Horizon Europe, Interreg, LIFE, and Erasmus+.
- To enhance the international visibility and competitiveness of its members.

Article 3: Activities

3.1 To achieve its objectives, the Cluster will undertake the following activities in its first year, subject to refinement by members:

- **Joint Workshops:** Organize 4-6 virtual or in-person sessions focusing on sustainable innovation, knowledge sharing, and best practices.
- **Joint Papers/Publications:** Produce at least 2-3 collaborative research papers or articles for submission to relevant journals or conferences.
- **Proposals Submitted:** Develop 2-4 joint funding proposals for EU Horizon or national grants aligned with the Cluster's goals.
- **Reports/Deliverables:** Issue quarterly progress reports and one annual summary deliverable to track impact and outcomes.

3.2 Additional activities include:

- Facilitating networking through the Cluster's online collaboration platform.
- Supporting the development of communication channels, including digital platforms, newsletters, and European events.

Article 4: Membership

4.1 Membership is open to organizations (municipalities, universities, SMEs, NGOs, professional associations, etc.) that align with the Cluster's mission and values.

4.2 Founding members agree to pay a one-time joining fee of €500, to be paid to the Cluster Management Organization's bank account (CIB Bank Zrt. Hungary HU02 1070 0402 7594 3073 5000 0005 - BIC Code: CIBHHUHBXXX).

4.3 There is no annual membership fee.

4.4 Members gain access to the Cluster's collaboration platform, priority information on EU funding opportunities, networking events, workshops, and visibility through the Cluster's communication channels.

4.5 The Cluster aims to expand to several hundred members by 2026 through strategic outreach initiatives.

Article 5: Governance

5.1 The Cluster will establish a Coordination Committee, composed of representatives from founding members, to oversee strategic planning, activity coordination, and decision-making.

5.2 The Coordination Committee will be formed within three months of the signing of this Charter, with details to be finalized during the inaugural meeting of members.

5.3 Decisions will be made collaboratively, with each member having equal voting rights on matters concerning Cluster activities and governance.

Article 6: Financial Provisions

6.1 The Cluster operates as a non-profit entity, with financial resources derived from membership fees, EU funding, grants, and in-kind contributions.

6.2 The one-time joining fee of €500 will support initial activities, including brand development (e.g. logo, website, PR articles), continuous grant monitoring, professional conferences, workshops, international appearances, grant advising, proposal preparation, and project management.

6.3 The Cluster Management Organization will provide detailed reports on the Cluster's expenditures to members.

Article 7: Signing and Entry into Force

7.1 This Charter shall enter into force upon signing by the founding members on October 23, 2025, via an online signing platform (DocuSign), ensuring compliance with EU eIDAS regulations for legal validity.

7.2 Amendments to the Charter may be proposed by any member and approved by a majority vote of the Coordination Committee.

Article 8: Commitment of Founding Members

8.1 The undersigned founding members commit to supporting the mission, objectives, and activities of the Sustainnovation Hub Cluster.

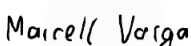
8.2 Members agree to collaborate actively, contribute to joint initiatives, and promote the Cluster's visibility and impact across Europe.




IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized representatives of their respective organizations, have signed this Founding Charter on the date specified below.

Signed on October 23, 2025

Organization World Gastronomy Network Ltd. United Kingdom Date: <u>10.23.2025</u>	Authorized Signature  _____	Representative Name <u>Gabor Andras Varga</u>
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Organization European Gastronomic Innovation Nonprofit Ltd. Hungary Date: <u>10.23.2025</u>	Authorized Signature  _____	Representative Name <u>Marcell Varga</u>
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Organization Dalarna University Sweden Date: <u>10.23.2025</u>	Authorized Signature  _____	Representative Name <u>Mengjie Han</u>
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Organization Asociatia Între Vecini Romania Date: <u>10.23.2025</u>	Authorized Signature  _____	Representative Name <u>Sabina Mihailescu</u>
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Organization Better Us Slovakia Date: <u>10.23.2025</u>	Authorized Signature  _____	Representative Name <u>Gabor Andras Varga</u>
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