**Open call for STARRISE project promoters and participants**

*City, day, month, 2024*– The [**STARRISE**](https://starriseproject.eu/) (REPLACE LINK WITH THE RESPECTIVE WEBSITE LANGUAGE LINK) project– na initiative funded by the Instrument I3 ([Interregional Innovation Investments instrument](https://eismea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/interregional-innovation-investments-i3-instrument_en)) of the European Commision to promote to promote capacity building and interregional collaboration between continental Europe and the outermost regions - hereby announces the **opening of a call for SMEs and other organisations in the agri-food and logistics sectors.**

With this open call, STARRISE will support a selected group of SMEs and stakeholders to:

* Develop their capacity to **address challenges and identify new market opportunities** taking stock of **interregional collaboration**.
* Generate and mature **innovate ideas** to be more resilient towards present and upcoming challenges.
* Cooperate with stakeholders to identify **new regional technological domains and market opportunities**.
* Develop and join **collaborative innovation projects** with other regions to meet common challenges.
* Identify and apply to **private and public funding opportunities** for their innovations.

Applicants selected under this call with join the **STARRISE Journey, which** takes place between **October 2024 and September 2025**. It consists of a mix of **training** (online and face-to-face), **events with experts**, **personalised support** for the development of innovation projects, **expert mentorship** and **networking opportunities** with stakeholders from the same region and from other regions. Throughout this process, the most promising ideas will be supported by the project experts to seek complementary collaboration with others and increase their chances of investment.

The call is for **SMEs and other organizations from the Agri-food and Logistics sectors** or from other sectors, who have an idea or want to join an innovation investment project. **Organisations from other sectors** (e.g. ICT) can apply as contributors to the agri-food or logistics sector.

An application can be submitted by an SME, by another organisation, or by a team of organisations. The call is targeted at **less developed and/or EU outermost regions**, even if they partner with more developed regions.

Applicants shall complete and submit the online form available on the [page of the call in the STARRISE website](https://starriseproject.eu/open-call/online-application-form/) (REPLACE LINK WITH THE RESPECTIVE WEBSITE LANGUAGE LINK) until the **27th September 2024, 18h CEST** (Central European Summer Time).

Applications can be submitted in English or in one of the languages spoken by STARRISE partners: French, Greek, Latvian, Portuguese, Romanian, Spanish.

For more information on this call, please visit the STARRISE project website.

For questions related to the communication and dissemination of the project or other information, please contact: Ana Ribeiro (INOVA+) [ana.ribeiro@inova.business](mailto:ana.ribeiro@inova.business) or Débora Cardoso (INOVA+) [debora.cardoso@inova.business](mailto:debora.cardoso@inova.business)