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Winners announced for EIT Food Accelerator Network Programme

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PRESS RELEASE



Leuven, 28 November 2018 – The European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) Food has announced today the winners of its 2018 Food Accelerator Network Programme: Agri Marketplace, Jet-Eat and Wisefood. The finalists were invited to compete for three awards, consisting of an equity-free cash prize of € 60,000 each. The winners were announced today at the EIT Food Venture Summit on 28 November 2018, at Station F in Paris.

Agri Marketplace, based in Portugal, is a global digital platform that directly connects farmers and agro-industrial customers. Jet-Eat, from Israel, offers proprietary technology software and formulations that print fresh meat. Wisefood is a German-based company that has created the world's first edible straw made of apple pomace to offer a more sustainable and ecological alternative.

The ten finalists were selected from a group of 41 agrifood technology startups involved in the 2018 EIT Food Accelerator Network (EIT FAN) Programme. Over a four-month acceleration period, these startups have had access to tools, connections, mentors and expertise to help them succeed.

MassChallenge Switzerland, part of MassChallenge's global network of zero-equity startup accelerators, partnered with EIT FAN and introduced a food tech track in its 2018 cohort. Held in Switzerland, Germany and Israel, the EIT FAN aims to make Europe the go-to innovation hub for the world's most promising agrifood startups.



Benoit Buntinx, Director of Business Creation for EIT Food, commented: “Many congratulations to our winners from our EIT Food Accelerator Network Programme. The ideas of these startups is to help tackle global food challenges and address the gap between innovation and the realisation of genuine business opportunities. It has been a pleasure collaborating with the 41 agrifood startups over the last months and seeing first-hand the disruptive ideas they are working on.”

Thierry Duvanel, Managing Director of MassChallenge Switzerland stated: “Today’s EIT Food Venture Summit is not only about celebrating these great projects, but also about bridging the gap between early ventures and established players in food technologies and agriculture. Through the EIT Food Accelerator Network with MassChallenge we have created this unique pan-European startup program and we are thrilled with the way it has evolved and its future prospects.”







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About EIT Food

EIT Food is Europe's leading food innovation initiative, with the aim to create a sustainable and future-proof food sector.

The initiative is made up of a consortium of key industry players, start-ups, research centres and universities from across Europe. It is one of six Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KIC) established by the European Institute for Innovation & Technology (EIT), an independent EU body set up in 2008 to promote innovation and entrepreneurship across Europe.



EIT Food aims to collaborate closely with consumers to develop new knowledge and technology-based products and services that will ultimately deliver a healthier and more sustainable lifestyle for all European citizens.

EIT Food has created the RisingFoodStars Association, which serves as an umbrella for high potential agrifood startups and scaleups, to support and nurture a select group of young companies. The Association is a partner of EIT Food and as such allows its members to participate in all EIT Food activities, thus contributing to the delivery of EIT Food's strategic objectives.

You can follow EIT Food via our website www.eitfood.eu or via social media: [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#) or [Instagram](#)

About MassChallenge

MassChallenge Switzerland is the Swiss branch of the global organization and network of zero-equity startup accelerators. Founded in 2016, it has quickly become a leading driver of innovation and entrepreneurship in Europe by connecting startups with the experts and resources they need to grow.

From developing AI-assisted smart eyewear for people with vision loss, to using drones for viticulture, our 200 alumni are changing the world for the better.

You can follow MassChallenge Switzerland via the [website](#) or social media: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#) or [Instagram](#).