



FoodChains 4 EU #fc4eu

Exchanging of good practices,
Learning from each others,
Translating the experiences into actions!

The FoodChains 4 EU project is now at 8 months away to the end of phase 1 "Interregional Learning", after the evaluation of local food chains in the project regions, through **five Peer Reviews** held in [Greater Manchester](#) (UK), [Varna](#) (BG), [Flevoland](#) (NL), [Maramures](#) (RO) and [Emilia-Romagna](#) (IT).

This first stage of our project is about exchanging experience and learning from each others. **Three interregional workshops** have been organized during 2017-2018, in [Bulgaria](#), [Italy](#) and [Romania](#), focusing on the innovation and sustainability of the food chains, in order to promote and encourage the access to quality food all around Europe.

In the fifth semester of the FC4EU project, the last Peer Review was held in February 2019, in Emilia-Romagna (IT) and also the fourth Interregional Learning Workshop will be organised in Manchester (UK), in June 2019.

During this last learning workshop of our project, the FC4EU partners and stakeholders will discuss about an exciting nowadays theme: how to create a vibrant, sustainable food economy through co-operation.

Before the end of phase 1, based on the interregional exchange of experiences, the peer review recommendations, the knowledge gained during the learning workshops and the stakeholder activities, each partner should develop an [Action Plan](#) that will enable regional businesses to deliver sustainable innovations in the food chain. The action plans will be implemented in the second phase of the FoodChains 4EU project, in the period 2020-2021.

For more details about the FC4EU project and our international partnership, you are invited to visit our project website:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/foodchains4eu/>



Core ACTIONS of the FC4EU Project, in the first four months of 2019

• [The Peer Review in Emilia-Romagna \(Italy\)](#)

During 12-15 February 2019, experts from the partner regions participated at the fifth and last Peer Review of the FC4EU project and evaluated the food chains of Emilia-Romagna region, with focus on innovation of food packaging for sustainable food chains, in terms of marketing, labelling, environmental sustainability, product quality and food safety.



• **Developed food culture and strong regional identity**

The agrofood is an economic engine for the Emilia-Romagna Region, thanks to a high level of specialisation and a great number of PDO (protected designation of origin) and PGI (protected geographical indication) products, which are exported all over the world.

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• **Packaging and innovation for sustainable Food Chains**

The visiting experts and partners analysed the food chains sector of Emilia-Romagna and gave recommendations for sustainable food packaging and regional cooperation,

based on the information gathered through presentations, discussions and field visits at representative companies of the region.

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- ***[The fifth Monitoring Board](#)***

Senior representatives and politicians of the FoodChains 4 EU project met in Bologna, on 14th February 2019, for the 5th Monitoring Board meeting, discussed the progress of each partner' activities and planed the further project stage.

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All representatives emphasized the value of the FoodChains 4 Europe project as an enhancer for their regional food system.



- ***[Development of the Regional Action Plans](#)***

The project partners has started to prepare the regional Action Plans aimed at providing road maps for improving the food chain innovation in the project regions.

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- ***[Dissemination of the FoodChains 4 EU achievements, experiences and lessons learned](#)***

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• Innovation of agri-food system in Emilia-Romagna

The Emilia-Romagna Region (IT) presented the FC4EU project within the public space of the Conference "Innovation and research for the agri-food system in Emilia-Romagna" held in Bologna, on 1st of March 2019.

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• Building green and healthy food cities

The Floriade Dialogues Summit, organized on March 28th, in Almere (NL), was an inspirational event with discussions about future cities.

Photo: Nichon Glerum

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• Task force on Food Security

Maramures County (RO) joined the Task force on Food Security, an initiative of AER intending to speak jointly with one powerful regional voice in order to influence future EU legislation and financing programs in the area of food.

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• Partnership for development of food chains in Flevoland

The FlevoFood Association organized a meeting with local stakeholders, on 1st April 2019, to agree on developing a brand for regional products, creating a logistic network, sharing knowledge and working towards the worldexpo Floriade Almere 2022 (NL).

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• International Food Exhibition in Italy

The Emilia-Romagna Region took part at the exhibition Cibus Connect held in Parma on 10-11th April 2019, with an information desk for presenting the regional activities and initiatives in the agri-food sector and the FoodChains 4 EU project.

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FoodChains4Europe · Gheorghe Sincai street no.46 · Baia Mare 430011 · Romania

