



**EXPO  
FOODTECH**  
E4F WORLD SUMMIT



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**27 - 28  
MAY 2026**  
BILBAO - BEC

**OPTIMIZE EVERYTHING  
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FOOD PROCESSING · FOOD PACKAGING · AUTOMATION · LOGISTICS

**CALL FOR AWARDS**

[www.expofoodtech.com](http://www.expofoodtech.com)



# CALL FOR AWARDS FOODTECH INNOVATION AWARDS

## INDEX

**01.PURPOSE OF FOODTECH INNOVATION AWARDS 2026**

**02.FOODTECH INNOVATION AWARDS 2026 CATEGORIES**

**03.AWARDS ORGANIZER**

**04.WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?**

**05.RESTRICTIONS**

**06.PROPOSAL APPLICATION**

**07.SUBMISSION DEADLINE**

**08.EVALUATION CRITERIA**

**09.EVALUATION PROCESS**

**10.AWARDS**

**11.INTELLECTUAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY RIGHTS**

**12.DATA PROTECTION**

**13.QUERIES AND SUGGESTIONS**

## 01. PURPOSE OF FOODTECH INNOVATION AWARDS 2026

**Food Tech Innovation Awards 2026** recognizes the most innovative proposals that offer a disruptive approach to Customer Experience or Management. Innovative business models or technology that can make a change in the food sector.

We believe that the food industry is booming and while online reviews are great, it always helps to have some recognition from a credible, third-party source.

Additionally, as food lovers, we wish to recognize those organizations that are shaping the industry and promote them to our 100,000 strong readerships and media.

Our goal is to provide the very best tips on food to our discerning followers and subscribers too. This way, we intend to bring out the best in the food industry and highlight it for the world to see.

# CALL FOR AWARDS FOODTECH INNOVATION AWARDS

## 02. FOODTECH INNOVATION AWARDS 2026 CATEGORIES

The proposals that will be considered to participate in the Awards must be in the framework of the following categories:

1. Innovative solution on digitalization award for the food and beverage industry
2. Sustainability project
3. Healthy food
4. Automation and robotics solution for the food value chain
5. Disruptive solution for the packaging industry
6. Innovative startup
7. Spanish startup with the greatest international projection

### 1. Innovative solution on digitalization for the food and beverage industry

This category seeks to recognise the work and effort of the company, platform, solution or technological application that is impacting and transforming the food and beverage industry, its sales model, its production, process, contact with the consumer or value proposition through a solution linked to the digital and technological sphere. Applications of technologies such as IoT, cloud, Artificial Intelligence, Digital Twin or biotechnology among others to the food and beverages industry will be considered.

### 2. Sustainability project

The aim is to recognise the work and effort of positive impact as an alternative to a problem of environmental impact; and as a fulfilment of the sustainable development goals. SDGS. Such as packaging waste, actions to reduce climate change, more sustainable agricultural practices, science and research applied to understanding and improving environmental impact, circular economy, and better sustainability awareness initiatives.

### 3. Healthy food

The aim is to recognise the work and effort of the company, project or platform that promotes an innovative and/or scientific solution that promotes healthy eating. This award contributes to the promotion of innovative projects developed throughout the value chain of the food industry, as well as projects within the framework of Foodtech whose solution has a direct impact on healthy eating.

### 4. Automation and robotics solution for the food value chain

This category is focused on the use of automation and robotics to boost the competitiveness of their production processes or their factories. Projects focused on the field of innovation, research and development (R+D+I) between industrial companies, technology centers or robotics manufacturers may also be presented.

# CALL FOR AWARDS FOODTECH INNOVATION AWARDS

## 5. Disruptive solutions for the packaging industry

This award aims to reward new challenges in innovation in an industry in total transformation for the food industry.

## 6. Innovative startup

This award is aimed at the most innovative startups with the greatest impact on digitalisation, sustainability and health in the Foodtech sector. Whether they are at a very early stage or at a more advanced stage, innovation and disruption in the solution itself will be valued. This category, in turn, will receive applications submitted directly from the FoodTech Startup Forum of Expo FoodTech.

## 7. Spanish startup with the greatest international projection

This award seeks to recognise the Spanish startup with the greatest international projection. Their foodtech solution is considered to have a fully defined global impact in tackling some of the major challenges facing the food and beverage industry.

## 03. AWARDS ORGANIZER

The FoodTech Innovation Awards is organized and owned by Expo FoodTech.

## 04. WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

The FoodTech Innovation Awards are aimed at all companies, universities, vendors, executives, business schools, scholars, researchers, analysts, journalists, start-ups, scale-ups, accelerators, science, tech parks and innovation centers from all over the world.

All organizations which are identified with this aim are cordially invited to submit their proposals to the Expo FoodTech Evaluation Committee.





# CALL FOR AWARDS

## FOODTECH INNOVATION AWARDS

### 05.RESTRICTIONS

There are no restrictions in terms of the number of entries to be submitted at Expo FoodTech 'Call for Awards'. Expo FoodTech believes that all organizations should face their Digital Transformation in all possible ways and be ready for the global digital economy.

However please note that entries must not contain any threatening, abusive, defamatory or false content if so, the organizer has the absolute right to remove the entry without any notice to the author.

### 06. PROPOSAL APPLICATION

Only proposals made through The Expo FoodTech website ([click here](#)) will be accepted. The submission implies the acceptance of the Terms & Conditions included in this online form. The organiser recommends the perusal of each item of the Terms & Conditions.

[APPLY HERE](#)

### 07. SUBMISSIONS DEADLINE

Call for Awards will be open from **January 13<sup>th</sup>** and will close on **April 6<sup>th</sup> 2026**, 23:59:59 CET.

*Food 4 Future Call for Awards could be extended, if necessary, at the discretion of the Organizer.*

Pre-selected Awards finalists candidates will be notified from **April 20<sup>th</sup> 2026** onwards to the main email address specified in the registration form.

### 08. EVALUATION CRITERIA

All submitted proposals will be evaluated by Expo FoodTech | Evaluation Committee in terms of the impact achieved within the frame of:

- Innovation
- Leadership
- Disruption
- Strategy
- Execution

# CALL FOR AWARDS FOODTECH INNOVATION AWARDS

## 09. EVALUATION PROCESS

The evaluation process is divided in two phases:

### PHASE 1:

Regulation compliance and pre-selection: The Evaluation Committee will conduct the first evaluation to check whether the entries comply with the requirements and conditions defined selection criteria.

A pre-selection of 3 pre-award candidates per category will be made. Pre-selected candidates will be informed by email.

The organiser will then be able to request additional information if needed in order to complete the information submitted in the entry.

Proposals may exceptionally be subject to a change of category according to the observations of the Evaluation Committee. The candidate will be informed in due time.

### PHASE 2:

Winners' selection: The Evaluation Committee will assess the projects, selecting each Expo FoodTech 2026 award category winner.

The Evaluation Committee members and the winners will be announced during the Expo FoodTech Ceremony to be held on **May 28<sup>th</sup>** in the Main Auditorium of the **Food 4 Future World Summit**

Pre-selected Awards finalists candidates will be notified from **April 20<sup>th</sup> 2026** onwards to the main email address specified in the registration form.

The Steering Committee, 2026, is final and private and not subject to any queries or public investigations.

Any of the FoodTech Innovation Awards categories may be declared void by the Evaluation Committee.

# CALL FOR AWARDS FOODTECH INNOVATION AWARDS

## 10. AWARDS

The FoodTech Innovation Awards will grant the finalists with the following prizes:

- A single invitation to attend the Awards for all the finalists of each category.
- A trophy recognition of the awarded category.
- Media recognition and dissemination of the award to all Expo Food Tech channels and Media Partners.
- Press release mentioned of the project and distribution to economic and specialized media.
- 5 Premium VIP Passes for the event that will allow you to access the Expo Foodtech Area, the VIP Lounge and attend all the conferences of the Food 4 Future World Summit.

## 11. INTELLECTUAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

The participant is responsible for the authorship of the submitted proposal; he/she/the organization is the owner of the intellectual and, where applicable, industrial property rights thereof.

The participant is accountable for the proposal submitted not violating intellectual property rights, industrial property rights, copyright and/or image rights and assumes complete responsibility with regards to third parties: The Organization is free of any liability.

Should the proposal be short-listed, the participant authorizes the Organization to disseminate, reproduce and publish the proposal in any format and using any medium to publicize the FoodTech Innovation Awards 2026.





# CALL FOR AWARDS FOODTECH INNOVATION AWARDS

## 12. DATA PROTECTION

The Expo FoodTech undertakes to maintain the confidentiality of the proposals received and the companies or authors and only will share them with the Steering Committee members for deliberation purposes.

Once one proposal has been selected, Expo FoodTech organization may consider publishing any details such as author, company/organization, title, brief, abstract, website, and/or topic, in those channels and means that Expo FoodTech uses for its promotion.

We inform you that Expo Food Tech will process all your data in accordance with the provisions of its Privacy Policy, where you could be able to exercise the rights that this norm confers.

## 13. QUERIES AND SUGGESTIONS

If you have any questions, doubts or suggestions regarding this Call for Awards or Expo FoodTech, please contact us at:

- P: 00 34 93 492 38 03
- E: [congress.f4f@barter.es](mailto:congress.f4f@barter.es)

If you are also interested in exhibiting or partnership options to maximize your company's profile at Expo FoodTech please contact us at:

- P: 00 34 919 551 551
- E: [info@expofoodtech.com](mailto:info@expofoodtech.com)





