

LEADER Food Initiative 2023.

Working Title of proposed project (Must include LFI 2023 at start of Title, Example LFI2023 Farmhouse Cheese)
LFI2023

Contact Details	
Name of Business / Group:	
Name of main contact:	
E-mail address:	
Telephone number:	
Postal address:	
Eircode:	

Description of the LEADER Food Initiative project
1. Brief description of the project for which funding under the LEADER Food Initiative is being sought.
2. Explain how this project application fits with the LEADER Food Initiative areas of funding (outlined below).

Description of the LEADER Food Initiative project
3. Explain how the project will deliver social and/or economic and/or environmental added value for the South Kerry area.

Estimated Total Project Costs	€
Estimated Rate of Grant Aid:	%
Estimated Value of Grant Aid	€
Comments:	
Signature:	
Date:	

Notes:

Areas of Funding – LEADER Food Initiative Criteria:

This initiative aims to support Artisan, Micro, Small food producers and farm diversification enterprises. This grant aid is also for investment in local processing facilities, which allow farmers to sell their products into the local and wider domestic markets. Medium enterprises are not eligible under this initiative.

Eligibility Conditions:

Projects must be:

- in the areas of (1) market development, (2) competitiveness or (3) innovation and must be in line with the objectives of the LDS framework for the sub-regional area; and
- Project applicants must be an Artisan, Micro, Small food producer or an on-farm diversification enterprise and registered as a food producer⁴ with the relevant Competent Authority as per Regulation (EC) No 852/2004;

- Start-up food businesses must be registered as a food producer with the relevant Competent Authority as per Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 before receiving payment under the LEADER Food Initiative [or before receiving final payment where phased payments apply]. Such registration must be included as a condition of funding.

Any phased payments already provided must be recovered by the LAG in the event that the funded entity fails to register as a food producer. As such, it is advised that a significant proportion of the grant amount is reserved for the final payment; and

- Projects **must** be fully completed by **31 March 2024**; and
- Final claims for payment **must** be submitted to the Department no later than **30 June 2024**.

Eligible Costs:

The costs that are eligible for funding are the same as for all other projects in accordance with the LEADER 2014 – 2022 Operating Rules. For example, this would include support for:

- the construction, acquisition or improvement of immovable property;
- the purchase of new machinery and equipment;
- intangible investments such as the development of computer software and the acquisition of patents, licences, copyrights or trademarks; and,
- second-hand equipment as per section 14.4 of the LEADER 2014 – 2022 Operating Rules