**EWA Accelerator 2024 opens registration for its 3rd Edition**

The registration for projects for the **3rd edition of the most comprehensive accelerator for women entrepreneurs in the agriculture and food sectors - EWA Empowering Women in Agrifood**, has commenced. The EWA program seeks innovations in countries with low potential in this field and a notable absence of women participating in agricultural and food innovations. This year, the program opened in Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, and Ukraine. From 2020 to 2023, EWA has provided support, mentoring, and training to over 370 European female entrepreneurs.

The EWA program was established based on the best European experiences and is designed as an accelerator. It focuses on women entrepreneurs and those just beginning to work in the agricultural and food sectors. The pilot edition of 2020 demonstrated a significant lack of comprehensive support in the market. It revealed that the Czech Republic could also find interesting ideas or projects in the agri-food sector.

**Past edition of the EWA program in the Czech Republic**

Among the inspiring success stories of previous participants who have gone through previous editions are eco-focused projects like [České bedýnky](https://www.ceskebedynky.cz/) and [Semínkovna](https://seminkovna.cz/). Products from [Hana Součková's farm](http://www.farmahanasouckova.cz/) can be found in the assortment of the online supermarket Košík. Lamya Zítková Kourdi also successfully went through the EWA program with her product, [ProSoilBlocker](https://www.soilblocker.cz/), which she now sells in the American market. Other successful graduates include Denisa Tichá, with a dietary supplement for horses – [Živý uhlík](https://www.zivyuhlik.cz/), and Vendula Donátová, with the [Kultivárium](https://www.kultivarium.cz/) concept for seedlings, which found its niche at MetroFarm in Prague. In total, 20 projects were accelerated in 2020 and 2022. We are now looking for ten more ideas, and we believe your project could be the next success story.

**What does the EWA program offer?**

The selected ten projects will receive a mentor and the unique opportunity to participate in online workshops to develop entrepreneurial skills and present their project to potential investors. The winner will receive the main prize of EUR 10,000, a testament to the value and potential of their project. We are excited to see the innovative ideas and projects emerging from this year's EWA Accelerator 2024 program. *"We would like to reach the broadest spectrum of women who are entrepreneurs or plan to start a business in the agriculture and food sectors. The EWA program is built on sharing experiences, building networks, and providing comprehensive support that helps participants advance their projects further,"* adds Petra Kubálková, director of the EWA project.

**Registration for EWA 2024 is open until May 24th, 2024**, on the website [**https://cats2cats.org/ewa/**](https://cats2cats.org/ewa/)**.** The ten selected finalists will be announced on May 31st, 2024.

The EWA Accelerator is organized by the non-profit organization [CATS2CATS](https://cats2cats.org/ewa/), which has been active in women's rights since 2011. The entire program is realized with financial, professional, and methodological support from the [EIT Food](https://www.eitfood.eu/) platform, which focuses on strengthening development, innovation, and education across Europe's agricultural food sector**.** EIT Food is supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union.

**Contact:**

**Program information**

Petra Kubálková - [info@cats2cats.org](mailto:info@cats2cats.org), 777 287 405

**Contact for media and partners**

Barbora Císařová - [barbora.ewa@cats2cats.org](mailto:barbora.ewa@cats2cats.org), 774 160 562

**About EIT Food**

EIT Food is the world’s largest and most dynamic food innovation community. We accelerate innovation to build a future-fit food system that produces healthy and sustainable food for all.

Supported by [the European Institute of Innovation and Technology](https://eit.europa.eu/) (EIT), a body of the European Union, we invest in projects, organisations and individuals that share our goals and vision for a healthy and sustainable food system. We unlock innovation potential in businesses and universities and create and scale agrifood startups to bring new technologies and products to market. We equip entrepreneurs and professionals with the skills needed to transform the food system and put consumers at the heart of our work, helping build trust by reconnecting them to the origins of their food.

We are one of nine innovation communities established by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), an independent EU body set up in 2008 to drive innovation and entrepreneurship across Europe.

Find out more at [www.eitfood.eu](http://www.eitfood.eu/) or follow us via social media: [Twitter](https://twitter.com/EITFood?_ga=2.19224251.261832472.1628493662-1654997525.1603886917&_gac=1.184488404.1626678032.Cj0KCQjwxdSHBhCdARIsAG6zhlXoWrs_vpBdp5D9JMMwd5rvSfB_Mwm0-Dmo8MwY-iNI4LagJxFWGbcaAi4uEALw_wcB), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/EITFood.eu/?_ga=2.19224251.261832472.1628493662-1654997525.1603886917&_gac=1.184488404.1626678032.Cj0KCQjwxdSHBhCdARIsAG6zhlXoWrs_vpBdp5D9JMMwd5rvSfB_Mwm0-Dmo8MwY-iNI4LagJxFWGbcaAi4uEALw_wcB), [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/eit-food?_ga=2.19224251.261832472.1628493662-1654997525.1603886917&_gac=1.184488404.1626678032.Cj0KCQjwxdSHBhCdARIsAG6zhlXoWrs_vpBdp5D9JMMwd5rvSfB_Mwm0-Dmo8MwY-iNI4LagJxFWGbcaAi4uEALw_wcB), [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/c/EITFood/featured?_ga=2.19224251.261832472.1628493662-1654997525.1603886917&_gac=1.184488404.1626678032.Cj0KCQjwxdSHBhCdARIsAG6zhlXoWrs_vpBdp5D9JMMwd5rvSfB_Mwm0-Dmo8MwY-iNI4LagJxFWGbcaAi4uEALw_wcB) and [Instagram.](https://www.instagram.com/food.unfolded/?hl=en&_ga=2.19224251.261832472.1628493662-1654997525.1603886917&_gac=1.184488404.1626678032.Cj0KCQjwxdSHBhCdARIsAG6zhlXoWrs_vpBdp5D9JMMwd5rvSfB_Mwm0-Dmo8MwY-iNI4LagJxFWGbcaAi4uEALw_wcB)

**About CATS2CATS**

CATS2CATS is a non-profit organization that supports and develops women entrepreneurs in agriculture and the food industry. Founded in 2011, the organization aims to create a strong community of women who are unafraid of challenges and want to develop their entrepreneurial skills. CATS2CATS organizes regular meetups, workshops, and mentoring programs that provide valuable knowledge, contacts, and inspiration for their entrepreneurial journey. The organization also works closely with other entities and agriculture and food industry platforms to provide new business opportunities and expand their entrepreneurial networks. CATS2CATS strives to motivate more women to realize their entrepreneurial ideas in these dynamic sectors through its activities.

Find out more at [www.cats2cats.org](http://www.cats2cats.org) or follow us via social media: [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/cats2cats/), [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/cats2cats), [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCj3n1ssbAPZa93DTTYTJWNg) and [Instagram.](https://www.instagram.com/cats_2_cats/)