

A manual for inclusive Sustainable Food Systems Partnerships



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Introduction

Since 2022, FOODPathS has been working on a “prototype” for a Sustainable Food Systems (SFS) Partnership: a collective and inclusive initiative to mobilise and bring together a variety of people, with complementary expertise and point of views. Operating in such jointly and intelligent way, the partnership can tackle the current challenges threatening the sustainability of our food systems and compromising the lives of future generations.

The Partnership Prototype: a bird flying in a flock

The FOODPathS’ Partnership Prototype can be visualised with the image of a “**flying bird**” facing planetary and societal challenges that its activities must help to solve, with **each part of the body corresponding to an element of the partnership**.

The **observatory (eyes)** scans the environment and weighs trade-offs and co-benefits, allowing the bird to remain flexible and adapt the flight path. The **head** serves to **intelligently govern** its activities. The **body** entails all the efficient **operational activities** of the partnership. The **wings** represent its **knowledge and experience**. The **tail** incorporates the **structural elements** needed for experimenting. Finally, its **nervous system** is represented by **communication, dissemination and exploitation** of its activities.

The bird is **flying in a flock**, where the other birds represent **other partnerships** with whom it communicates and exchanges.

A Manual for building your partnership

In the last 3 years, FOODPathS has discussed the prototype together with all actors’ representatives of food systems, collecting best practices, case studies and developing recommendations.

To enable anyone willing to establish SFS partnerships, FOODPathS is sharing its knowledge through a «**Manual**»: it contains practical steps to be implemented for transforming the prototype in something real.

To make the manual more accessible, we’ve condensed it into a Handbook: scan the QR code and transform your partnership strategy today!



The FOODPathS representation of an ideal partnership