



STUDENTS
ORGANISING FOR
SUSTAINABILITY
UNITED KINGDOM

SOS-UK FOOD & FARMING NETWORK 2022-23

Background

SOS-UK's Food and Farming programme has been supporting food growing projects, sustainable food enterprises and campaigns around sustainable food for over 10 years. We have also produced impactful research reports and developed practical resources and campaign guides. In 2021/22 a new, dynamic and progressive Food & Farming network was piloted with 3 organisations, and now we want to offer the opportunity for others to join us.

SOS-UK Food and Farming network is...

This network is aimed at students, officers and staff from unions, colleges and universities to collaboratively tackle key issues related to sustainable food projects, including but not limited to; food enterprises, food growing, campaigns, catering, campus farms and broader food system issues that impact campus life. We will provide opportunities to partner with other institutions, hold networking events and share good practice through resources and case studies.

Benefits

- Bespoke support for students and staff leading sustainable food projects on campus.
- As part of a paid programme with SOS-UK you are welcome to join any sessions from the [Green Impact webinar series](#).
- Opportunities to have news items and best practice showcased in our food and farming newsletter, our SOS-UK newsletter, through articles on our website, and during the Food and Farming sessions of the SOS-UK Summit.
- A chance to help shape the programme to ensure it best suits the needs of the sector.

Support received for 1-year membership

- 2-3 support calls (30 mins each) per term via zoom for each institution to assist lead students and staff in development of their food projects, including setting strategic directions, overcoming challenges and scoping for upcoming opportunities. Our support is aimed at the student calendar and understands the needs of an educational setting.

- 3 x 1 hour online networking sessions, bringing together students and staff from all intuitions within this network to share and learn together, to build connections and to encourage exchange visits. We will ask guest speakers to join these sessions where appropriate.
- Up to 2 x tickets for students and officers and up to 1 x ticket for a support staff member to the SOS-UK Summit (in person or online).
- Creation of central resources by SOS-UK to support the programme where appropriate.
- Ad hoc support - if you have queries at any point throughout the year or would like to suggest an idea for a support session, case study or news piece, we can be reached by email. We often share examples of best practice during our support calls.

Key Dates

- Launch: October 2022
- Start of support calls: October 2022
- Networking sessions:
 - Term 1: Tuesday 6th December 2-3pm
 - Term 2: Tuesday 7th February 2-3pm
 - Term 3: Tuesday 2nd May 2-3pm
- Student Sustainability Online Summit: TBC November 2022

Costs

The cost to join will be £1545+VAT for 2022-23. Some aspects of this programme could be delivered in person for an additional fee determined on a case by case basis.

Start date

October 2022, support calls can take place any time from this date until 31st July 2023.

Sign up via our institution or students' union rate card, or contact us on foodandfarming@sos-uk.org with any queries.

CASE STUDY - UNIVERSITY OF ROEHAMPTON

1. Why did you decide to join the Food and Farming network?

As an enterprise set up all the way back in 2013, we are striving to take Growhampton to the next level of its development and create new infrastructure to expand research and broaden engagement with volunteers and our followers. We joined the Network to build upon the mentorship and advice provided by SOS UK in previous years and connect with other enterprises seeking to adapt to the changing landscape and major challenges brought by Covid. Likewise to keep up-to-date with key food sustainability issues at universities and in higher education and understand their intersection with other operations / themes in SUs and universities. Receive signposting on funding and research opportunities in food sustainability.

2. What is the best bit of being part of the Food and Farming network?

Knowledge exchange. Funding signposting and advice. Morale boosting to be part of a wider group of farming enterprises and food activists.

3. What would you say to someone considering joining the network?

Be clear in setting your objectives and aspirations. Be active in reaching out to other involved food enterprises, who are often more than happy to share their experiences and offer site visits / online support. Encourage volunteers in your enterprise to attend the catch-up sessions to ensure information and networking opportunities are spread throughout your team.