



ekoneum

Etelä-Savon ruokaklusteri

SOUTH SAVO FOOD CLUSTER



South Savo Food Cluster: collaboration and commitment

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Project: European cluster network to support South Savo food companies

www.foodclustersouthsavo.fi



South Savo Food Cluster

- The food cluster was established in 2022 **to strengthen the province's food sector development work regionally, nationally and internationally.**
- Foundation for the food cluster: **South Savo food economics development association Ekoneum**, was established in 2000
- The first members were:
 - South-Eastern Finland University of Applied Sciences
 - University of Helsinki Ruralia Institute
 - Natural Resources Institute Finland
- The association expanded and received new members in 2020 and 2021.
 - South Savo Vocational College Esedu
 - ProAgria South Savo
- South Savo's main development organisations belong to Ekoneum
- **Food development programmes since 2001**



South Savo Food Cluster

- A network of food and food industry operators and companies
- A platform for development
 - > create one place/service from which the company can ask for advice and assistance

We need to know what kind of developing projects are going on and who are leading each projects.



Responsible, successful and resilient food sector in South Savo

Competence

Food communication and education

Added value from nature and local products

Resilience and responsibility

New operating models

Development programme for the food sector in South Savo for 2021–2027

The vision of the development programme for the food sector in South Savo is "responsible, successful and resilient food sector in South Savo". The development programme's measures have been divided into five themes: competence; food communication and education; added value from nature and local products; resilience and responsibility; and new operating models. The programme has been prepared to give a shared development direction to all food operators in South Savo.

Development programme for the food sector in South Savo for 2021-2027

- Development themes, goals and development areas
- A lot of stakeholders were involved: workshops, interviews.
 - Collaboration and commitment to put the programme into practice
- A monitoring system was build for the programme.
 - Meetings
 - Knowledge of projects.
 - Knowledge of RDI specialists.
 - More collaboration and easier to guide companies.
- Guiding pilot to the new members of our food cluster.
- Collaborate for the benefit of companies.



An example of collaboration

- South Savo's organic food developers sent in together application to the EU Organic Awards 2024 for the Best organic region category
 - South Savo is one of the finalists for the category The Best organic region

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