



IGCAT Voice



Food, well-being, and wellness tourism will be the focus of this year's meeting of IGCAT experts held within the context of Kuopio's kick-off year as European Region of Gastronomy 2020-21 and within the theme of Living in Nature's Rhythm.

We aim to showcase the great cooperation SMEs have created for our Jubilee as well as enjoy pure nature and its offerings when we host the 7th IGCAT Annual Experts' Meeting held together with the 20th European Regions of Gastronomy Platform Meeting, 9-11 September 2020.

The surrounding countryside provides a natural resource with regard to both the way of life and environmental values and our meeting will be focussed on foraging: picking berries, mushrooms, hunting, and fishing. The pure food and ingredients of Pohjois-Savo and the visitor experiences associated with them, provide a good cross-section of what the region can offer.

The debates in Kuopio will consider how to engage with the private sector and utilise their strengths while at the same time effecting change in their organisation and commitment to sustainability. We will also look at how we can share our good practices so that more regions across the world can enjoy the benefits and, in line with IGCAT's philosophy, work together to help nature and the environment.

Ilona Sares

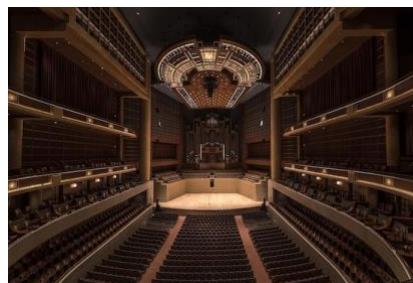
IGCAT Expert and Board Member

International Executive Director, ProAgria Eastern Finland

IGCAT News

Last month for submissions to the Food Film Menu 2020

1 July - The Food Film Menu 2020 call for submissions will close on 27 July! Under the theme Food Stories, our selection committee is looking for short films telling incredible stories about the food heritage of awarded and candidate Regions of Gastronomy. Follow us on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) to find out more!



Investing in Europe's next generation by investing in culture

18 June - IGCAT is among the 94 organisations from across the cultural and creative sector that have signed a letter calling for strong and systemic support measures at EU and national level for the sector to recover from the crisis brought about by the Covid-19 outb ... [Read more](#)

Rethinking sustainable tourism after Covid-19

9 June - With a focus on how to ensure survival of hospitality, tourism, events and culture related businesses in the economic and social crisis generated by the coronavirus pandemic, President of IGCAT and Executive Director of the World Regions of Gastronomy Platform, Diane Dodd, PhD offered a series of three online ... [Read more](#)



Tourism Manifesto welcomes EC's package on Tourism and Transport

20 May - Following the publication of the European Commission's guidance on how to safely resume travel and reboot Europe's tourism in 2020 and beyond, the European Tourism Manifesto alliance published an official statement to applaud this initiative that recogn ... [Read more](#)

World solidarity for F&B to recover from Covid-19

28 April - The Covid-19 disaster and its impact on people's lives and Food&Beverage businesses (particularly in the fields of tourism, culture, hotels, restaurants, community life, etc.) was the subject of the World Leadership Conference (WLC) on Monday 27 April 2020 hosted by Indonesia. WLC consists of entrepre ... [Read more](#)



News from the Regions of Gastronomy



A digital gastromap for Kuopio 2020-2021

30 June - A digital gastromap highlighting food-related experiences in Kuopio, European Region of Gastronomy awarded 2020-2021 has been launched on the renewed travelling website www.kuopiotahko.fi. As the widest collection of food industry players, producers and service providers ever compiled for the region, the gastromap features over 80 experiences, festivals, ... [Read more](#)

Trøndersk Food Festival's innovative response to gathering restrictions

29 June - In 2020, Trøndersk Food Festival (30 July-1 August) will take on an innovative format by scattering many different food-related activities around the region to celebrate the food culture of Trondheim-Trøndelag, awarded Euro ... [Read more](#)



Slovenia, National Geographic's 2021 tasty escape

15 June - National Geographic nominated Slovenia (awarded European Region of Gastronomy 2021 by IGCAT), next year's culinary destination, describing it as a country with a uniquely varied gastronomic landscape. In the article, chef and official European Region of Gastronomy Ambassador, Ana Ros offers a glimp ... [Read more](#)

Catalonia puts the spotlight on local producers

14 May - #AlimentsDeProp (LocalFood) online search engine has been launched by Catalonia, European Region of Gastronomy awarded 2016 with the aim to support and promote the local agrifood sector during the COVID-19 crisis. A virtual hub where local demand and supply meet, this platform gives visibility to local ... [Read more](#)



Coimbra Region brings producers closer to the consumers

29 April - A successful example of how to combine tradition with technological innovation, the first Online Market of PDO Wine and Cheese was launched on 11 April 2020 by Coimbra Region, European Region of Gastronomy awarded 2021, as part of its official programme A ... [Read more](#)

Current news from around the globe

COVID-19: UN agencies warn against rising hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean - By UN News

23 June - The number of people in Latin America and the Caribbean living in extreme poverty could surpass 83 million this year due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, leading to a significant rise in hunger ... [Read more](#)



COVID-19 recovery is a chance to improve the African food system - By Kai Mausch et al.

11 June - The World Food Programme has warned that the COVID-19 pandemic could cause one of the worst food crises since World War II. It predicts a doubling of the number of people going hungry - ... [Read more](#)

“Sustainability as the New Normal” a vision for the future of tourism - By UNWTO

8 June - To mark World Environment Day, the One Planet Sustainable Tourism Programme led by the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) announces its new vision for global tourism - growing better ... [Read more](#)



Asia-Pacific nations must ‘work together’ to save their ocean - By Daniel T. Cross

18 May - The Asia-Pacific region is one of the world's most ethnically and culturally diverse regions. It is also one of its most biodiverse. Yet local marine ecosystems are nearing a tipping point as a result of various environmental ... [Read more](#)

New Zealand calls for thousands of new 'green' jobs in bold comeback plan - By Christian Cotroneo

28 April - "Rampant deforestation, uncontrolled expansion of agriculture, intensive farming, mining and infrastructure development, as well as the exploitation of wild species have ... [Read more](#)



IGCAT carries out research, collects knowledge and develops projects to support creative solutions in regional and local development. This newsletter is just a small selection of news from the past three months. IGCAT compiles trends and facts from around the world.

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