



IGCAT Newsletter Second Quarter 2024

IGCAT VOICE



Having dedicated much of my life to advocating for the protection of our food supply and preserving the nutrients of our local food culture in contemporary diets, I am thrilled to support Vanuatu's nomination for World Region of Gastronomy 2027. Our journey has not been easy, with global foods becoming increasingly prevalent in daily life in Vanuatu. However, we received a significant boost when Robert Oliver invited me to co-host the Pacific Islands Food Revolution. The TV show propelled our beautiful nation of islands into the spotlight, and I am immensely proud of our team that won the first season.

This month, I was honored to receive IGCAT's Ambassador Award, which, to me, recognizes the efforts of our ancestors, dedicated colleagues, and my supportive family who stood by me even when others doubted the value of investing in local food.

Today, our small family enterprise employs over 40 people and supports local farms. I sleep well at night knowing we are making a positive impact on people's lives and health without harming the planet. Our humble approach demonstrates that it is possible, and now we are part of Regenerative Vanua, a movement in the Pacific committed to restoring our lands to the ways of our ancestors and honoring Vanuatu's rich nutritional heritage. I eagerly look forward to welcoming you to Vanuatu in 2027.

Votausi Mackenzie-Reur

IGCAT Honorary Ambassador

Chairlady, Regenerative Vanua

IGCAT News



EXTENDED DEADLINE | 2 July IGCAT's Food Film Menu 2024

28 June 2024 - IGCAT's search for short food films to be included in the Food Film Menu 2024 goes on! Unleash your creativity and become an ambassador for cultural and food diversity!

Open call and registration: [Food Film Menu 2024](#)

New submissions deadline: **2 July 2024**



IGCAT officially accepted as an Affiliate Member of UN Tourism

11 June 2024 - By obtaining the status of UN Tourism Affiliate Member, IGCAT has recently joined a network of 500 members spanning from companies to educational and research institutions, destinations and NGOs from all over the globe, committed to promote su ... [Read more](#)



IGCAT's World Food Gift Challenge awards 10 top products in Aseer

26 April 2024 - In celebration of food and cultural diversity, IGCAT's 5th World Food Gift Challenge awarded 10 unique food and food-related craft products, selected by an international jury of experts. Hosted by Aseer, World Region of Gastronomy awarded 2024, the ... [Read more](#)



Boosting the power of co-creation at the 10th IGCAT Experts Meeting

7 May 2024 - Gastronomy as a key to local development, cross-sectoral collaboration, engaging local communities, the importance of education and life-long learning to secure a sustainable future, were among the topics discussed at the 10th IGCAT Expert ... [Read more](#)

News from the World Regions of Gastronomy



Crete recommended for the title of European Region of Gastronomy 2026

31 May 2024 - Given the exceptional food and hospitality found in the region, the harmony of culture, heritage and well-being, as well as a strong written application, an international jury of experts recommended Crete for the ... [Read more](#)



Kvarner recommended for the title of European Region of Gastronomy 2026

17 May 2024 - After reviewing the bid book: *Diversity is Beautiful* and visiting the region, on 13-17 May 2024, an international panel accompanied by IGCAT, recommended Kvarner for the title European Region of Gastro ... [Read more](#)



World Regions of Gastronomy build stronger connections at their 27th meeting

8 May 2024 - 14 international guests from 11 awarded and candidate regions gathered in Aseer, World Region of Gastronomy awarded 2024 to celebrate the 27th World Regions of Gastronomy Platform meeting (22-25 April), exc ... [Read more](#)



Enjoy Saimaa 2024 with all your senses!

27 June 2024 – Around 330 events have already been announced for this summer in Saimaa, European Region of Gastronomy 2024 to celebrate the local unique food and culture. Whether it is fine dining you are looking for or traditional food, markets or food ... [Read more](#)



Get ready to celebrate Trøndelag Food Festival 2024!

27 June 2024 – Over 200 local food producers are expected to take part in Trøndelag Food Festival and Trondheim Brewery Festival, to be held on 1-3 August 2024 for visitors and locals to enjoy the culinary wonders of Trondheim-Trøndelag, European Region of Gastronomy aw ... [Read more](#)



Menorca's restaurants commit to local and sustainable cuisine

28 June 2024 – During seventeen days, Menorca's restaurants will highlight the gastronomic potential of the island – awarded European Region of Gastronomy 2022 – by offering traditional and innovative recipes made with local and seasonal products, in occasion ... [Read more](#)



Spotlight on Catalan gastronomy at the Bite and Mos Awards

27 May 2024 - Catalonia, World Region of Gastronomy awarded 2025 celebrated the 2nd edition of the Bite and Mos Awards to recognise the fundamental role played by creators of food and wine digital content in promoting this type of tourism and, at the same time, valu ... [Read more](#)



Sicily's delicacies presented to an international audience in Rome

30 May 2024 - Local delights from Sicily, European Region of Gastronomy awarded 2025 were promoted in Rome in occasion of the IACS Community Exchange (ICE) Conference 2024 (28-30 May), an international annual meeting dedicated to sharing and discussing the best agricultural practices of EU Me ... [Read more](#)



The South Aegean shines at the Greek Cuisine Awards 2024

21 May 2024 - 32 out of the 85 restaurants awarded at the Greek Cuisine Awards 2024 are located in the South Aegean - European Region of Gastronomy 2019, making it the most decorated region in the competition and testifying to its strong commitment to su ... [Read more](#)

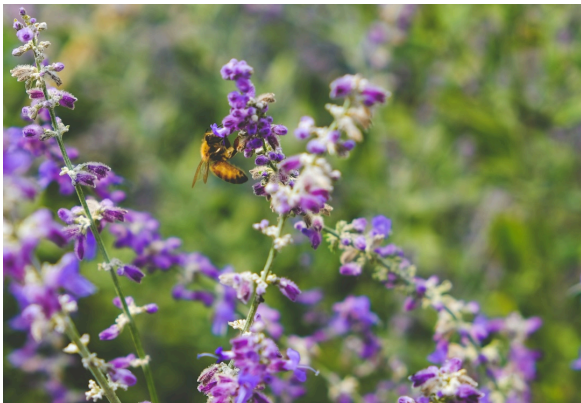
Current news from around the globe



UN Tourism Hosts First Regional Forum on Gastronomy Tourism for Africa at Victoria Falls

By **UN Tourism**

11 June 2024 - UN Tourism is to host its first Regional Forum on Gastronomy Tourism for Africa, advancing its work to make gastronomy tourism a pillar for sustainable and inclusive g ... [Read more](#)



EU approves first-of-its-kind law that could bring back biodiversity

By **Angela Symons – Euro News**

19 June 2024 - The EU's Nature Restoration Law, a landmark regulation, has been approved after extensive deliberations. This first-of-its-kind law aims to restore Europe's damaged ... [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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