

Swiss Food Research

Why Innovation fails in isolation

Jan Biehl – Strategic Innovation & Scaling

Innovation CATALYSEs Food Safety

08.06.2026

supported by the foundations

AVINA
foundation for the food of tomorrow

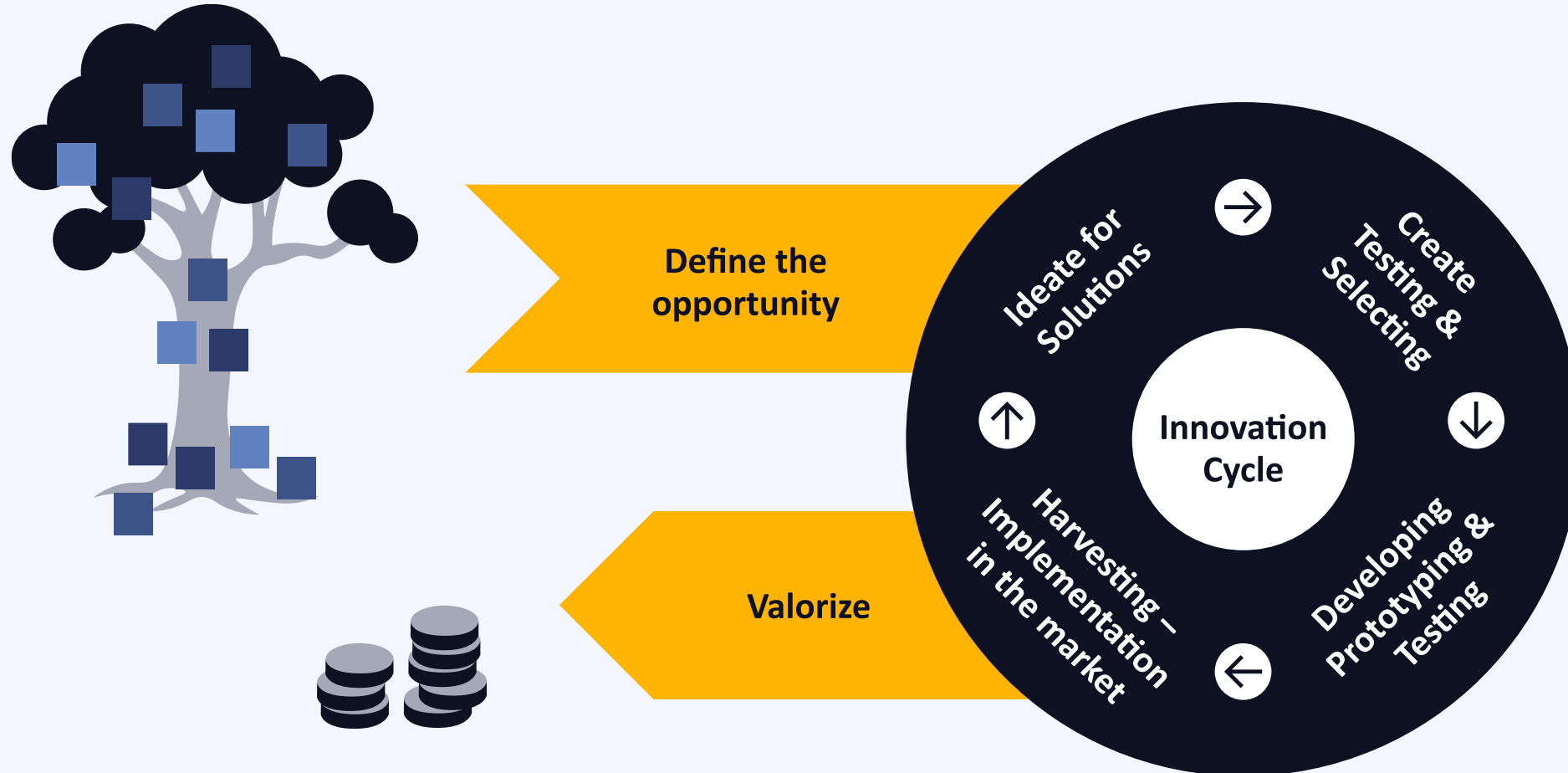
Seedling
FOUNDATION
NURTURE INSPIRE EMPOWER


Standortförderung
Kanton Bern 

 **swiss**
FOOD
RESEARCH

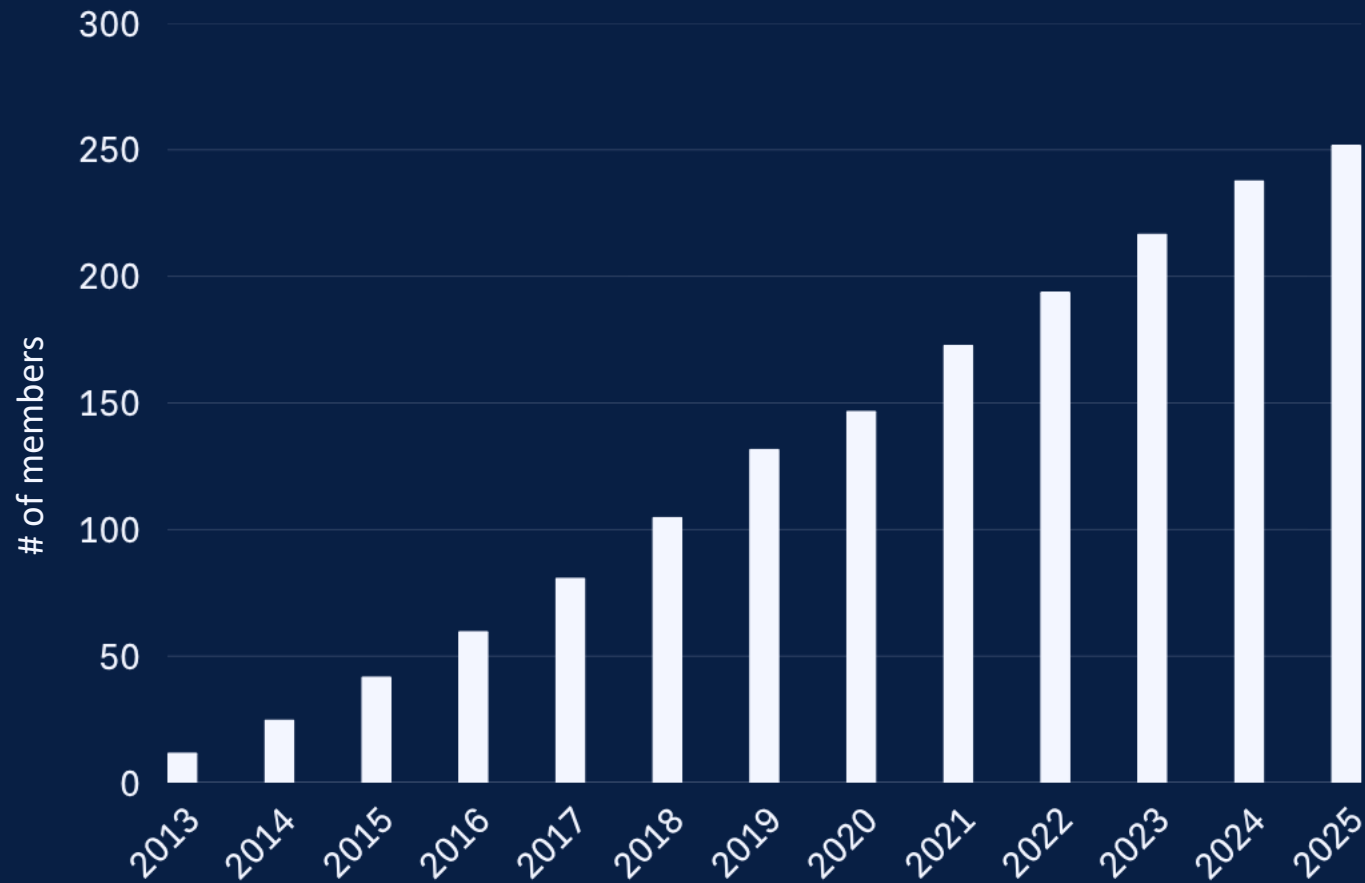
The Virtuous Cycle of Innovation

Identify the Challenge & understand the Problem





The Power of the Ecosystem



Swiss Food Research

250+ members

- **3 Foundations**
- **38 Research organisations**
- **22 GOV / NGO Organisations**
- **189 Companies**
- **100 Start Ups**
- **17 Large sized enterprises**
- **72 Small and medium sized enterprises**

Connecting Ecosystems

Certified by:

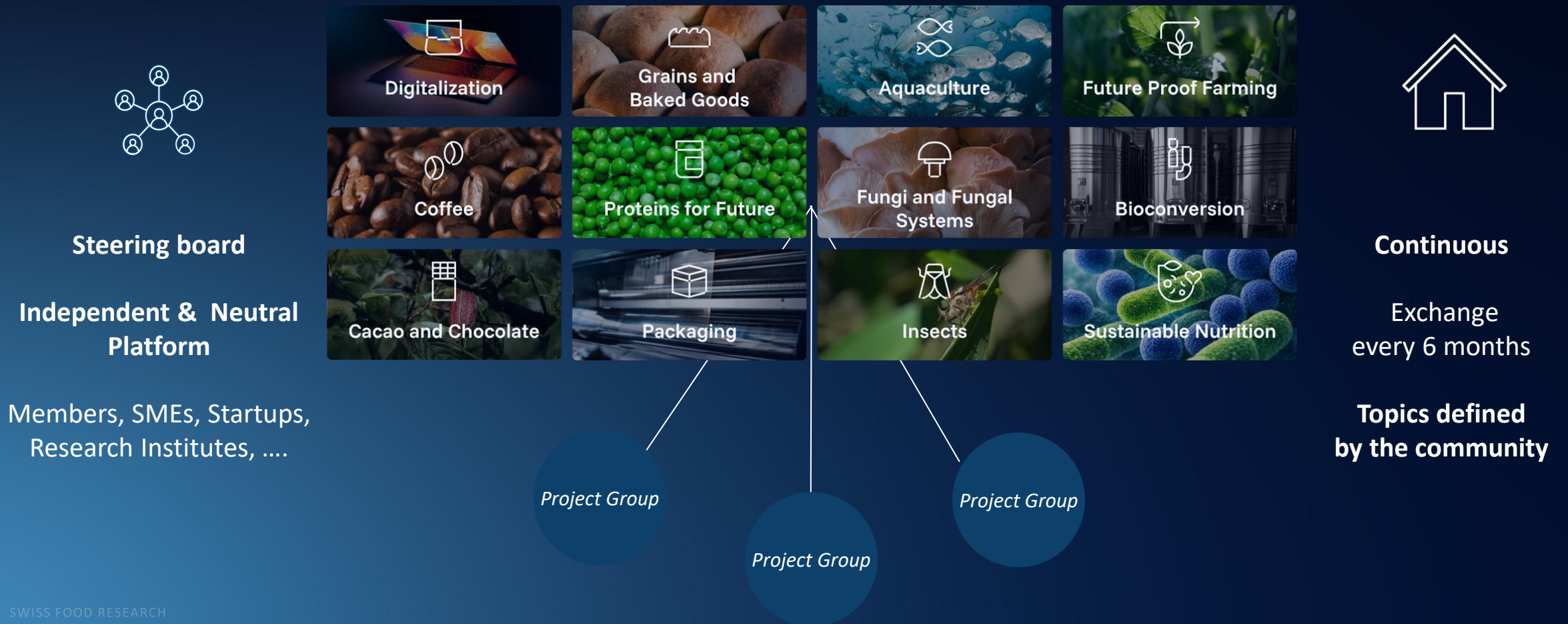
European
Network of
Living Labs



Be at the edge of innovation
and development in Switzerland,
the Pan-European innovation
ecosystem (HUBs) and beyond (i.e.
South Korea and Japan)

IG . Ensuring knowledge transfer and collaboration

Innovation Groups are platforms enabling & facilitating innovation.
The objective is to bridge the gap between ideas and application.



Co-Creation & Collaboration at early stage

Innovation Boosters enabling Breakthrough Ideas



1.4 MIO CHF for 4 years

Up to 39'000 CHF
of funding



Work on
problems together
(Workshops)



Hand in a solution
to opportunity
statements



Incubate your idea
and get experts for
six weeks



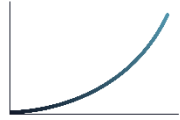
Pitch your idea
as a team
and get funded

Co-funded by:



Unpleasant Truth opens Opportunities

Co-Creation, Sharing & Feedback Culture

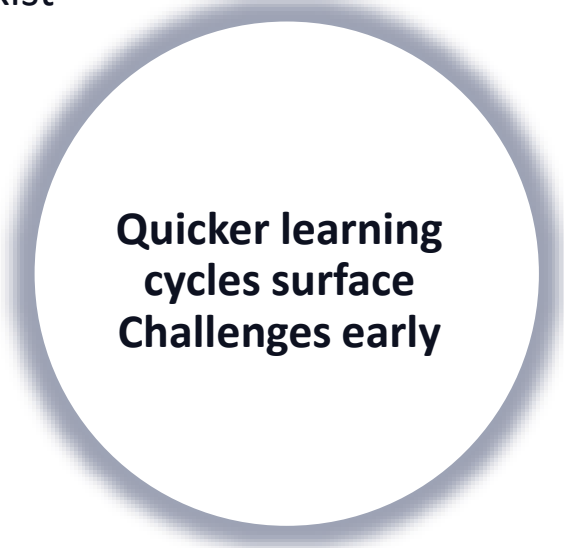


Just because problems surface later doesn't mean they don't exist

Problem embracing Mindset



Pivoting before it is too late



Quicker learning cycles surface Challenges early

Deeper Market Understanding



More Solutions Gen 2, 3, 4

Customer Feedback becomes Reality



Intellectual Property



Proven benefits with track record

Innovation gains speed & quality



Connections and Network



Knowledge and technology transfer



Trend and innovation scouting



Access to funding opportunities and calls



Business Intelligence



Access to research resources, competences and infrastructures



Increased visibility




Support and coaching for your innovation projects
Innovation capacity check, IP



Discounts on various events



Market validation and discovery

A close-up photograph of several small, vibrant green microgreens growing out of dark soil. The plants have two rounded leaves each and are covered in fine water droplets, suggesting they have been recently watered. The background is dark and out of focus, highlighting the freshness and growth of the plants.

**We strive to push innovation
forward
for the better of
the Agro Food & Nutrition
System within and
beyond Switzerland.**