

Release note

February 2026



Concerning discontinuation of Arla Food for Health

What happens?

The Sponsor Group in Arla Food for Health has decided to discontinue the partnership after ten years of success.

Why does it happen?

The decision has to be seen in a greater picture involving increased investments in other funding instruments with similar scope and vision, such as the Danish Dairy Research Foundation. The goal is to ease the administrative costs of competitive research funding within dairy nutrition and health in Denmark. Thus, the decision comes with concrete actions and a strong desire for maintaining research communities created in Arla Food for Health.

What then?

In 2026, Arla Food for Health will transition into a new operational model designed to phase out ongoing activities in a respectful way, including full delivery and support to ongoing projects throughout their lifecycle. Full phase out is expected to take three to four years and may include a gradual handover of activities, such as the annual symposium, to relevant scientific networks or organizations. Together with the Head of Arla Food for Health, the Steering Committee will be responsible for the phase out. One of the immediate consequences will be that the new projects funded in 2026 will be the last projects added to the portfolio.

It should be emphasized that Arla Foods amba, Arla Foods Ingredients, University of Copenhagen and Aarhus University are all set to ensure an operational model that allow full delivery of ongoing projects and honors the legacy of Arla Food for Health.

More questions?

Feel free to reach to the Head of Arla Food for Health, Andreas Buch Møller, by email abmoe@arlafoods.com or phone +45 91316686.

Key numbers for the success of Arla Food for Health



ARLA
FOOD
FOR
HEALTH

From 2015 to 2026:

- 146 research applications submitted by researchers at UCPH and AU.
- 25 research projects supported (another 2-3 to come in 2026).
- DDK 110M in funding from AFH (another DKK 10M in 2026).
- 55 PhD Students or Postdocs, 46 other staff.
- 9 AFH Symposia with >750 participants in total (50% academia, 40% Arla and AFI, 10% other).
- 233 papers published, >4,500 citations (Scopus, January 2026 – “Funding Information = Arla Food for Health” – may not be 100% correct).
- >50 oral presentations at scientific conferences.
- 3 patents.
- Public dissemination (NYT, BBC News, Dagens Medicin, Lægemedicinet, National and Local Media in DK, and more).

Obviously, these numbers will only increase the coming years.