



# FEEDtheMIND

## Food-related European Education in the Digital era to Motivate Innovative New-product Development

FEEDtheMIND is an European project initiative funded by Erasmus+ to promote the development of knowledge and skills using digital tools and the exchange of good practices in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). With a network of six HEIs from five countries and the engagement of their national food federations, this project envisions to bring together the education system and the agri-food sector to better prepare students for the labour market. The end of the first semester of 2021 is marked by the end of Output 2, dedicated to the development of the FEEDtheMIND digital learning platform, and the launch of Output 3, aimed to create a transnational ECOTROPHELIA team competing in ECOTROPHELIA Greece 2020.



### The needs assessment in terms of skills and knowledge acquisition

Output 1 of the FEEDtheMIND project led to the definition of the skills and competences that shall be addressed at a European-level and were consequently the basis for the development of the digital pedagogical tool.

The aims of this output were to identify:

- how the problematic of food innovation is addressed in the different HEIs partner organisations.
- the competences and expectations of food companies for the future professionals and employees.
- the key competences perceived as underdeveloped and considered as necessary for both the higher education system and the labour market.

### Development of the digital learning platform

Based on the work realized during Output 1, the FEEDtheMIND learning platform was developed over the course of the last year and tested among students from all participating universities.

Upon analysis of the results achieved in Output 1, and taking into consideration the insights from students, pedagogical staff and representatives from the food industry, the consortium decided on four modules to be developed: business model, creativity, eco-design, and project valorisation. As the Moodle platform was being developed, the partners also prepared the modules' materials, i.e., presentations and quizzes, that were adapted and translated into 5 languages. The Moodle platform allow the students to select the language they want to study in and benefit from multiple case studies. The platform also allows students to test their knowledge and skills acquisition through quizzes available for each module.

### The ECOTROPHELIA transnational team

Output 3 of the FEEDtheMIND project focuses on the creation of a transnational ECOTROPHELIA team, composed of students from all FEEDtheMIND European universities. A dozen students will be selected in early October to participate in the initiative: working together with their European counterparts, they will develop a new food product on the theme of their choice, which they will present at the ECOTROPHELIA Greece competition, before participating in ECOTROPHELIA Europe.

This stage of the project will demonstrate the effectiveness and relevance of the FEEDtheMIND platform courses in terms of food product development. It will also encourage European cooperation between students in the food sector.

You are an agri-food student interested in joining the ECOTROPHELIA transnational team? Please contact us!

### The engagement of the Food and Drink Federations

In the five countries targeted in this project, the food and drink federations are engaged in the promotion of food innovation initiatives that encourage the interaction between the agri-food sector and the higher education system.

For more information on the project visit the FEEDtheMIND website: <https://feedthemind.ecotrophelia.org/>

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