

Professional development of scientific staff

1. Simultaneous development of courses and seminars/lectures will facilitate the exchange of ideas, revisions and improvement of the educational material developed during the project
2. Delays due to scientific staff participating in the training seminars and developing in parallel the educational material of courses will be avoided

Description

The objective of the seminars and lectures is to improve the capacity of scientific staff of the partner countries HEIs, by transferring/exchanging knowledge. Scientific staff of partner countries and EU HEIs will be organised in working groups, according to the courses that HEIs will deliver during the implementation of the MSc programme (tasks 7.1, 7.2) and assess their needs in terms specific scientific topics that will be included in the content of courses, as defined by the design (task 2.4). UHZ will be the leader of the tasks.

Seminars and lectures will be organised in partner countries HEIs. The aim will be to:

- Enrich the scientific background of scientific staff of partner countries HEIs, transfer and exchange knowledge mostly on “hot” topics, related to: i) advanced technological achievements related to food production, processing, quality monitoring and food safety, from an engineering point of view and ii) aspects of sustainable management of food production systems, including supply chain management, economics and environmental management
- Gain experiences of how MSc courses can be structured and delivered by utilizing modern infrastructures, experimental rigs and ICT-based educational material and methods

Scientific staff will be also involved in the development of courses (4.2), research labs, experiments simulations and accompanying material (tasks 5.1, 5.2, 5.3).

Questionnaires and interviews of participants will be used to assess the quality of the seminars and lectures. Feedback will refer to the level at which the scientific background of participants is enriched, the level at which modern teaching/learning methodologies and tools are demonstrated and analysed, the level at which the methodologies can be adapted and supported by the existing infrastructures and the equipment that will be purchased during the project, the level at which the seminars reach the expectations of the attendees etc.

Tasks

3.1 Assessment of training needs

Scientific staff for all partners HEIs will assess their needs in terms of scientific background improvements and also teaching competences, related in particular with ICT-based methodologies, student-centred approaches and modern teaching/learning environments. Scientific staff will participate in the seminars according to the intention and the capacity to deliver specific courses. Lectures, in particular, will be open to colleagues who are not directly involved in the project activities as well as academics and faculty staff working for HEIs outside the consortium. According to the needs identified by partners:

- Scientific staff of AUT, UHZ and UNBI, USAMVB and ReadLab will prepare

presentations, interactive activities, joint projects for food engineering, quality and safety related topics. Scientific staff of other HEIs will have also the opportunity be actively involved in the seminars

- Scientific staff of UET, UHZ, UC and UNSA, CULS, TEISTE and ReadLab will

prepare presentations, interactive activities, joint projects for supply chain management, economics and environmental management of food production systems

3.2 Organisation of seminars and lectures

Seminars and lectures will be organized in partner countries HEIs. At least three (3) persons per partner will participate in seminars. Lectures, in particular will be open to scientific staff of the HEIs organising the event or outside the consortium, students, engineers and managers already working for private companies, and stakeholders in general. Five (5) events will be hosted by partner countries HEIs.

Travels will coincide with management meetings (D10.4) and some of them with workshops (task 9.4) and laboratory demonstrations (task 9.4) in order to improve cost effectiveness. Events are summarised in the table below:

Deliverable	Month nr.	City/Country	Host Organisation
D3.2.a	9	Peja/Kosovo	UHZ
D3.2.b	12	Sarajevo/ Bosnia-Herzegovina	UNSA
D3.2.c	15	Bihac/ Bosnia-Herzegovina	UNBI
D3.2.d	18	Pristina/Kosovo	UC
D3.2.e	21	Tirana/Albania	AUT

3.3 Continuous support and improvement of scientific background and teaching capacity of scientific staff

The transfer and exchange of knowledge between scientific staff between EU and partner countries HEIs will be continuously applied during the project lifetime. Apart from the seminars and lectures formally organised at specific dates, faculty staff with common background and scientific interests will work together in order to prepare research articles and publications, research proposals. The Joint master degree will offer them the opportunity to organise guest lectures for students, common projects involving also students' mobility, and research plans.

Scientific staff will improve its teaching capacity by delivering up-to-date knowledge on innovative concepts while on the other hand, modern infrastructures and equipment, including ICT-based educational tools as well as experimental and scientific software tools will offer them the opportunity to organise innovative learning experiences for students. The fruitful collaboration between scientific staff of the HEIs involved in the consortium is expected to extend during the delivery of the courses and after the project lifetime.