14 Countries
ECOTROPHElia
EUROPE
2023

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OCTOBER
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EIT FOOD
Welcome to ECOTROPHElia Europe 2023!

As the incoming Chair of the ECOTROPHElia EUROPE organisation, I am delighted to welcome you to this year’s edition of the competition. We say a big thank you to Françoise Gorga who led the competition for 3 years – and welcome her as one of the official judges on the panel.

A bit about me and my organisation: I am the Director of Education for EIT Food, and as such responsible for our portfolio of programmes to drive food system transformation through innovation and entrepreneurship. It goes without saying that I am passionate about equipping people with the skills to respond to emerging environmental and social challenges to create a more sustainable society! EIT Food is the biggest innovation ecosystem to drive food system change: as a partnership under the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, we combine innovation with business creation, public engagement and education to achieve our triple missions to achieve healthier lives through food, a net zero food system, and reducing risk for a fair and resilient food system. With such clearly aligned objectives, EIT Food already provided entrepreneurship content to ECOTROPHElia contestants over the past 2 years.

As you will see from the Visions for 2030 by the National Federations, their key priorities are to develop a safe, healthy, sustainable and innovative sector by 2030. Therefore, it is more important than ever to support students across Europe to help them come up with new, sustainable ideas and bring them to market: they are the leaders for whom uncertainty and volatility will be key boundaries for their work. As such, they need to be entrepreneurial to build suitable and equitable solutions that help us get to 2030 and beyond.

I wish all the contestants best of luck!

Dr Maarten van der Kamp

ECOTROPHElia Federations’ vision by 2030: priorities, challenges and goals

BELGIUM
Fevia
Fevia, the federation of the Belgian food industry, guides and supports Belgian food companies in creating sustainable value, in consultation with stakeholders. The food industry is Belgium’s leading industrial sector. Food companies account for a significant proportion of industrial activity, creating direct and indirect employment for hundreds of thousands of people. As the voice of that Belgian food industry, Fevia represents more than 750 members producing quality and innovative food and beverages in Belgium. With the brand “Food. be - Small country. Great food.” we highlight the quality, sustainability and innovation of Belgian food across the world.

The Belgian food industry launched its new Sustainability Roadmap 2021 (www.watetenwemorgen.be). The online Sustainability Roadmap includes an action plan that will enable Belgian food companies and their +95,000 food heroes to earn tenesmorgen.be). The online Sustainability Roadmap includes an action plan that will enable Belgian food companies and their +95,000 food heroes to deliver on 32 concrete ambitions in the future. It focusses on 4 cornerstones: earning consumers’ trust, embracing and accelerating the green transition, fostering future-proof jobs and career paths and creating value together. This compass is the industry’s bid to lead the way over the years ahead in pushing for a sustainable food system working in tandem with consumers, food chain partners and other stakeholders. The innovative angle of this roadmap is not just that it is forward-looking and provides a compass for our food companies to draw on, but also the fact that it sets out from the consumer.

CROATIA
The Croatian Association of Food Technologists, Biotechnologists and Nutritionists has the main goal of gathering Bachelors and Masters of Food Technology, Biotechnology and Nutrition Science in order to develop and promote the profession, preserve its dignity and advocate its interests. Our Programme is focused on researching employment possibilities, as well as on establishing and maintaining a good communication network among Food Technology, Biotechnology and Nutrition Science professionals. We are also committed to linking our interests and members to related associations and non-governmental organisations on international level and contributing to popularisation of our profession through media as well as by publishing the Croatian Journal of Food Technology, Biotechnology and Nutrition. In the upcoming years, we move forward towards supporting the culture of innovation based on the implementation of sustainable food production systems, leading to more resilient and productive systems, better food quality and more appropriate processing.

The Association is organizing several food events annually, such as the national ECOTROPHElia competitions and the national professional meeting Functional Food in Croatia, while every second year, we are involved in the organization of International Congress of Food Technologists, Biotechnologists and Nutritionists. By maintaining these activities, we will continue promoting the ideas, innovations and policies that enable the sector of Food Technology, Biotechnology and Nutrition to create safe environment and healthier living.

DENMARK
DTU National Food Institute
DTU National Food Institute conducts research into and disseminates sustainable and value-creating solutions in the area of food and health for the benefit of society. DTU National Food Institute believes that mission-based research, innovation, education and advising of authorities are needed to combat the challenges of food safety, security and sustainability (economic, social, environmental) posed by the growing population and climate change in 2030.

A multi-actor, systems approach involving all stakeholders in agri-food value chains as well as societal, governmental, regulatory and non-governmental actors is needed. At DTU National Food Institute, a foundation of excellent research will lead to technology driven innovative solutions employing the latest digital tools to keep Denmark competitive at the cutting edge of the agri-food sector in 2030. The greatest challenge to be overcome by 2030 is the negative mindset of society towards new foods and ingredients that come from non-traditional and non-animal based sources, such as by-products, plant-based, marine, insects and genetically modified sources. The vision is that in 2030, knowledge created by DTU National Food Institute has led to innovations that have solved issues with taste, texture and nutritional quality, whilst creating health benefits and ensuring safety in non-animal based foods leading to widespread acceptance in society, domination of the market place and a dramatic leap in sustainability of the agri-food sector.
ITALY

FEDERALIMENTARE SERVIZI

Federalimentare’s vision of food for 2030 is linked to the promotion of food made in-Italy, to knowledge and know-how of entrepreneurs, highest standards of quality, safety, sustainability and nutritional aspects.

Italian food and beverages industry - committed to sustainability for years - shares the European Commission’s desire to define EU policies to guide the development of the agri-food supply chain, even if some sharable targets of public health and environmental protection are used for commercial purposes to the detriment of single foods.

The proposed EU regulations on Packaging and Packaging Waste is of great concern because of the serious economic, social and environmental impacts it would have in the current version.

Italian sounding is one of the biggest obstacles to food and beverages made in Italy because, since it is not considered illicit in the vast majority of countries, it results in a price off up to 30% lower than comparable European products.

Thus, it is necessary to better protect geographical indications (most protected products), to help foreign consumers recognize authentic Italian food, to boost the perception abroad of the utility of the market, especially in large-scale retail and in restaurants.

Free Trade Agreements are an essential tool for overcoming tariff and non-tariff barriers, opening markets, and facilitating trade flows. It is important to promote new ones, finalize those under negotiation, ratify those under transitional application, and carry out maintenance of those signed.

New balanced and non-discriminatory promotion policies that do not neglect symbolic sectors of European production protected by the geographical indication system are needed at EU level.

The Food Industry’s commitment to research issues is based on the concept that the transfer of process and product innovations would improve the competitiveness positioning of the sector, strengthening the distinctiveness of Made in Italy products.

THE NETHERLANDS

TKI AgriFood

In the Netherlands, the government, the business community and research institutes determine in consultation which themes financial support is available for scientific research. The results in a four-year knowledge and innovation agenda. The Top Consortium for Knowledge and Innovation (TKi) coordinates the implementation of the knowledge and innovation agenda and takes care of the annual research programming.

In 2023, work will be done on a new agenda for the next four years. As in the previous edition sustainability and health are the main issues. For sustainability this includes sustainable production methods, the transition to lower production and the reduction of waste.

In the field of health, the focus is on reducing salt, sugar and fat in the diet and developing healthy products for vulnerable target groups and on developing new strategies to promote healthy food.

PORTUGAL

Portugal FOOD

The agri-food sector in Portugal has been increasing its contribution to the country’s economic growth. With a 6% weight on gross domestic products and representing 19% in value of the manufacturing industry, the Portuguese food industry is distinguished by its innovation and technological modernity and by the excellence and quality of its products. The sector relies on competitive factors with a strong investment on R&D and on the transition to a more green and digital food system, as well as in a strong marketing strategy to promote Portugal and its food products.

PortugalFoods (cluster for the agri-food sector), aims to boost food companies’ development and competitiveness. As a collaborative ecosystem PortugalFoods is a platform where its members establish win-win relationships, sharing knowledge to support innovation. With a strong track record of projects and initiatives, built among food industry, universities and R&D centers, like ModFood (https://modfood.pt), Nutriage (https://nutriage.eu/pt), CleanLabelPlus (https://cleanlabelplus.com/en), the decarbonization roadmap of Portuguese food industry and ECOTROPHELIA Portugal (https://ecotropheliatourism.com), we envision a more sustainable agri-food system and the development of more healthy products. New projects are arising and consumer centered development and ESG in the food chain will lead to more sustainable diets that are more friendly to the planet.

GERMANY

FEI

In terms of nutrition, we are in the midst of a global transformation process. The world’s population is growing steadily and with it the demand for sustainably produced food. The use of plant proteins and protein-rich side streams, as well as the development of new sources of raw material, will play a much more important role in the future than in the past, not least in order to accommodate the growing trend toward a vegetarian or flexitarian diet. Against the backdrop of climate change, the food industry must face new challenges and develop creative concepts for sustainable food production in the future. This is where the ECOTROPHELIA EU competition and the national ECOTROPHELIA competitions make important and pioneering contributions.

ROMANIA

ASSAI

Association of Food Industry Specialists from Romania (ASSAI) was established in October 2009 as a private Romanian legal entity, without patrimonial purpose, with the aim of promoting Romanian food and specialists in the food industry.

Association provides a coherent framework for collaboration with national and international authorities and initiatives innovative events, courses and trainings. It develops a specialized publication. Our association supports fundamental research and technological innovations in universities and companies, provides consulting, expertise and training of new food products.

The strategy of the A.S.S.A.I. association is in agreement with Romania’s vision in the ADR sector in 2020/30 and will be based on the following three strategic objectives:

- Accelerating the structural transition towards an economically viable agriculture (medium and large), in parallel with the alignment with demographic trends and the gradual reduction of the surplus of agricultural workforce.
- Increasing coverage of food consumption from production internal and regulating the status of net agro-food exporter, in accordance with the potential of sectoral production and in response to the growing demand for food worldwide.
- Limiting the carbon footprint of agriculture and promoting a climate-resilient agriculture in agriculture and energy efficiency.

SLOVENIA

CCS-CAFE

By 2030, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia – Chamber of Agricultural and Food Enterprises (CCS-CAFE) will become a key reference point for development and strengthening agri-food system in Slovenia.

Supporting sustainable development, boosting innovation, and building a stable food supply system is centred on the three main pillars: sustainability, competitiveness, and innovation. The strategy CCS-CAFE that we will continue to build towards, for, and with the industry, to build a strong agri-food system, and make sure to equip every (future) expert with the knowledge and skills necessary to bring the industry into a new, sustainable era.

With increasing internationalization, relations among the entire agri-food chain have become more important, and we make sure to consistently strengthen the relations from farm to fork and involve all stakeholders along the way. Digitalization will also bring new solutions for existing challenges, and we have to make sure to use the opportunities that it brings while simultaneously managing the potential risks.

This way, we can build a system that is socially, economically, and environmentally responsible, sustainable, and fair, which will be the main goal for every company and organization in 2030.

SPAIN

FIAB

The food and beverage industry is leading the industrial sector in Spain. As a vital and strategic sector, it supplies citizens with safe, tasty, and quality products and is a driving force for economic, social, and environmental development. FIAB works to foster sector competitiveness, to improve the quality of life of citizens through food and to build a safe, healthy, sustainable, and innovative industrial sector. For this purpose, one of the main challenges is to strengthen competitiveness of the sector throughout the value chain.

FIAB works as well in the development of new value public-private-collaboration, specifically, to have a secure and stable business environment, promoting a proportionate and harmonised fiscal and regulatory framework, facilitating the relations from farm to fork and involving all stakeholders along the way.

Sustainability is a key factor, as our future depends entirely on the viability of our agriculture in agriculture and energy efficiency. Likewise, as an exporting force, food companies put great emphasis on research & innovation, on digitalization and technology. We will continue to unite food professionals to motivate, inspire and lead the relations from farm to fork and involve all stakeholders along the way.

Digitalization will also bring new solutions for existing challenges, and we have to make sure to use the opportunities that it brings while simultaneously managing the potential risks.

UK

IFST

The Institute of Food Science and Technology (IFST) has a vision of food in 2030 where food science and technology has been advanced for the benefit, safety and health of the public worldwide. Our priority is to inspire young people to study science and choose a career in food, especially food science and technology. We will continue to unite food professionals to motivate, educate and mobilise the next generation of food innovators. The challenge is continuing to produce safe and sustainable food at scale in increasingly hostile environments. As the leading professional body for those involved in the food systems.

The Institute of Food Science and Technology (IFST) has a vision of food in 2030 where food science and technology has been advanced for the benefit, safety and health of the public worldwide. Our priority is to inspire young people to study science and choose a career in food, especially food science and technology. We will continue to unite food professionals to motivate, educate and mobilise the next generation of food innovators. The challenge is continuing to produce safe and sustainable food at scale in increasingly hostile environments. As the leading professional body for those involved in the food systems.
Fabiola DIONISI
Interview
Senior Expert in the Academic Alliances and Expertise Development Group of Nestlé Research.

What do you do?
I am Senior Expert and I work in the Academic Alliances and Expertise Development Group of Nestlé Research. My work is dedicated to open innovation through creation of research collaborations with Academic Partners and scouting for Academic spin-offs and startups. This also encounters the identification and mentoring of young talents. The final scope of my work is to enable Nestlé to create value through Academic collaborations and spin-offs.

What do you advise young people?
- Know what you want and what you do not want
- Build your network and connect
- Find your mentors and people who inspire you
- Ask for feedback and build on it to learn and grow
- Develop an entrepreneur mind set

What do you find exciting in food innovation?
I am truly passionate about food because it plays a fundamental and central role in our society and strongly impacts individuals and the Planet. My knowledge of food has been developed both by training (MSc in Food Science and Technology, MSc in Nutritional Medicine and PhD in Food Biotechnologies) as well as by working experience. For me, innovation means to be at the forefront of modernity, trends, discovery, finding solutions for grand challenges, scout and develop new technologies. It is stimulating and rewarding, a necessity and an urgency. My big dream in innovation is to provide tasty, nutritious and affordable food to the world population in a sustainable way and respecting to the Planet.

What do you see as value in ECOTROPHELIA for young generations?
ECOTROPHELIA has an important impact on the development of new generation of innovators in the domain of food. It helps young people to truly understand what means entrepreneurship and it provides a “real world experience”. To acquire an entrepreneurship mindset means to embrace emerging technologies and approaches, to seek for innovative ideas and understand the value of prototyping and of early feedback, to take responsibility for development and deployment of solutions, to demonstrate perseverance, to take decision based on limited information, to challenge the status quo and to take ownership. This last point is very important also from a personal perspective: we own our knowledge, our trainings and, at the end, our career and personal development.

Since April 2019, four ECOTROPHELIA projects developed from higher education students have joined the Nestlé R&D Accelerator, namely: KofCo, TempSta, Lady Culottée and Frosti.
What current and future challenges are facing the industry, and how can Campden BRI help?

As we look beyond 2023, we should expect various global and local factors to continue to challenge our supply chains. In the face of associated cost and availability issues, we help food and drink business operators navigate challenges relating to sourcing the required materials, food safety threats, variability of quality and functionality, enforced changes and rising costs.

As food fraud continues to pose a threat, we support food and drink businesses to put robust measures in place for identifying and addressing risks. This protects consumers, corporate reputation and ultimately the bottom line.

Quality culture is especially important for all food and drink businesses to focus on, especially in challenging times. With general industry themes of increased staff turnover, increasing costs and decreased investment in recent years, it is vital that businesses keep their people engaged and focused on the goal of producing safe, quality products for their consumers. We run a Culture Excellence Program, in partnership with Taylor Shannon International. It is developed specifically for assessing, characterising, strengthening, and benchmarking safety and quality culture at manufacturing, retail, food service, and supporting settings.

We expect many businesses to focus on product optimisation, including cost reduction activities such as reformulation, rationalising product and raw material portfolios, optimising packaging and/or extending shelf-life. We continue to help businesses to protect and maximise revenue and reduce costs, and ensure that these activities are guided by consumer views on our clients’ products.

Shelf-life extensions, whilst advantageous for manufacturers, stockists and even consumers, must be carefully managed to ensure that food safety and quality are maintained. We expect to continue to see a high level of activity in the area of shelf-life extension, with manufacturers wanting our support to reduce waste and improve profit margin.

For many businesses it is likely that, since initially developing their product, new technologies now exist that can significantly improve their manufacturing process. By adopting new and advanced technologies, food business operators can benefit from reduced waste and increased productivity, create new revenue streams, and unlock elusive value and potential from their products. Strategies may include upgrading equipment, implementing industry 4.0 (such as using automation and/or artificial intelligence), process optimisation, improving energy efficiency, and waste valorisation. In various areas of the supply chain, consideration may also be given to investing in technology that aims to help overcome skills and labour shortages. Other opportunities include using new supply chain routes, such as from cellular agriculture and precision farming.

As the changing global context continues to transform the way we produce, distribute and consume food, businesses within the food and drink industry will need to be resilient in order to ensure continuity of supply of safe, quality products. Across our wide range of services, we can help you manage all elements of supply chain resilience – from management systems and best practice, supplier quality assurance, improving food safety culture and risk communication and training, navigating ingredient variability and changes, and conducting analysis and testing, to providing information and guidance on all of these elements.

How does ECOTROPHELIA, too, support solutions?

As the industry grapples with the issues discussed here, along with balancing health, nutrition, food security and environmental challenges across the whole food system, we need to look for innovative solutions that support a prosperous future.

ECOTROPHELIA is a fantastic platform and source of eco-innovation and inspiration for the food and drink industry. It capitalises on the creativity and energy of our brightest and most enterprising food science students, supported by the best academic institutions.

It helps to attract and support talent into the industry, as well as foster the innovative spirit needed to help the industry become more sustainable, efficient and resilient.
Presentation of the jury members 2023

PRESIDENT
of the 2023 judging panel

- Mr Carlos Morales Cueto
  R&D Accelerator Technical Manager
  Nestlé

OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES

- Mr Bertrand Emond
  Membership Ambassador and Professional Development & Culture Excellence Lead – Campden BRI UK

- Ms Françoise Gorga
  Collaborative R&D Development Manager
  Institut Carnot AgriFood Transition

- Ms Mariana Fazenda
  PhD, Education Program Manager
  EIT FOOD

- Mr Daniele Rossi
  R&I Chairmanship
  Copa Cogeca

14 National Official Representatives

BELGIUM
Mr Matthias Haec
CEO – VITAL 1926 NV

CROATIA
Mrs Draženka Komes
Full Professor – CroFost

DENMARK
Ms Ana Pejic
CPO – Tempy Foods Aps

FRANCE
Mrs Audrey Ashworth
Event Director – COMEXPOSIUM – SIAL

GERMANY
Mr Martin Ammann
Managing Director – Innoptimum

GREECE
Mrs Vasiliki Papadimitriou
General Director – FEDERATION OF HELLENIC FOOD INDUSTRIES (SEVT)

ITALY
Ms Francesca Pancrazio
Central Council Member of the Young Entrepreneurs – Federalimentare

NETHERLANDS
Mr Kees de Gooijer
CEO – TKI Agri&Food

PORTUGAL
Mr Timothy Hogg
Reader in Food Science and Technology – ESB-UCP

ROMANIA
Mr Cătălin Bilbie
Innovation Manager – Expergo Sensory Research

SERBIA
Dr Saša Despotović
Associated Professor – Faculty of Agriculture, Belgrade University

SLOVENIA
Mrs Tatjana Zagorc
Director – Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia – Chamber of Agricultural and Food Enterprises (CCIS-CAFÉ)

SPAIN
Mr Bruno Martinez Falagan
Environmental Director – MAHOU SAN MIGUEL

UNITED KINGDOM
Mr Chris Gilbert-Wood
Trustee – Institute of Food Science and Technology
Presentation of the 14 projects for the 2023 edition of ECOTROPHELIA EUROPE

**BELGIUM**

**APÉRONIA**
Biscuit & cake, Nutriceutical, Spreadable
Aperonia is a duo aperitif of dip and crackers made of aronia contributing to cardiovascular health.
Université Catholique de Louvain - UCLouvain

**NETHERLANDS**

**QUINOLA FERMENTED DRINK**
Breakfast, Drink
Quinola is a tasty and healthy beverage made primarily of fermented quinoa, dates, and cinnamon.
Maastricht University

**CROATIA**

**CROLAČ**
Biscuit & cake
Chocolate cake with lyophilised fruit and almonds.
Faculty of Tourism and Rural Development in Požega, University of Osijek

**PORTUGAL**

**SPIRULOS**
Bread and pastry
Spirulos are the power of nature in a snack, with a unique blend of spirulina and broccoli.
University of Aveiro

**DENMARK**

**MYT BITES**
Ready-cooked meal
Climate-friendly protein from nordic oceans.
DTU Technical University of Denmark

**ROMANIA**

**MEATATELLI**
Meat product
Meatatelli is a type of pasta in which the main ingredient is meat, not flour as in ordinary pasta.
Iasi University of Life Sciences

**FRANCE**

**POM'PEEL'UP**
Drink
Apple pomace upcycling: a co-product into a refreshing, sparkling and low-alcoholic beverage.
Institut Agro Rennes Angers

**SLOVENIA**

**PESTOART**
Sauce & gravy, Spreadable
Innovative, delicious and versatile pesto sauces.
Biotehniška fakulteta, Univerza v Ljubljani

**GERMANY**

**ABNOBA**
Drink
Abnoba is a fermented, refreshing beverage made from ground elder and nettle.
Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

**SPAIN**

**GARROBITES**
Biscuit & cake
Garrobites is a Mug Cake mix made with carob flour, a by-product of the locust bean extraction.
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

**GREECE**

**PEELASTE**
Biscuit & cake, Breakfast, Nutriceutical, Side dish
Taste not waste! Potato peels transformed for sustainable snacking – a guilt-free delight.
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

**ITALY**

**ICE CRICKET**
Dessert, Ice cream & sorbet
Water-based ice cream with partially defatted cricket powder, chocolate flavor and lactose-free.
Università degli Studi di Padova

**UNITED KINGDOM**

**PLANEAT PROTEIN POPPERS**
Meat product
Pork flavoured insect protein snack bites coated in a BBQ spiced pea crumb.
University of Nottingham
**Belgium**

**Aperonia**

Biscuit & cake, Nutriceutical, Spreadable

Aperonia is a duo aperitif of dip and crackers made of aronia contributing to cardiovascular health.

**Team Members**

Alicia Culot
Ophélie Grenier
Louisa Ho
Louise Momin
Gracia Sofia

**University**

Université Catholique de Louvain - UCLouvain
https://uclouvain.be/fr/index.html

**Contact Person**

Mr François Heroufosse, Invited Lecturer

Aperonia, a savoury organic duo aperitif of dip and crackers made of aronia that contributes to a good cardiovascular health.

Tired of the usual fatty and salty aperitifs that make you feel guilty at the end of the evening? How about combining pleasure and good health with an aperitif other than vegetable dips? Let yourself be surprised by Aperonia: a purple dip allaying the fruity flavor of aronia with the sweetness of beet, enhanced by a touch of acidity and by the crunchiness of crackers with a touch of salt and herbs of Provence. A real journey of new flavors that will awaken your taste buds while reducing your cholesterol and contributing to your good cardiovascular health. Yes, that’s true, this super-fruit that is the aronia berry is particularly rich in a special antioxidant that differentiates it from the simple blueberry or cranberry. To top it all off, Aperonia is 100% natural, vegan, without preservatives or artificial colors and made with ingredients from local organic producers. Aperonia, a healthy pleasure with friends.

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**Federation of the Belgian Food Industry - Fevia**

https://www.fevia.be

The food industry is Belgium’s leading industrial sector. Food companies account for a significant proportion of industrial activity, creating direct and indirect employment for hundreds of thousands of people. As the Belgian food industry federation, Fevia aims to promote the sustainable development of the sector by cooperating with all stakeholders. Its membership includes large companies and SMEs; local, small-scale producers and companies engaged in mass-production based on leading-edge technology. Fevia also cooperates with 27 associations each of which represents a specific sector of the food industry.

With Food.be – Small country. Great food. the sector highlights the quality, diversity and innovation of Belgian food across the world.

Mr Bart Buisse, CEO
Mrs Melissa Augello, Event Specialist

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**Croatia**

**Crolač**

Biscuit & cake

Chocolate cake with lyophilised fruit and almonds.

Crolač is a functional product that, with its ingredients, aims to stimulate energy, concentration, brain work and focus on working people, students, vegans and every people who want to treat their taste receptors with something delicious in one bite. It is an energetically and ecologically acceptable product, with carefully selected raw materials to create a balanced taste and recognizable texture.

**Team Members**

Nika Jukić
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**Contact Person**

Prof Maja Ergović - Ravandić, Professor
Prof Helena Marčetić, Professor

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**Croatian Society of Food Technologists, Biotechnologists and Nutritionists (CROFoST)**

https://pbn.pbf.hr/index.php/hdpbn

CroFoST has the goal of linking Bachelors and Masters of Food Technology, Biotechnology and Nutrition Science at the Faculty of Food Technology and Biotechnology, University of Zagreb in order to develop and promote the profession, preserve the dignity of the profession and represent its interests. The CroFoST Programme is primarily focused on the research of employment possibilities; the influence on legal regulations; linking to related associations and international non-government organisations; popularising profession through media and publishing the Croatian Journal of Food Technology, Biotechnology and Nutrition. Annually, the Association organizes several food events, such as the national ECOTROPEHIA competitions and national professional meeting Functional Food in Croatia, and every second year, the Association is involved in the organization of Congress of Food Technologists, Biotechnologists and Nutritionists.

Mr Mario Siketić, Associate professor
Ms Draženka Komes, Full professor
DENMARK

MYT BITES

Ready-cooked meal

Myt Bites
Climate-friendly protein from nordic oceans.

At Myt, we believe in the urgent need for sustainable food solutions as the global population grows. That’s why we’ve chosen blue mussels as our primary ingredient. This incredible superfood is packed with essential nutrients like protein, vitamin B-12, Omega-3 fatty acids, and iodine, offering an abundance of health benefits. What sets blue mussels apart is their inherent sustainability. Unlike traditional land-based agriculture, they require no fresh water or feed, making them highly resource-efficient. By using blue mussels, we contribute to improved water quality and underwater biodiversity, supporting the health of our oceans. Plus, we minimize carbon emissions and reduce pressure on land resources, ensuring a brighter, greener future. However, we don’t stop at sustainability alone. Myt takes it a step further by creating delectable hybrid products that cater to modern consumers. We carefully blend blue mussels with complementary ingredients like oats and vegetables, resulting in crispy and mouth-watering Myt bites. Our innovative creations offer a delightful way to enjoy blue mussels, appealing to a wider audience. We’re proud to be part of the solution in making superfoods more accessible and environmentally friendly. Join us on our journey to transform the way we fuel ourselves and our planet.

Myt: where sustainability and nutrition meet deliciousness. Experience the power of blue mussels today!

FRANCE

POM’PEEL’UP

Drink
Apple pomace upcycling: a co-product into a refreshing, sparkling and low-alcoholic beverage.

Are you tired of drinking the same boring and predictable drinks, cider, beer...! Overwhelmed by so much monotony, are you looking for something more exciting, more refreshing and above all more eco-friendly? Then let us introduce you to Pom’Peel’Up, our range of alcoholic, sparkling and flavoured drinks made from upcycled apple pomace!

We wanted to kill two birds with one apple: we combined local, quality ingredients with innovative upcycling techniques to create ultra-refreshing, eco-friendly and sustainable drinks.

We are proud to be part of this new generation of brands that believe in sustainability and environmental responsibility. Each drink in our range is created using a co-product: apple pomace, from the Brittany cider and apple juice industry. Drinking Pom’Peel’Up means living on apple pomace and fresh water!
PEELASTE
sustainable snacking – a guilt-free delight.
Taste not waste! Potato peels transformed for Biscuit & cake, Breakfast, Nutriceutical, Side dish

Dr Konstantina Pasvanka, Post-Researcher
Dr Eleni Kollia, Post-Doctoral

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Elpida Mantzakopoulou
Konstantina Avdala
Aikaterini Anastasopoulou

Are you ready to embark on a snacking adventure that’s both tantalizing and sustainable?
Look no further than Peelaste – the innovative range of crackers made from potato peels. Brace yourself for a taste revolution as Peelaste combines incredible flavors with an unwavering commitment to eco-consciousness.
Indulge guilt-free in a delightful array of flavors like Homemade Spanakopita, Paprika Fiesta, Mediterranean Salad, and Sweet Potato Harvest.

PEELASTE
Biscuit & cake, Breakfast, Nutriceutical, Side dish
Taste not waste! Potato peels transformed for sustainable snacking – a guilt-free delight.

Team Members
Aikaterini Anastasopoulou
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Researcher

Abnoba – a refreshing herbal beverage.
In a moment of tranquility and clarity, Abnoba, the Black Forest goddess of growth and fertility, spoke to us. People have become blind to her works, she said. As her messengers in the modern world, she called upon us to awaken the shrine of secrets that lay dormant.
Abnoba bestowed upon us a gift. Boundless energy. A boundless energy that was meant to make you, the seekers, feel and sharpen your senses. This has become our mission. Our young, dynamic team of five disciples invites you to explore Abnoba, a 100% locally produced beverage. Designed to awaken the spirits of the Black Forest and deliver Abnoba’s message, this beverage carries the essence and the elixir of the forest. With the power of regional forests, we look back and rediscover the ancient secrets of German forest herbs. In times long past, ground elder and nettle were highly valued as medicinal and culinary herbs.
Today, unfairly largely dismissed as weeds, Abnoba lifts this veil of oblivion. With its strong herbal notes complemented by a woody aroma and earthy finish, Abnoba presents itself as a unique and innovative entry in the non-alcoholic carbonated beverage segment. These characteristics stem from the ingredients used, including ground elder, nettle, and fir syrup. Finally, a complex fermentation process lifts these flavors to new heights.
Abnoba is a refreshing herbal beverage, which takes you on a journey through the enchanting flavors of nature.

The Research Association of the German Food Industry (FEI) is a non-profit, registered association supporting research projects in all fields of food science, food technology and nutritional science. The FEI connects economy and science: It coordinates yearly about 100 cooperative research projects in all fields of food science, food technology and nutritional science.
Up today the FEI is the sole research association spanning almost all branches and disciplines of the food and drink industry in Germany.
The FEI represents the Greek Food & Drink Industry, which is a dynamic, competitive and extrovert sector that plays a significant role in the Greek economy. Its members are Branch Associations and individual food companies. The mission of SEVT is to facilitate the development of an enabling business environment where all food and drink companies can operate responsibly to respond to the increasing needs of both consumers and society, by offering products of high quality, safe and environmentally friendly. Committed to the leverage of business competitiveness, SEVT works to link research and innovation with the needs of the production sector and supports initiatives, such as ECOTROPHELIA contest, which bring together young generation, researchers and professionals of the food sector and promote the innovative ideas for the Food Industry.

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Mrs Vasiliki Papadimitriou, Director General
Mrs Natassa Kapelakou, Project Manager
Quinola fermented drink: a tasty and healthy beverage made with fermented quinoa.

Are you looking for a delicious and sustainable beverage you will never feel guilty drinking? Look no further than Quinola, a remarkable plant-based fermented beverage that combines the healthiness of quinoa seeds and canola protein with the delicious flavors of dates and cinnamon. It is the perfect choice for people looking for a tasty drink filled with proteins and dietary fibers while avoiding refined sugars and saturated fats. Thanks to its excellent nutritional quality, each sip contributes to nourishing your body with essential nutrients, yet little calories, allowing you to maintain a perfectly balanced diet without compromising taste. Our drink is carefully crafted to provide you with a rich source of proteins and dietary fibers that promote satiety and support your overall well-being.

By choosing Quinola, you are not only making a positive impact on your health but also contributing to a greener future. Our product is a sustainable alternative, being 100% plant-based, with recyclable carton packaging and responsible sourced ingredients. Furthermore, we strive to include all the ingredients in our products as a whole, so we choose to use sustainable technologies that leave no waste. With Quinola, make the smart choice for your body and our planet.
Spirulos are a unique savoury snack consisting of spirulina, broccoli, chia seeds and Aveiro salt flour. They are an excellent source of vitamins B3 and C, iron and fibre, making them a healthy option for health-conscious consumers. They are a perfect accompaniment to craft beers, providing a unique flavour experience. The sophisticated and attractive packaging complements the simplicity of the Spirulos proposition, transporting consumers to nature with every bite.

As a national cluster for the agrifood sector, PortugalFoods aims to promote the development and competitiveness of food companies, through the increase of their technological index and the promotion of their internationalization. PortugalFoods is a private non-profit association that brings together more than 170 members, including food industry companies, entities from the national scientific system (universities & institutes) and other members whose activity is related with the agrifood sector. By empowering food companies and connecting partners, PortugalFoods is a platform where its members establish win-win relationships with the final goal of producing and sharing knowledge to support innovation, competitiveness and internationalization.

Dr Amândio Dantos, Chairman
Dr Bruna Antunes, Project Manager at Knowledge Division

Meatatelli is a type of pasta in which the primary raw material is meat. Meat from a food by-product, pork rind, has also been used to use products that are of little interest to the food industry and make them more palatable. Chicken bone broth was added to increase the nutritional value of the pasta and its binding capacity, which contributes a significant amount of protein and collagen to the product, thus enriching its nutritional value. Semola flour was also used in the product, which has a higher nutritional value than ordinary flour, which also increases the nutritional content of the final product.
**Serbia**

**Sweet Duo**

**Dried Fruit Dessert**

Dessert

Sweet Duo is a dessert made from organic dried fruits.

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**Slovenia**

**PestoArt**

**Sauce & gravy, Spreadable**

Innovative, delicious and versatile pesto sauces.

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**Federation**

**Serbian Association of Food Technologists, SAFT**

http://upts.org.rs

The Serbian Association of Food Technologists (SAFT) is organization of food professionals established in 2009 in Belgrade. The SAFT mission is to create and maintain a strong link and interconnection between research institutions and food companies, researchers and food professionals, and to support and promote enabling environment for innovations in the food sector. SAFT was the organizer or co-organizer of several important international and national food related events in Serbia, such as the 4th European Workshop on Food Engineering and Technology, 6th CEFood Congress, International FoodTech Congresses, national competitions for the best PhD thesis in food technology and food engineering, national ECTOPHIELIA competitions, several industrial and traditional food producers workshops on safe production, trends in packaging, new products development, IPR protection, innovation ecosystem and technology transfer in the food sector, beer symposia. SAFT is a collective member of EFFoST.

Prof Viktor Nedović, President of Serbian Association of Food Technologists, SAFT

Dr Ana Kalušević, Member of Organizing Committee of National Competition

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**Federation**

**Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia - CCIS-CAFE**

https://www.gzs.si/zbornica_kmetijskih_in_zivilskih_podjetij

CCIS-CAFE is an independent, voluntary, non-profit, interest group of legal entities. It comprises the interests of around 268 agricultural & food companies, and is the biggest association of agricultural and food companies in Slovenia. We represent interests of our members with respect to state authorities, institutions, trade unions, European associations and institutions of the European Union. As a representative of the national food industry association CCIS-CAFE is a multiple purpose adviser and develops strategic partnerships for the purpose of innovation. We offer our members professional help in form of consulting, information, education and training.

Dr Tatjana Zagorc, General Director

Ms Maja Oblak, Consultant

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The design of Sweet Duo combines simplicity and innovation. Inspired by trends of healthy snack products, by combining classic and osmotic drying processes, we created a treat with a traditional flavour that is typical for fruits it is made of, 100% fruit, without the use of additives and added sugar. Sweet Duo is a nutritious «bomb» in a pocket-sized packaging. It is a source of energy and fibre, appropriate for any after-school snack, a break from classes, practise or work, and available in case you simply want something sweet. It is suitable for consumption by all individuals that value a balanced diet as well as by those who aspire to one.

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PestoArt is an innovative team dedicated to offering a range of delicious, nutritious, and premium pesto sauces. Our gourmet line features three distinct flavors: rosemary, kale, and carrot top. The inception of our journey was fueled by the desire to cater to the evolving needs of modern consumers. Through a comprehensive consumer survey, we gathered valuable insights that informed the creation of our signature pesto sauces: Krazy Kaly, Caring Roty, and Sun-Kissed Marry. Our collaboration with esteemed culinary experts, including renowned chefs played a crucial role in shaping the development of our pesto sauces. Their expertise and guidance were instrumental in refining our recipes and ensuring exceptional taste profiles. To ensure quality, we diligently source locally grown vegetables from a farm practicing integrated production methods. Each jar of our pesto undergoes a meticulous crafting process to meet the highest standards of excellence. Ideal for passionate food enthusiasts and seasoned chefs, PestoArt pesto sauces offer incredible versatility. Whether used as appetizers or main dishes, they are guaranteed to impress guests with their unique flavors. Experience a culinary masterpiece with PestoArt pesto sauces, savoring their unparalleled taste, quality, and freshness. Each jar is a testament to culinary artistry, inspiring boundless creativity in the kitchen. Step into the captivating world of PestoArt, where pesto transcends into an art form.
**Spain**

**Garrobites**

Biscuit & cake

Garrobites is a Mug Cake mix made with carob flour, a by-product of the locust bean extraction.

**Team Members**

Blanca Marco Grau  
Gloria Rius Rodó  
Marc Sañé Puigví  
Laura Simón Martínez  
Aleix Vázquez Pereyra

**University**

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona  
https://www.uab.cat

**Contact Person**

Dr Buenaventura Guamis, Professor of Food Technology  
Prof Sébastien Bauer, Associate Professor

Garrobites is a product where the main ingredient is carob flour, a by-product of the locust bean gum extraction. It is a fine powder that only needs a vegetable drink (or milk) and a microwave, to prepare in less than two minutes a sponge cake in a cup, a mug cake as we call it, making it ideal for a quick snack in the office or at home. The carob flour (roasted carob pulp), is a low-fat ingredient that provides a great quantity of macronutrients and micronutrients, standing out for its calcium and fiber content. In addition, with our compromise of sustainability and environmental wellbeing, we aim to promote the cultivation of carob trees, native to the Mediterranean region and the Middle East, where Spain is one of the top producers of their products. These trees are of utmost importance in these present times we face, with their resistance to drought, ability to prevent desertification, erosion and soil degradation, they can be used to promote reforestation, helping to mitigate climate change.

Why Garrobites?

It is a vegan, gluten-free, no sugar added, ecological product made for environmentally conscious people, with dietary restrictions, and athletes, but suitable for everyone who wants to try a new and tasty pastry. Picking Garrobites means advocating for a better and thriving planet. Reclaim forgotten flavours with Garrobites.

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**United Kingdom**

**PlanEat Protein Poppers**

Meat product

Pork flavoured insect protein snack bites coated in a BBQ spiced pea crumb.

**Team Members**

Jessica Kerr  
Jessica Limb  
Isabel Parks  
Jessica Stinton  
Hannah Stodart

**University**

University of Nottingham  
https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/

**Contact Person**

Mr Gleb Yakubov, Associate Professor in Food Physics, Faculty of Science  
Mrs Jennifer Drury, Administrative Support for Food and Flavour Group, Faculty of Science  
Ms Laura Hill, PhD student with the University of Nottingham  
Flavour Group

PlanEat Protein Poppers are ready-to-eat snack bites made with 41% sustainably-sourced insect protein.

The golden, crunchy outer coating, flavoured with umami and smoky BBQ reveals a soft pork flavoured, succulent core, packed with protein from vertically farmed, EFSA-approved mealworms.

PlanEat Protein Poppers combine the nutritional and sustainability benefits of mealworm protein, with the flavour and appearance of well-recognised protein products, in a first-to-market insect snack product.

Whilst many snack products are high in saturated fat and sugar, and low in fibre, this product is high in fibre and protein, with only amber and green traffic lights, and is non-HFSS compliant, with a NutriScore A rating. This product satisfies consumer demand for nutritious and sustainable snacks, whilst providing a delicious, multisensory eating experience. Designed to be eaten ambient or reheated, this product is perfect for a nutritionally balanced on-the-go snack, a tasty treat at lunchtime, or simple meal solution for busy evenings.

To cater for this range of eating occasions, PlanEat Protein Poppers will be sold in single or multipack formats, in meal deals, or as a standalone item.

Future developments include range extension into the deli space, with sausage rolls or picnic items, and new flavours, such as fajita chicken.
Our sponsors 2023

Bringing together the food industry through innovation and entrepreneurship!

ECOTROPHÉLIA Europe EEIG is a European Economic Interest Grouping that aims to unite stakeholders from different Member States together around a common objective and brings together food industry actors from eight different countries to promote innovation and entrepreneurship in the European food industry through implementing and developing innovative programmes.

In particular, the EEIG, with the assistance of its members, aims to:
- Promote cooperation and exchanges between SMEs and universities, research institutes, public and private bodies involved in food innovation.
- Define policies, organise the European ECOTROPHÉLIA Europe competition and promote participation in the Competition and its results.
- Promote excellent education programmes linked to food innovation.
- Increase awareness and spreading information, particularly to students and young entrepreneurs.

It is in this context that ECOTROPHÉLIA carried by the EEIG has become a Food Innovation Laboratory.

EEIG Members
The members of the EEIG are trade unions from nine European entities representing the interests of national food companies, the European Union food industries: ANIA - France, FEVIA - Belgium, FIAB - Spain, SEVT - Greece, CCS-CAFÉ - Slovenia, FII - Iceland, LWA – Austria, FoodDrinkEurope and EIT FOOD.

With over 3,000 member companies in 80 countries, Campden BRI (www.campdenbri.co.uk) is the trusted, premier, independent technical partner of choice for the food and drink industry, working with all of the top 10 UK retailers, the top 15 global food and drink manufacturers and many of the world’s biggest brands. Leveraging its 250 plus world-renowned technical experts in the UK and Europe, it helps to make food safer, tastier, healthier, affordable, sustainable, convenient and innovative, underpinned by investment in meaningful research and science.

Campden BRI offers an extensive range of services and products including consultancy, analysis and testing, processing and manufacturing support and guidance, training, and legislation and labelling advisory services. Members and clients benefit from industry-leading facilities for analysis, product and process development and sensory and consumer studies, which include a specialist brewing and wine division.

Nestlé is based in Switzerland where it was founded more than 150 years ago. Nestlé is the world’s largest food and beverage company with 275,000 employees strongly driven by the purpose of enhancing the quality of life and contributing to a healthier future. Nestlé values are rooted in respect: respect for ourselves, respect for others, respect for diversity and respect for our future. Nestlé offers a wide portfolio of products and services for people and their pets throughout their lives. Nestlé has a dynamic inclusive international working environment with many opportunities across different businesses, functions and geographies, working with diverse teams and cultures.

Nestlé R&D organization encompasses Nestlé Research, which works on cross-category, fundamental research, and our wider Nestlé R&D organization dedicated to category-focused product and systems development. 4,100 people are working in R&D globally. Nestlé Research (NR) is based in Lausanne, Switzerland and employs approximately 800 people of about 50 nationalities, with a diverse range of competencies. It consists of five research institutes: Health Sciences, Food Sciences, Food Safety & Analytical Sciences, Packaging Sciences and Agricultural Sciences. Nestlé Research combines fundamental science at the highest level, high-end analytical platforms leveraged by all research teams, and strong prototyping capabilities to accelerate the translation of science into innovation. The expertise of NR scientists is complemented by a wide-reaching network of external partners such as universities, private research institutes and companies, hospitals and start-up companies. Nestlé Research published around 1,000 scientific publications in peer review journals over the last five years, and files about 80 patents every year. The cross-category research is complemented by Nestlé Product and Technology Centers (NPTCs). At these centers, the scientific discoveries are translated into products and technologies for a variety of categories. These are: coffee, confectionery, dairy, food, nutrition, pet care, ice cream, solutions for out-of-home, health science and waters. The Regional Innovation Centers in China, India, Africa, Southeast Asia, and now, Latin America, also work to develop products for local needs, as part of their local innovation ecosystems.

EIT Food is the world’s largest food innovation community, creating connections right across the food system. Supported by the European Union (EU), we invest in projects, organisations and individuals which share our goals for a healthy, resilient and sustainable food system.

We have built a unique network to carry out transformative programmes in skills, education, entrepreneurship, start-up investment, public engagement and communications. We deliver these programmes in partnership to create a culture and build a community which sees the long-term value in the food innovation we fund.

EIT Food is excited to launch a new opportunity dedicated to accelerating collaborations and partnerships between EIT Food, our community and organisations who share the impact ambitions described in our Mission goals. Working with partners, we have the capabilities to move quickly and effectively, creating impact from our co-investment, supported by high-quality innovation, business skills and impact assessment expertise.

Our Missions:

- Healthier Lives Through Food
- A Net Zero Food System
- Reducing Risk for a Fair & Resilient Food System