MAFE - Mobilising Agro-Food Expertise

**Vision**
With this project we contribute to the development of a competitive, efficient, innovative, and sustainable agribusiness sector.

**Mission**
Our work contributes to improving the understanding of the functioning of the agro-food industry by teaching policy-relevant issues concerning institutions, farmers' and consumers' behavior and the impact thereof on competition and the provision of quality.

**EU Agro-Food Industries**
- 6% of total gross-value added in the EU economy (2012)
- 11% of total EU employment
- €120 billion in exports and €19 billion trade surplus

**Erasmus +**
This program supports activities that contribute to the Europe 2020 strategy and the European Education and Training (ET) 2020 agenda.

By supporting our project, it also contributes to the Common Agriculture Policy (CAP).

**Challenges**
- Too few individuals develop sector-specific qualifications at university level;
- A gap exists between the skills that are actually required by employers and the curriculum offered by universities;
- Too little communication occurs among relevant stakeholders.

**Goals**
1. Disseminate expert knowledge
2. Provide students with key knowledge
3. Broaden accessibility and extend reach

**Project Status**
- We developed a Master-level module covering the agro-food supply chain
- 1st ISP (1 week Intensive Study Program) held at TUM, Germany, March 2015
- 2nd ISP held at Bozen, Trentino, Italy, March 2016
- 1st Multiplier Event held at University Cassino, Italy, October 2015

Currently ongoing:
- MOOC recording
- Planning of 3rd ISP in March 2017
- Hosting 2nd Multiplier Event in Edinburgh, UK, October 5th, 2016

**Strategic Partnership**
Strategic Partnerships aim to support the development, transfer, and/or implementation of innovative practices as well as the implementation of joint initiatives promoting cooperation, peer learning and exchanges of experience at European level.

**Actions**
- Expert knowledge is often localized at universities or in the industry. We bring together experts in different parts of the agro-food supply chain from European universities and industry to provide students with key knowledge and competencies.
- By creating a MOOC we lower the barriers to access university education and thus make better education available to a wider audience.

**Partners**
- BayWa
- Belkircher
- GRUNLAND
- dipEG
- SRUC
- UCD
- Wageningen University