

1. PUBLISHABLE SUMMARY

Summary of the context and overall objectives of the project (For the final period, include the conclusions of the action)

FoodPackLab's main objective is to reduce food waste, and improve food safety, by fostering innovation in the food sector through photonics and packaging technologies. It is an initiative of five European clusters (secpho, Packaging Cluster, Systematic Paris Region, Food Processing Initiative and foodRegio) aiming to foster collaboration between photonics, packaging and food processing sectors. It focuses on creating synergies between key stakeholders from targeted sectors by organizing matchmaking events, screening innovation challenges from food sector and disruptive solutions from packaging and photonics industries, and mapping opportunities for public funding for innovative projects.

Work performed from the beginning of the project to the end of the period covered by the report and main results achieved so far (For the final period please include an overview of the results and their exploitation and dissemination)

The initiative started with partners from three European countries (Spain, France and Germany) and enlarged its scope to three more EU Member States (Italy, Belgium, and Denmark). During last two years FoodPackLab connected with more than 100 European entities from targeted sectors (companies, research centres, universities, clusters and other business associations), identifying more than 30 innovation challenges and fostering more than 30 business and project collaborations. Partners also created a network of 40 entities (clusters, companies, research institutions) from the three sectors and prepared a roadmap and strategy for internationalisation which will further implemented through missions and other actions aiming to support European SMEs with entering non-EU markets.

Progress beyond the state of the art, expected results until the end of the project and potential impacts (including the socio-economic impact and the wider societal implications of the project so far)

As a part of exploitation activities, three webinars targeting FoodPackLab sectors were planned for the second quarter of 2020. First one, on new solutions for food safety, gathered more than 180 participants from different European and non-European countries. Two others will focus on sustainable packaging and deep tech solutions for agriculture. Moreover, the consortium has already started collaboration with partners from India and South Africa and in 2020/2021 they will focus on organising missions for European companies to these two countries to bring the initiated cross-sectoral collaboration on next level by going beyond Europe.

Address (URL) of the project's public website

<https://foodpacklab.eu/>

project logo

