



Press release

Creation of a *World Food Network*: F²C Innovation takes the initiative

Paris, June 4, 2010 – F²C Innovation, le French food industry “supercluster”, grouping together three French clusters (Agrimip, Valorial and Vitagora), organised yesterday a day of discussions with a positive result. The 15 food industry clusters and centres of excellence representing nine countries that took part have decided to create a *World Food Network* for innovation in the food industry. Its objectives will be to initiate and develop international R&D projects and to play an active role in studying and defining certain aspects of regulations for the sector. This meeting also resulted in the emergence of several projects in areas such as functional foods, allergens and food safety, or bio-sourced polymer plastics.

This meeting was organised as part of the strategy of F²C Innovation to identify potential partners corresponding to the priority areas defined by its three founding members. Of the 18 clusters and research organisations pre-selected and invited, 14 indicated their interest in participating and 12 made the journey to Paris to take part in fruitful discussions (1).

Nine workshops were held on themes relating to the prioritised themes of F²C Innovation (2) that have allowed the mapping of capabilities and technico-scientific resources. The discussions also lead participants to define themes for trans-national joint projects aiming for future European project calls (e.g. FP 7). Allergens, food safety, bio-sourced polymer plastics, and also a new approach to clinical studies during the development of functional foods, are a few of the topics selected.

The meeting ended with a unanimous decision to create an international capabilities network around innovation in the food sector. 15 organisations from 10 countries will take part in the *World Food Network*, with three Japanese clusters soon to be associated. “F²C Innovation, by taking this initiative, is driving and leading the group,” declared the representatives of F²C Innovation.

One of the objectives of the *World Food Network* is to quickly become a “source of propositions and of reflexion on innovation and regulations on a European and world level, in particular concerning functional foods”. The network will meet again in Paris in October during the SIAL international food trade show, and again in Turin in April, 2011.

Contact

Marthe Jewell - Vitagora

Ph. +33 3 80 78 97 92

Fax. +33 3 80 78 97 95

Mobile : +33 6 60 65 87 16

Email : marthe.jewell@vitagora.com

Email : contact@f2c-innovation.com

- (1) The organisations that took part in the meeting (15 clusters and research centres from 9 countries - **Canada, the Netherlands, Great Britain, Italy, Denmark, Sweden, Belgium, France, Spain**

AFMNET – Advanced Food and Materials Network (Canada)

Agrimip Innovation (France)

Campden & Chorleywood Research Association (Great Britain)

Food Valley (Netherlands)

IFR – Institute of Food Research (Great Britain)

IRTA – Institute of Food and Agricultural Technology Research (Spain)

Instituto Insubrico – Ricerca per la vita (Italy)

Materia Nova (Belgium)

Parco Tecnologico Padano (Italy)

SIK – Swedish Institute for Food and Biotechnology (Sweden)

University of Aarhus (Denmark)

Università di Torino (Italy)

Valorial (France)

Vitagora (France)

Wagralim (Belgium)

- (2) Topics of workshops (workshops coordinated by representatives of the three French clusters – Agrimip, Valorial et Vitagora)

1. **Chemistry and biochemistry of plant materials**
2. **Health and Nutrition**
3. **Animal Nutrition**
4. **Processing and Biotechnologies**
5. **Taste, sensoriality, emotions**
6. **Food security and toxicology**
7. **Bio-fertilizers**
8. **Food processing with an impact on organoleptic properties**
9. **Food conservation technologies**



F²C INNOVATION

F²C Innovation is the French Food industry “Super cluster” created by the alliance of three French clusters (**Agrimip Innovation, Valorial et Vitagora**). It represents a doorway onto a vast network of multidisciplinary research capable of analysing emerging technologies and changing food habits on an international scale in order to generate innovation within agriculture and food production.

This network of manufacturing companies and public and private research organisations covers all the links of the agri-food value chain: from food and non-food agri-business primary products through to functional ingredients and innovative product development adapted to the tastes and nutritional needs of tomorrow’s consumers.

The three main objectives are:

- To identify and cooperate with scientific centres of excellence throughout the world in order to lift technological obstacles
- To identify and cooperate with clusters for the development of joint projects promising economic benefits for the cluster members
- To promote the capabilities within the F²C Innovation network throughout the world and to contribute to the visibility of its territories

Contact :

contact@f2c-innovation.com

THE PARTNERS OF F²C Innovation



AGRIMIP INNOVATION

Agrimip Innovation was created in July 2007. The cluster is based in Toulouse in the Midi-Pyrénées region of France. Its network contains 125 companies and research centres. The concept of Agro-Chains is the key specialisation of the cluster. By articulating all the “links” of the value chain, from the market and consumer needs, to the production of agro-resources, agro-chains allow market players to innovate and develop their competitiveness by anticipating consumer needs. 3 areas have been prioritised: Analytical technologies, Processing and Market/Consumer.

Themes: Animal selection (in particular Ovines), Plant chemistry, Natural fertilisers and phyto-pharmaceuticals, Varietal selection (in particular Sunflower).

A few members: Groupe 3A, Nutrition et Santé, Raynal et Roquelaure, EDF, Euralis, Grand Moulins de Paris, Lallemand, Pierre Fabre, Roquefort Société, Ragt, Syngenta, Agro Nutrition...

Contact :

Patrice Roche, Directeur

Patrice.roche@agrimipinnovation.com

Email : contact@f2c-innovation.com



VALORIAL

Based in the French regions of Brittany, Pays de la Loire and Basse Normandie, with an international scope, Valorial is situated in one of Europe most productive food producing regions near to 250 companies, research centers and higher education establishments who interested in taking up the challenge of innovating and anticipating tomorrow's markets. Valorial is open to the international context for scientific and economic cooperations with partners from other countries in the areas of expertise of the cluster.

Areas of expertise of Valorial: Quality control of animal production, technologies of milk and egg production, innovative technologies, processing and packaging, functional ingredients, food microbiology, animal and human health and nutrition.

Main partners : Valorial's members are the majority of the companies of it's home regions (dairy, meat, vegetables, seafood, equipment manufacturers) and research centers (universities, INRA, technical centers...).

Contact:

Michel Pinel, Director

valorial@agrocampus-ouest.fr



VITAGORA® Taste-Nutrition-Health

Vitagora® Taste-Nutrition-Health groups together more than 100 companies and the elite of international research and training establishments on the themes of Taste-Nutrition-Health. Based in the French regions of Burgundy and Franche-Comté, Vitagora unites its members around innovation projects that put the consumer at the heart of scientific and technological processes (taste and nutritional expectations) while remaining respectful of good health and the environment.

Vitagora® has identified 4 key areas:

- Taste throughout the lifetime: perceptions, behaviors, learning
- Construction, preservation and reconstruction of consumer health
- Formulation, processes and materials at the service of taste and nutrition
- Production agricultural raw materials: impact on taste and nutrition

A few company members: Group Lactalis, Danone, Senoble, Unilever, Lesieur, Merck Médication Familiale, Group Dijon Céréales, Frutarom, Groupe SEB, Salaisons Dijonnaises, Chazal ...

Contact :

Christophe Breuillet, Directeur

Christophe.breuillet@vitagora.com

Email : contact@f2c-innovation.com