



Session 6 – *How to foster development of necessary skills: gearing up education and training for the bioeconomy*

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TRACK_FAST – *Training Requirements and Careers for Knowledge –based Food Science and Technology in Europe* – FP7 KBBE 227220

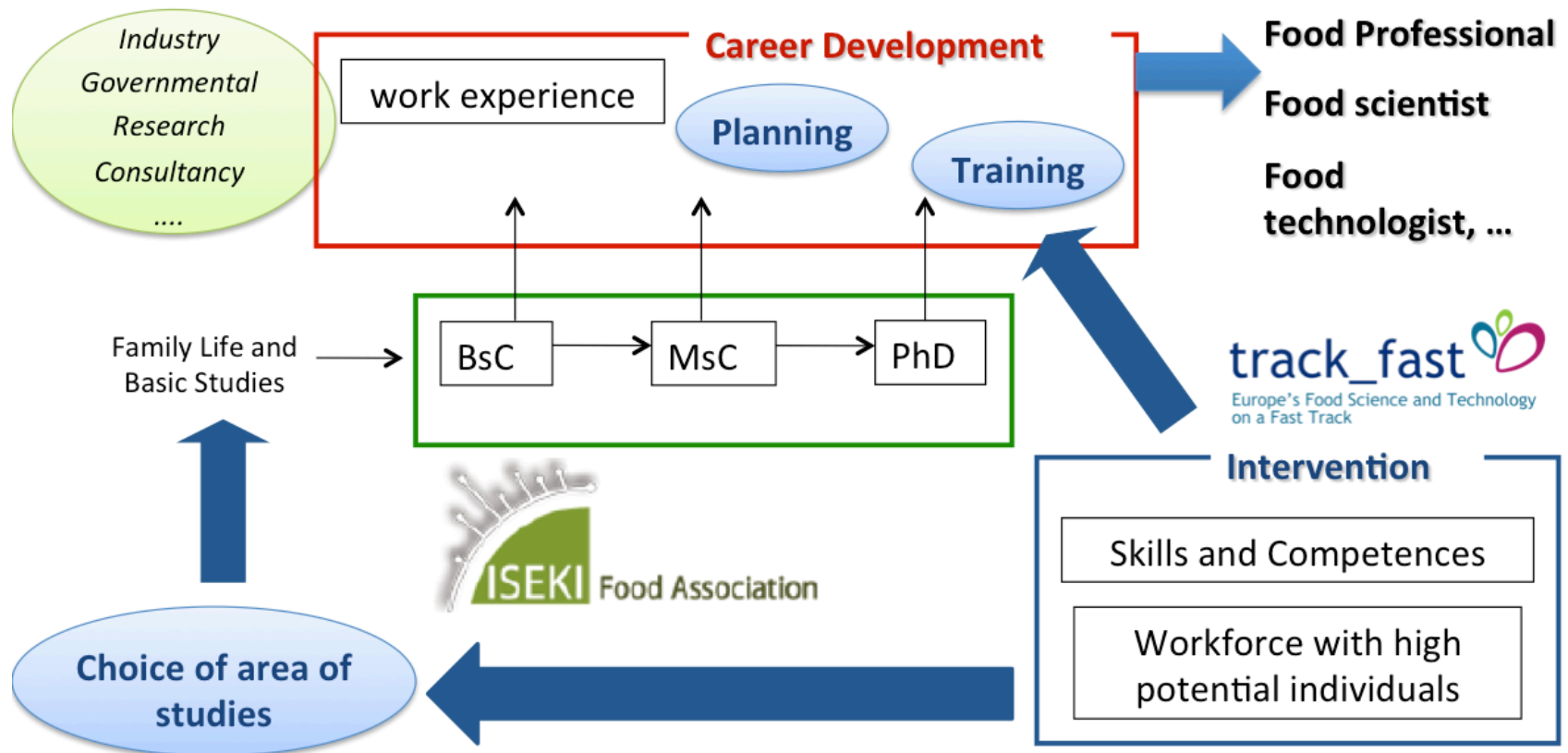
www.trackfast.eu

→ TRACKFAST - Objectives

Identification of the training and career requirements of future European food scientists and technologists (FST)

Implementation of a European strategy to recruit the next generation FST leaders

→ “Life cycle” of a Food Professional



→ Logical Framework

Update education/
training based on actual
and future food job
market needs

Establishment of a
framework for continual
professional training and
career development for
the FST professionals

Regulation of FST
professions in Europe

Promotion of FST to
attract students

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→ www.foodgalaxy.org



Food Science is a **real science with real challenges**



Food Science is a **fun – targeting a “younger” audience**

A career in Food Science is a **challenging and rewarding**



→ www.foodgalaxy.org



FOODGALAXY
EXPLORE HOW FASCINATING
FOOD SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY CAN BE

Highlights
Ozone
Tue, 25 Sep 2012
Ozone as a powerful
antimicrobial agent can be
used for decontamination
of water, produce,
equipment,
food contacts, surfaces, and

FOODGALAXY

2009 Project Track Fast: Training Requirements and Careers for Knowledge-based Food Science and Technology in Europe.
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Cristina Silva | Identidad

Estás a publicar, a comentar e a gostar como Cristina Silva

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New Skills for a European Bioeconomy
Brussels, 20-21 November 2012

→ Need to attract talents

CAREERS

A smorgasbord of opportunity

Food science is fun — and boasts better job prospects than many other industry niches.

BY ALIA KATSNELSON

Working with Monterey Mushrooms in Watsonville, California, is a growing prospect that ups the stakes in career of fungi.

Highly skilled about a dozen scientists who study how food processing affects nutrients, and devise food processes that boost health. "One of the things I've found most about my job is the ability to represent and take the basic research we develop into commercial products," she says.

The science of food is a great career choice for scientists of a practical bent, says Charles Sheehan, food scientist and graduate advisor at the food-science department at the University of California, Davis. "Most of all, it's a field with a lot of work, all the time," he says. Food science "is a way to enter a scientific career and stay anchored to something you can really count on." As a profession, it has long been something of a secret.

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CAREERS

Too many cooks

The heavy industry involvement can also bring challenges, says Megan Clements, who is finishing a food-science PhD at the University of California, Davis, and has already taken on her first job at Hargrove Creek Foods, a startup in San Francisco. Her dissertation looks to measure alcohol quality and is funded by the Almond Board of California, based in Modesto. "It was a marriage of convenience in some ways, but it was good training nonetheless," she says. However, she cautions that the goals of some industry-sponsored projects may not align with students' research experience they need to satisfy their academic requirements and add value to their CVs. Industry sponsors can also be fickle. "If suddenly they are not interested in what you originally started with, they might ask you to switch your topic or even quit," she says, adding that graduate students should recognize that academic advisors can also have vested interests in industry partners that might conflict with the student's needs.

The long arms of industry bring solid job prospects — a particular perk in the struggling economy. Unlike the pharmaceutical industry, which has laid off thousands of research staff over the past few years, food science recruiters and long-time researchers say that the sector has been touched only lightly by the economic crisis. According to the ITC, creating the new reports had dropped by 2010, but have been creeping back up.

"Nearly everyone in the graduate has a job, and many are choosing from two or three."

INDICATORS FOR SUCCESS

Product development is a common area for members to break into industry. Research and development at traditional companies with developed product lines may be tame, says Sheehan, but there is plenty of innovation and entrepreneurship in the start-up world, which is particularly well-catalyzed in California. "It's what the biotech world was like ten years ago," adds.

For instance, Hargrove Creek hired Clements to develop a plant-based burger in Deerfield Beach, Florida, that specializes in food science positions.

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CAREERS

AGRICULTURE

FOOD SCIENCE

FOOD SAFETY

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

FOOD BUSINESS

FOOD POLICY

FOOD ETHICS

FOOD HISTORY

FOOD CULTURE

FOOD SCIENCE

FOOD SAFETY

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FOOD SAFETY

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

FOOD BUSINESS

FOOD POLICY

FOOD ETHICS

FOOD HISTORY

FOOD CULTURE

Alla Katsnelson, Nature, Nov 2012

New Skills for a European Bioeconomy
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track_fast
Europe's Food Science and Technology on a Fast Track



→ Continual professional training and career development (CPD)

www.foodcareers.eu



Better prepared
PROFESSIONALS

New Skills for a European Bioeconomy
Brussels, 20-21 November 2012

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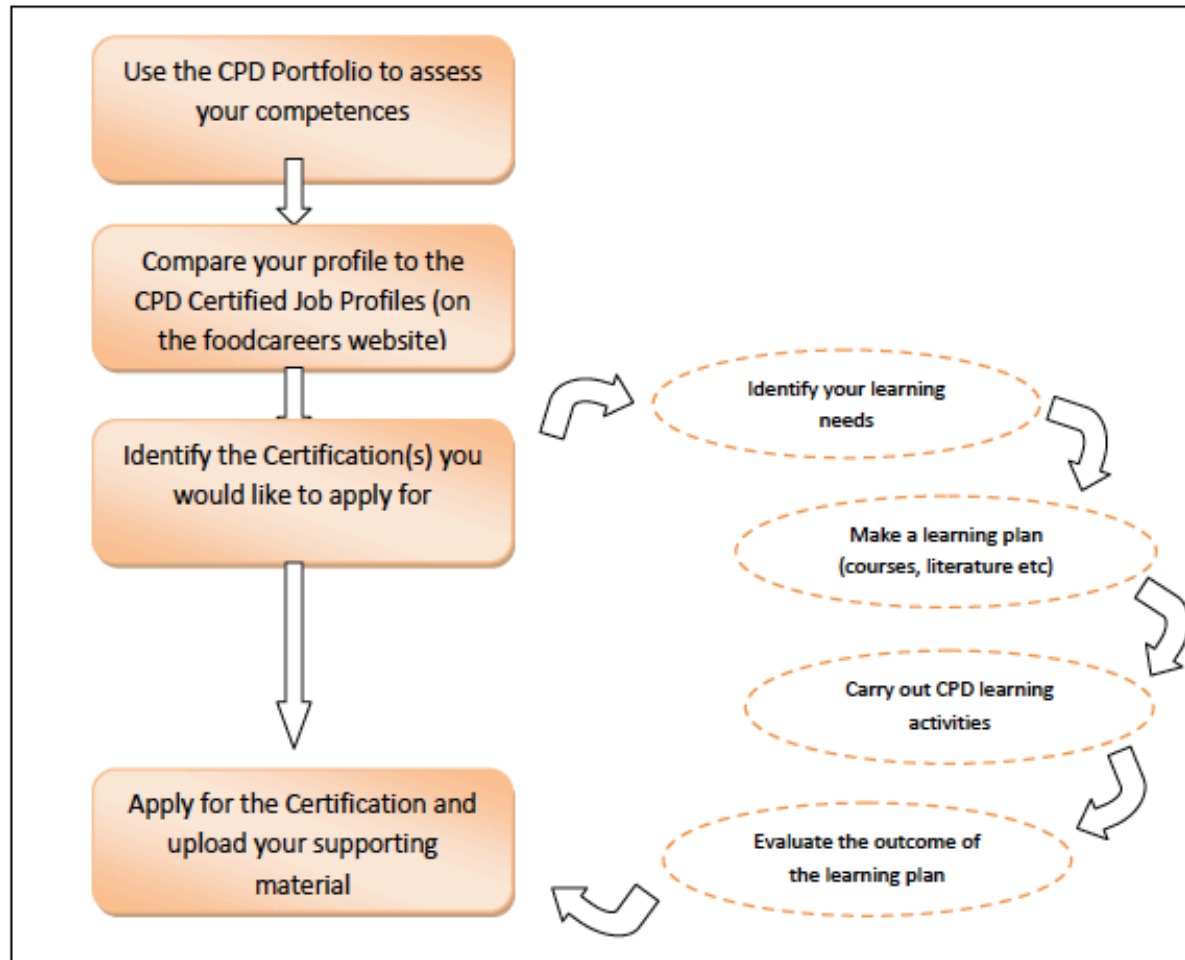
AIMS:

bringing together graduates and professionals working in the food sector, both in industry and academia (**social networking**)

creation of an online network for continual professional training and career development for Food Scientists and Technologists in Europe (**information on training**)

social networking and providing the guidance and tools for creating and maintaining a **continual professional development portfolio**

→ Development of a certification scheme for Continual Professional Development programmes



→ Development of a certification scheme for Continual Professional Development programmes

“As a food professional, you may want more than just creating a CPD portfolio which can help you in your next job. You want a certificate which proves that you have the required skills and competences for a particular job anywhere in Europe. One of our aims is to propose and develop a **European certification scheme** for food careers. The assessment of your CPD portfolio will form part of the process for certification.” (<https://www.foodcareers.eu/cpd-certification>)

Thank You



New Skills for a European Bioeconomy
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