



Food Project: What, Why, Who, How, When

Manifesto

What. Food Project is a project launched by the University of Parma to:
systematize the existing competences of excellence in the field of research and teaching in the food sector;
promote their interaction within the University, with enterprises, research centers and educational institutions in the local and national territory and;
make the University of Parma a recognized European hub in the field of higher education and training.

Why. The motives that led to the definition of the Food Project are based on a pre-existing scientific and educational excellence, which in the past years has made the University of Parma renowned in Italy and worldwide as a center for advanced research in the field of food and food policies, which have led to numerous scientific publications in the leading international journals in the sector.

In concert, the food courses are now a national benchmark, with hundreds of participants from all over Italy each year. At the same time, it should not be forgotten that Parma is located in the heart of Italy's Food Valley, in the center of a vast territory that makes food-based production and services its economic and social reason for existence and that it is the seat of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

Who. The Food Project involves all University lecturers who are active in the field of food studies in its broadest sense. It involves Biologists, Microbiologists, Chemists, Nutritionists, Medical Doctors, Technologists, Engineers, Agronomists, Veterinarians, Economists, Lawyers, Humanists, which contribute to the scientific and educational excellence of Parma in the food sector thanks to their high-level skills. It is therefore possible to develop a 360° critical mass, capable of tackling

complex food-related issues with an all-encompassing organic vision and able to provide research, educational and policy solutions on every aspect of the food world.

How. The Food Project is divided into three macro-areas of intervention, corresponding to the traditional areas of university action: research, teaching, third mission. In the field of research, it intends to support and systematize the various widespread excellences that already exist, with the creation of an appropriate unitary structure, promoting and supporting research groups and infrastructures, facilitating interactions with national and international industrial and research partners, focusing resources on strategic projects and acquiring new public and private resources for the growth of the involved groups. In the field of teaching, with the opening of the School of Advanced Studies on Food and Nutrition, also in collaboration with EFSA, the University of Parma aims to be an international reference point in the sector, also thanks to the involvement of world-famous scholars, and with the promotion of degree courses at regional level in collaboration with other universities, as well as the strengthening of existing courses by coordinating them with each other and facilitating convergence with agri-food companies. In the field of Third Mission, the University is responsible for organizing the World Food Forum, one of the largest events in the food sector involving the world's scientific community, and for disseminating information open to all in order to make high-level expertise in the field of food available to a wide public, with a view to the continuous education of the population.

When. Now

