

## Consortium Agreement

### Erasmus + - Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree (EMJMD)

#### CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT (CA)

##### List of abbreviations

APT	AgroParisTech
CA	Consortium Agreement
CC	Consortium Committee
CV	Curriculum Vitae
EACEA	Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency
ECTS	European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System
EHEA	European Higher Education Area
EM	Erasmus Mundus
EMJMD	Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree
EU	European Union
FIPDA	Food Innovation and Product Design Alumni Association
FIPDes	Food Innovation and Product Design
GA	Grant Agreement
HEI	Higher Education Institution
IAB	International Advisory Board
LU	Lund University
M1	First year of the Master
M2	Second year of the Master
MSc	Master of Science
TU Dublin	Technological University Dublin
UNINA	Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II or University of Naples Federico II
UPSay	Université Paris-Saclay

This agreement is made under the regulations of Erasmus+ Programme and entered into by and between:

Institut des sciences et industries du vivant et de l'environnement (AgroParisTech - APT), public institution with a scientific, cultural and professional vocation, founding member of the Université Paris-Saclay (cf. Annex 1), whose registered office is at 16 rue Claude Bernard, 75231 Paris cedex 05, FRANCE, lawfully represented by Gilles Trystram, General Director, hereinafter referred to as "Coordinator", and

Technological University Dublin (TU Dublin), publicly-funded independent degree-awarding institution, established on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019, taking over the operations of Dublin Institute of Technology, Institute of Technology Blanchardstown and Institute of Technology Tallaght, whose registered office is at City Campus, Park House Grangegorman, 191 North Circular Road, Dublin 7, D07 EWV4, Dublin, IRELAND, lawfully represented by Prof. David FitzPatrick, President of TU Dublin, hereinafter referred to as "Partner", and

University of Naples "Federico II" (UNINA), public university, whose registered office is at Corso Umberto I, 80138 Napoli, ITALY, lawfully represented by Prof. Gaetano Manfredi, Rector, hereinafter referred to as "Partner", and

Lund University (LU), public research university, whose registered office is at Sandgatan 3, Box 117, SE-221 00, Lund, SWEDEN, lawfully represented by Prof. Torbjörn von Schantz, Vice Chancellor, legal representative of Lund University, hereinafter referred to as "Partner",

(Hereinafter referred collectively to as "Partners" or "Consortium")



## **Preamble**

This Agreement is drafted within the framework of the project entitled: "Food Innovation and Product Design" (FIPDes) based on Grant Agreement number 2019-1439 (hereinafter referred to as "GA") between Coordinator and the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency, acting under powers delegated by the European Commission (hereinafter referred to as "Commission"). The GA and its annexes (cf. Annex 2) shall form an integral part of the present Agreement.

The Coordinator is bound by the terms and conditions of the GA and further amendments. Each Partner shall be bound in applicable parts by the terms and conditions of the GA and amendments to the GA, approved by all Partners when applicable. The Partners shall not act in any way that could risk the fulfilment of the Coordinator's duties and obligations under the GA. On the basis of the present Agreement the Partners shall together contribute to the achievement of the requirements of the GA in accordance with the terms and conditions as stated in the present Agreement.

Université Paris-Saclay (UPSay) is a community of eighteen universities and higher education institutions created in January 2015, of which APT is a founding member, and it awards the French Master Degree corresponding to EMJMD FIPDes programme from 2018 on, according to the French accreditation decree of July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in relation with UPSay capacity to award national master degrees, whereas APT is still the 'operating party' of this French Master. It means that while UPSay is the French Partner habilitated to deliver the Master Degree, APT will ensure the implementation of the study programme as well as the registration of students and related support services. Furthermore, APT will ensure the coordination of EMJMD FIPDes.

The core text of the CA describes a number of issues as structure, organization, governance, finances, cooperation in general terms rather than in detail. More details are given in a number of separate Annexes. In order to maintain maximum flexibility in terms of working principles, needed to adapt the operational execution of the course based on advancing insight or experience built up during the consecutive years the master programme is given, consequential changes will be met, where possible, by changes in relevant Annexes rather than through changes in core text. Subsequent versions of Annexes will be approved as described in Article 14, approved formally by the Consortium and subsequently, when applicable or appropriate, by the legal representatives of the Partners.

## **Article 1. Summary of FIPDes**

The Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree in Food Innovation and Product Design (EMJMD-FIPDes) is a two-year academic programme in the field of food science and product development. A limited number of excellent university groups within the EU contribute to the programme, offering high quality international training both in terms of scientific knowledge and didactic skills. The EMJMD-FIPDes aims to provide a European dimension in the knowledge-intensive area of food R&D and is highly relevant for both Programme and Partner country students who wish to contribute to the development of innovative, sustainable and healthy food products. The programme course is to provide top-level and up-to-date education that qualifies the graduates to cope with the huge challenges in the sector of food innovation along with product design and packaging, while developing the aptitude to adapt to future developments. The EMJMD-FIPDes added value is its integrated approach "from materials to packaged product", including technical, entrepreneurial and theoretical knowledge in food innovation with a teamwork-based learning system. The close collaboration with several social-economic partners and R&D food groups makes the curriculum especially designed to take into consideration the needs of potential employers.

In this course four academic institutions collaborate intensively to offer joint study modules in addition to their existing curricula: APT (France), UNINA (Italy), LU (Sweden) and TU Dublin (Ireland). Besides a group of strategic associated partners is settled and regularly updated with members from Non-EU Universities, European research institutions and socio-economic partners. Universities from Partner countries as well as industrial partners contribute to the curricula (monitoring, consulting, internships, and Master thesis) and to the dissemination of the FIPDes programme as associated members. In the last eight years, the FIPDes network developed rapidly by means of international contacts, invited professors and alumni.

Four further key points characterise EMJMD-FIPDes:

1. a pedagogical method based on working by project and team management
2. the strong involvement of the R&D sector, such as hands-on trainings in collaboration with pioneering Research, Culinary and Industrial laboratories
3. the culinary approach applied to the formulation
4. numerous joint pedagogic activities including participative learning and team work activities



FIPDes is training a new generation of food professionals able of working across borders, with an inclusive vision of innovation to create good, sustainable and healthy food solutions for the future generations.

The 1<sup>st</sup> year of studies imparts to the students a broad knowledge of food science, technological and entrepreneurial skills. Students attend the 1<sup>st</sup> semester in France and the 2<sup>nd</sup> in Ireland. The mandatory summer school of 2 weeks offers complementary skills. Then the students can do a summer internship. The 2<sup>nd</sup> year gives them the opportunity to specialise in one of 3 well-defined tracks: 1: Healthy Food Design (UNINA, Italy), 2: Food Design and Engineering (APT, France), 3: Food Packaging Design and Logistics (LU, Sweden). The Master thesis is done in one of the research departments of the Consortium or associated partners, according to student specialisation and professional plans. FIPDes starts and ends with a joint “FIPDes Week” including the “FIPDes Day” and the final joint graduation ceremony.

After the programme, students will demonstrate the following learning outcomes:

- Having developed personal, social, leadership and intellectual skills in a multi-disciplinary context of food innovation and product design;
- Having a deep knowledge on and be able to apply the values of a European Master Programme: inquiry, reflexion, integrity, open-mindedness, evidence-based thinking and collegiality;
- Understanding and being able to apply the principles and processes that underpin sustainable and innovative food development, including engineering, culinary, managerial and scientific aspects;
- Having advanced and specific innovation and design knowledge in the field of healthy food, product and process engineering or packaging;
- Being able to develop new knowledge or procedure and to integrate knowledge from different fields
- Getting insight and awareness of the socio-economic environment and reflect on relationships between individuals, society and economy, providing a holistic overview of food innovation from local to global scale;
- Getting insight and awareness of industrial practices throughout the whole food supply chains, from raw materials to consumers.

The official language of EMJMD-FIPDes is English with opportunities to learn the local languages and food culture. Upon graduation, each student receives a double or triple degree, i.e. National Master Degree from universities the student attended, as well as a Joint FIPDes Diploma with a Joint Diploma Supplement from the four Partners.

## **Article 2. Structure and content of the programme**

The EMJMD-FIPDes is scheduled over two academic years and will result in the accumulation of 120 ECTS credits. FIPDes combines a first year (M1) at two Partners (APT and TU Dublin) with a second year (M2) either at APT or at a third Partner (LU or UNINA). Optional choices are proposed to the students depending on their previous personal and scientific experience and their own professional goals.

The main aims of the first EMJMD-FIPDes year are:

- To provide a thorough and broad introduction to food science and technology, innovation management, and consumer science. There is thus only one common first year programme specification.
- To provide students with a basic understanding of the principles and processes that underpin sustainable food product development, including the social and economic contexts;
- To develop students' intellectual, practical, communication, ICT, interpersonal, teamwork, self-management and professional skills;
- To inculcate the values of FIPDes: inquiry, reflection, integrity, open-mindedness, evidence based thinking, collegiality;
- To enable students to make an informed choice of area of specialisation in their second year.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> study year (M2) offers 3 specialisation tracks concerning strategic and emerging sectors of food product innovation. Each option is based on the Partners' research and teaching strengths and the consortium aims at a balanced distribution of students between the different options. A salient feature of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year courses is the close cooperation with industry. During the fourth semester, students carry out the training research period (30 ECTS) which leads to the writing of the MSc. Thesis.

## **Article 3. Organisational structure and responsibilities**

The EMJMD-FIPDes is governed by the following management structures:



1. FIPDes Consortium Committee (cf. Annex 4), is composed by 2 members from each Partners (up to 8 members). This committee is in charge of all academic and joint management issues. The Consortium Committee is chaired by the Coordinating Professor. The representatives are mandated by their institutions and are in charge of:

- Defining, evaluating, updating the content of the educational programme
- Ensuring the high academic quality of the training programme of the EMJMD-FIPDes programme by evaluating the outcomes annually
- Monitoring the supervision and integration of the MSc students
- Organising and performing the selection and admission procedures
- Ensuring a fair distribution of scholars' and students' scholarships among Partners
- Promoting the students employability by ensuring that a market demand exists for the programme and that it continues to be academically and economically viable
- Ensuring support to EMJMD-FIPDes within their own institution (including disseminating broadly information about the programme and its results)
- Contributing to build EMJMD-FIPDes self-sustainability

The FIPDes Consortium Committee meets at least twice a year during:

- The "Orientation Meeting" taking place during the introduction module ("FIPDes Week") in August/September. All aspects of the EMJMD-FIPDes MSc. Course are discussed by the Consortium Committee.
- The "Selection Meeting" taking place in February/March.

Moreover, an optional third meeting could be organised if necessary in May/June and regular videoconference meetings are organised to discuss regular running issues.

2. The Executive Team (ET) (cf. Annex 4) consists of the administrative support representatives of the Partners and works under the guidance of the administrative representative of the Coordinator. The ET provides administration support and treats all administrative and financial questions. It is in charge of practical issues such as organisation of the selection procedure, enrolment, arrival of students, mobility arrangements, administrative tasks concerning study progress, collecting the marks of students, organisation of meetings of the managing bodies, communication, reporting. It supports the communication towards potential students (through the FIPDes website, student fairs or social media). The ET supports the self-sustainability of the programme. The ET provides the Consortium Committee with financial information on a regular basis. The ET provides the members of the Consortium Committee with a FIPDes financial and administrative handbook (cf. Annex 5) as guideline for all procedures to be followed by the institutions.

3. The International Advisory Board (IAB) of FIPDes is in charge of supporting the successful implementation of the project in relation with two key issues: (i) ensuring the high-quality design and delivery of the Master programme; (ii) fostering its self-sustainability. The IAB is composed of 1 FIPDA representative (FIPDes Alumni Association, see Annex 10), the 2 students' representatives of the currently enrolled cohorts, 3 industrial representatives from the R&D and HR departments, 1 expert of Joint Programme, 2 representatives from the academic/research associated partners and 1 representative from Fondation AgroParisTech. The IAB mandate lasts 3 years, renewable.

4. The Coordinator: the Coordinator is in charge of coordinating the course and responsible for all contacts with the EU. The Coordinator will take all actions necessary for a good functioning of the Consortium and for the fulfilment of the contractual agreement with the EU (including reporting). The Coordinating Professor, representative of the Coordinator, chairs the Consortium Committee and guides the ET.

Essential strategic and implementation tasks of the programme are organized and managed in Work Packages (WPs), led by a duo of Consortium members from two different partner HEIs, to ensure that the Master course is truly and structurally joint. WP follow-up is discussed in the CC meetings.

WP1	Quality Assurance	WP4	Dissemination & Communication
LU/ TU Dublin	Internal and External Quality assessment	LU/ APT	Communication (internal and external)
	International Advisory Board		Implementation of communication tools
	Students' Quality Assessment		Marketing, outreach and dissemination
WP2	Recruitment and integration of students	WP5	Sustainability and partnership
APT/TU Dublin	Candidates' follow-up and communication	UNINA/ LU	Associated Partners and Sponsoring
	Induction events and Graduation		Alumni and Employability
	Students' support		Joint Degree



WP3	Joint Pedagogy	WP6	Management
TU Dublin/ UNINA	Learning Outcomes, Skills and E-learning	APT/ UNINA	Business plan
	FIPDes Week		Administration and Finance
	Transversal Projects and Summer School		EACEA reporting

#### **Article 4. Application procedure to FIPDes and selection procedure**

The application to the EMJMD-FIPDes is open to well-motivated students. During the four years of the project, the objective is to recruit 100 students including 60 scholarship-holders (cf. Annex 2). The Consortium has established a centralised application procedure managed by the Coordinator, using a joint application form. Students must apply through a standard electronic application platform before the agreed deadline. The link and all the information are provided on the FIPDes webpage. The Coordinator provides first-hand support via e-mail for all questions regarding the application. The application contains all elements necessary for further selection: letter of motivation, full academic background containing a list of courses followed, obtained grades, language skills, professional project and two recommendation letters. The Coordinator collects and checks all application forms, checks whether students fulfil basic diploma requirements and prepares an overview for the selection by the FIPDes Consortium Committee. It will be possible to re-open the application process for non-scholarship holders if necessary after the Selection meeting to fully cover the recruitment needs.

The selection process is in four steps:

1. Eligibility
2. Pre-selection
3. Admission
4. Enrolment

##### **4.1 Eligibility criteria**

The Coordinator is first in charge of the eligibility procedure based on the following criteria:

- Applications have to be submitted on the online application tool before the agreed deadline in order to be eligible for an Erasmus Mundus (EM) Scholarship as well as to apply for admission to FIPDes in general.
- The application must be complete and contain all mandatory documents required on the online application tool.

The candidates have at least three months to apply.

##### **4.2 Pre-selection criteria**

The Coordinator is in charge of the pre-selection of eligible applicants. To be pre-selected, the candidates are required to have a BSc. degree or equivalent degree corresponding to at least 180 ECTS, in food technology, biotechnology, process engineering, biochemistry or related fields representing at least three years of study from an accredited Higher Education Institution (HEI). The educational programme or courses that entitle admission to the FIPDes programme should include a number of scientific prerequisites, e.g. chemistry, biotechnology, process technology/engineering, biochemistry, mathematics, and statistics. Only students with excellent results will be preselected. Students are required to have a good knowledge of English: English B2 (advanced) language proficiency level demonstrated in one of the following ways: TOEFL at level 575 (90 for internet-based TOEFL), IELTS 6.5, Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency. Exemption can be made for students with English as their mother tongue or who have completed a higher education course in English that satisfies eligibility requirements. The Consortium Committee can admit excellent students with somewhat lower scores.

##### **4.3 Selection procedure**

The students that applied for an EM scholarship are selected by the FIPDes CC during its annual selection meeting in February/March. The selection of EM scholarship holders is a competitive process based on the academic performance and credentials of the candidates, in order to guarantee the selection of excellent and high motivated students. The CC interviews the pre-selected candidates to test their motivation and linguistic skills. Then, the CC selects and ranks all interviewed students according to jointly agreed criteria. The Consortium contacts the non-selected students informing them about the eventual appeal procedure. Therefore the main list and the reserve list of participants ranked according to their academic quality and motivation and proposed for Programme and Partner countries EM scholarships will be sent to EACEA for finalizing selection before the deadline. The Coordinator contacts selected students to start up the registration procedures and mobility arrangements. The selected students will get an official letter of admission signed by the Coordinating Professor. The maximum number of students (scholarship holders and self-paying students) per cohort will be validated annually, on a base of 25.



## **Article 5. Administrative organisation of FIPDes**

### **5.1 Enrolment of FIPDes students**

All admitted students can enrol under the conditions set for enrolment. Enrolment is only official when the Coordinator received a hard copy of the complete application folder and after signing the Student Agreement. Moreover, the payment of a deposit to the Coordinator account is also requested for self-paying students. The students are registered at the coordinating institution for the entire duration of the FIPDes course programme. In addition they are enrolled at the Partners where they follow part(s) of the FIPDes course programme and have to respect the enrolment rules set by the Partner where they study.

### **5.2 Participation costs**

All the students have to pay the same participation costs to the Consortium irrespective of their mobility track and therefore institutions of study. The participation costs for Partner Country students are €9.000/academic year while the participation costs for Programme Country students are €4.500/academic year.

The participation costs include the following costs of the students:

- Local fees including University registration fees (per year) in two up to three institutions, other training costs, academic services, access to laboratories, experimental work and participation to local mandatory events related to FIPDes
- Insurance coverage of student (health and accident insurance coverage meeting the EMJMD minimum requirements)
- Attendance to the FIPDes Week activities at the start and end of the course, including Graduation (except the accommodation and transportation costs of the students during these events)
- Participation in the Summer School at the end of the first year
- Administrative Assistance

Other costs (rent housing, internal mobility, and possible extra educational fees to be paid for use of sport courses, informatics or other services) are at the charge of the students and depend on the host institution. FIPDes students have to cover their living and subsistence costs by themselves.

Participation Costs of all FIPDes students are paid to the account of APT, which supports directly the joint academic and management costs and ensures a fair and equitable distribution of those resources to the accounts indicated by the consortium Partners as defined in article 8 of the present Agreement.

### **5.3 Education**

All Partners are responsible for providing appropriate education, teaching and examination in correspondence with the educational responsibilities described in the EMJMD FIPDes proposal XXX. During the 2 study years, a joint study advice monitors the appropriate implementation and progress of the programme. In case progress is not good enough, the CC can advise and recommend special actions or that the study programme should be stopped according to the local academic rules and the EMJMD rules.

### **5.4 Mobility**

The mobility system can be seen in the study structure (cf. Annex 3). The first study year (M1) is common for all the FIPDes students: they start with the joint introduction module, which is obligatory. Then they spend the 1<sup>st</sup> semester at APT and the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester at TU Dublin. Subsequently they attend a summer school in Ireland and have the possibility to carry out a summer internship in a country of their choice.

The second study year (M2) offers three specialisation tracks based on the Partners' specificities:

- Food Design and Engineering in APT
- Healthy Food Design in UNINA
- Food Packaging Design and Logistics in LU

The CC will aim at ensuring a balanced repartition of the students among the 3 study tracks. During the 4<sup>th</sup> semester, students carry out the training research period which leads to the MSc. Thesis manuscript. Topics are evaluated by the FIPDes local coordinators. The MSc.Thesis is as far as possible related to a R&D innovation topic and run in cooperation with industrial/academic/research FIPDes partners.

### **5.5 Passing exams and recognition mechanism**

All partners use the ECTS system to describe the workload of each module. Each Partner provides information on their national grading system which is used for conversion and recognition of marks according to table agreed in Annex 9. For each subject, the examination criteria of the Partners where the subject is taken apply. Each academic year, students receive a copy of the transcript of records of the courses followed in that academic year and in addition marks are communicated to the ET to be recorded in the general student monitoring database. Students are given the opportunity to participate in re-examination of subjects of one Partner while they are staying at another FIPDes Partner. Examinations are fully recognised by all consortium Partners following the mutually agreed FIPDes regulations. For the



Master Thesis defense, a common joint evaluation procedure is available for local supervisors. For awarding the multiple MSc. degree, the examination criteria of each of the Partners apply. The CC advises the relevant Partners' bodies on awarding the degree but the final decision is made by the Partners.

#### 5.6 Awarding the Master degree

All the successful students will get a multiple degree (double or triple), according to their study pathway.

##### Type and title of the degree awarded by each partner of the EMJMD FIPDes

University	Title of degree awarded for this Masters Course by this institution	Type of degree awarded	Date and reference of formal approval of degree
AgroParisTech	Master en Sciences, Technologies, Santé, mention Nutrition et Science des Aliments, parcours FIPDes (UPSay Master in Sciences, Technologies, Health, Main field of study: Nutrition and Food Science, study track FIPDes	National degree	The programme has been accredited by the Ministry of National Education, Higher Education and Research. The accreditation holds for the period 2015-2020.
TU Dublin	Master of Science in Culinary Innovation	National degree	Recognised by the National Qualifications Authority of Ireland under the provisions of the Qualifications (Education & Training).
UNINA	Corso di laurea Magistrale in Scienze e Tecnologie Alimentari (Master of Science in Food science and technology)	National degree	Recognised by the Italian Ministry of University and Scientific Research
Lund University	Teknologie masterexamen, Huvudområde: Livsmedelsprodukt- och förpackningsutveckling (Master of Science, Main field of study: Food product and packaging development)	National degree	Recognised by the Swedish Higher Education Agency as a part of a general capacity of Lund University

The Master Degree is awarded by the partners awarding the ECTS leading to this Degree. After a student has successfully obtained all the credits required by the FIPDes programme and after a successful defense of the Master thesis, the CC makes a recommendation to the relevant body of the Partners authorised to issue the respective Master Degrees. Besides, a Joint FIPDes Diploma ("Diplôme d'établissement", legally delivered by the Coordinator as a higher education institution but not a State-recognized Master degree) is delivered, together with a Joint Diploma Supplement for the FIPDes course as a whole. The Diploma and the Supplement are signed by the local supervisors of the FIPDes CC. The Supplement, drafted in two languages (French and English), contains a full transcript of all ECTS credits obtained during the master course and mentions the titles of the courses as used at the respective Partners. The partners undertake to work together to the implementation of a joint degree, if the national legislation and the internal rules of each institution allow it.

#### 5.7 Quality assurance and Quality assessment

The quality assurance mechanism and excellence standards are conserved accordingly to the EM standards of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of FIPDes programme, as described in Annex 8. Quality assurance is based on both internal and external assessment measures according to the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the EHEA and the European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes. External quality assurance is guaranteed by arranging periodic evaluation under the responsibility of the CC. The external quality assurance plan is also completed by the national and local evaluation mechanisms of each Partner. Internal quality mechanisms are based on the following principles: each course is evaluated after examination. Feedback seminars are held at the end of each semester and at the end of the two-year course, with the participation of students, teachers and administration. The Consortium discusses the results of this feedback each year during the CCs. The FIPDes Consortium is prone to adapt and find alternatives to constantly improve the programme using the ideas and suggestions from the students and external advisers. The semester global assessment questionnaire and the quality assessment notebook also serve as basis to an end-of-the-semester feedback seminar with each group of students.

#### 5.8 Other responsibilities

Information on facilities and services regarding visa application for third-country students and scholars and other matters related to studying at the FIPDes consortium are provided to participants before arrival and can be also found at the Partners websites. Each Partner has an office administering international student affairs and each administration supports foreign students in their visa application process.



Admitted students get information about housing facilities, welfare services and language courses. More detailed information per Partner is integrated in a FIPDes Student Handbook which is sent to all students.

#### **Article 6. Guest lecturers and staff mobility**

The EMJMD grant will finance at least 4 invited scholars/guest lecturers per intake, engaged in the EMJMD activities for at least 8 weeks in total, including:

- 1) Staff of the participating organisations;
- 2) Invited scholars/guest lecturers from Programme and Partner Countries.

Scholars should have a good command of English, demonstrate outstanding academic and/or professional experience and bring concrete added value to the FIPDes course and to the students. The required experience is five years of teaching in the relevant field or well-documented professional experience.

Invited Scholars from Programme and Partner Countries can come to Paris, Dublin, Lund or Naples to teach specific classes and/or to take part to seminars and workshops.

Visiting Staff of the FIPDes Consortium Partners can intervene at any of the FIPDes full or Associated Partners.

They will receive a scholarship as a flat contribution to covers travel and installation costs and working fees.

The amount of the scholarship depends on the duration of the stay:

Amount	
1 week (min 4 days)	1.500€
2 consecutive weeks (min 9 days)	2.500€

Professors and lecturers interested in intervening in FIPDes can apply by filling in the application form available on the FIPDes website (<http://www.fipdes.eu/?Short-term-scholarships-for-Invited-Professors>) and send it to the FIPDes Secretary at [fipdes@agroparistech.fr](mailto:fipdes@agroparistech.fr).

A dedicated application form has been implemented for Visiting Staff of the FIPDes Consortium Partners, available on the common intranet site – TICE.

A CV and a Project Letter explaining the content and activities to be carried out during the stay have to be enclosed in the application email.

The Consortium Committee selects applications on a semestrial basis. If the application is accepted, the scholar/visiting staff will receive an invitation letter and all relevant information.

#### **Article 7. Associated partners**

The Consortium built a network of academic, research and industrial partners (cf. Annex 11) which is developed and consolidated every year. Each Associated Partner realizes the programme activities as agreed in the Letters of Intent, and specifically:

- Contribution to the promotion and awareness-raising of the FIPDes programme
- Providing topics of internships, MSc thesis, co-supervision or hosting students during their internship/MSc thesis project
- Contribution to the strategy developed by the Consortium in particular concerning the students' employability (e.g. by informing students through the Consortium about PhD positions or jobs offers)
- Contribution to the Programme sustainability strategy

Non-educational partners have the possibility to support the FIPDes programme in several additional ways such as intellectual or financial support upon terms and conditions as the parties agree, or benefits in kind (i.e. material, workload). Each Associated Partner can also be involved in:

- Learning activities (projects, lectures, workshops, Summer School, FIPDes Day)
- Advisory and quality assessment activities (e.g. IAB)
- Dissemination and valorisation activities
- Providing internships and job offers



## **Article 8. Costs and financing**

The costs of the FIPDes course are based on a number of fixed and variable costs. In addition, a number of scenarios with varying numbers of Programme and Partner country students and varying distribution among Partners are considered to make a best estimate of the budget needed to cover the costs of FIPDes (see article 5.2.). All resources (EU grant including management lump sum, participation costs of students without EM scholarship, extra resources) are transferred to the APT account, adequately labelled and solely reserved for FIPDes. From this account, the Coordinator will proceed to the following (but non exhaustive) transfers of money to students, scholars or partners, or to direct payments:

- The EM Students' scholarships which are transferred on the personal European bank account of the student
- The insurance coverage of students according to the minimum requirements for the health and accident insurance coverage
- The EM Scholars' scholarships which are transferred on the personal bank account of the scholars
- The administrative running costs for the programme (management wages, other administrative costs)
- Eligible costs related to joint scientific, academic or administrative coordination of the course
- Registration fees charged per individual FIPDes student transferred to the Partners where the student is studying in the form of a lump sum (see below).
- Any other costs decided upon by the Consortium Committee to be covered from the funds.

The institutional university fees and the academic cost calculations being different from one institution to another due to differences in national policies, the principle of a lump sum per student per academic registration at each Partners is the prevailing business model (Annex 5). On the date of signature of the current agreement, this lump sum is worth 4000€ and covers at least the value of national fees. Concerning LU, it provides on the whole a level of income in line with local rules applying to EMJMD programmes and regarding the numbers and categories of students enrolled. Each Partner decides freely on how this amount is internally used to ensure the highest impact on the EMJMD FIPDes quality. However, the lump sum is considered to cover *a minima*:

- The university fees charged per individual student
- The organisation expenses for Consortium and IAB meetings (included travelling and stay)
- The organization of local compulsory activities for students (i.e. field trips)
- Reimbursement of eligible costs, namely all valuable but unintended actions carried out for the programme.

For all purposes, extra costs can only be charged to FIPDes students on the same basis as regular students. The CC decides every year on the proposed budget, the allocation of specific tasks and the spending of the money. The assessment of the financial balance is organized on a yearly basis so as to take into account the variability of resources, expenses and specific constraints, while responding to governance and strategic directions the Consortium agrees on. A financial check is performed during the selection process to ensure that no losses will occur regarding both students' and scholars' mobility. In case of regulatory changes in national policies impacting the consortium business model, the Partners agree on negotiating the best possible fees for FIPDes students. Any substantial change in national fees or regulation that would impair financial sustainability and induce a reassessment of FIPDes business model entails a financial amendment to the current CA. Unforeseen budget deficits, or deficits as a result of a low number of students in such a way that costs for the Consortium and the execution of the course cannot adequately be covered from the fees paid by the students, will both be equally divided between the Partners. The amounts mentioned in this agreement can be changed at any time on proposal of the CC and upon approval of a relevant Addendum as provided for in article 13. All administrative and financial processes are described in the FIPDes financial and administrative handbook (Annex 5) as guideline for all procedures to be followed by the Partners. Student's obligations are defined in a Student Agreement (Annex 7) that is signed by the student, the Coordinator and the Coordinating Professor at the beginning of the programme. Every operational or financial document is submitted by the Coordinator to the European Commission after consulting the Partners.

## **Article 9. Sustainability strategy**

The Consortium's goal is to achieve a quality-based sustainability plan that will allow FIPDes to be a world-class programme able to attract the best students, partners and employers.

The strategy is based upon the following pillars:

- strong commitment of the Partner HEIs
- innovative education content tailored on market's needs



- targeted dissemination and exploitation of results
- strategic partnerships with socio-economic actors

This will lead to secure excellent employability prospects. The FIPDes Programme will therefore be recognized as a brand of excellence at international level, facilitating fundraising.

The sustainability plan implies financial and institutional objectives:

- to deliver the FIPDes Joint degree within the expected timeframe by the Consortium (year 2024)
- to ensure the highest HEIs commitment towards an optimised human resource management of the key staff in order to ensure a smooth and consistent management. The cost-effective organisation of the FIPDes Consortium will also support the FIPDes sustainability plan
- to ensure that the students' selection and recruitment process remain focussed on excellence
- to increase progressively the number of self-paying students
- to be able to raise funds and being 100% financially autonomous at the horizon 2024
- to increase and diversify the FIPDes network to foster excellent employability results.

The Consortium undertakes to assure the dissemination and promotion of the Programme through the dedicated website ([www.fipdes.eu](http://www.fipdes.eu)), social networks, emailing, intern communication, participation in educational fairs. They commit to use the Erasmus + and the FIPDes logo systematically for the dissemination. All logos and guidelines regarding Erasmus+ are available here:

[https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/about-eacea/visual-identity\\_en](https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/about-eacea/visual-identity_en)

#### **Article 10. Liability**

Each Partner shall be solely liable towards the other Partners and towards third parties for loss, damage or injury resulting from its own actions in the execution of this CA. However, no Partner shall be responsible to any other Partner for indirect or consequential loss or damage such as, but not limited to, loss of profit, loss of revenue or loss of contracts. Each Partner shall be fully responsible for the performance of any part of its share of the CA and for the requirements of Insurance and Social Security for its personnel, involved herein. With respect to any injury to any person or any damage to any property of any person occurring at any establishment of any of the Partners in the course or arising out of the execution of this CA, the Partner at whose establishment the injury or damage occurs, shall be solely responsible for the payment of compensation to such extent as this Partner shall be under a legal liability in respect of such injury or damage. This article shall not apply with respect to any such injury or damage, the causing of which is attributable to any act of a servant or agent of any of the Partners, committed with the intention of causing harm to any person or property or with reckless disregard for the consequences of his act. Each Partner shall be solely liable for any breach of, or non-compliance with, its legal obligations arising from the present CA. If the Coordinator has to pay damages to the Commission due to such breach or non-compliance by a Partner, the Coordinator shall be entitled to full reimbursement from the Partner concerned.

#### **Article 11. Data Protection**

All Partners commit themselves to comply with the provisions and requirements on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data according to the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR). Each Partner, as Controller of personal data must put in place appropriate technical and organisational measures to implement the data protection principles. In case of joint control of data processing, the parties involved shall in a transparent manner determine their respective responsibilities for compliance with the obligations under the GDPR.

#### **Article 12. Entry into force and termination**

This Agreement shall come into force as of the date of its signature but shall have retroactive effect from the start date of the GA by all the Partners and shall continue until the end of the agreements between the EU and APT within the framework of the project 2019-1439 and all related specific agreements for the EMJMD signed on behalf of the Consortium. This CA is valid as long as contracts with the EU are binding the Partners. If this is not the case anymore, the Partners will decide in mutual agreement to continue this agreement or not. If a Partner should want to leave the agreement before the end of the GA, this Partner will discuss this with the Consortium and will have to follow the rules stipulated in the GA. This is not the case if the Partner should leave by force majeure. Under all circumstances, even if a Partner leaves the consortium, the FIPDes students currently enrolled at this partner institution must be given the possibility to finish their studies as previously agreed.

#### **Article 13. Applicable law and Competent Court**

This CA shall in all respect be in compliance with the terms of the related GA and be governed by Belgian law. The settlement of any difference or conflict arising from or in connection with this CA shall be attempted by an amicable effort from the Partners. If the amicable settlement fails, the Belgian



Administrative Court will be in charge of the dispute settlement. The FIPDes student is bound to the rules and regulations from the Partners at which she/he is enrolled.

#### **Article 14. Amendments**

The Consortium Committee has the mandate to add amendments to this agreement when necessary. For all things not stipulated in this agreement and/or significant issues, the CC can decide, subject to approval by the official bodies of the Partners. Formal approval by the CC and subsequently, when applicable or appropriate, by the legal representatives of the Partners, including a thorough audit trail of all versions will be documented by the Coordinator and available upon request by Partners.

#### **Article 15. Original copies**

This Agreement will be signed in four original copies.

#### **Article 16. Miscellaneous**

The following annexes form an integral part of the CA:

- Annex 1. Information note of the delivered Master's Degrees (UPSay)*
- Annex 2. FIPDes Grant Agreement and its annexes*
- Annex 3. FIPDes Mobility and Course Content*
- Annex 4. FIPDes Joint Governing Bodies*
- Annex 5. FIPDes financial and administrative handbook*
- Annex 6. Multi-annual budget*
- Annex 7. FIPDes Student Agreements*
- Annex 8. FIPDes Quality Assurance Procedure*
- Annex 9. Translation of national marks*
- Annex 10. Charter of FIPDes Alumni association*
- Annex 11. FIPDes Associated partners: List and Letters of Intent*



Signed for and on behalf of:  
AgroParisTech

General Director:

Prof. Gilles TRYSTRAM

Date:

Place:

Signed for and on behalf of:  
TU Dublin

President:

Prof. David FitzPatrick

Date:

Place:

Signed for and on behalf of:  
University of Naples "Federico II"

Rector:

Prof. Gaetano MANFREDI

Date:

Place:

Signed for and on behalf of:  
Lund University

Vice-Chancellor:

  
Prof. Torbjörn von Schantz

Date: 24/10 2019

Place: LUND



Signed for and on behalf of:  
AgroParisTech

General Director:



Prof. Gilles TRYSTRAM

Date: 6 November 2011

Place: Paris

Signed for and on behalf of:  
TU Dublin

President:

Prof. David FitzPatrick

Date:

Place:

Signed for and on behalf of:  
University of Naples "Federico II"

Rector:

Prof. Gaetano MANFREDI

Date:

Place:

Signed for and on behalf of:  
Lund University

Vice-Chancellor:

Prof. Torbjörn von Schantz

Date:

Place:



Signed for and on behalf of:  
AgroParisTech

General Director:

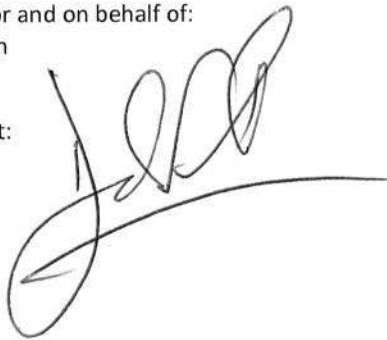
Prof. Gilles TRYSTRAM

Date:

Place:

Signed for and on behalf of:  
TU Dublin

President:



Prof. David FitzPatrick

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Place: Dublin

Signed for and on behalf of:  
University of Naples "Federico II"

Rector:

Prof. Gaetano MANFREDI

Date:

Place:

Signed for and on behalf of:  
Lund University

Vice-Chancellor:

Prof. Torbjörn von Schantz

Date:

Place:



Signed for and on behalf of:  
AgroParisTech

General Director:

Prof. Gilles TRYSTRAM

Date:

Place:

Signed for and on behalf of:  
TU Dublin

President:

Prof. David FitzPatrick

Date:

Place:

Signed for and on behalf of:  
University of Naples "Federico II"

Rector:

IL RETTORE  
Gaetano Manfredi



Prof. Gaetano MANFREDI

Date: 10 OTT. 2019

Place: Napoli

Signed for and on behalf of:  
Lund University

Vice-Chancellor:

Prof. Torbjörn von Schantz

Date:

Place: