Optimised food products for elderly populations

Fact Sheet

Project information

**OPTIFEL**

Grant agreement ID: 311754
Status
Closed project

Start date 1 September 2013
End date 28 February 2017

Funded under:
FP7-KBBE

Overall budget: € 4 442 969,70

EU contribution € 2 999 409

Coordinated by:
INSTITUT NATIONAL DE RECHERCHE POUR L'AGRICULTURE, L'ALIMENTATION ET L'ENVIRONNEMENT
France

Objective

Optifel has as its ultimate goal to contribute to elders’ health by combating denutrition due to both physical capacities diminution and appetite loss. The concept of Optifel is to translate the knowledge on nutritional needs, food preferences and physical capacities into accurate specifications for food products and packaging. Food products (including packaging and food serving methods) will then be elaborated using both traditional and alternative technologies to meet these specifications and their acceptance tested by elderly. The population targeted by the project is elderly persons cooking at home or making use of meal-on-wheels services for whom the project will conceive food products adapted to their taste, habits, needs and constraints. The range of solutions envisaged span from taste and texture to nutritional quality, and microbial safety through packaging and delivery mode. Optifel will test the approach on fruit and vegetable products, which traditionally constitute a high part of elderly diet, offer great variety, and are amenable to texture manipulation.

Optifel aims to
- collect, refine and formalise user needs and expectations in terms of sensory and nutritional quality, texture, packaging’s cognitive and biomechanical ergonomics, and preparation convenience.
- translate elders and caregivers’ needs and expectations into food products and packaging functional specifications to be delivered under the form of conceptual food models.
- design and develop food processing and packaging to produce prototypes fulfilling the specifications.
- assess the actual properties of the prototypes after food preparation and identify critical points during final preparation and serving.
- test the prototype products in meals-on-wheels and in nursing homes to evaluate their acceptance by elderly persons and care-givers.

Field of Science
/agricultural sciences/agriculture, forestry, and fisheries/agriculture/horticulture/fruit
/medical and health sciences/health sciences/nursing
/social sciences/sociology/governance/public services

Programme(s)
FP7-KBBE - Specific Programme "Cooperation": Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology

Topic(s)
KBBE.2012.2.3-04 - Personalised approaches to food production and distribution

Call for proposal
FP7-KBBE-2012-6-singlestage
See other projects for this call

Funding Scheme
CP-TP - Collaborative Project targeted to a special group (such as SMEs)

Coordinator

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Website
Contact the organisation
Administrative Contact
Sylvie Modeste (Mrs.)

Participants (28)
<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Activity type</th>
<th>EU Contribution</th>
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Activity type: Other
EU Contribution: € 117 338

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EU Contribution: € 127 486,50

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Activity type: Private for-profit entities (excluding Higher or Secondary Education Establishments)
EU Contribution: € 120 000
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- Päivi Järvinen (Mrs.)
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EU Contribution
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