

# The LIFE FoodPrint project: A toolbox for the improvement of Food Industry environmental performance

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London, 23/1/2018

## Hellenic Food & Drink Industry Figures

**Turnover**  
€14,2 billion

**Value Added**  
3%  
of Hellenic Gross Added value

**Exports**  
€4,1 billion

**Employment**  
30,8% of manufacturing  
sector

**Number of Companies**  
1.225

**Consumption**  
20%  
of household expenditure on food and drink  
products



## A few words for the Federation of Hellenic Food Industries SEVT

**Represents** the Greek Food & Drink Industry at national, European and international level.

**Membership** is made up of food and drink companies and sector associations.

The **mission** is to facilitate the development of an environment in which all food and drink companies, whatever their size, can meet the needs of consumers and society, while at the same time competing effectively for sustainable growth.

## SEVT Priorities

- Competitiveness – Growth – Extroversion
- Research – Innovation
- Safety & Quality
- Nutrition & Health
- Sustainable Development
- European Co-operation

Sustainability plays a key role in food and drink companies long-term competitiveness. SEVT is committed to support sustainable practices, to protect and promote natural resources, to work in partnership to develop uniform, science based methodologies to assess a food product environmental impact and to find the best ways to be communicated to the consumer.

# The world challenges

Providing **Food and Nutrition Security** in a changing world is an urgent objective due to the increasingly interconnected challenges of **natural resource scarcity, climate change and population growth**, which affect European and food systems globally.

# EC FOOD 2030: Research and Innovation for Tomorrow's Nutrition and Food Systems



# LIFE FOODPRINT Project

«Environmental sustainability as a business opportunity  
for the agrofood industry»

## The co-operation model

**4 companies**  
(JOTIS SA, BIOCHEM  
ARVANITIS SA,  
KONTZOGLIOU BROS SA,  
AKTINA SA)

**2 Universities**  
(NTUA & AUA)

**2 Federations**  
(SEVT &  
FEDERALIMENTARE Srv)

**A partnership under a LIFE project**



**Identified a real need of the food industry and  
developed a solution for the sector**

# The co-operation model

## Roles

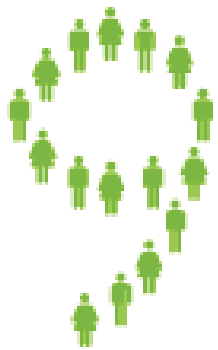
**Universities:** Solution developers

**Companies:** Provision of necessary data, test of solution, act as best practice for other companies

**Federations:** Dissemination of the results, raise of sectors awareness, development of proposals for the policy makers

## The problem:

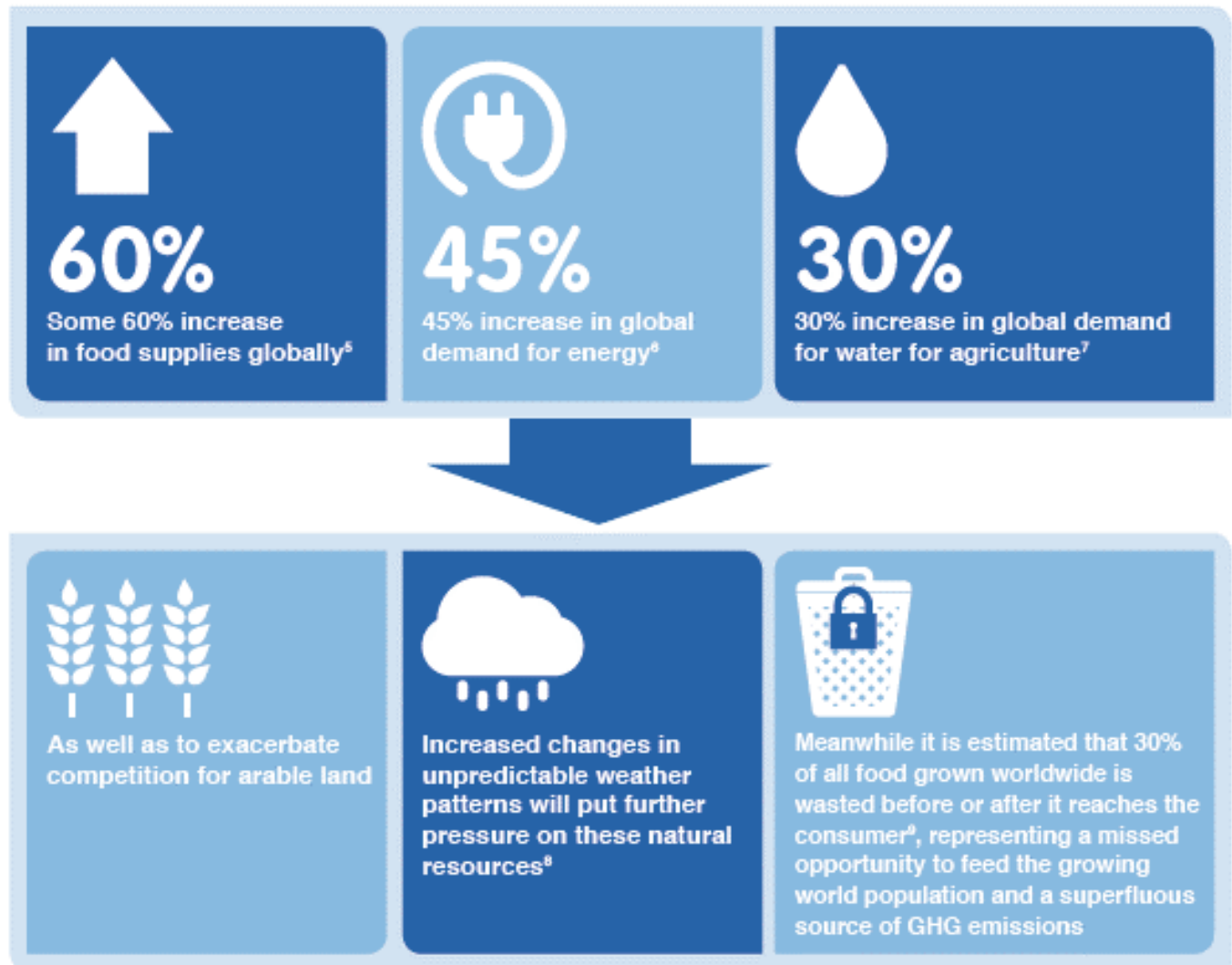
# The carbon footprint of the food industry



**Billion**

World population  
expected to reach 9  
billion by 2050

**Projected to require:**



## How to make sustainable the agrofood system?



Technology change



Optimization



Behavior change



Co-operation and mutual agreements

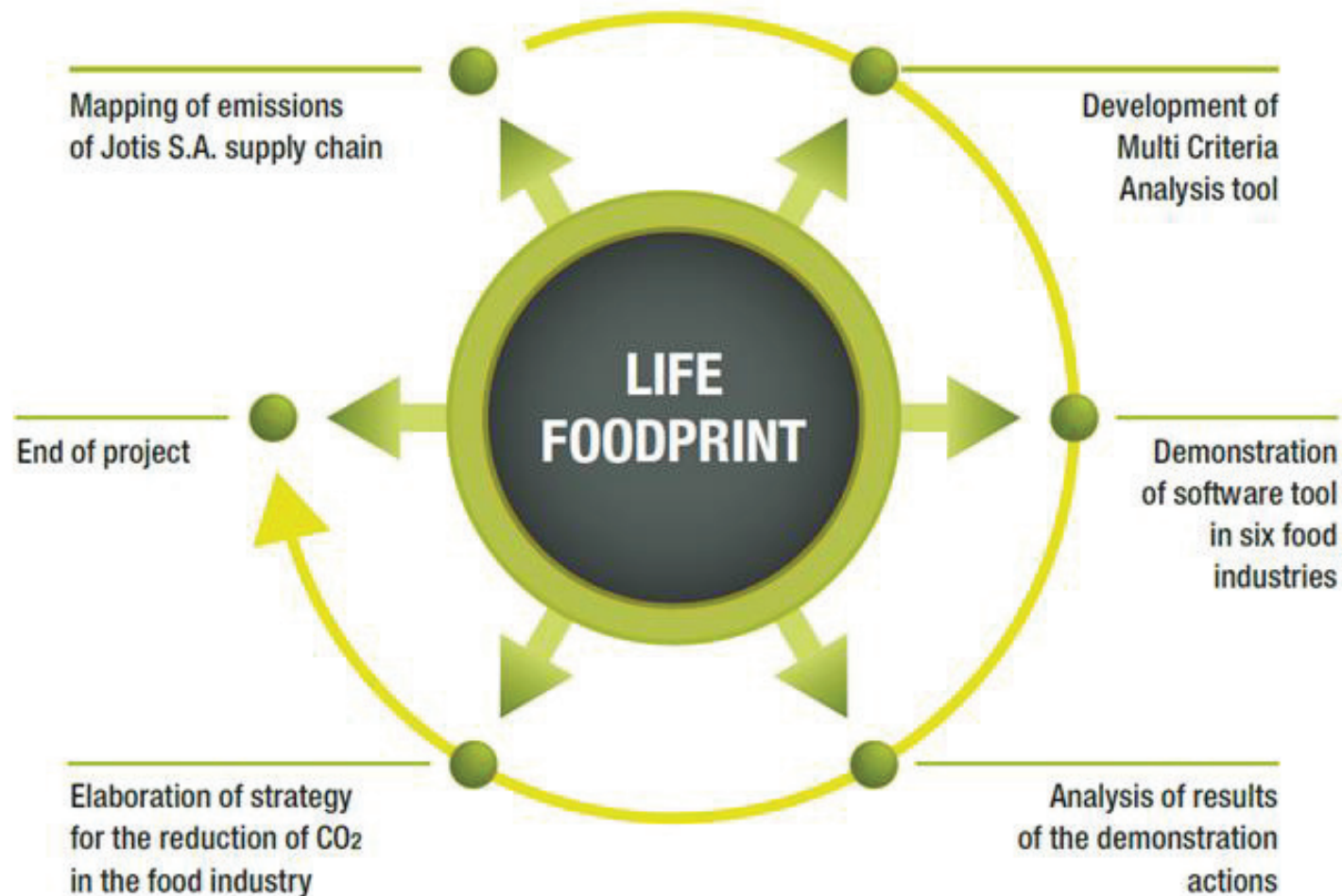
Changing the way  
we produce,  
distribute and  
utilize food.

*Source: "A Time to Act-Climate Action & The Food Drink Europe", FOODDRINKEUROPE*

## Project aims

- Evaluation the carbon footprint (CF) of the food industry.
- Developing a robust software tool that will enable the reliable determination & evaluation of the CF.
- Performing a large scale demonstration of the developed CF tool in 6 food industries in Greece and Italy.
- Implementing actions in food industries in Greece and in Italy.
- Introduction of products that have effectively lowered the CF and successfully label them based on their CO<sub>2</sub> levels.
- Development of a national strategy in regard to the reduction of GHG emissions from food industries in Greece and Italy.

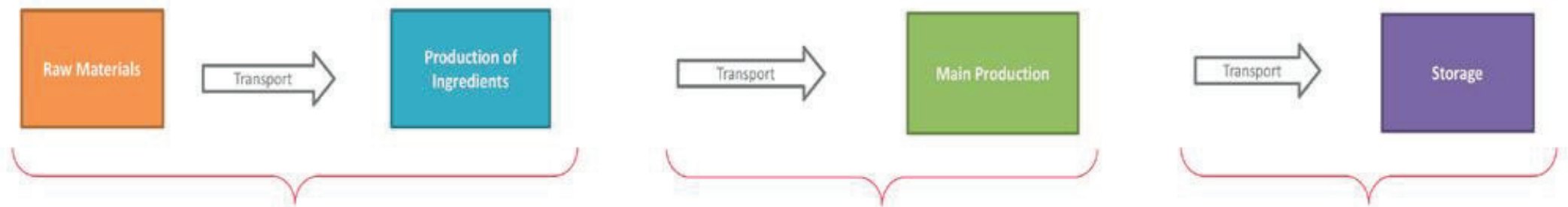
## Project methodology



# FOODPRINT Tool

## A Carbon Footprint tool for the effective quantification of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions sources of food products

The tool quantifies the total CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions of food products, taking into consideration all the processes involved with the manufacturing of the final product.



User can also enter data regarding the production of ingredients. Alternatively, can use default values sourced by extensive literature review.

The user focuses on the main production stage, that includes transportation of the ingredients to the factory.

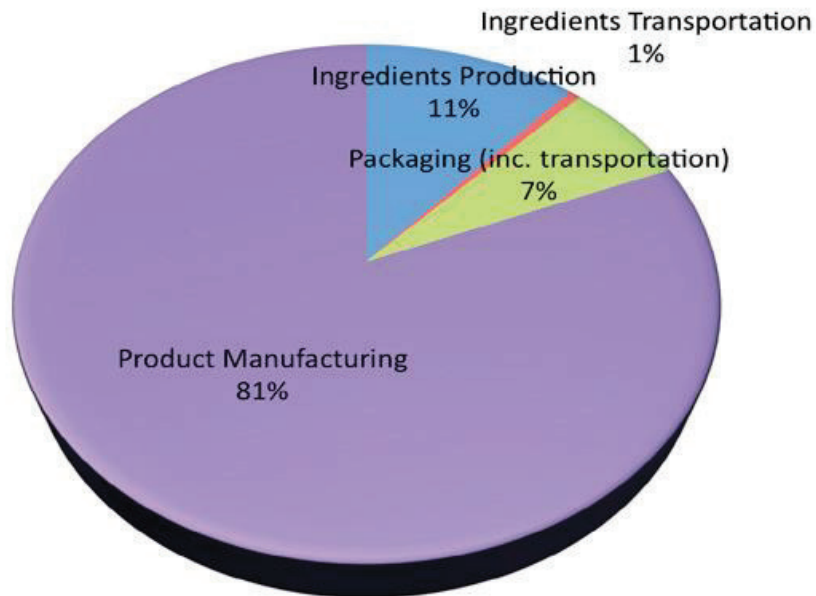
User can also enter data regarding the storage of products, in case it is outside the factory. Alternatively, can use default values.

## FOODPRINT Tool

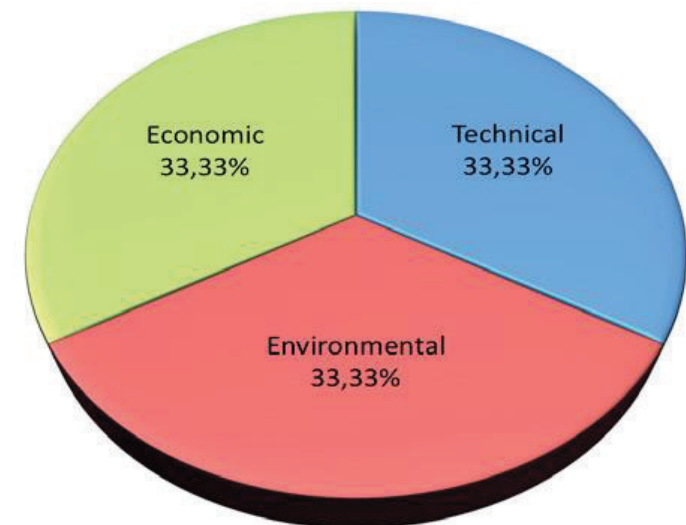
The Carbon Footprint of a food producing overall chain can be calculated

- by starting a new product from scratch, with all the information and data entered by the user
- by using some built-in case studies, which can be loaded and then modified according to the user specification.

**Allocation of GHG emissions per 1 kg of product**



**Criteria Weighting**



## Characteristics

- Calculation of the Carbon Footprint
- Specific reduction measures that could be prioritized via a multi-criteria analysis (MCA) function
- Preferences between options by reference to a set of objectives that the decision making body has already identified
- Modular methodology allowing its implementation in any food product.
- Possibility to send the questionnaires to the main suppliers of the chain, facilitating data gathering.
- Uncertainty analyses

## Features

- Free access
- Easy to use
- Menu bar
- Not necessary to install the program, making its use even simpler (Excel-based calculations)

## A National Strategy for the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub>

A national strategy was developed for the reduction of GHG emissions from the food industries which will contribute to the increase of the competitiveness of the sector.

The strategy provides:

- Actions which lead to the reduction of the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
- Proposals for the awareness raising of the sector.
- Suggestions for the promotion of the innovation.
- Recommendations to policy makers.

## The JOTIS case

### Evaluation the carbon footprint

JOTIS was used as a case study to collect the necessary data to create a database on which the Software tool was based.

Energy audits were also performed:

- ATTIKI BEE CULTURING Co. ALEXANDROS PITTAS S.A
- E.J. PAPADOPOULOS S.A.
- ELAIS-UNILEVER HELLAS S.A
- G. KALLIMANIS S.A
- AKTINA SA
- NICOLI MOLINO S.P.A. and
- MAURI ITALY S.P.A..

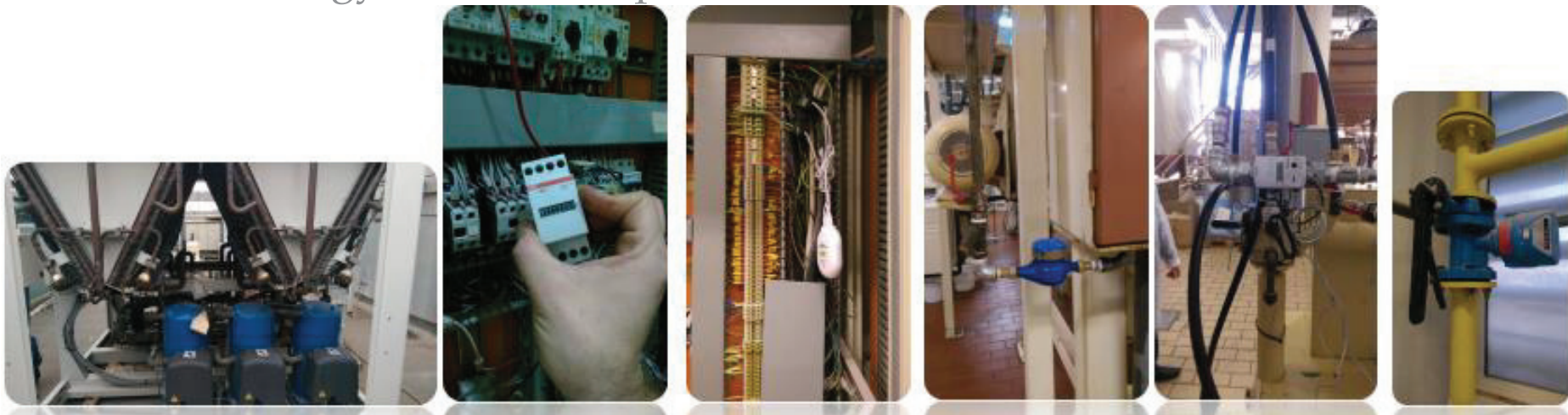
## Evaluation the carbon footprint

In collaboration with NTUA, energy audits were carried out in which:

- The production steps for each product were identified and mapped, while the input and output quantities of materials and energy were recorded.
- Meters were installed at the hot spots of the production lines with continuous data capture.

The collected data include:

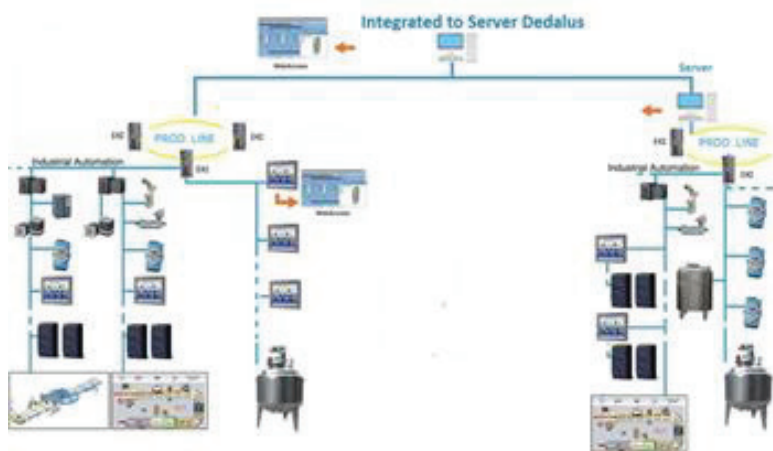
- General Factory Information (Lighting, Heating, Air Conditioning, etc.).
- Mass and energy balances on production lines.



## The JOTIS case

### Implementation Actions

- Interventions in the baby food production line
- Interventions in the chocolate production line
- Interventions in all production lines
- Reassessment of product recipes and development of new ones without affecting product quality.



# The JOTIS case

## Implementation Actions

### Use of biodegradable materials as packaging materials

- Due to the continuous rise in the environmental policy of YIOTIS S.A. and the increased interest to reduce the carbon footprint, new biodegradable packaging materials were introduced in order to replace the petroleum derived ones. Replacing conventional synthetic packaging with biodegradable polymers can decrease waste through biological recycling to the biosystem.
- In order to replace the petroleum packing materials the biodegradable were tested in terms of machinability, stability and migration analysis in order to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.
- In total, 5 different versions of biodegradable materials were examined.



## The JOTIS case

### Implementation Actions

- Adoption of an **energy strategy** aiming to reduce energy consumption and carbon footprint.
- **Experience and training** of the staff in energy management and data collection.
- Suggested **measures** and possibilities for JOTIS:
  - Conversions to existing equipment and new investments.
  - General Interventions in all production lines
  - Use of biodegradable materials as packaging materials
  - Reassessment of product recipes and development of new ones without affecting product quality.

# The JOTIS case

## The labeled products



## The benefits for the Food Sector

- The tool helps companies to improve their environmental performance.
- The Hellenic Strategy for the reduction of the GHG emissions is the guide of the sector for the reduction of GHG.
- The participating companies affected deeply from the project and they have already re-oriented their environmental approach.
- The awareness of the food Industry on environmental issues is raising.
- The food industry - academic network was expanded with scientists of this research field as well.
- Specific research priorities for the reduction of GHG were identified.



**Thank you for your attention**