



Universities
Informal
Liaison
Offices
Network

UnLiON BROKERAGE EVENT

10th December 2025, 10:00-13:00 CET

HORIZON EUROPE Cluster 6

Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources,
Agriculture and Environment



**CLUSTER 6: FOOD, BIOECONOMY, NATURAL
RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

**María Vázquez Hernández
INURA-UEx**

**UnLiON Brokerage Event under Horizon Europe Cluster 6 calls on
Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and
Environment | DATE**

INSTITUTOS UNIVERSITARIOS DE INVESTIGACION



**INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN
AGRI-FOOD RESOURCES (INURA)**

UNIVERSITY OF EXTREMADURA (UEX)

SPAIN



The University of Extremadura ranks among the top 10 Spanish institutions in Food Science and Technology, Agricultural Sciences, Veterinary Sciences and Earth Sciences according to the Shanghai ranking.

<http://iui.unex.es/index.php/es/institutos/inura>

<https://opendata.unex.es/investiga/institutos-de-investigacion/INURA>



THE GENERAL OBJETIVE OF INURA



The Institute for Research in Agrifood Resources (INURA) at the **University of Extremadura** (Spain) brings together over 80 researchers across 15 groups.



Mission: boost the quality, safety and sustainability of agricultural and **food products**.



Focus: production, processing, preservation and shelf-life to deliver high-quality, **safe and eco-friendly foods**.



Impact: close collaboration with regional industry to generate knowledge that adds value along the entire food chain, **from field to table**.

Expertise of INURA-UEx



Healthy and sustainable diet design and evaluation for diverse populations.



In-house artificial stomach–intestine model to assess diet effects on gut microbiota.



Multi-omics approaches to identify biomarkers of inflammation, metabolism and cardiovascular risk.



Focus on host-microbiota interactions and personalized nutrition approach based on microbiome profiles.



Strong track record in scientific communication on diet and health prevention.

Develop an AI-based digital solution that personalizes healthy and sustainable diets to prevent cardiovascular disease, integrating gut microbiome analysis, nutritional factors, eating habits and clinical validation

OBJECTIVES



Use AI to predict how diet and microbiota affect cardiovascular health across age and sex.



Create a personalized app connected to wearables and medical data, giving real-time feedback on health and sustainability.



Demonstrate cost-effectiveness through economic analyses and pilot studies in the general population and in patients.



Work with SMEs and start-ups to turn our results into scalable, user-friendly digital tools.



Reduce environmental impact by promoting sustainable dietary patterns, ingredients and processing technologies.

What we are seeking ...

-  **Medical experts** in cardiovascular diseases
-  **Computer scientists or mathematicians** to develop personalized digital applications using metagenomic, proteomic and transcriptomic biomarkers
-  **Psychologists** to understand user perception, adoption of digital tools, and dietary behaviours across demographic groups
-  **Health economists** to carry out market and cost-benefit analyses of the developed tools
-  **Innovative industries or SMEs** to support market translation
-  **Public authorities**, national institutes, healthcare and nutrition professionals, patients and digital-tech experts for co-design, testing and adoption of digital solutions

What we offer...

-  Expertise in **biocontrol** and **food safety** to ensure proposed diets are safe, sustainable and traceable
-  Strong background in **nutrition and microbiome research** to design and interpret microbiota-diet studies
-  **Generation of high-quality data** to build and train AI models for personalized diets
-  **Scientific validation and communication**, turning robust evidence into clear messages for users and professionals

INURA-UEx can be a PARTNER in this line:

HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-FARM2FORK-03: Boosting the competitiveness of protein crops in Europe

What we are seeking ...

- Valorisation of agro-industrial by-products
- Development of low-cost protein ingredients and functional biopeptides
- Circular economy, sustainability, and bioeconomy initiatives
- Multidisciplinary consortia: crop production, extraction & bioprocessing, nutrition, food functionality, safety, and technology transfer

What we offer...

- Protein yield and quality assessment across protein crops
- Development of new minimally processed protein-based foods
- Functional analysis using *in vitro* digestion models (stomach–intestine simulation)
- Valorisation of by-products: recovery of proteins, phenolics, and fibres
- Design of functional foods from by-products
- Soil enrichment using crop and processing residues



UNIVERSIDAD DE EXTREMADURA



INURA
INSTITUTO UNIVERSITARIO DE INVESTIGACIÓN
DE RECURSOS AGRARIOS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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