



## **Opportunities of real innovation projects for the acquisition of professional competences in Engineering**

M.J. de la Haba, E.V. Taguas, M.C. del Campillo, J.E. Guerrero, and M.D. Pérez-Marín  
University of Córdoba, Agronomist and Forest Engineering School, Cordoba, Spain.

The internationalization of the curricula and the development of skills for the labor market are core objectives of the Bologna Process. In this work, the structure and the organization of a Master Course “Innovation and New Technologies in Agrifood Engineering”, in the University of Cordoba is presented.

The theorist contents are focused on: 1) the opportunities (public and private) for the creation of Technology-Based Innovative Enterprises (TBIE) by emphasizing cooperation between stakeholders to enhance the skills of students; 2) the role of the University for supporting them and for collaborating in the “Open Innovation” among companies in different European countries. In the practical topics, the students must use that information for preparing a real innovation project of agrifood products which is tutored by the teachers and is presented and evaluated by a member of CTA (Corporación Tecnológica de Andalucía), an institution of sponsoring of innovation and technological projects.

The evaluation of the students about its utility and the organization aspects corresponding to the course 2010-2011 was 4.2 in scale from 0 to 5. In this context, teachers have noted that innovation processes have improved the employability of students as they have been prepared to face the market challenges and opportunities.