ACRYRED

COST Action CA21149 • *Assessing Acrylamide Hazards: Strategies for Risk Mitigation and Legislative Approaches Across Different Countries*.

Training School will be held on 17 – 19 September 2025 in Tirana, Albania.

TRAINING SCHOOL

FACULTY OF BIOTECHNOLOGY AND FOOD
AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY OF TIRANA

Street Paisi Vodica, 1029. Tirana, Albania

TITLE: ASSESSING ACRYLAMIDE HAZARDS: STRATEGIES FOR RISK MITIGATION AND LEGISLATIVE APPROACHES ACROSS DIFFERENT COUNTRIES

Date: **17-19 September 2025**

CA21149 - Reducing acrylamide exposure of consumers by a cereals supply-chain approach targeting asparagine (**ACRYRED**)

This **Training School** is organised by *Agricultural University of Tirana* (**AUT**), *Albanian Institute of Food and Innovation* (**AIFI**) and *Food Safety and Veterinary Institute* (**ISUV**) in **Albania**, on behalf of **Cost Action CA21149** - *Reducing acrylamide exposure of consumers by a cereals supply-chain approach targeting asparagine* (**ACRYRED**). The **Training School** will be held on **17 - 19 September 2025 in Tirana, Albania.**

This article/publication is based upon work from COST Action ACRYRED, CA21149, supported by COST. COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) is a funding agency for research and innovation networks. Our Actions help connect research initiatives across Europe and enable scientists to grow their ideas by sharing them with their peers. This boosts their research, career and innovation.

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Program

Day 1 : Introduction and Basics of Acrylamide **Zoom:** https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79480373324?pwd=ie2pkn2H56zzHVXnWeJO2vs9Nlh7BC.1&jst=2 **Venue: Agricultural University of Tirana (AUT)**		
09.00 – 09.30	**Registration**	
09.30 – 09.40	**Official Opening**	Prof. Dr. Fatbardh Sallaku *Rector of AUT*
09.40 – 10.00	*Opening and welcoming remarks*	Kapllan Sulaj - *Dean of Faculty of Biotechnology and Food)* Nigel Halford – *Action Chair of ACRYRED*
10.00 – 10.30	*Introduction to Acrylamide & Acrylamide Risk Assessment and toxicity*	Kapllan Sulaj
10.30 – 11.00	**Coffee break**	
11.00 – 11.30	*Legislative Approaches and Regulatory Frameworks*	Dr. *Carmen Breitling-Utzmann* Chemical and Veterinary Investigations Office Stuttgart (Online)
11.30 – 12.00	*Acrylamide Reduction Strategies from Farm to Fork*	Tanya Curtis
12.00 – 12.30	*Genetic and Agronomic Strategies for Acrylamide Reduction*	Nigel Halford
12.30 – 13.30	**Lunch**	
13.30 – 14.00	*Effects of Processing Conditions on Acrylamide Formation in Foods*	Vural Gökmen
14.00 – 14.30	*The use of enzymes and plant extracts in the food industry: an innovative approach for reducing acrylamides*	Shpresa Musa
14.30 – 15.00	*Challenges for the Food Industry in Mitigating Acrylamide Levels in Food*	Alketa Shehaj
15.00 – 15.30	**Coffee break**	
15.30 – 16.00	*Applied Technologies in Acrylamide Reduction and the Sensorial Impact*	Ariola Morina
16.00 – 16.30	*Summary and Discussion*	Alketa Shehaj
18.00 – 19.30	*Visit City Center (Tour)*	
20.00 – 22.00	**Dinner** (*Optional*)	

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Day 2: Analytical Evaluation of Acrylamide **Zoom:** https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73191125531?pwd=zOCQskKi84P6r1J2JJjNceLgSd1cOK.1&jst=2 **Venue: Food Safety and Veterinary Institute (ISUV)**		
08.30 – 10.00	Visit at Institute of Plant Genetic Resources (**IRGJB**)	*Valbona Hobdari* Director of IRGJB
11.00 – 11.30	*Opening and welcoming remarks* (*Including Coffee Break*)	Director of ISUV and Elmira Mehmeti
11.30 – 12.00	*Advanced Analytical Methods for the Determination of Pesticides and Contaminants in Cereals*	Ederina Ninga *National Food Institute, Danmarks Tekniske Universitet (DTU), Denmark*
12:00 – 12.30	*Contaminants: Current Laboratory Status and Future Plans*	Elmira Mehmeti
12.30 – 13.30	**Lunch**	
13.30 – 14.15	*Experiences in Acrylamide Mitigation Measures in Slovak Food Technology*	Zuzana Ciesarová
14.15 – 14:30	**Coffee break**	
14.30 – 16.30	*Practical Session: Acrylamide/Contaminants Analysis in Food Samples / Tour at ISUV*	Director of ISUV and Elmira Mehmeti
16.30 – 17.00	Discussion and Conclusions from Day 2	Fatjon Hoxha
19.30 – 22.00	**Social Dinner** (*Optional*)	

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Day 3: Regulations and Policies on Acrylamide Zoom: https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75303123207?pwd=wfdFMedTvAefD4KoKh1WTQ6ic5gVab.1&jst=2 Venue: Agricultural University of Tirana		
09.00 – 09.30	**Recap of Day 1 & 2 Concepts**	Kapllan Sulaj and Nigel Halford
09.30 – 10.30	*Impact of Policies and Regulations on Acrylamide Controls*	Nigel Halford
10.30 – 11.00	*The Alignment Policy in EU and Other Countries on Acrylamides*	Fatjon Hoxha
11.00 – 11.30	**Coffee Break**	
11.30 – 12.30	***Group Workshop (Round Table):*** *Challenges for Food Industry in Western Balkans Countries in the light of* EU *acquis*	Chaired by Alketa Shehaj and Fatjon Hoxha
12.30 – 13.00	*Training School Closure, Certificate Distribution and Official Conclusion*	Nigel Halford and Kapllan Sulaj
13.00 – 14.00	**Lunch**	
14.00 – 17.00	**Visit to Bakery Production Factory**	

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