ASC4INN
Innovation for Agriculture Supply Chains

PRESS RELEASE 1

ASC4INN – ALLIANCE FOR FOSTERING INNOVATION IN EDUCATION

ASC4INN launches to drive digital and sustainable innovation in Europe's agricultural supply chains

The European project ASC4INN (Alliance for Fostering Innovation in Education and Enterprises through Digitization of Agriculture Supply Chains) **has officially started**, bringing together leading universities, vocational training providers and industry representatives to **strengthen innovation capacity in the agriculture supply chains sector**. The project responds to the growing need for professionals equipped with advanced skills in digital transformation, sustainability, and supply-chain management, areas that are rapidly reshaping how agricultural value chains operate across Europe.

ASC4INN focuses on identifying the skills and competences required to support **the transition toward more digital, efficient and transparent agricultural supply chains**. Based on a thorough assessment of sector needs, the project will develop **new educational programmes** centred on four key deep-tech domains: the use of robotics and drones in agriculture, the application of IoT and blockchain technologies for data traceability, the adoption of big data and advanced analytics for informed decision-making, along with investment risk management to evaluate the feasibility of technological innovations.

Throughout its implementation, ASC4INN will design and test innovative **curricula for both Higher Education (HE) and Vocational Education and Training (VET)**. These programmes will be supported by modern training materials, dedicated toolkits, and forward-looking learning methodologies, including blended learning, game-based learning, and immersive simulations through virtual and augmented reality. The project will also introduce a framework for micro-credentials and micro-pathways to support the recognition of competences across Europe. Pilot courses and mobility actions will enable students, educators and professionals to engage directly with the project's outputs.

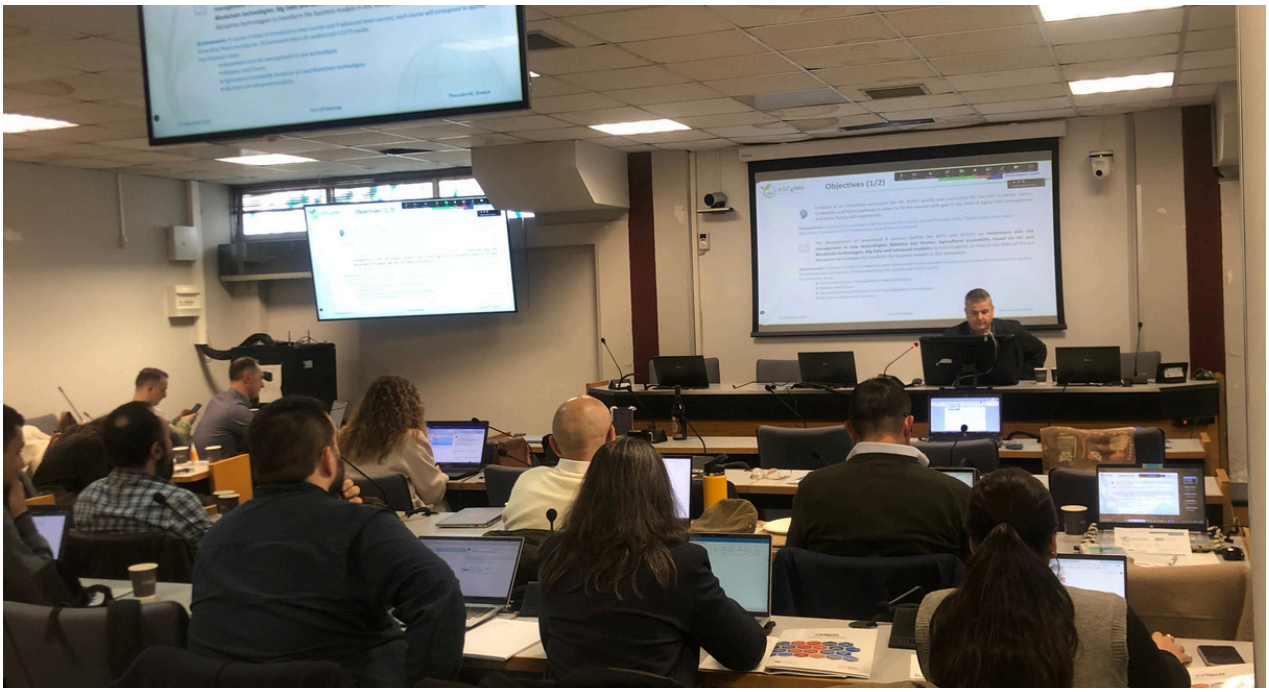
By delivering high-quality, market-relevant educational programmes, ASC4INN aims to **strengthen the alignment between academic training and labour-market needs**, ultimately enhancing employability and supporting the long-term competitiveness of the agriculture supply chains sector. The project also promotes **deeper cooperation** among universities, VET organisations, enterprises and sectoral networks, fostering a robust ecosystem for innovation and knowledge exchange.

The ASC4INN consortium brings together partners with **complementary expertise** in agriculture, digital technologies, education and supply-chain management. This collaboration ensures that the project's results will be both academically rigorous and directly applicable to real-world challenges faced by agri-food enterprises.

ASC4INN marks an important step toward equipping Europe's workforce with the skills needed to lead the digital and sustainable transformation of agricultural supply chains.

The ASC4INN Kick-off Meeting!

The project officially started with a **two-day Kick-off Meeting in Thessaloniki**, hosted by the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. The agenda featured partner presentations, an overview of the project's objectives and action plan, and dedicated sessions on management, quality assurance, dissemination, and exploitation strategies. The second day focused on the detailed planning of curricula development, micro-credentials, and the upcoming work packages, ensuring a shared understanding of tasks, timelines and collaboration methods among all partners. This first meeting laid the foundations for a strong and coordinated implementation of ASC4INN.



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Co-funded by the European Union

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