

## BIP AERES UAS DRONTEN 2026

### **Innovation & Entrepreneurship in the Agro and Food Sector**

At Aeres University of Applied Sciences in Dronten, we are pleased to announce the organization of a Blended Intensive Programme (BIP) titled *“Innovation & Entrepreneurship in the Agro and Food Sector”*.

This 3-ECTS programme, scheduled for March 2026, offers students a unique international learning experience that combines entrepreneurship, innovation, and sustainability in the agri-food domain. Participants will collaborate with international peers, lecturers, and entrepreneurs while working on real-life international business cases.

*You wouldn't want to miss this chance, would you?*

#### **WHY?**

The agro and food sector is undergoing rapid transformation. Farmers and entrepreneurs face major challenges related to sustainability, climate change, biodiversity, rural vitality, and economic resilience. At the same time, these challenges create new opportunities for innovation, entrepreneurship, and multifunctional agriculture.

How can entrepreneurial ideas contribute to a future-proof food system? How can rural businesses combine food production with services such as nature management, recreation, and short supply chains?

This is why we are organizing the Blended Intensive Programme “Innovation & Entrepreneurship in the Agro and Food Sector” in March 2026. By bringing together international students and lecturers, this BIP creates a platform to exchange knowledge, explore innovative business models, and co-create solutions for a sustainable and resilient European agri-food sector.

#### **WHAT?**

The Blended Intensive Programme “Innovation & Entrepreneurship in the Agro and Food Sector” is organized by Aeres University of Applied Sciences, Dronten.

The programme focuses on developing entrepreneurial solutions for real-life innovation challenges in the agro- and food sector. Each international student contributes a case from their home region, based on an entrepreneur who is developing a new product, service, or side business.



Participants can expect a dynamic and inspiring programme, including:

- Expert lectures on innovation, entrepreneurship, and sustainability in the agro-food sector
- Workshops on business models, value creation, and entrepreneurial skills
- Coaching sessions with lecturers and entrepreneurs
- Field visits to innovative agri-food companies and Aeres alumni
- International teamwork on real-life entrepreneurial cases
- Final business pitches and presentations

By combining online preparation with an intensive on-site week, the programme fosters international collaboration, intercultural learning, and practical entrepreneurship skills.

### **WHO?**

This programme is suitable for you if:

You are a Bachelor student in agriculture, horticulture, agri-business, food, entrepreneurship, or a related field

You are interested in innovation and entrepreneurship in the agro- and food sector

You enjoy working in international and intercultural teams

You are motivated to work on real-life entrepreneurial challenges

You have an English level of B2 or higher

### **HOW and WHEN?**

#### **Preparation Phase – 1 ECTS**

The preparation phase takes place online (via Microsoft Teams) approximately 2–3 weeks before the mobility.

During this phase:

Students and lecturers are introduced to the programme and each other

International students explore the agro-food sector in their home and other regions

Each student selects and interviews a local entrepreneur

A short case description is prepared and shared with Dutch students

These cases form the basis for the teamwork during the on-site week.

#### **BIP On-site Programme – 2 ECTS**

The physical programme takes place from 23–27 March 2026 at Aeres University of Applied Sciences in Dronten, the Netherlands.

The on-site week includes:

Lectures and workshops by experts

Coaching and feedback sessions

Field visits to innovative agrifood businesses

Teamwork on business concepts

Final pitches and reflection sessions



### **Follow-up Phase**

After returning home, international students further refine their business concept into a short business plan and present it online to the entrepreneur who inspired their case.

### **HOW MUCH WILL IT COST ME?**

The programme itself is free of charge.

Participants are eligible for Erasmus+ Blended Intensive Programme funding through their home institution.

A contribution of about €400 is required for meals and accommodation during the on-site week in Dronten.

### **Where do I get more information? Whom should I apply with?**

For further details or to apply, please contact:

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