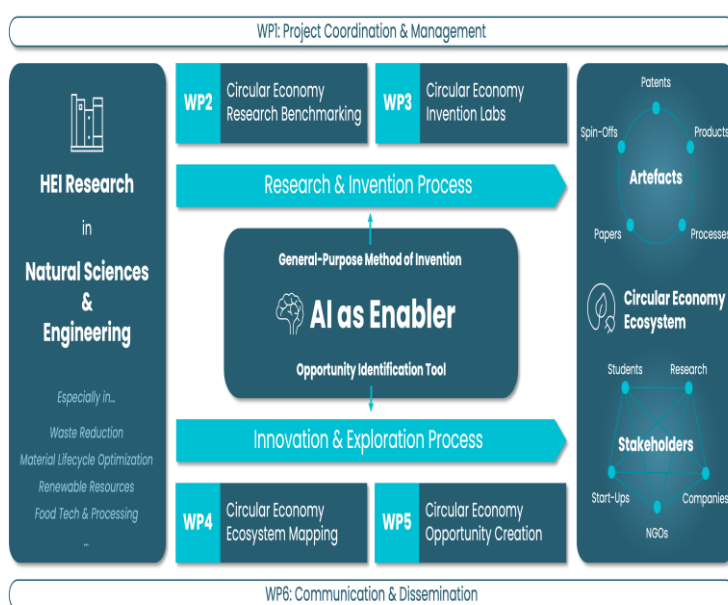


ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE INTEGRATED INTO THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

“The transition to a circular economy is not an option — it is the only path toward long-term economic and climate resilience. Artificial Intelligence is turning this transition from an aspiration into a measurable reality.”

The international AI-InnoScEnCE project, supported by the EIT Higher Education Initiative and EIT RawMaterials, has successfully completed Phase I of implementation at “B.P. Hasdeu” State University of Cahul (USC), marking a profound transformation in how digital technology supports regional sustainability.



The AI-InnoScEnCE project concept: Artificial Intelligence as an opportunity-identification tool for Circular Economy research (WP1–WP6).

1. ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT & STRATEGIC EVENTS

- **Circular Agri-Industrial Workshop:** on September 26, 2025, the first thematic workshop, “Circular Economy in Agro-Industrial Chains through AI Application,” took place, organized in collaboration with the Cahul Business Incubator (IACH). The event brought together representatives from academia, entrepreneurs and stakeholder organizations, who discussed sustainable agriculture and the impact of artificial intelligence on farming, the challenges and opportunities in the wine-growing and walnut industries, and the creation of practical solutions for a circular economy in the Republic of Moldova.
- **“Design Thinking” Workshop (November 28, 2025):** an interactive session focused on mapping the digital ecosystem of the southern region of the Republic of Moldova, identifying regulatory barriers, and generating technological solutions aligned with open-innovation models. Key challenges in the circular economy were identified.
- **AI-InnoScEnCE Webinar Series (December 8–9, 2025):** held online, the event brought together researchers and entrepreneurs to explore the use of AI tools in writing project proposals, models for commercializing academic ideas, and strategies for reducing resource waste.



Circular Agri-Industrial Workshop, Sept 26, 2025



"Design Thinking" session, Nov 28, 2025



AI-InnoScEnCE Webinar Series, Dec 8–9, 2025

2. AGREEMENTS & PARTNERSHIPS ESTABLISHED

In this phase, USC consolidated 4 new strategic partnerships key to regional development:

- **Collaboration Agreement with "AI SKILLS" LLC:** the partnership aims to democratize access to AI education, transfer technology, and exchange academic-private know-how over a 5-year period.
- **Partnership with "ATLAS CONSULT" LLC:** represented by Administrator Dr. Prof. Costel Stancă, for business consultancy, ecological management, and professional training activities.
- **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Ludovika University of Public Service (LUPS):** an agreement that opens the way for academic exchanges, joint European research, and the implementation of FAIR data-management principles.
- **Extended partnership with the Inotek Innovation Center and the Cahul Business Incubator (IACH):** for operating the physical AI experimentation labs in Cahul.

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS ACHIEVED (KPIs — PHASE I)

KPI Code	Performance Indicator	Target	Achieved	Status
EIT HE03.1	Start-ups and scale-ups supported	1	3	✓300%
EIT HE08.1	Participants in development courses (Students)	50	88	✓Achieved
EIT HE08.1	Participants in development courses (Academic Staff)	10	13	✓Achieved
EIT HE08.1	Participants in development courses (Non-Academic Staff)	10	10	✓Achieved
EIT HE08.1	Beneficiaries of additional mentoring programs (Students)	15	18	✓Achieved
EIT HE08.1	Mentoring beneficiaries (Academic / Non-Academic Staff)	5 / 3	5 / 3	✓Achieved
EIT HE20	New partnerships established under the HEI initiative	4	4	✓Achieved

3. START-UPS GUIDED & ACCELERATED

Three student-led start-ups, born from the Dreamable pre-accelerator (by Dreamups), guided and mentored within the AI-InnoScEnCE ecosystem.



The Dreamable Pre-Accelerator programme — 18 students benefited from additional mentoring within the development courses (EIT HE08.1).



FoodFlow

FoodTech

Digitally reducing food waste.

Founder: Denise Kercii · Marketing Specialist: Ana Maria Unciuc · IT Developers: Ion Gurduza, Olessea Dobrovenco



EcoWeb

Circular Economy

Turning reusable waste into profit.

Co-founder & Creative Director: Sergiu Ababii · Co-founder & Web Designer: Alexandru Zamfirov



AgroLink

AgriTech

The local market, one click away.

Co-founder: Cosmin Padure · Co-founder: Olivia Pocotilo

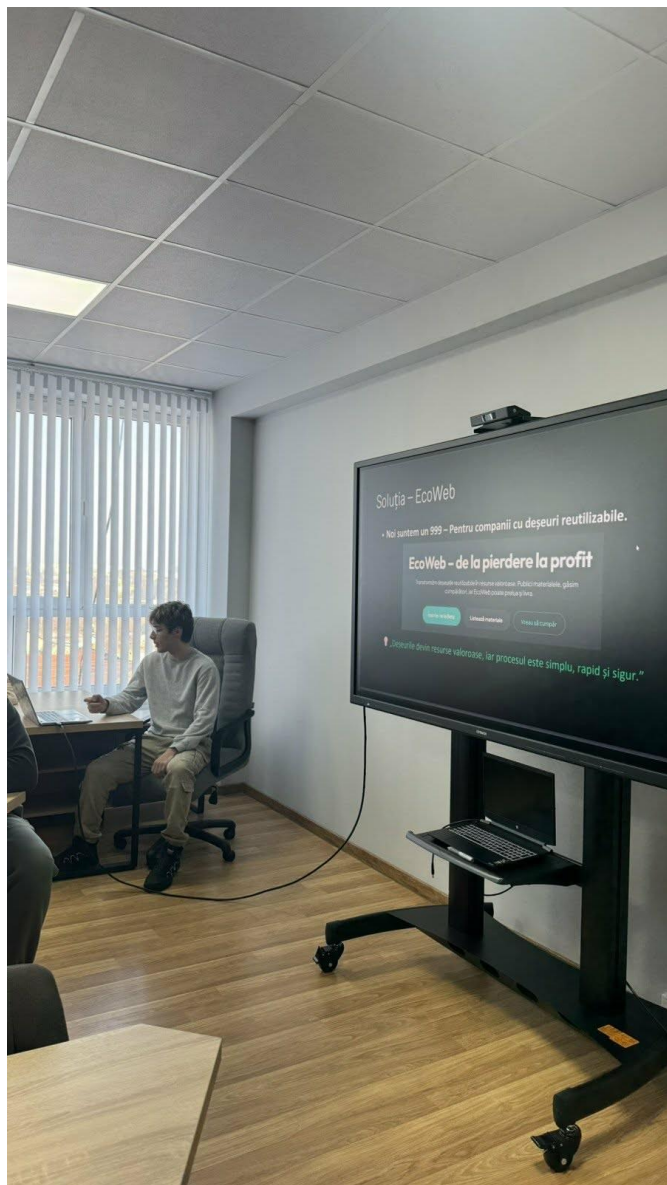
4. STUDENT TRAINING & MENTORSHIP

A large group of students from the Faculty of Economics, Engineering and Applied Sciences (FEISA) benefited from more than 10 hours of academic delivery and direct mentorship within the following courses:

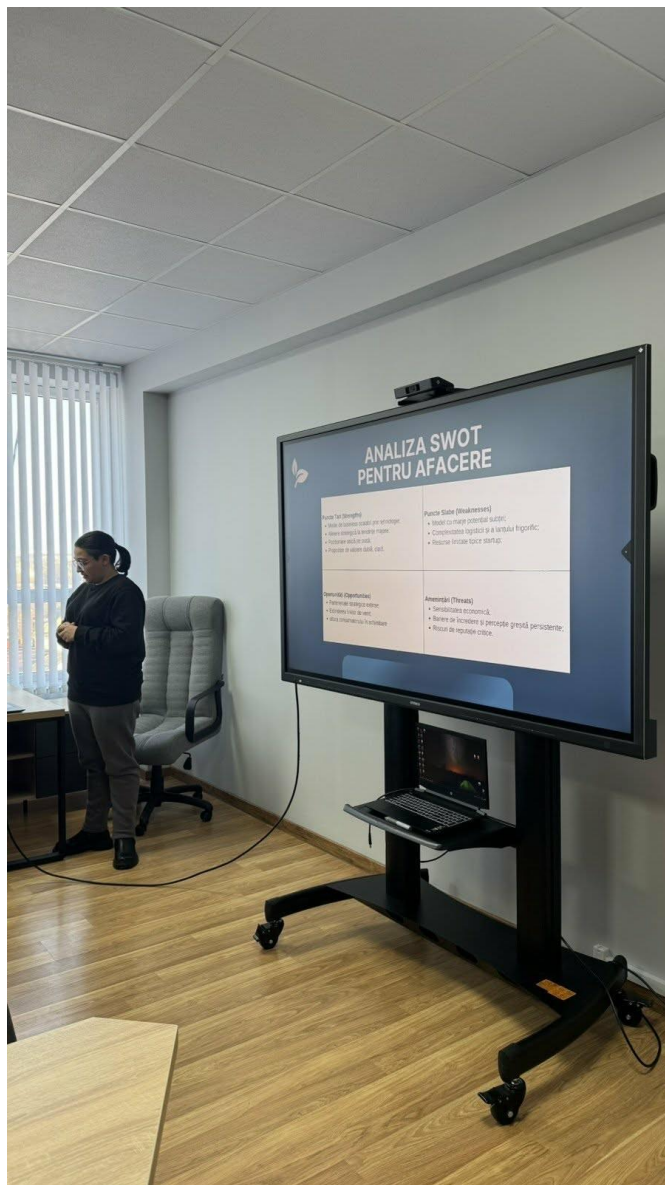
- **Interdisciplinary Research and Academic Writing (Prof. Liudmila Roșca-Sadurschi):** 11 students in Business Administration, 11 students in Accounting.
- **Operations and Production Management (Prof. Andrei Popa):** 10 students (BA2401).
- **Entrepreneurial Project Management (Prof. Andrei Popa):** 10 students (BA2301).
- **Tools of Ecological Production (Prof. Liliana Ceclu, Ina Filipov):** 6 students from Engineering and Management in the Food Industry, 4 students from Engineering in Machine Construction.

5. LAUNCH OF THE “TECHNOLOGICAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP (START-UP)” COURSE

The university course L05.O.08 Technological Entrepreneurship (Start-up) (2 ECTS credits) was officially launched. The teaching team — Liudmila Roșca-Sadurschi, Liliana Ceclu, Slavic Gîrneț, Irina Vișcu, and Ilona Popovici — guides students in turning technological ideas into viable business plans, using validated AI-based creativity-assessment methodologies. Below, students present the start-up projects developed during the course.



"EcoWeb" project defense



Business SWOT analysis, presented by a student

6. SCIENTIFIC PAPERS & ACADEMIC DELIVERABLES

- **Report D2.2 — Best-Practice Curation Report:** prepared by Liliana Ceclu and Liudmila Roșca-Sadurschi. The document is a best-practice guide for circular-economy research, analyzing the impact of digital platforms.
- **Report D5.2 — OI Creativity Workflows Report:** a comparative study assessing Open-Innovation-based workflows, recommending the integration of AI as an assistant in workshops.
- **Bachelor's Thesis & Conference Guidance:** 3 students completed applied bachelor's theses (coordinators Prof. Andrei Popa, Liliana Ceclu), and 2 students took part in specialized conferences (coordinator Ina Filipov).
- **Interdisciplinary Projects:** research carried out by groups of students on a real problem within a local enterprise. Solutions must fall within the circular economy and/or contain AI elements.