

News on biobased resource recovery

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Dear circular economy enthusiast,

The BCE is off to a flying start this year!

While our community is rapidly growing, we are organising the second edition of the ESNI event, which is reinforcing its commitment in promoting the importance of nutrient recycling to boost sustainable development. This second edition will be also enriched by the Systemic workshop, *Developing a stimulating and harmonised policy framework for biogas based biorefineries*, which will discuss ways to better enable financial viability of nutrient recovery from waste in Europe.

In this issue you will also get an insight on the Workshop applied R&D for P recovery, organised by the BCE in the framework of the 4th European Sustainable Phosphorus Conference, taking place in Vienna.

As usual, breaking news and insights from projects of our community will enrich your reading and keep you updated on their last initiatives and results.

Lastly, do not forget to have a look at publications and upcoming events we chose for you!

We wish you a pleasant reading!

The BCE Team

Our latest updates will be waiting for you at @Bioref_Cluster and www.biorefine.eu. See you there!

You wish to share any news with us? Get in touch! info@biorefine.eu

New Members

The FERTIMANURE project joins our community!



We are happy to welcome FERTIMANURE in our community!

The project will investigate the conversion of the raw manure into mineral fertilizers.

Learn more about the project [here](#)

Circular economy

Save the date for the next ESNI event



The European Sustainable Nutrient Initiative - ESNI - will be back the next 23 April.

ESNI will provide a comprehensive overview on the opportunities and benefits of nutrient recycling to boost research, agriculture and sustainable development.

This second edition will be also interlinked with the Systemic workshop, *Developing a stimulating and harmonised policy framework for biogas based biorefineries*, which takes place on the 22nd of April.

Stay tuned... more details will come soon!

Circular economy

Systemic workshop: Developing a stimulating and harmonised policy framework for biogas based biorefineries



The European Union's Communication on the Circular Economy has recognised nutrient recovery and reuse (NRR) from waste as a crucial element in advancing the Circular Economy.

However, whilst great strides are being made in the development of technology to enable nutrients to be recovered at biogas plants, the financial viability of nutrient recovery remains a major stumbling block to its expansion. This workshop will discuss ways in which European policy frameworks can better enable the financial viability of nutrient recovery from waste in Europe.

More information coming soon..

Circular economy

Workshop on applied R&D for P recovery



On the 17th of June a phosphorus day is organised by the Biorefine Cluster Europe in partnership with RE-Source, ESPP and TU Wien. The workshop is part of the 4th European Sustainable Phosphorus Conference (ESPC4) which is a unique event bringing together companies, stakeholders, regional and national authorities, innovation and researchers, to discuss phosphorus and nutrients sustainability actions and policies.

More details are available [here](#)

Circular economy

ALG-AD information workshop - Calling AD plant managers



Are you wondering how to deal with excess digestate? Would you like access to a potential solution? Are you interested in developing a circular economy? Would you like to develop a new revenue stream for your business? If you answered yes to any of the above this could be the event for you!

Read more [here](#)



...Get involved...

AgRefine - Position: Ph.D. Researcher Dealing with compositional variability in biobased mineral fertilizers

UniMI - Innovative plant for the conservative removal of nitrogen from livestock slurry and digestate - Conserva

UniMI - Integrated management system of cowshed environment to improve the welfare and productivity of cows - Gala

Project news

AgriWasteValue: outcomes of the kick-off event



The AgriWasteValue kick-off event was held on December 11, 2019 in Belgium. 60 people from different fields such as chemistry, energy and agriculture, participated in the event. This project is focused on the growing demand for consumers to return to more natural products, especially in cosmetics and nutraceuticals. These natural products are currently exported in Europe while a lot of biomass is actually available here, in North-

West Europe!

Learn more [here](#)! And if you want to discover more on AgriWasteValue, check the [project's website](#).

Project news

The Fertimanure project kicked-off this month!



The kick-off meeting of the Fertimanure project was held on 9th and 10th of January in the Cambra de comerç delegació de Vic in Spain, bringing together 21 international partners involved in the manure research sector.

Read more [here](#)

Project news

Successful trials on olive pomace for natural aromas and polyphenols



Trials continue at the Spanish Pilot Plant. Recently Agrimax partners successfully obtained natural aromas & polyphenols from olive pomace. The consortium will now test these as food ingredients. The flexible, multi-feedstock plant will process waste from olives and potatoes to produce polyphenols, fibres, proteins and aromas.

Read the article [here](#)

Project news

Interactive learning network about VeDoWS stables



On 2 December, Inagro organised a learning network on recycling-derived fertilisers. During that interesting afternoon, we focused on adapted stables for pigs. Would you like to know more about this innovative stable system?

Learn more [here](#)

Project news

Final ALG-AD investment facility now fully operational



The last of the three photobioreactors to be constructed by the Interreg NWE funded ALG-AD project is now up and running in Ghent and is already growing biomass. With the completion of a greenhouse constructed specifically to house the reactor, the scientists at Innolab have been able to start cultivating algal biomass.

Read more [here](#)

Project news

Grassification wants to hear from you!



The Grassification project aims to apply a multi-dimensional approach to roadside grass clippings refining in order to optimize it into viable value-chains for the bio-based and circular economy. Are you interested? The consortium is pleased to invite you to be part of the Grassification platform, which will function as a knowledge database for all Grassification stakeholders.

This platform will offer you the opportunity to get the first access to project's deliverables and results as well as to receive first-hand invitations to project's events.

Go to the stakeholder' corner [here](#)

Video

Duckweed as a protein alternative? Check the video!



Why are soy, tofu and legumes all considered meat substitutes? They all contain proteins, and these are essential for a good growth and development of people and animals. In 2050 it is expected that there will be more than 9 billion persons on this planet and all these people will need proteins.

Therefore, there is a need for a more productive protein alternative.

Duckweed can be such an alternative, because it grows fast and contains a high amount of proteins. In our experiments we found that duckweed can triple the protein production on the same area as soy and other legumes. However, it is still a challenge to make duckweed a nutritious and stable ingredient, not only for us, but also for our pigs, poultry and cattle. Therefore, we test different processing methods like pelletising or we make a hamburger out of it.

If this succeeds, we can process effectively duckweed and thus, supply in 30 years sufficient and nutritious food for all of us.

Food for thought...

Elsevier - [Leaching behavior of Cd, Zn and nutrients \(K,P,S\) from a contaminated soil as affected by amendment with biochar](#)

Joint Research Center - [Algae biomass production for the bioeconomy](#)
Science Direct - [Life cycle assessment of nutrient recycling from wastewater: A critical review](#)

Upcoming events

Save the date!



16th International Conference on Renewable Resources & Biorefineries

3-5 June, Gent, Belgium

Delegates from university, industry, governmental and non-governmental organizations and venture capital providers will present their views on industrial biotechnology, sustainable (green) chemistry and agricultural policy related to the use of renewable raw materials for non-food applications and energy supply.

[Continue reading](#)



The 4th European Sustainable Phosphorus Conference

15-17 June, Vienna, Austria

The European Sustainable Phosphorus Conferences are the unique event bringing together companies, stakeholders, regional and national authorities, innovation and researchers, to discuss phosphorus and nutrients sustainability actions and policies.

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RAMIRAN 2020

14-17 September, Cambridge, United Kingdom

RAMIRAN "Recycling of Agricultural, Municipal and Industrial Residues in Agriculture Network" is a research and expertise network set up over 25 years ago to improve nutrient utilisation and minimise the environmental impact from livestock manure and other organic material use in agricultural systems.

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ICHMET2020

ICHMET 2020

25-29 October, Seoul, Korea

The ICHMET 2020 will provide a unique platform for sharing knowledge on the state-of-the-art research activities among a broad international scientific community in all aspects of heavy metals.

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The Biorefine Cluster is supported by the European Biogas Association (EBA), a no-profit organisation which advocates for recognition of biomethane and other renewable gases as sustainable, on demand and flexible energy sources that provide multiple knock on socio-economic and environmental benefits. Learn more [here](#)



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