



Dear circular economy enthusiast,

Welcome back!

The time has come to release a new issue of our bulletin and provide you with the most relevant updates on circular economy.

This month we would like to share with you thoughts on how we can change the land use to reduce the intense pressure on the Earth's natural resources and provide enough food and resources to sustain a growing population. Turning inefficient nutrients from organic sources into new chemical fertilisers as well as adopting integrated land management approaches are some of the key priorities for the next future.

Beside that, we will present you the report on the Flemish biogas sector in 2018, featuring an overview of the entire biogas sector in the Flanders region which counts two thirds of Belgian biogas plants.

Insights and breaking news from projects of our community will enrich your reading and will keep you informed on latest progress and achievements. 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

Circular economy

Land use puts huge pressure on Earth's resources. Here is what's need to change



Deforestation, intensive agriculture and rising urbanisation are all putting intense pressure on the Earth's natural resources and resilience to climate change. But how exactly does the way we use land need to change if we are to take care of the planet and provide enough food and resources to sustain a growing population?

Prof. Erik Meers, together with other 5 experts, discusses with Horizon Magazine the priorities for the next future and the need to close the nutrient loop.

Read the entire interview [here](#)

Circular economy

The Flemish Biogas Sector in 2018



When it comes to biogas in Belgium, the Flanders region is the region to be with about two thirds of Belgian biogas plants situated in Flanders. Furthermore, the very first biomethane plant in Belgium has been opened in Flanders in 2018.

Biogas-E, the Flemish sector association, has recently published its report on the Flemish biogas sector in 2018.

The report features an overview of the biogas sector in Flanders covering the entire spectrum of biogas plants: from agricultural - industrial digesters, municipal organic waste digesters, landfill gas, sewage sludge digesters to industrial waste water digesters and not to forget small-scale farm digesters.

More details on the report are available [here](#)

Project news

Demand for recycled nutrients in every region: tailor made recycling-derived fertilisers have the highest impact



In the Interreg North-West Europe project ReNu2Farm researchers investigate the use of recycling-derived fertilisers and the exchange of nutrients between different regions. Up to now, farmers have essentially been using synthetic mineral fertilisers besides regionally available animal manure. For synthetic mineral fertilisers, the EU is heavily dependent on imports. For ReNu2Farm, it's important to prioritize the opinion of end users. Therefore, the researchers mapped the region-specific demand for recycled nutrients.

Read the entire [press release](#) and check the [maps](#)

Project news

BioBIGG organises the 4th Bioeconomy Conference in Anklam, Germany



This year the 4th Bioeconomy Conference will be part of the BioBIGG project. The conference, taking place on 7 November 2019 in Anklam, will focus on the sustainable cascade use of biomaterials in the region.

Guests from the southern Baltic Sea region will come to show their approaches for the extension of value chains.

More information on the programme and registration [here](#)

Project news

The 5th European Conference on Sludge Management, ECSM'2019



The 5th European Conference on Sludge Management, ECSM'2019, takes place in Liège, Belgium, from 6th to 8th of October 2019. It is organized by University of Liège, with the support of the INTERREG NWE project Phos4You. The main scope of the Conference is to provide a scientific program of cutting-edge research in wastewater sludge management.

More information on the programme and registration [here](#)

Project news

ALG-AD: installation of a pilot large scale photobioreactor at Langage AD



Food for thought...

ScienceDirect - [Insight into the recovery of nutrients from organic solid waste through biochemical conversion processes for fertilizer production: A review](#)

Bioresource Technology - [Technology validation of photosynthetic biogas upgrading in a semi-industrial scale algal-bacterial photobioreactor](#)

Upcoming events

Save the date!



ECOMONDO 2019

5-8 November, Rimini, Italy

ECOMONDO is the benchmark event in Europe for technological and industrial innovation. An international event with an innovative format that brings together all sectors of the circular economy on a single platform: from the recovery of materials and energy to sustainable development.

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ManuREsource 2019

27-29 November, Hasselt, Belgium

ManuREsource is an international conference stimulating the exchange of experiences between regions on the policy measures taken for coping with manure surpluses, both in terms of manure management in a broad sense, and more specifically in terms of manure treatment.

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2019 International Conference on Technical and Engineering Challenges of Addressing Sustainable Development

12-13 December, Seoul, South Korea

Scientists and policy makers will gather to discuss technical and engineering challenges of addressing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

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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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The Biorefine Cluster is supported by the European Biogas Association (EBA), a non-profit organisation promoting the deployment of sustainable biogas and biomethane production and use from anaerobic digestion (AD) and biomass gasification in Europe. Learn more [here](#)



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