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#### **CLICK AND SUBSCRIBE TO THE BULLETIN!**

Dear circular economy enthusiast,

Before February ends, here we are with a new edition of our Bulletin, gathering the most relevant initiatives and updates from our network.

The BCE community keeps growing! In this issue we are pleased to introduce you Conserval Poctep which is a collaborative project, aiming at developing technologies for the recovery of by-products and wastewater from the canning sector in Galicia and Northern Portugal.

The third European Sustainable Nutrient Initiative (ESNI) Conference is just around the corner! After two successful editions, ESNI is back to offer you an high-level discussion on the benefits of nutrient recycling in boosting agriculture, novel food production and sustainable development. The conference will be also the occasion to launch the Nutrient Recycling Community, a platform intended to foster the collaboration with relevant initiatives and projects on nutrient recycling in Europe. The event will also include a policy session organised by Circular Agronomics which will discuss ways to achieve the goals set by the Farm to Fork strategy for reduction in nutrient losses by 2030.

In this issue, we turn on our spotlights on the ECOVAL project, which proposes a new approach for the management of urban organic waste that has a lower environmental impact and promotes the circular economy, thanks to the conversion of waste into resources. Discover below its goals, activities and achievements.

Breaking news from our community will enrich your reading and will update on the latest initiatives, progress and results.

And lastly do not forget to take a peek at publications, events and job opportunities 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

#### Biorefine Community

### The Conserval Poctep project joins our network



The Biorefine Community is pleased to welcome Conserval Poctep.

Conserval aims to develop technologies for the recovery of by-products and waste water from the canning sector in Galicia and Northern Portugal.

Read more here

#### Biorefine Community

The 3rd edition of the European Sustainable Nutrient Initiative (ESNI) Conference is coming soon!



The European Sustainable Nutrient Initiative (ESNI) will take place on Tuesday 29 March 2022 as an online conference.

As one of the major events on nutrient recycling, ESNI will offer a platform for fruitful discussion and exchange of knowledge on the sector in Europe. For this edition, we will present **innovative** solutions developed by projects of our community to create value added products from nutrient recycling and favor the transition to the circular economy.

The event will also include a **policy session** organised by Circular Agronomics which will discuss ways to achieve the goals set by the Farm to Fork strategy for reduction in nutrient losses by 2030.

Read more here

#### Biorefine Community

#### The 'Biorefine in the EU' Conference: Call for abstracts!



From 1st to 2nd June 2022, the Biorefine Cluster will organise the first edition of the 'Biorefine in the EU' Conference that will take place in Ghent. The event aims to highlight and discuss the current research innovations within the topics addressed by the Cluster, their further developments and the concrete solutions to make the transition to circular economy work in practice. Registrations to attend the conference will open soon, but participants are invited to submit already their abstracts and poster presentations.

#### Biorefine Community

#### **End of Waste**



End-of-Waste develops innovations via science-to-business collaborations to valorize organic side steams in support of the transition to a circular biobased economy.

In their seasonal update, they share innovations that End-of-Waste (EoW) experts, from the RE-SOURCE.BIO community at AUGent, are working on to valorise organic waste and help society transition to a more circular bio-based economy.

"Where others see waste, we only see underutilised biomass."

Click <u>here</u> to subscribe to the newsletter!

#### Biorefine Community

**RRB 2022: Call for abstracts!** 





The 18th edition of the International Conference on Renewable Resources & Biorefineries will take place in Bruges, Belgium from Wednesday 1 June until Friday 3 June 2022. The conference aims at providing an overview of the scientific, technical, economic, environmental and social issues of renewable resources and biorefineries to give an impetus to the biobased economy. You can submit your abstract by 15 March 2022.

Read more here

Project's corner

### **Interreg Sudoe ECOVAL**



The management of urban organic waste currently presents challenges to be addressed, such as minimizing landfill or increasing recycling. Ecoval proposes a change in urban waste management systems, to integrate separation at source and replace the current linear consumption model with a circular one, through the recovery of sludge and organic waste thanks to the development of innovative technologies that are more economically and environmentally sustainable.



One of the objectives of the project is to demonstrate the technical feasibility of producing volatile fatty acids from urban sludge. To do this, at the Ourense Wastewater Treatment Plant, Cetaqua has set up different tests to optimise the generation of acids such as acetic, propionic, or butyric acid from sewage sludge.

Check <u>here</u> about the experiments carried out to find the most suitable operating conditions for the pilot VFA production plant.





Innovation needs to go hand in hand with the acceptance of the business model. To this end, the project is organising a series of workshops in which different specialists answer the question: how can we overcome the barriers in the recovery of bio-waste and WWTP sludge?

#### Read more here

The research and development part of the project is combined with a campaign on environmental education online and involving schools. For instance, the organic waste that feeds the pilot plant comes from a school canteen. The campaign is aiming at raising awareness of the need to reduce the waste we generate and the importance of correct waste separation with special focus on organic waste and the waste not throw into the toilet.

Check the video below!





Very soon, containers with a brown lid will be another element in our streets, a path towards a more circular and environmentally friendly economy. But what is organic waste and what waste should we deposit in the new brown bin? Ecoval Sudoe will explain it to you!

## **Food for thoughts**

Nutri2Cycle project - Effects of current techniques and management systems on CNP flows in Europe

ScienceDirect: Industrial hemp (Cannabis sativa L.) in a phytoattenuation strategy:
Remediation potential of a Cd, Pb and Zn contaminated soil and valorization
potential of the fibers for textile production

Project news

The Flemish Algae month



The Flemish Algae Month Event (FAME) has been postponed to May. Three consecutive events will take place focusing on different aspects of microalgal technology. On May 4th will be discussed the use of (micro)algae in the food industry (ILVO-Flanders Food), while on May 12th the focus will be on the development and upscaling of a circular economy based on microalgae (Radius, Thomas More campus Geel). Finally on May 19th the topic will be the use of agricultural and food side streams for the cultivation of microalgae (UGent-Innolab),

Interested? Discover more on the events here

#### Project news

## SCALIBUR has launched an e-learning platform to educate about biowaste management and treatment



The SCALIBUR project has launched an elearning platform to educate about biowaste management and treatment.

The platform consists of two modules aimed at different users. The e-learning can be followed by users independently and at their own pace. Quizzes are incorporated to reinforce learning.

Discover more here

#### Project news

The F-Cubed Project: Converting Waste Residues to Bioenergy Carriers



The European Commission's Circular Economy Action Plan is one of the European Green Deal's fundamental initiatives. So how does the F-Cubed project align itself with this initiative and contribute to the EU's transition to a circular economy? Most importantly, the F-Cubed project is testing the treatment of waste residues from the major manufacturing industries of paper, olive oil and fruit. Feedstock samples of paper sludge, orange peels and olive pomace were initially tested at lab scale with a standard fuel analysis and to determine their organic content in order to gain insight into their processing potential and anaerobic digestibility.

Read more here

#### Project news

Save the date: AgriWasteValue final event



After four and a half years, the AgriWasteValue project is coming to an end. The project partners are pleased to invite you to the final event of this agricultural residues valorisation project, which will take place as a hosted event on the 8th edition of Nutrevent, on 4 October 2022, in Nantes (France).

Come and discover at the conference the results, tools and partnerships developed during this Interreg NWE Europe project and participate to the Nutrevent exhibition by visiting the AgriWasteValue stand for more interaction with the project partners.

#### Project news

### The Conserval project presents its results



On 15 March, the CONSERVAL final conference will guide us through the main milestones achieved by the consortium, the result of a multidisciplinary research work thanks to which innovative solutions and technologies have been developed and tested to enable us to make use of waste flows – solid and liquid – from the canning industry. The entire conference will be in Spanish.

Read more here

#### Project news

# New-C-Land organises a workshop with the REGENERATIS project



**New-C-Land** 

On Wednesday 16 March, New-C-Land is organising a workshop together with the NWE - REGENERATIS project. During this workshop, you will have the opportunity to find out more about the best ways to revalorise past metallurgical sites and deposits (PMSD) and marginal lands through non-food biomass plantation.



The aim of the AgriWasteValue project is to transform agricultural residues from the European North-West regions into bioactive compounds in order to use them in key industrial sectors such as the cosmetic and nutraceutical fields and then in a second phase in the energy, chemical and agricultural fields.

#### Get involved...

<u>European Sustainable Phosphorus Platform (ESPP): Brussels representative, networking & communications [deadline 5 March 2022]</u>

<u>University of Copenhagen: Tenure-track Assistant Professor in Soil Fertility and Bio-based Fertilisation Strategies</u> [deadline 17 March 2022]

Teagasc: Sustainability and Nutrient Researcher [deadline 15 March 2022]

Upcoming events

Save the date!



#### **EUBCE 2022**

9-12 May 2022, Marseille & Online, France

EUBCE is the largest biomass conference and exhibition in the world.

Each year, EUBCE brings together the greatest minds and latest advancements in biomass, with the aim of accelerating research and market uptake across the globe. During the conference, over 2,000 experts from both academia and industry share and discuss groundbreaking ideas, technologies, applications, and solutions for the sourcing, production, and utility of biomass.

#### Continue reading



## **ESPC4 & PERM5 (Phosphorus** in Europe Research Meeeting)

20-22 June 2022, Vienna & Online, Austria

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

Continue reading



#### **RAMIRAN 2020**

19-21 September 2022, 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.

#### Continue reading

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 <a href="here">here</a>



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