

BIOREGIO

Interreg Europe

7th Newsletter,
August 2022

Regional circular economy models
and best available technologies
for biological streams

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#BIOREGIOproject

European Union
European Regional
Development Fund



This is the 7th BIOREGIO Newsletter

The **BIOREGIO** project boosts bio-based circular economy through transfer of expertise about best available technologies and cooperation models. The project aims at improving regional development policies and programs related to circular economy of biological streams.

The original duration of the **BIOREGIO** project was from January 2017 until December 2021. However, **BIOREGIO** was granted a one-year extension until the end of 2022.

The key theme and additional activities of the BIOREGIO extension:

- Continue boosting bio-based circular economy and helping to overcome the COVID-19 crisis impact by developing regional policies
- Special focus on SMEs as they are essential for the local bio-based circular economy development
- Encourage public authorities in preparing calls for recovery measures targeting bio-based circular economy and assist stakeholders, particularly SMEs, in applying for funding
- Exchange of experience and information on available technologies
- Sharing inspiring solutions and new good practices
- Continuing interregional cooperation in workshops, site visits, and policy discussions



€
0.24M€
ERDF

9/2021-
12/2022

1/2017-
12/2022

€
1.55M€
ERDF

Read more about BIOREGIO

www.projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/bioregio

Explore **new**
BIOREGIO info-
graphics at the end
of the newsletter



Bioeconomy Strategy Development in EU Regions:

The case of Region of Central Macedonia, Greece

short news on the bioeconomy strategy development in the EU regions
and the case of the Region of Central Macedonia

[Read more](#)

www.projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/bioregio/news/news-ar-ticle/4730/bioeconomy-strategy-development-central-macedonia/



BIOREGIO YouTube playlist

www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLtbOrywM-BA9IVhmGzdm6RxJb6vEyc1IJ

Interregional Workshop 29th-30th March 2022

BIOREGIO Bio-based Safari in Nantes, France

The **BIOREGIO** project partners met one last time in Nantes, France to exchange experiences and good practices related to the implementation of bio-based circular economy solutions, to overcome the effects of the COVID-19 global pandemic, and for a greener future.

During two days, the participants had the opportunity to exchange best practices through presentations, and to discuss the current challenges of the transition to a circular and sustainable bio-based economy model. A “*bio-based good practices safari*” was organised, where participants conducted a tour in the city to meet the local actors of the bio-based circular economy, who work every day to improve the collection and recovery of bio-waste; provide new solutions to reduce food waste and valorise unsold products; and who creates new networks to boost local bio-based projects in the region.



L'AGRONAUTE

The association La Sauge has created a participatory plant nursery, l'Agronaute, to rehabilitate a former industrial site on the Ile de Nantes. The production of this urban farm also serves as an educational tool to reconcile urban dwellers with agriculture by offering them two hours of weekly gardening on their terraces, balconies and interiors.



LA TRICYCLERIE

La Tricyclerie collects biowaste from restaurants, grocery stores, offices and individuals by bicycle, and transforms the biowaste into 100% local and eco-responsible compost. It also offers awareness-raising workshops on sustainable development themes and support for project leaders in the urban recovery of bio-waste.

LE TECHNOCAMPUS ALIMENTATION

The Technocampus Alimentation is a place for innovation, research and competitiveness in the Pays de la Loire agri-food sector. Initiated by the Regional Council and animated by Solutions&Co, the Food Technocampus gives companies access to a large number of solutions, tools and contacts, which are useful for their development.



SOLUTIONS PARTAGE

Solutions Partage is a platform for sharing resources between companies. Initiated by the Pays de la Loire Region, this service aims to develop a dynamic, responsible and sustainable sharing economy.

FOODINNOV

Dedicated to innovation, nutrition and food transition, the Foodinnov group contributes to the ECCOP project for a systematic valorisation of agroresources from food processing industries, to develop new bio-based products from the circular economy.



ONIRIS

National Veterinary, Agri-food and Food School of Nantes, ONIRIS works on training and scientific research actions. The Food Technology Hall provides students with industrial-scale tools to innovate in food and circular economy sectors.

HANDI GASPI

Born from the will to fight against the huge waste of the food industry, the biscuit factory Handi Gaspi was launched in the Hall of ONIRIS. This project valorises unsold organic bread, and combines circular economy, organic food and social inclusion by employing workers with disabilities.



LES ALCHIMISTES

Their mission? To green the city by recreating fertile soil! Les Alchimistes collect and valorise food waste from professionals and households into compost locally thanks to industrial micro-sites that

Read more ►

www.projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/bioregio/news/news-article/14470/bio-based-circular-economy-more-important-than-ever/



Policy Overview

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Finland

Finland's regional and structural policy programme for the period 2021–2027 is called **Innovation and Skills in Finland**. In the Päijät-Häme region, relevant priorities are Innovative Finland and Carbon Neutral Finland. In Päijät-Häme Regional Strategy and Programme, Renewal and Attractiveness were selected as the main priorities. The Region's smart specialisation's spearheads are Sport, Food and Beverage, and Manufacturing. The main aims of these priorities are internationalisation and connecting the region to global value chains in selected industries with the support of ERDF funding. The first call for ERDF closed on 16th May 2022. The second call may open as early as next autumn.

[Read more](#)

www.projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/bioregio/news/news-article/14475/circular-economy-policy-measures-in-paeijaet-haeme/

Spain

Castilla-La Mancha has been developing activities related to the policy instrument during the last months. The most relevant are:

- On May 18th, the award ceremony for the recognition as “Romica’s ambassador” was held. ADEPRO (the institution responsible of Romica industrial Park) chose the Circular Economy Directorate-General for its compromise to accompaniment, impulse and collaboration with the enterprises in Romica to accomplish the mission of transforming Romica into a Circular industrial Park.
- Regarding the Chair in Circular Economy in Castilla-La Mancha University two events will take place in May/June:
 - A workshop took place on May 12th for “Idea’s creation” with 2 different parts: the first one dedicated to introducing the concept of circular economy, delving into its main objectives and instruments, highlighting the importance of the 7Rs: redesign, reduce, reuse, repair, renew, recycle and recover. The second part of the session was dedicated to reflecting on new business units associated with each of the «Rs».
 - A training day related to “Entrepreneurship and circular economy” on June 21st.

Between June 20–24th Castilla-La Mancha celebrated the Circular Week. It offered a program of activities in different parts of the region. The week aimed to promote awareness and knowledge of the challenges that the transformation to a circular economy model is facing at the municipal, regional and national levels. Also, experiences about good practices, projects and implemented technologies were shared, as well as proposals for improvement and progress in this transformation.

[Read more](#)

www.projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/bioregio/news/news-article/14410/policy-update-castilla-la-mancha-es/

Slovakia

Implementation of new bio-based circular economy measures is currently running under the updated Programme for the economic and social development of the Nitra Self-Governing Region until 2030. It involves the Integrated Territorial Strategy, which is the key instrument for integrated territorial development. The cornerstones of this strategy are Integrated Territorial Investments prepared by local governments and stakeholders. The main focuses of bio-based CE investments are e.g. composting, biowaste treatment, CE centres, or environmental education. LEADER NSK programme still remains a funding option for the small-scale project. The updated Waste Management Programme of the Slovak Republic is focused more on biowaste than the previous.

[Read more](#)

www.projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/bioregio/news/news-article/14409/bio-based-circular-economy-measures-in-nitra-sk/



Greece

In the framework of the Regional Operation Programme of Central Macedonia 2014-2020, Diexodos Programme was implemented, and it concerned the support of SMEs affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in Central Macedonia. Moreover, two calls for proposals were published. Specifically, 5 (out of a total 36) Innovation Vouchers for SMEs and 4 (out of a total 131) Innovation Investment Plans with emphasis on the development of circular bioeconomy were approved and they have been under implementation. Regarding the new programming period, the ROP of Central Macedonia 2021–2027 (its approval is awaited) focuses on the promotion of circular bioeconomy through actions of Policy Objectives 1 and 2. Additionally, the new Research and Innovation Strategy for Smart Specialization (RIS3) 2021–2027 in the Region of Central Macedonia is based on the ongoing implementation of Entrepreneurial Discovery Actions, taking into account the uncertainty created by the COVID-19 pandemic. The priority sectors directly related to the development of circular economy at the regional level are Textiles and Clothing, Food, Materials and Green Tourism.

Read more ▶

www.projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/bioregio/news/news-article/14411/policy-situation-region-of-central-macedonia-gr/

Romania

Romania is currently confronted with high inflation and high fuels and energy prices, and the government is focusing on protection measures for the vulnerable population, caps on energy prices, support for investments in production capacities complying with the EU Taxonomy Regulation (including biogas and recycling plants), food and energy security.

The post-COVID National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) is currently under implementation and it includes support measures for the circular bio-based economy, related to waste management and recycling facilities, incinerators, and mechanical-biological treatment of waste.

Read more ▶

www.projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/bioregio/news/news-article/14436/policy-update-romania/

France

"The Pays de la Loire Region is actively promoting bioeconomy development on its territory. The Regional Council is currently developing a "Bioeconomy framework of actions" to support strategic sectors and eventually make it possible to relocate activities and create jobs, strengthen the attractiveness of the territory, contribute to the ecological transition and to the achievement of the environmental objectives set before the pandemic. This policy framework is designed in closed concertation with the stakeholders in the region."

Read more ▶

www.projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/bioregio/news/news-article/14437/policy-situation-overview-pays-de-la-loire-region/

BIOREGIO Interregional meetings 2017–2021



1st meeting



3rd meeting



5th meeting



2nd meeting



4th meeting



6th meeting

New & Updated Good Practices



See all **BIOREGIO**
Good Practices

www.interregeurope.eu/policy-solutions/good-practices/projects?keywords=&projects=BIOREGIO

Finland



Sustainable Materials Laboratory

Educational and research facility to provide companies with various energy and circular economy testing, expertise, piloting, and demonstrations opportunities.

[Read more](#)

www.interregeurope.eu/good-practices/sustainable-materials-laboratory

UPDATE!



The Grain Cluster - a cooperation model between companies

The Päijät-Häme Grain Cluster, a cooperation network of companies and actors in the local grain value chain, has been an active and successful regional actor since 2003. Through cooperation with LAB University of Applied Sciences and financial support from React-EU ERDF funding, a pilot plant for product development will be established. In 2022–2023 a joint pilot food laboratory is built at the LAB campus in Lahti. The focus will be on developing plant-based products.

[Read more](#)

www.interregeurope.eu/good-practices/the-grain-cluster-a-cooperation-model-between-companies

Spain

Analysis of circular tourism as a tool for the recovery after Covid19



In May 2022, the Ministry of Sustainable Development established the regulatory bases for the implementation of circular economy projects in the field of the tourism sector and calls for 2022. The total amount for the call is 280 000 €, with a total amount per beneficiary of 55.000 €.

The objective of this call is to finance projects and actions in the tourism sector intended to achieve objectives related to e.g., waste and foodwaste reduction, promotion of reuse, recovery and recycling, awareness raising and communication, water and energy efficiency.

[Read more](#)

www.interregeurope.eu/good-practices/analysis-of-circular-tourism-a-tool-for-the-recovery-after-covid19



Picture: The Ministry of Sustainable Development, José Luis Escudero and the members of the governing board of Natural Park Barranco del Rio Dulce explained the measures linked to circular tourism

Romania

Support to SMEs for Investment in Circular Bio-based Economy



The Programme aims to support SMEs to recover from the crisis and avoid recession by facilitating access to funding for investment in production capacities and or improving environmental standards.

[Read more](#)

www.interregeurope.eu/good-practices/support-to-smes-for-investment-in-circular-bio-based-economy

Slovakia

BioConvert: converting fly larvae into protein-rich animal food



The good practice explores an innovative biotechnological method of direct food waste bioconversion into protein-rich animal food. The method uses the biological activity of black soldier fly larvae for direct conversion of food residues into larval biomass, which might serve as a sustainable alternative/addition to currently used plant-based or animal-based food sources. This circular solution has the potential to decrease the dependence of the EU on imported soybean-based animal feed.

[Read more](#)

www.interregeurope.eu/good-practices/bioconvert-converting-fly-larvae-into-protein-rich-animal-food

UPDATES!



Community composting in the City of Nitra – a picture: Community composting lecture for local people

Community Composting in Nitra has been launched in 2018 as a small-scale community project for 50 households. In 2022, the project not only met expectations, but its idea is successfully expanding. Composting is becoming an integral part of community life. Other communities in Nitra have been inspired by the pilot project and the number of composting sites is increasing. However, the permanent challenge is the consistent education of communities in the field of bio-waste separation.

[Read more](#)

www.interregeurope.eu/good-practices/community-composting-in-the-city-of-nitra

Programme to Support Integrated Rural Development LEADER NSK

The Programme is a unique instrument that provides funding for small-scale projects in the Nitra Self-Governing Region, in Slovakia. Since 2020, project proposals must comply with a new criterion – the environmental focus of the project. Therefore, ecological projects, circular economy projects or environmental protection projects are preferred. Small projects focused on bio-waste composting or educational activities for children show the growing potential and demonstrate the validity of the new environmental criteria set out in the programme.

[Read more](#)

www.interregeurope.eu/good-practices/programme-to-support-integrated-rural-development-leader-nsk

Greece

In the framework of the additional activities of the BIOREGIO project, the Region of Central Macedonia submitted two Good Practices.



The first Good Practice concerns the use of wastewater-based epidemiology for the estimation of the SARS-CoV-2 spread through its load in sewage in the population of the Thessaloniki metropolitan area as an early warning tool, in the context of the research conducted by the wastewater epidemiology team of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH).

[Read more](#)

www.interregeurope.eu/good-practices/wastewater-based-epidemiology-as-a-complementary-decision-making-tool



The second Good Practice concerns the production of disinfectants through the re-use of the wastes and by-products of a winery located in the Region of Central Macedonia.

[Read more](#)

www.interregeurope.eu/good-practices/use-of-by-products-of-the-wine-and-spirits-industry-as-disinfectants-for-covid-19-pandemic

France

The Bioeconomy Hub

The Bioeconomy Hub is a regional working group dedicated to bioeconomy that aims to support stakeholders in accessing EU funds to boost the circular economy in the Pays de la Loire Region. In addition, it aims to better take into account the interests of the regional stakeholders in the circular bioeconomy value chain.



[Read more](#)

www.interregeurope.eu/good-practices/the-bioeco-hub

Other News



9th BIOREGIO Stakeholders Meeting in Thessaloniki, Greece

developing circular economy and bio-economy in Central Macedonia.

[Read more ▶](#)

<https://projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/bioregio/news/news-article/15049/bioregio-stakeholders-meeting-in-thessaloniki/>

BIOREGIO stakeholders meeting at the Green Week event in Romania

The BIOREGIO regional stakeholders meeting in Romania was organized as a part of the Agile Chemistry for Greener Future conference, recognized as one of the partner events of the EU Green Week event.

[Read more ▶](#)

<https://projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/bioregio/news/news-article/14675/bioregio-at-the-eu-green-week-in-romania/>



Peers and experts discussing circular economy

BIOREGIO was presented at the 3rd Smart Cities in Smart Regions (SCSR) conference in April 2022, in Breda, the Netherlands.

[Read more ▶](#)

<https://projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/bioregio/news/news-article/14528/peers-and-experts-discussing-circular-economy/>

Meeting the Biowaste Challenge Workshop

BIOREGIO asked to share its experience at "Meeting the biowaste challenge" workshop organized by Interreg Europe.

[Read more ▶](#)

<https://projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/bioregio/news/news-article/14150/meeting-the-biowaste-challenge-workshop/>

Bio-based circular economy even more important than ever

insights from the interregional meeting in Nantes, France

[Read more ▶](#)

<https://projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/bioregio/news/news-article/14470/bio-based-circular-economy-more-important-than-ever/>

Circular Economy Strategy on Bioregio II – Spain

[Read more ▶](#)

<https://projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/bioregio/news/news-article/15075/circular-economy-strategy-on-bioregio-ii-spain/>

Evaluation Infographics



- based on data from 1/2017-8/2022 -



BIOREGIO Website → www.projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/bioregio

Average Website Sessions*

3099 per semester



**The Highest of
All Interreg Europe
1, 2 & 3 calls Projects**

* Source: Interreg Europe

Visitors Worldmap:

63% BIOREGIO Partner
Countries

37% Other Countries
(Europe, Nort America
& Asia)



496 Target 70

Media Appearances

2019-2022; taken on 11.8.22

7 
VIDEOS

7 **BIOREGIO**


Newsletters

with **85** 

Subscribers

Main outputs

51
**Good
Practices
Identified**

Target 40



out of which

35 on
**Policy Learning
Platform**

6 **BIOREGIO
Regional
Action Plans**
To boost bio-based
circular economy

www.projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/bioregio/action-plans/

