

Biocircularities in brief #2

November 2022

Already one year of Biocircularities! And how far the project has already come since its first steps in October 2021. To celebrate this milestone, but above all to reflect on the work done and prepare the upcoming activities, the partners gathered physically in Barcelona on 15 and 16 September. What has been achieved so far? All three pilots detailed the current status of their local biowaste management and agreed on the biowaste value chains to be explored. The Metropolitan Area of Barcelona, the Metropolitan City of Naples, and the Province of Pazardzhik are now set to focus on the production of higher-quality products from municipal biowaste, industrial symbiosis of agrifood industries, and the energy and material recovery of forest residues for fire prevention, respectively.

The pilot territories also brought together for the second time their local stakeholders in local Living Labs that addressed current barriers and opportunities for implementing the identified value chains.

It is now the turn of the Biocircularities experts to focus on the new value chains and analyse their potential environmental, economic, and social impacts. The findings of these analyses will help local partners to better understand how the new circular bioeconomy systems can contribute to local growth and a better environment.

For more:

- biocircularities.eu
- info@biocircularities.eu
- [@biocirc_cities](https://twitter.com/biocirc_cities)



This project has received funding from the Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking (JU) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101023516. The JU receives support from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme and the Bio-based Industries Consortium



How to ensure a successful implementation of the Biocircularities scenarios in pilot territories?

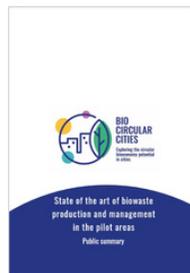
At each stage of the work, from the selection of the biowaste chain to the development and validation of alternative scenarios, local stakeholders of the three pilot areas have been involved, representing different sectors with a role to play in the value chain analysed.

Why should local stakeholders play an important role in the project? In the first year of the project, stakeholders were involved with three main objectives: (i) validating information on the state-of-the-art of current biowaste management systems at pilot level, (ii) understanding the existing challenges and identifying potential solutions to overcome the defined challenges, and (iii) guiding the definition of the alternatives to be studied for each biowaste chain. Not only do they bring different perspectives, learn about the project and increase their knowledge on circular bioeconomy, but above all, the earlier the actors of the value chains are invited, the more likely the alternative scenario can be adopted and successfully implemented.

The collaborative knowledge generated guarantees that the decisions taken by project partners are aligned with local priorities and that a fruitful dynamic is implemented from the very beginning. Inputs from stakeholders are collected and evaluated in the so-called Living Labs. In these interactive meetings, stakeholders have the opportunity to contribute to the discussion and validate the project results in small groups.



Have you checked our reports?



Overview of the current biowaste management systems, including both municipal separately collected biowaste and mixed waste, in the three pilot territories



36 Good Practices complemented by a selection of additional practices and a selection of actions promoting knowledge on circular bioeconomy



Analysis of policy documents about circular bioeconomy published between 1986 and 2022 at local, regional, national, and European level



Recommendations from the Peer Review session #2

5 external experts shared insight on the results of the second Living Labs (LL).



Metropolitan Area of Barcelona (MAB)

[Summary of LL #2](#)

Improving the quality and quantity of separately collected biowaste and an available updated database on municipal biowaste flows can create new treatment options. For food waste prevention, the difficulty in changing personal habits is an important barrier and basic awareness raising of people the most important driver. Experts emphasised the necessity of increasing the quantity of separately collected bio-waste on the one hand and at the same time reducing food waste.



Metropolitan City of Naples (MCN)

[Summary of LL #2](#)

The discussion focused not only on the current coffee value chain but also on agro-industrial waste streams in general. Increasing industrial awareness of the benefits of a circular biowaste management as well as easily available information on new exploitation routes for product developers are important drivers. Experts also highlighted the importance of creating new jobs and income in innovative value chains as well as the clear promotion of this.



Province of Pazardzhik (PP)

[Summary of LL #2](#)

The pros and cons of valorising forestry residue need to be weighed: comparing the impacts of forestry residue collection on biodiversity and soil erosion versus the benefits of reducing forest fire risk. Experts discussed potential new collection technologies and new local valorisation routes. The introduction of separate (biowaste) collection will most probably lead to the construction of new composting plants, where lignocellulosic streams are required for co-composting.

[More on the Peer Review session #2](#)

