



## newsletter

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### Editorial

Dear Readers,

We cordially welcome you to our second edition of the PROMOFER newsletter.

At this time, we celebrate our twelve-month journey in achieving an optimal cascading use of bio-based feedstock, aiming for 'zero waste' and 'zero-pollution' operations.

In this issue you can find out the PROMOFER project news and progress. You can also catch on the latest biobased news and high impact events. Lastly don't forget to subscribe to our newsletter and follow us on social media.

**Let's work together to increase the competitiveness of European Biorefineries!!!!**

*the editorial team*

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# Project Highlights



## PROMO<sup>2</sup>FER meeting in Athens

On the 28th and 29th of January 2025 the PROMO<sup>2</sup>FER consortium met in Athens for the project's 6-month consortium meeting.

During the meeting, work performed over the first months of the project was presented, as well as plans for the next semester. The status of project deliverables and milestones was examined and an update on estimated risks and mitigation measures.

Discussions focused on: the collection and pretreatment of food industrial and agro-industrial wastes, the isolation, identification, and improvement of PHBV and 2,3-BDO producing microorganisms, improvement of the fermentation process to produce PHBV and 2,3-BDO, environmental, economic, social and regulatory assessment and dissemination, communication, exploitation and market uptake activities. Partners had the chance to exchange on project findings and collaborate in working groups.

The project consortium is planning its next meet up on the 17th of June 2025 in Dublin, so be sure to find out the latest!



## PDC visits Paques Biomaterials to kick-off the conceptual process design tasks



PDC visited Paques Biomaterials on 18 February 2025, in Balk, Friesland, in the Netherlands to kick-off the conceptual process design tasks for producing PHA/PHBV in the context of the EU funded Promofer project.

Biodegradable bioplastics, known as biodegradable or renewable materials, are one of the most in-demand bio-based products. However, there is a need to improve the material's properties and broaden its application areas to meet the market demands.

# Project Highlights



## PROMOFER was showcased by Paques Biomaterials at the 2024 European Bioplastics Conference

PROMOFER was showcased at the European Bioplastics Conference by Paques Biomaterials. This prestigious event brought together industry leaders, innovators, and sustainability advocates, and PROMOFER partners were proud to present the project to such an influential audience. Paques Biomaterials seized this opportunity to connect, collaborate, and inspire action toward a more sustainable future.

Engaging with delegates from across the sector reinforced their commitment to driving positive change through innovation and partnership. PROMOFER was also highlighted in the speaker session sharing in this way, its potential impact with a wider audience.

Paques Biomaterials also presented their own visionary new business model for producing PHA from organic side streams. These discussions sparked insightful conversation and confirmed our belief that bold cooperation is key for shaping the future of biobased and biodegradable materials like PHA!



## PROMOFER at the Plastics & Circular Economy Day organised by AIMPLAS, Plastics Europe and ANAIP

PROMOFER was showcased with a poster presentation at the Plastics and Circular Economy Day on February 6th in Valencia, Spain, organized by AIMPLAS, Plastics Europe, and ANAIP. The event, which attracted more than 150 attendees, aimed to facilitate discussions on the Circular Economy of plastics beyond recycling.

More specifically the topics addressed included the steps needed to follow to achieve effective eco-design for products, the application of the Digital Passport to plastic materials and products, the system that ensures enabling reuse in the packaging flow and carbon footprint measurements. Additionally, the event served as a meeting point for key players in the industry, representing the entire value chain. It provided an opportunity to share knowledge and innovation to overcome new challenges in pursuit of a more sustainable future, while gaining insights into the latest advancements and trends in the sector from experts, researchers, and industry leaders.





# Project 1st Publication

**Arriaga, M.; Pinar, F.J.; Izarra, I.; Amo, J.d.; Vicente, J.; Fernández-Morales, F.J.; Mena, J. Valorization of Agri-Food Waste into PHA and Bioplastics: From Waste Selection to Transformation. Appl. Sci. 2025, 15, 1008.**  
<https://doi.org/10.3390/app15031008>

PROMOFER has achieved its first publication on Valorization of Agri-Food Waste into PHA and Bioplastics: From Waste Selection to Transformation: From Waste Selection to Transformation in Applied Science Journal.

The study primarily focuses on reviewing the biological production of PHBV due to its relevance as a substitute for fossil-based plastics. Significant attention has been directed toward exploring the potential of agri-food wastes, such as whey, potato peelings, and brewery bagasse, as raw materials for their transformation into a tailor-made VFA solution, rich in valeric and propionic acids. Due to its physicochemical properties, PHBV has applications in sectors such as agriculture and packaging.

This review concludes that transforming agri-food waste into PHBV has the potential to integrate environmental and economic benefits within a circular bioeconomy model, fostering technological innovation and the sustainable use of waste resources.

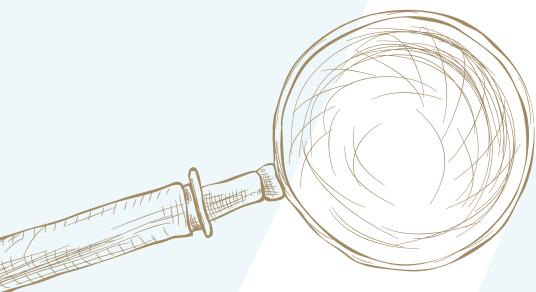
**PROMOFER**  
 PUBLICATION

Arriaga, M.; Pinar, F.J.; Izarra, I.; Amo, J.d.; Vicente, J.; Fernández-Morales, F.J.; Mena, J.  
*Appl. Sci.* 2025, 15, 1008.  
<https://doi.org/10.3390/app15031008>

**Valorization of Agri-Food Waste  
into PHA and Bioplastics:  
From Waste Selection to Transformation**

access here





# What we are reading

## EEA the 2nd Zero Pollution Monitoring and Outlook report

The European Commission and the European Environment Agency (EEA) published the second Zero Pollution Monitoring and Outlook report, which provides an overview of the EU's work to meet the 2030 zero pollution targets. According to the report, much stronger action is necessary in the EU to achieve its 2030 pollution reduction targets.

Zero pollution principles must be integrated into all policies and efforts taken at all levels to ensure further progress. In this context, fostering the EU's circular economy will help reduce resource consumption and therefore will alleviate pressures on ecosystems and human health.

Acces the report [here...](#)



## Open public consultation on the Bioeconomy Strategy

The European Commission launched a call for evidence and a public consultation on a circular, regenerative and competitive bioeconomy.

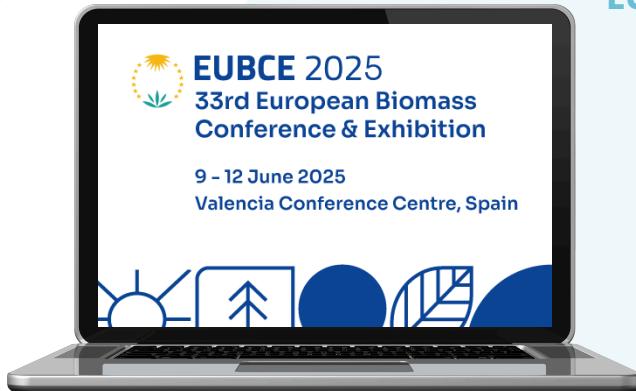
The update of the 2012 Bioeconomy Strategy, expected by the end of 2025, aims to advance innovation and maintain the EU's leadership in the bioeconomy, and will focus on reinforcing circularity and sustainability, while contributing to the decarbonisation of the EU economy.

It should propose actions to unlock the potential of bioeconomy innovations and set favourable framework conditions for bioeconomy start-ups, entrepreneurs and new business models. The feedback period will last until the 23rd of June.

Have your say [here...](#)



# Upcoming events



## EUBCE 2025 – 33rd European Biomass Conference & Exhibition

9-12 June 2025

Valencia, SPAIN

As one of the world's leading biomass events, EUBCE 2025 will bring together 1,500 experts from academia, industry, and policymaking across over 80 countries to explore the latest developments in biomass, bioenergy and the circular bioeconomy.

The programme offers opportunities for networking, knowledge exchange, and collaboration through a mix of workshops, exhibitions, and interactive sessions. Social and professional networking will be supported by a welcome reception, conference dinner, and networking lunches. The exhibition area will highlight EU-funded projects and feature an exhibition forum designed to foster connections between researchers, academic institutions, and industry leaders.

[MORE INFO...](#)

## iBC25 – International Bioeconomy Conference 2025

17-19 June 2025

Halle (Saale), GERMANY

Over the past 13 years, the Bioeconomy Conference has established itself as Central Germany's leading symposium for stakeholders from different fields of bioeconomy.

It has helped building a network of cutting-edge scientists, leading industrial players, groundbreaking start-ups, visionary investors and political decision-makers. Visit this year's International Bioeconomy Conference and attend keynotes, workshops and panel discussions from industry leaders, transformational trailblazers, as well as various groundbreaking startups. Learn about fascinating research and hear from venture capital firms, insurance companies and representatives from governmental bodies as well as public and private initiatives about the state of the transformational process in Europe.

[MORE INFO...](#)





# Upcoming events



## World BioEconomy Forum

26-27 June 2025

Rio de Janeiro, BRAZIL

The WBF goes to Rio de Janeiro: Implementing High-Level Principles on Bioeconomy will be a landmark event, continuing to place Rio de Janeiro at the center of the global bioeconomy conversation.

The event will serve as a critical bridge connecting the G20 High-Level Principles with the South Africa G20 presidency in 2025 and COP30 in Bélem, Brazil. With its rich biodiversity and commitment to sustainability, Brazil is uniquely positioned to lead the way in integrating bioeconomy into climate action, economic development, and technological advancement without sacrificing biodiversity. The World Bioeconomy Association, in collaboration with its partners, will ensure comprehensive discussions and tangible outcomes.

[MORE INFO...](#)

## K – The international trade fair for innovations in the plastics & rubber industry

8-15 October 2025

Düsseldorf, GERMANY

K is considered the leading international trade fair in the plastics and rubber industry. A wide range of products and services in the fields of machinery, equipment, raw materials and measuring technology will be presented.

Each time, the event attracts a large number of professionals from production, processing and related sectors such as mechanical engineering, the automotive industry, electronics, medical technology, the packaging industry and the construction industry from all over the world to find out about the latest innovations and make valuable contacts. Since the first exhibition in Düsseldorf in 1952, the letter "K" has embodied the fascination for the world of plastics and rubber. The next trade fair will take place in 2025 at the Düsseldorf Exhibition Centre and will be a global magnet for exhibitors and visitors alike.



[MORE INFO...](#)

# The Consortium



 **AIMPLAS**



Instituto Regional de Investigación y  
Desarrollo Agroalimentario y Forestal  
de Castilla-La Mancha  
**IRIAF**



**Bio Base Europe**  
Pilot Plant



University College Dublin  
An Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath



**Celignis**  
Analytical



**VEGEA**



Process  
Design Center



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AN  
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## PROJECT COORDINATION



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the European Union