

# FertiCovery project launched to explore best available technologies for alternative fertilisers

23 January 2025, Enschede (The Netherlands) – The Horizon Europe project FertiCovery held its kick-off meeting in Enschede today, launching its mission to advise policymakers and stakeholders on alternative fertilising products, ensuring balanced nitrogen and phosphorus flows and promoting soil health at regional and local scale, in line with the EU’s Soil Strategy for 2030.

“Farmers and society can benefit from the circular use of alternative fertilising products recovered from secondary raw materials, as they lead to lower environmental impacts on soil, water, and air quality, biodiversity and climate. FertiCovery will support policy makers and practitioners to remove barriers and promote the application of nutrient recovery and bio-based fertilisers.”

Martijn Vis, project coordinator from BTG Biomass Technology Group B.V.

There is a lack of comprehensive understanding regarding the efficiency of nutrient recovery technologies, as well as their agronomical and environmental impacts, leaving farmers without clear guidance on their application. Legal barriers further complicate matters, with uncertainty surrounding which fertilising products meet regulatory requirements. Moreover, the small-scale production of bio-based fertilisers leads to higher costs compared to conventional options. Addressing these issues requires innovative solutions that minimise environmental impact while maintaining agricultural productivity.

The FertiCovery project will first establish a longlist of 75 case studies of existing installations converting secondary raw materials into alternative fertilising products in Europe and worldwide. Partners will describe 25 nutrient recovery and bio-based fertiliser technologies, their feedstocks, value chains, products and applications, followed by an assessment of technical aspects and environmental impacts of the technologies (including energy); an assessment of composition, sanitary safety and environmental impacts of the associated fertilising products; and an assessment of feedstock availability, potential for upscaling, regulatory framework, costs and social risks resulting in the market and replication potential.

A multicriteria decision analysis report and datasheets of the 10-15 best available technologies will be shared with technology providers, end-users, farmers, industry, environmental organisations, policy makers, civil society, and the scientific community.



The engagement of European and international stakeholders will be conducted through **5 workshops and 6 open forum events**, fostering a forum of stakeholders from the whole supply chain.

The FertiCcovery project started on 1 January 2025 and will run for 3 years. The consortium connects **8 partners from 7 countries** and is coordinated by B.T.G. BIOMASS TECHNOLOGY GROUP BV (The Netherlands). You can keep up with project progress on the project [LinkedIn group](#) and [LinkedIn page](#).

The FertiCcovery project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 101181936.

## Contact

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## Project information

- Grant agreement ID: 101181936
- Call topic: HORIZON-CL6-2024-ZEROPOLLUTION-01-2 Best available techniques to recover or recycle fertilising products from secondary raw materials
- Full name: BEST AVAILABLE TECHNIQUES TO RECOVER OR RECYCLE FERTILISING PRODUCTS FROM SECONDARY RAW MATERIALS
- Budget: 1 934 961.38 EUR
- Duration: 36 months
- Partners: [B.T.G. BIOMASS TECHNOLOGY GROUP BV](#) (The Netherlands); [FUNDACION CARTIF](#) (Spain); [ETHNICON METSOVION POLYTECHNION](#) (Greece); [UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DI TORINO](#) (Italy); [POLITECHNIKA WROCLAWSKA](#) (Poland); [EUROPEAN BIOGAS ASSOCIATION AISBL](#) (Belgium); [EUROPEAN COMPOST NETWORK ECN EV](#) (Germany); [GREENOVATE! EUROPE](#) (Belgium).

## Keywords

Recovery | Recycling | Bio-Based Fertiliser | Best Available Technology Techniques | Nutrient | Soil Manure | Wastewater | Digestate | Environmental Climate Impacts | Farmer | Feedstock | Nitrogen Phosphorus

