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CLOSECYCLE

Interreg
North Sea



Co-funded by
the European Union

news

The partners of the Interreg North Sea project CLOSECYCLE are very proud presenting you the first newsletter of the project. In January 2024 the project started with the focus on using and upgrading residual waste streams into useful end products. In all participating countries, Denmark, Germany, Sweden, The Netherlands, Belgium and France, Territorial Bio refinery Networks are formed. In these networks, companies and organisations will discuss and develop new products from local residual waste streams.

Characterization and testing suitability are part of the project. By applying the appropriate processes we will end up with useful products that support plant-soil systems and products for industry. Also by products like methane and warmth will be used again. More information about the project? Please look at the [website of CLOSECYCLE](#).



CLOSECYCLE starting up

April this year, the 18 partners of CLOSECYCLE met in the Hamburg area. Together the partners are working on the objective of CLOSECYCLE. In the different regions, potential residual organic waste streams are identified. Knowing the characteristics of the streams, the most optimal processing methods are chosen. End products will be tested by users. 16 showcases are carried out. In the showcases experience is gained and knowledge obtained. On the location of the University of Hamburg, discussions about the activities of the four workpackages were followed by technical tours in the department and laboratories of the University of Hamburg. The last two days of the meeting, Entsorgungsbetrieb Lubeck (EBL) and the Gräflich Bernstorff'sche Betriebe (GBB) opened their doors for the more than 25 participants. They inspired the visitors by explaining their activities and procedures. EBL makes mature compost in the process of digestion of vegetable fruit and garden waste. Most of the compost goes to a potting soil manufacturer and substitutes peat. The remaining compost is delivered provided to conventional and organic farming. GBB is making their own compost from material available on the farm. Cattle manure (60%) is composted along with green waste (40%). They produce about 3,000 tonnes of compost annually. To minimise the impact of this composting on the environment via leachate-related nitrogen losses, they enlisted the help of TUHH. Claas Boysen of the Technical University of Hamburg is conducting research there, mapping nitrogen losses from the compost heaps to the soil.

Substrates for conifers

One of the 16 showcases is carried out in the Boskoop area of the Netherlands, where twelve different substrate mixtures were made from a wide range of renewable raw materials ranging from wood fiber and different types of compost from the region to fermented corn, biochar, Miscanthus, dry manure fraction, etc. Conifers have been potted in the mixtures. [Read more here.](#)



Greenhouse wastestreams

In CLOSECYCLE, VLACO and the Research Station for Vegetable Production will work together on the residual stream of fruit vegetable foliage. In Flanders, this accounts for some 15,000 tons per year. This is a residual stream that is difficult to recycle due to the presence of non-biodegradable

auxiliary materials (nylon ropes, clips, brackets, etc.). The use of biobased plastics or other degradable components such as viscose is a step in the right direction. However, compostability remains a challenge. In addition, these foliage residues become available in a short period of time in the fall. VLACO and PSKW will work towards an optimal system for upgrading this greenhouse organic waste stream. Curious about these showcases? The first showcase descriptions can be seen on the website [Read more here.](#)

Save the date
PopUp talk

**17 September 10-12h, online:
guidelines for improvement of collection
and treatment systems for compost and
digestate**

Steffen Walk, representing the European Compost Network, will update us about the LIFE BIOBEST project and the different very useful guidelines.

[More about the PopUp talk](#)

efficient
use of
regional
residue

digital
package to improve local
bioresource management

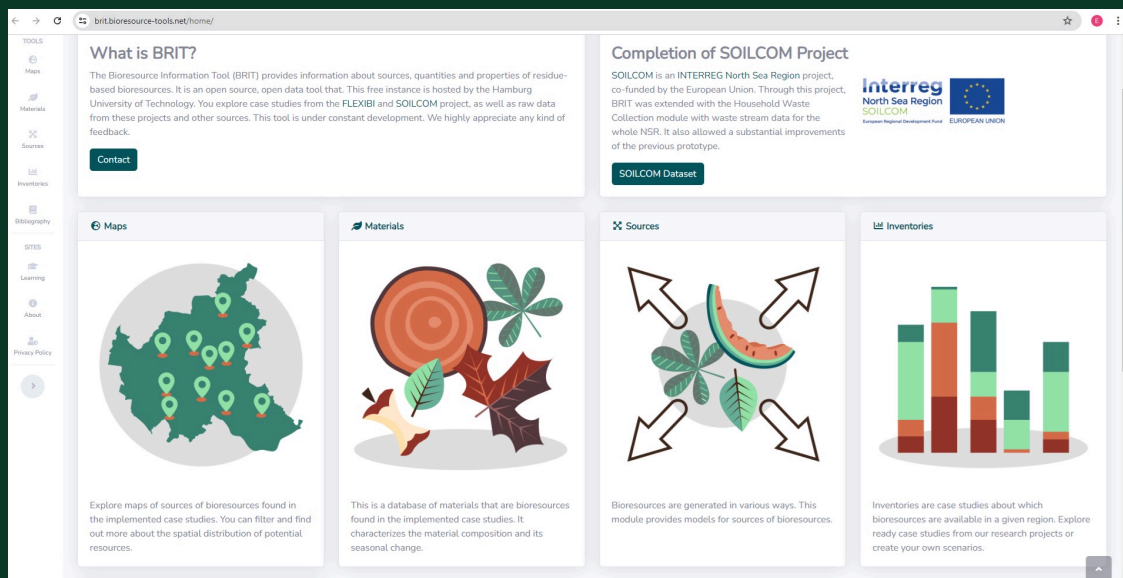
building
networks and
demonstrate use cycles
with local value creation



a more efficient
use of residual
rural and urban
bioresources

Digital tools data driven

CLOSECYCLE improves digitalisation by providing a digital package for use in bioresource management. It promotes digital access to information across multiple process and supply chains, resulting in more efficient use of knowledge by regional stakeholders. In the project user-friendly digital tools are developed for managing bioresource flows and simplifying assessments, as well as for planning, establishing and managing Territorial Biorefinery Networks (TBNs). It contains for example open data from science for use by practitioners. Integrating and combining different types of data (e.g. cadastral, statistical, modelling data, specific bioresource information) in a database tailored to specific users. And improving data flows between different digital tools and making them compatible to enable widespread use. For the specific BRIT tool, please click on the picture.



The screenshot shows the BRIT website interface. The header includes a navigation menu with links to TOOLS (Maps, Materials, Sources, Inventories, Bibliography) and SITES (Learning, About, Privacy Policy). The main content area is divided into several sections:

- What is BRIT?**: A text block explaining the tool's purpose and a [Contact](#) button.
- Completion of SOILCOM Project**: A text block about the SOILCOM project, co-funded by the European Union, with a [SOILCOM Dataset](#) button.
- Maps**: A section with a map of the North Sea Region showing various locations, with a description: "Explore maps of sources of bioresources found in the implemented case studies. You can filter and find out more about the spatial distribution of potential resources."
- Materials**: A section with an illustration of a tree trunk and leaves, with a description: "This is a database of materials that are bioresources found in the implemented case studies. It characterizes the material composition and its seasonal change."
- Sources**: A section with an illustration of a watermelon and leaves, with a description: "Bioresources are generated in various ways. This module provides models for sources of bioresources."
- Inventories**: A section with a bar chart, with a description: "Inventories are case studies about which bioresources are available in a given region. Explore ready case studies from our research projects or create your own scenarios."

Next years you will hear more about CLOSECYCLE! Interested in the project and its results? Than please subscribe for the newsletter. Don't want to receive the newsletter? Then please let us know.

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