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Type

- ☒ **R** Document report
- ☐ **DEM** Demonstrator, pilot, prototype
- ☐ **DEC** Websites, patent fillings, videos, etc.
- ☐ **Other**

Dissemination Level

- ☒ **PU** Public, fully open, e.g. web
- ☐ **SEN** Sensitive, limited under the conditions of the Grant Agreement
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Publishable executive summary

This document outlines the main activities carried out within Task 4.2, aimed at ensuring the continuous growth of the Bioresources Stakeholder Platform (BRSP) throughout the project's implementation, while also guaranteeing that the stakeholders joining the platform were actively engaged and able to provide meaningful contributions to the BioReCer project. The BRSP was established to provide a structured, inclusive, and collaborative space for stakeholders across Europe and beyond to contribute to the development of sustainable bio-based value chains. Throughout the project, the BRSP served as a hub for interaction, feedback collection, and knowledge exchange between industry, research organisations, certification bodies, policy makers, consumer associations, and other relevant actors.

During the first phase of the project (i.e., the first 12 months), the platform was designed, structured, and technically developed. All partners provided significant effort to build up the platform through targeted invitations and preparatory workshops across the case study regions (Italy, Spain, Greece, and Sweden). All these activities, described in Deliverable D4.1, ensured the engagement of a critical mass of members to interact with. In the second and the third year of the project, other activities were carried out to both actively involve BRSP members and to increase the number of participants. Thanks to these activities that will be described in the present document, the platform counted 231 members from more than 30 countries.

Based on what the Grant Agreement (GA) defined, stakeholders were engaged through annual multi-stakeholder events, focus groups, training capsules, brainstorming sessions, and structured surveys. These activities were instrumental in validating project outputs, including the BioReCer ICT Tool (BIT), the BioReCer Standardisation Toolkit, and the BioReCer framework for sustainability and circularity and existing biobased certification schemes. Furthermore, all feedback gathered from the above-mentioned activities were useful to design the final policy brief. Particular emphasis was given to interactive sessions, where stakeholders tested new tools, discussed circularity indicators, and provided concrete feedback that directly informed tool development and policy recommendations.

The BRSP also played a key role in supporting the case studies and validation of the BioReCer framework. In Greece, Italy, Spain, and Sweden, the involvement of local companies and associations enriched the analysis of biomass feedstock availability and valorisation pathways. Field visits, interviews, and pilot audits provided real data and insights from real industrial processes, improving the relevance and transferability of project outcomes.

Communication and dissemination efforts were closely integrated with BRSP activities. Tailored campaigns, surveys, factsheets, and the innovative BioReCer Quiz engaged not only platform members but also the broader public, raising awareness about the importance of certification, circularity, and consumer trust in bio-based products.

Overall, the BRSP has demonstrated its value as a participatory mechanism to bring together diverse actors, test innovative methodologies, and co-create solutions for the sustainability of bio-based value chains. All the engagement activities through the platform contributed to the achievement of the project's objectives by increasing stakeholders' participation, awareness and trust to promote the diffusion of circular bioeconomy principles in Europe.

1. Introduction

The final goal of the BioReCer project is twofold: to ensure the traceability of biological feedstock in order to strengthen the social acceptance of bioproducts, and to enhance current certification schemes by integrating the most relevant inputs from stakeholders. To reach these goals, the BioReCer project was designed considering the central role of stakeholders. Indeed, a feedback mechanism between project partners and stakeholders was created to collect relevant suggestions from a well-identified group of stakeholders and to share with them the main achievements of the project. The continuous exchange of information during the whole project development was ensured by the creation of an Open Innovation Approach called Bioresources Innovation Ecosystem living-lab (BRIE-LL) and, in the framework of this living-lab, the BRSP platform was set up. As suggested by many contributions in the scientific literature (see, for instance Ansell and Gash, 2008 and Maurer et al., 2022) the role of stakeholder involvement in achieving successful outcomes is crucial. In particular, engaging stakeholders from the early stages of a project enhances the relevance, quality, and real-world impact of its results (see also Concannon et al, 2014 for a systematic literature review).

Task 4.2 “Coordination and support of stakeholder involvement process” identifies all the activities that need to be carried out to maximize the stakeholders involvement and participation in the project. In particular, the above-mentioned activities were grouped in the following 3 sub-tasks:

- Task 4.2.1: development of interaction protocols;
- Task 4.2.2: implementation and coordination of the BRSPs. Within this framework, multi-stakeholders events were organized to share the overall project achievements to a group of stakeholders. The main aim of this kind of activity was to promote stakeholder knowledge about the project and also to strengthen the network among them.
- Task 4.2.3: training capsules and Brainstorming sessions. These activities aimed at improving stakeholders knowledge about the project, especially referring to the assessment framework. Furthermore, structured surveys were designed to collect feedback from the stakeholders especially related to the ICT tool.

All the activities were carried out with the goal of ensuring the continuous growth of the BRSP and, at the same time, to guarantee the active engagement of the members. Indeed, the activities related to Task 4.1 and Task 4.2 were launched in parallel to guarantee a coherent and effective engagement process for the development of the platform.

All the activities that are described in the current document contributes to reach the following Targeting Metrics (TM) relative to the Specific Objectives (SO) defined in the GA, as reported in the Table 1 below:

Table 1. Summary Table of Targeting Metrics (TM), Specific Objectives (SO), and Implemented Activities

SO	TM	Activities Performed
SO2: To develop a multidimensional impact assessment and traceability framework to evaluate biological resource supply chains in Europe considering aggregated environmental, circularity, T&T and regulatory criteria	At least 4 workshops with stakeholders to validate criteria for the evaluation of biological supply chains Identification of at least 3 aspects per reported criterion	Relevant stakeholders were consulted in dedicated workshops and meeting.
SO4: To validate the developed impact assessment framework in 4 case studies representing the main incipient bio-based supply chains in Europe	50 stakeholders participating in whole value chain analysis	Organisation of questionnaires, interviews, and discussion groups across case studies
SO6: To maximize outreach and beneficial influence of the project results and reach the target users (primary producers, trade bodies, bio-based industries, certifiers, local distributors, retailers, consumers organization and local public authorities) through an effectively established communication and dissemination plan, including innovative training capsules	Engagement of at least 100 stakeholders in 4 regions	More than 200 stakeholders subscribed and actively participated in BRSP and project events

1.1 Relation to other Tasks

The involvement and engagement activities were carried out in strong connection with other work packages (WPs). In particular, within the framework of WP2 (Environmental sustainability assessment: Diagnosis and mapping of current indicators and data collection of biological resources), stakeholders were involved to provide suggestions on the main potential barriers for the adoption of such feedstocks in the value chains and, more in general, to collect data regarding the biological feedstock flow.

In the context of WP5 (BioReCer ICT tool) stakeholders were involved to collect feedback for the definition of the interface and, more in general, for the technical development of BioReCer ICT tool. In WP6 (Demonstration of the developed methodologies on the 4 case studies and study of replicability /transferability) the BRSP platform played a crucial role in validating and exchange feedback about the BioReCer tools in the 4 case studies (i.e., Spain, Italy, Greece, and Sweden).

Finally, a strong connection with the WP related to dissemination and communication activities (WP8) was essential to organize the activities carried out to directly involve stakeholders in the process. Indeed, some events were specifically designed and carried out with these shared objectives in mind and therefore included in this report.

2. Implementation, coordination, and follow-up of the BRSP

As described in Deliverable D4.1 “Report on the whole development of the BRSP”, the BRSP was structured and technically developed during the first year of the project. Once the stakeholder groups to be involved were identified, all partners engaged in the BRSP set-up process (Meo Carbon Solution (MCS), Italian Standardisation Body (UNI), nova-Institute, ActiveCitizenship Network (ACN), and the case study leaders) contacted potential stakeholders through personal calls and emails. Preparatory stakeholder workshops were organised in each of the four regions where the case studies were developed, introducing the project to potential stakeholders. Detailed project information was shared to encourage subscriptions to the BRSP. To ensure a consistent approach across all case studies (CSs), an agenda and workshop materials were prepared. Meetings with case study leaders were held to plan the workshops and to define questionnaires and focus groups with stakeholders.

During the first months of the project, alongside the development of the Stakeholder Involvement Plan (SIP), detailed in Section 2.2, following activities that directly involved the stakeholder community were organised:

- four Focus Groups (one per CS) to collect feedback on general perceptions about biological feedstocks and on the factors that could potentially hinder or foster the large-scale adoption of bio-based products;
- The sustainability objectives of stakeholders were assessed through the Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP). The main relevant categories to be included in the AHP were identified by combining suggestions from both the scientific literature and project partners.

Within the WP8 framework, nova-Institute developed the BioReCer project website (<https://biorecer.eu/>) with a dedicated subpage for the BRSP platform (<https://biorecer.eu/brsp/>) – see Figure 1. This page informs potential stakeholders about the BRSP and provides the possibility to register by indicating their name, institution, country, email address, and the case study(ies) of interest. Nova-Institute, ACN and Unitelma Sapienza (UNITELMA) also designed a factsheet (https://biorecer.eu/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/23-09-21_biorecer-information-sheet_web_en.pdf) for stakeholder engagement to invite stakeholders to join by informing about advantages of participation and the scope of the BRSP.

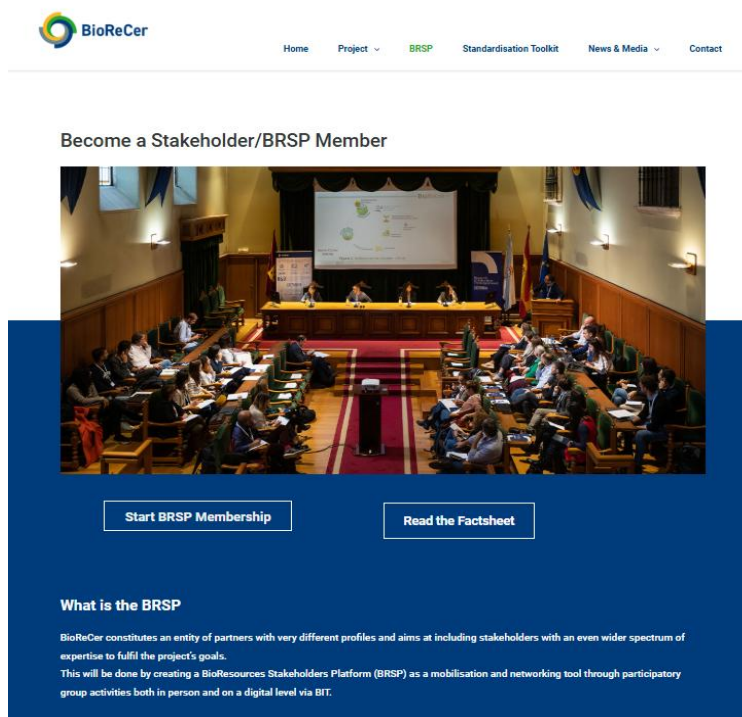


Figure 1. BioReCer webpage

Efforts were made throughout the project to continuously expand the BRSP, in order to build the largest possible audience for interaction until the project's conclusion. At the end of October 2025, the BRSP includes 231 stakeholders from 32 countries, who will be described in detail in Section 2.3. This number also ensures compliance with the TM related to SO4, which requires at least 50 stakeholders to be involved across the entire value chain analysis.

2.1 Follow-up: BRSP evolution over the project time

At the very beginning of the project, the BioReCer team conducted a comprehensive analysis of relevant stakeholder groups. The initial categorisation of stakeholders to be contacted to join the BRSP was structured as follows:

- Biomass producers: private and public firms producing primary and secondary biomasses that could be deployed in the production process of bio-based products;
- Trade bodies: organisations founded and funded by businesses operating in a specific bio-based industry;
- Bio-industries: firms collecting both primary and secondary feedstocks to either produce bio-based products or supply them to other firms;
- Policy makers / Institutions: public institutions and organisations at the regional, national, and international levels that may regulate bio-based markets;
- Certification bodies: independent third parties managing certification processes;
- Consumers' associations: organisations representing, advising, and supporting citizens/consumers.

Thanks to the engagement activities carried out in the first months of the project, relevant stakeholders were identified, and they joined the BRSP and, at the end of the first year (M12) of the project, we had 57 registered members. The main characteristics of the

stakeholders involved were described in detail in the Deliverable D4.1. At the end of the project (M39) the number of subscriptions has almost quadrupled: the total number of stakeholders involved through the BRSP is 231 registered members.¹

To make comparison between the beginning and the end of the project possible, in this section we present the results about the BRSP members using the same categorisation of D4.1. Indeed, we present the distribution of the BRSP members at the end of the project according to both the interest shown in the different case studies and the macro-region they belong to. Recall that in the BioReCer project, 4 case studies were considered:

- Case study 1 (CS1) (ANFACO-CEC, CETAQUA) refers to the fishing industry;
- Case study 2 (CS2) (UNIVPM, CAP, SPRING) refers to urban and industrial activities;
- Case study 3 (CS3) (CERTH) refers to primary's sector activities;
- Case study 4 (CS4) (PROCESSUM) refers to the forest industry.

We identified 4 macro-regions:

- Northern European region including: Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Ireland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania;
- Southern European region that includes: Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Malta, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Slovenia;
- Western European region including: Austria, Belgium, Germany, France, Netherlands, Switzerland;
- Eastern European region including: Hungary, Poland, Romania, Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Slovakia.

Besides these regions we also consider the category that includes extra-European countries like, for instance, United States of America (USA), India, Korea.

Figure 2 shows the stakeholder distribution by type. The analysis according to the categories shows that the largest group, besides the "other" one, is represented by biomass producers, who account for a 15% share of the BRSP. This category is closely involved and well represented in the project. The bio-based industry constitutes another major group with 12% share, underlining the active participation of firms engaged in the development and commercialisation of bio-based products. Among the category "other" that constitute half of the stakeholders we have: researchers/universities representatives, public sector employees, consultants, private companies and NGOs. The fact that there are many representatives from categories beyond those initially identified as primary indicates the success of the engagement activities in involving a broad audience, especially during outreach initiatives such as Multistakeholder events. With respect to the data collected at the end of the first year, we observe the predominance of the category "other" and we also observe the reduction, as a share of the total, of the bio-industries that was the predominant category at the beginning. In fact, at the end of the first year, the "others" category accounted for only 20% of the total, whereas the bio-industries category represented 26%.

¹ Data was downloaded on October 27th, 2025.

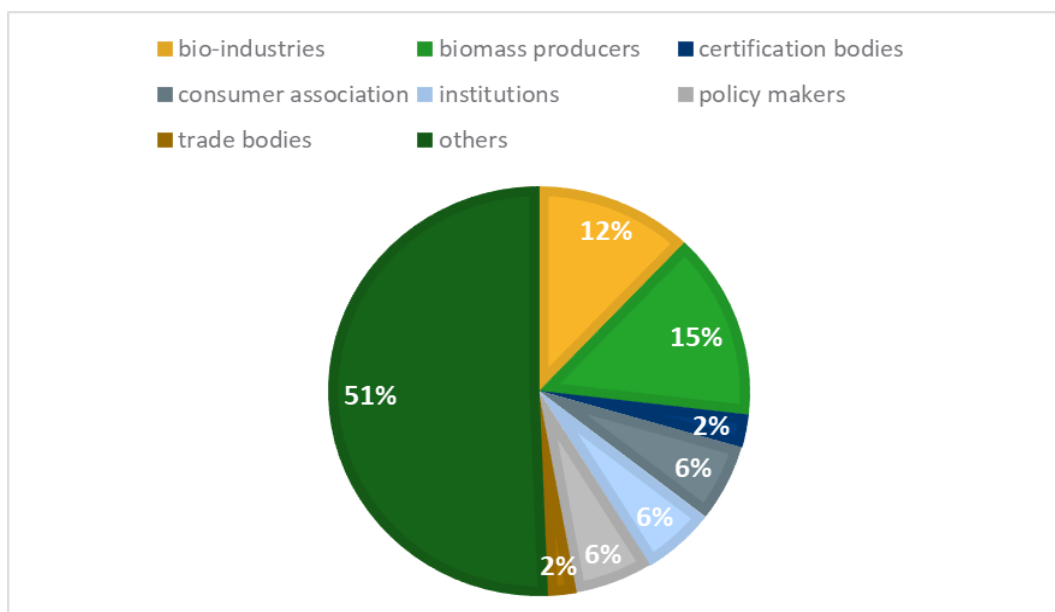


Figure 2. Stakeholders' distribution by type

Figure 3 shows the distribution of the stakeholders according to their interest in the case study. About half of the members of the BRSP signalled their primary interest in CS2 (i.e., the one concerning the management of the organic fraction of the municipal waste, sewage sludge and agro-wastes). CS3 also drew the attention of a significant number of people: in fact, 22% of people declared their primary interest in this CS. Interestingly, 27% of respondents declared no specific interest in any specific CS (category "None" in Figure 3). This could depend on the evidence that half of the stakeholders in the BRSP platform are from various categories, and hence they declared their interest to the project as whole but they do not have a specific preference for one of the CS.

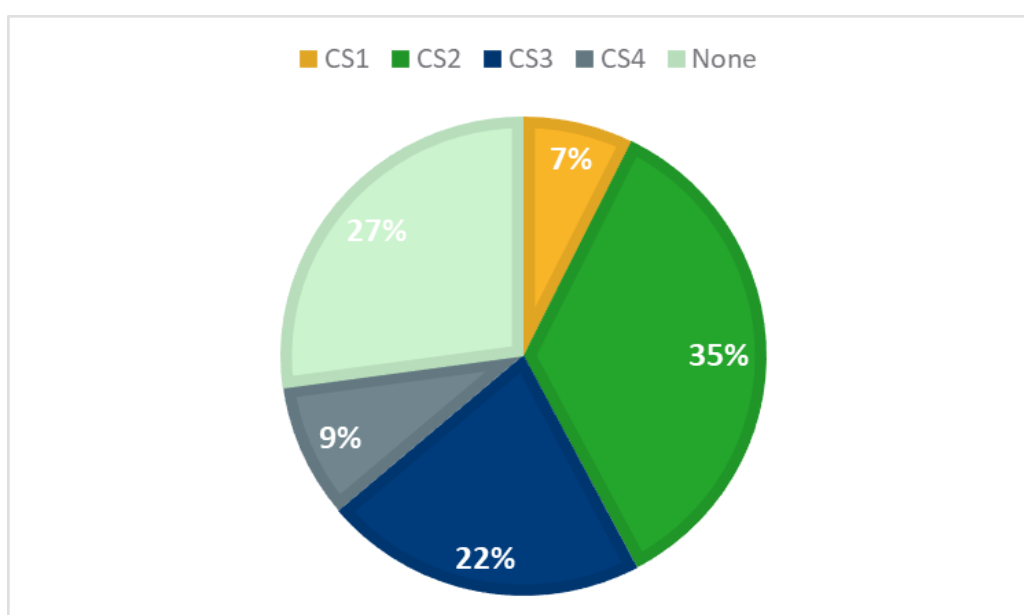


Figure 3. Stakeholders' distribution by case study.

Finally, Figure 4 shows distribution by the geographical distribution. The BRSP now extends across more than 30 countries. Besides the countries already included in the 4 macro-regions, there are some members from the Americas (Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, USA), Africa (South Africa, Kenya), and Asia (Japan, Korea, Indonesia, India, Malaysia, Thailand). We classified them as “Other”. Regarding the European countries, the majority of the BRSP members are from the Southern macro-region. This is not surprising and it is in line with the analysis carried out in the Deliverable D4.1. Indeed, three of the four CSs are based on southern Europe countries (i.e., Spain, Italy and Greece) and, hence, the network of people involved reflect this evidence. Stakeholders events were organized in all the counties directly involved in the CSs to maximise both the impact of the results and the stakeholder’s engagement. One of the most interesting results is the number of BRSP members from the Northern macro-region: even in percentage terms is the smallest one, in absolute terms the number is more than doubled.

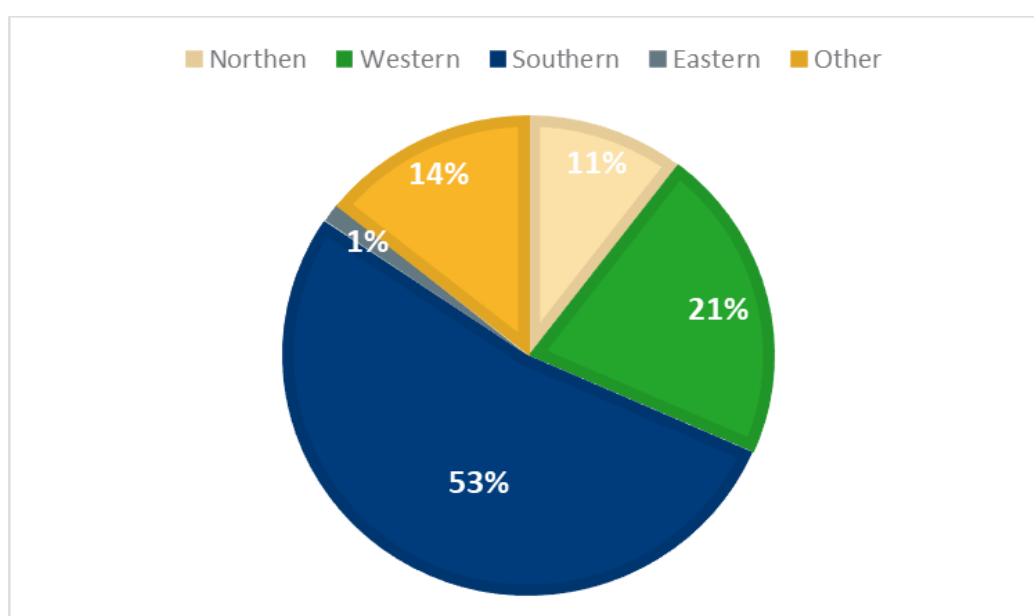


Figure 4. Stakeholders’ distribution by macro-region

Overall, the BRSP’s composition demonstrates a balanced representation across industry, research, policy, and civil society, ensuring that the project’s outputs are validated against the expectations, needs, and expertise of a broad range of stakeholders. This diversity strengthens BioReCer’s capacity to co-create reliable models and tools for the certification of bio-based products.

All the activities described in Section 3.2 and 3.3 actively involved almost all the stakeholders registered in the BRSP: indeed, the platform was useful to disseminate information and results and, furthermore, to collect stakeholders’ suggestions useful in defining BioReCer outcomes.

3. Development of Interaction Protocols

One of the cornerstones of the BioReCer project is the active and continuous exchange of information with relevant stakeholders. This section is devoted to the report of all the engagement activities carried out during the whole project and they were organized both in person and online. Indeed, on the one hand we want to maximize the participation and the representativeness from as many countries and, on the other hand, we also would promote network building among stakeholders.

3.1 The Stakeholder Involvement Plan

In collaboration with nova-Institute, UNITELMA, and MCS, ACN developed an interaction protocol SIP - see Annex 1 for a description of the information included in the document - to provide a structured framework for engaging both internal and external stakeholders of the BRSP. The objective of this document is to provide the methods and practices for stakeholder interaction and promote a successful multi-stakeholder approach. Conceived as a shared and living document, the SIP offered guidance on the most suitable timing, channels, and methods for stakeholder engagement, while also clarifying roles, responsibilities among partners, and governance procedures for different actions.

Building on the methods outlined in the GA, the SIP refined timelines and operational details to ensure alignment with project objectives. It has been regularly updated throughout the project's duration to reflect the evolution of activities and the emerging needs of different work packages (WPs).

To shape and update the SIP, internal surveys were carried out to identify the needs of each WP and task, the type of stakeholder input required, and tentative plans for activities. The SIP Excel file—designed as a practical “when, where, and how” tool for stakeholder involvement—was first distributed to all partners at the beginning of 2023, and subsequently updated in early 2024. The file requested specific inputs, including:

- Responsible partner (name or number)
- WP/Task reference
- Description of event/activity
- Stakeholder type to be involved
- Topics to be discussed
- Expected input from stakeholders
- Type of session (survey, training, brainstorming, workshop, etc.)
- Expected interaction (in-person/online)
- Language(s)
- Timing (planned month and/or specific date)
- Duration (hours/days) and number of sessions
- Contribution to deliverables

This structured process helped ensure that stakeholder engagement was comprehensive and well-distributed across topics, while also avoiding duplication of efforts and respecting stakeholders' time constraints.

Throughout 2023 and 2024, the SIP was used as a planning and monitoring tool. Each year, project activities were documented in the SIP sheet, providing a clear annual overview of planned stakeholder activities. Activities were colour-coded to facilitate monitoring:

completed actions (green), activities under preparation with revised dates (orange), and additional proposed actions (blue). This visual approach allowed partners to collectively prioritize efforts and identify synergies across WPs. This structure supported better coordination among partners, ensured consistency across WPs, and helped optimize the scheduling of multistakeholder events and related content.

In January 2024, all partners were invited to update the SIP Excel file with activities planned for the year. In July 2024 a further round of updates was conducted to adjust timelines and activities based on meetings and new developments.

Finally, in February 2025, as the project entered its final stage a dedicated call was launched to WPs and case study leaders to update the SIP with activities for the last year. This final update aimed to consolidate ongoing efforts, refine the timing and content of the closing activities, and further strengthen coordination to avoid overlaps while maximizing impact.

Overall, the SIP served as a practical, collaborative, and adaptive tool that enabled the consortium to coordinate stakeholder engagement effectively, track progress, and adjust strategies as the project advanced. While not the core technical output of the project, it represented an important foundation to ensure coherence, inclusiveness, and meaningful stakeholder involvement across the different dimensions of BioReCer.

4 Implementation and coordination of the BRSP

Once a year, all the members of the BRSP were invited to an online multi-stakeholder event. These interactive meetings served as a key occasion to update stakeholders on the project's progress, share ongoing activities, and actively engage them in providing feedback and suggestions. Beyond informing and consulting, the events also aimed to foster networking and strengthen collaboration around the central theme of trust and certification in the bio-based sector. Each online meeting was advertised through both social media channels (especially on LinkedIn) and other nova-Institute channels (e.g., Renewable Carbon News, monthly nova-Newsletter, BioReCer website, event page on nova's website) to involve external participants and, hence, to increase the number of BRSP members.

4.1 The First Multi-Stakeholder Annual Meeting

ACN, in collaboration with WP4 and all project partners, organized this first interactive session in which the main achievements of the project were presented to stakeholders. The event took place on 13 November 2023.

A letter of invitation was prepared and sent to all consortium partners, and also shared via the project website and social media. ACN booked its Zoom platform for the chosen date and customized the invitation and the Zoom registration page with visuals (logos and images) provided by nova-Institute (see Figure 5). On the registration page, an invitation to subscribe to the BRSP platform was also included, which helped increase the number of members thanks to the visibility created around the event.



Figure 5. Banner to announce the First Multi-stakeholder Annual Meeting

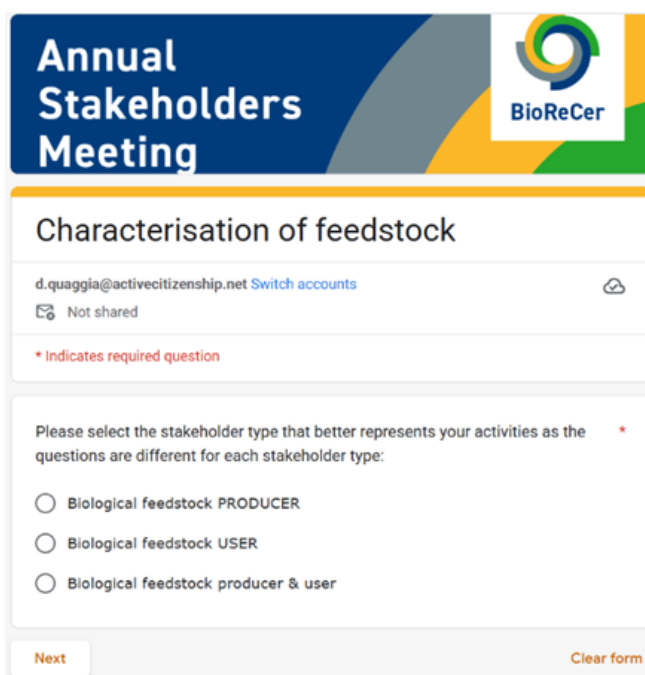
The final agenda (Annex 2) included presentations from the project CS leaders and the project coordinator, updating stakeholders on project developments. The key topics of the meeting were the following:

- Project overview and framing discussions, including a welcome session, an update on the BioReCer project, and reflections on the role of circular economy indicators and what they should measure;
- Policy and regulatory insights, with a focus on the implications and future steps related to the EU Green Claims Directive;
- Stakeholder engagement and interaction, featuring live Q&A, online polls, and an open discussion to gather feedback and close the session.

To foster interaction, ACN launched several instant polls during the session. For example, participants were asked to identify the type of actor they represented, whether they were already registered in the BRSP, what project outcomes they considered most interesting, and what potential obstacles they foresaw.

A key presentation was delivered by Eliza Nika (Imperial college) on the work carried out on Circular Economy Indicators. This session did not only provide information but also actively engaged stakeholders, especially biological feedstock producers and users, through short polls and surveys (Figure 6), for the development of WP2 circularity indicators. The aim was to:

- Understand and agree upon objectives and goals;
- Allow stakeholders to voice opinions and suggestions;
- Define the value proposition;
- Prioritize indicators by relevance, feasibility, and importance;
- Refine and finalize indicators;



Annual Stakeholders Meeting

Characterisation of feedstock

d.quaggia@activecitizenship.net [Switch accounts](#)

Not shared

* Indicates required question

Please select the stakeholder type that better represents your activities as the questions are different for each stakeholder type:

☐ Biological feedstock PRODUCER

☐ Biological feedstock USER

☐ Biological feedstock producer & user

[Next](#) [Clear form](#)

Figure 6. Instant surveys

Additionally, an external policy expert, Nicolas Hark, member of nova-Institute, was invited to provide insights on the Green Claims Directive, offering participants a valuable takeaway beyond project updates (Figure 7).

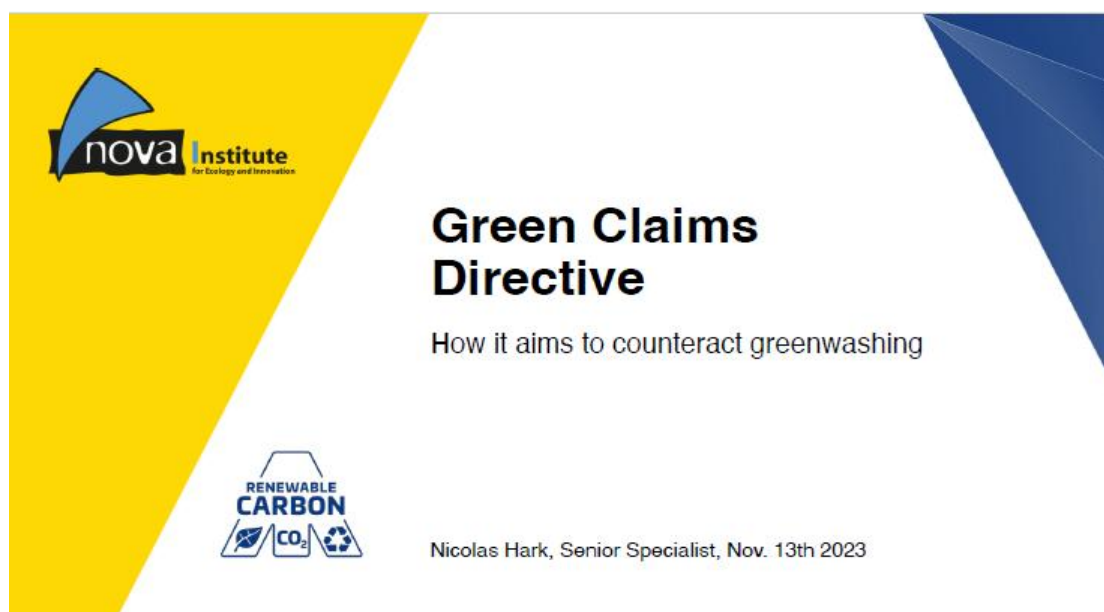


Figure 7. Nicolas Hark presentation

After the event, all presentations and the recording link were sent to registered participants, ensuring wider dissemination. The meeting was also promoted live on the project's official **LinkedIn profile**, and some stakeholders further spread the information in their own national languages.

The activity recorded a total of 112 registered participants, with 64 attending the session. Representatives came from 10 countries, namely Germany, France, Spain, the United Kingdom, Italy, Slovakia, Sweden, Portugal, Romania, and Greece. Participants covered a broad spectrum of stakeholder profiles, including bio-based industries, bio-based feedstock producers and processors, consumer associations, and scientists, along with several other unspecified categories. This diversity ensured a comprehensive exchange of perspectives across different segments of the bio-based value chain.

The event successfully combined presentation of project results, interactive stakeholder engagement, and external expertise, contributing to a stronger BRSP community and gathering useful feedback for the next steps of the project.

4.2 The Second Multi-Stakeholder Annual Meeting

The Second Multi-Stakeholder Annual Meeting, titled "*Advancing bio-based products certification: A collaborative path towards sustainability*", was held on 27 November 2024 (Figure 8). As with the first edition, invitations were disseminated through multiple channels (e.g., LinkedIn, Renewable Carbon News, monthly nova-Newsletter, BioReCer website): first to stakeholders already registered in the BRSP, then via consortium contacts, posts on the project's social media accounts and those of several partners, and through a dedicated QR code (Figure 9) shared at public events where BioReCer was presented, encouraging participants to register. A launch article (Figure 10) was also published in *Innovation News*.



Figure 8. Banner to announce the Second Multi-stakeholder Annual Meeting



Figure 9. QR code to promote the registration to the Second Multi-stakeholder Annual Meeting

10/12/24, 12:48

BioReCer project webinar highlights bio-based products certification

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Bio-based products certification: EU webinar highlights collaborative path toward sustainability

Environment 21st November 2024



The upcoming EU webinar, titled “Advancing Bio-Based Products Certification: A Collaborative Path Towards Sustainability,” will delve into innovative solutions for the bio-based economy.

Scheduled for November 27, 2024, from 12:00 to 14:00 CET, the event promises critical insights into challenges and opportunities within the bio-based sector, spotlighting innovative tools and metrics aimed at enhancing sustainability. Registration is free but mandatory.

Organised under the **BioReCer project** – a key initiative funded by the Horizon Europe programme – the webinar will explore solutions to strengthen certification schemes for bio-based feedstocks and products derived from biological waste.

<https://www.innovationnewsnetwork.com/biorecer-project-webinar-highlights-bio-based-products-certification/53168/>

Figure 10. Article to launch the event

The main goal was to share the results of the activities carried out in the second year of the project, and, hence, the session opened with an update on BioReCer progress, offering participants an overview of key milestones achieved and ongoing activities across different work packages. The key topics of the meeting were the following:

- Project updates and methodological tools, including an overview of the BioReCer progress and interactive presentations of the Standardisation Toolkit and the Biomass Utilisation Factor;
- Stakeholder-informed certification improvements, with discussion on Delphi survey results and proposed new requirements to strengthen existing certification schemes;
- Policy and strategic implications, focusing on the Policy Brief about the valorisation of biological waste to support the EU bioeconomy, followed by interactive feedback and final Q&A.

The full agenda of the event is in Annex 3.

Participants began by introducing themselves and their organisations, representing a wide range of sectors, including research, R&D companies in wood-based products, certification schemes, consumer associations, bio-based manufacturing, and recycling initiatives. Some shared inspiring projects, such as a company in Uganda transforming plastic waste into recycled products for refugee households, or an Italian Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) developing innovative systems to collect and upcycle biomass like leaves into compostable resources. Several attendees noted similarities and synergies with other EU-funded projects and suggested follow-up meetings for alignment and collaboration.

This was followed by a short interactive exchange to get to know the participants (e.g., *Has your company participated in certification schemes audits before? What type of producer are you?*).

A total of 31 respondents provided information about their participation in certification-scheme audits. Among them, 12 participants (around 39%) reported having previous experience with such audits, while 19 (about 61%) indicated they had not. This suggests that the majority of respondents have not yet taken part in certification-related auditing processes. Regarding the type of producer, data were collected from 19 respondents. Nearly half of them (47%) identified as final producers, while 32% were intermediate producers, and 21% were primary producers. This distribution highlights a stronger representation of final producers within the sample, followed by intermediate and primary production actors.

The BioReCer Standardization Toolkit was introduced by UNI, presenting its structure and key components. A dedicated satisfaction survey was shared with participants followed by a dedicated Questions and Answers (Q&A) session to collect comments and clarify the toolkit's scope and application. The discussion then shifted to the Biomass Utilisation Factor (BUF), presented by nova-Institute, highlighting how it contributes to assessing the efficient use of biological resources within certification frameworks, along with new insights developed in the project and case studies (Figure 11). A short Q&A allowed participants to reflect on its potential impacts and challenges.

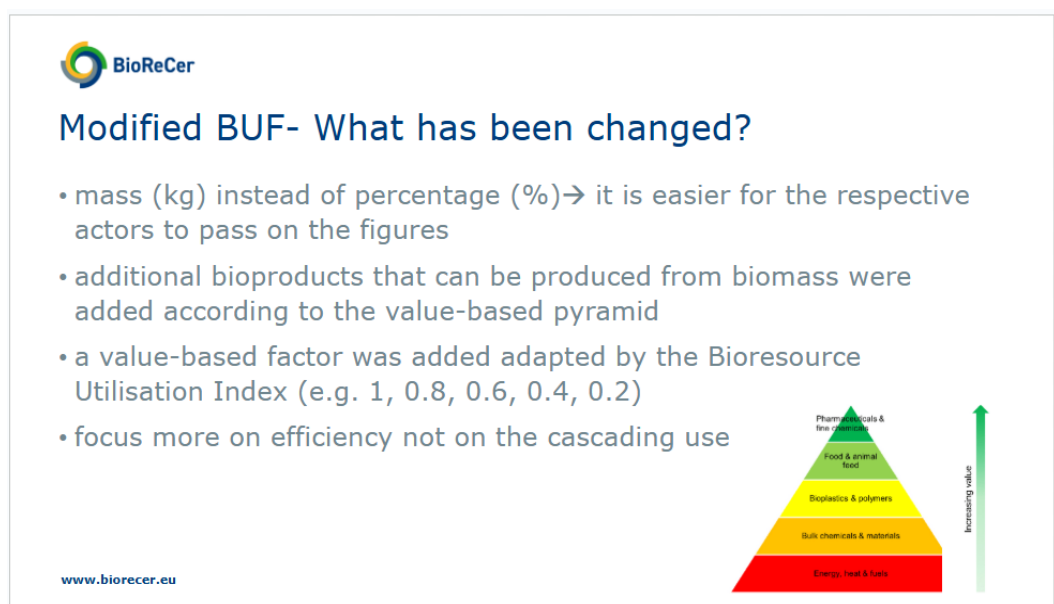


Figure 11. Slide on the use of BUF

Subsequently, the results of the first round of the Delphi Survey conducted under Task 4.3 "Socio-economic analysis to adapt the new certification schemes to consumers and

industries requirements” were presented, focusing on stakeholders’ views regarding new requirements for strengthening certification schemes. Participants were engaged for interaction via an instant poll on Zoom, ranking requirements from most to least important (1 = most important, 7 = least important). This worked as a validation tool for the results collected so far and they were deployed to build the second round of the survey.

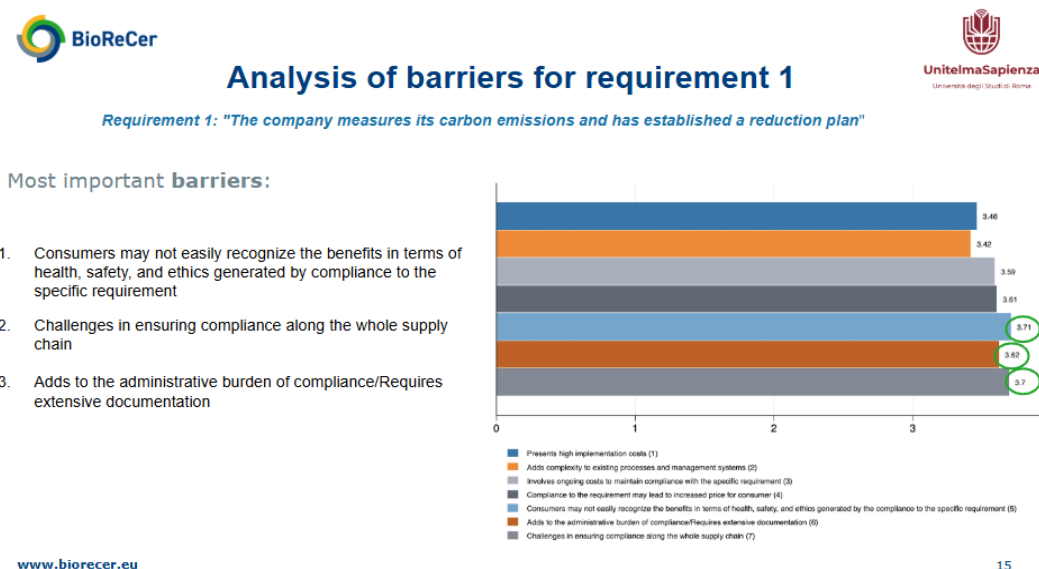


Figure 12. Slide on the Delphi survey result

Finally, the meeting closed with the presentation of the first BioReCer Policy Brief by nova-Institute (see Deliverable D8.6 for more detail) based on the valorisation and use of biological waste to support the European bioeconomy. Besides the presentation of the policy brief, another interactive session to involve stakeholders in the discussion was created. The aim of the session was to get feedback about the policy brief asking questions like:

- Which of the following areas should be prioritised in the updated policy brief?
- Based on your expertise, are there other key recommendations for policymakers?

To promote active stakeholders’ participation, the chat was active during the meeting to give participants the possibility to ask questions to the presenters or, more in general, related to the project. The main topic of discussion was related to the scope of certification schemes, and the distinction between certification schemes and standards. There were also exchanges on the BUF and circularity indicators, with participants debating their applicability, limitations, and the need for complementary measures to capture recycling processes and traceability. Additional questions touched on CO₂ use as a carbon source, the political acceptability of certain methods, and how the project’s recommendations would be taken forward at EU policy level.

The conversation was interactive and constructive: participants not only asked technical questions but also expressed appreciation for the presentations, shared relevant external resources, and contributed their own initiatives (e.g., surveys on by-products and end-of-waste). The overall tone was collaborative, with several attendees explicitly inviting future exchanges and synergies beyond the event itself.

Key resources were shared in the chat to encourage participants to navigate through the activities and tools being developed in the project, and to be able to better watch and comment on them

- BioReCer ICT Tool: <https://biorecer-ict-staging.stellio.io/auth/login>
- BioReCer ICT Customer Feedback: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSecxqndWkmrJ4LMgXE-B_IpWbM6bQHx1wGNYacBLdHDloEigA/viewfor
- Standardisation Toolkit: <https://biorecer.eu/standardization-toolkit/>
Power BI view: <https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiaWZkNTU0MjYtOTI0MC00YmIzLTk2MWItMDJkMTBkYjlmMTNlIiwidCI6IjkyYWQwNWY5LTE2MmYtNDQ3OS1hZTk2LTVMmJkyNjhjZjEyOCIsImMiOjI9>
- BioReCer Standardisation Toolkit Feedback: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BIORECERStdToolkit>
- Biomass Utilisation Factor: <https://renewable-carbon.eu/publications/product/biomass-utilisation-factor-buf/>
- BioReCer Material Flow Analysis: https://biorecer.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/biorecer_d2.1-main-biological-feedstock-flows.pdf
- Policy Brief: https://biorecer.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/24-02-29_biorecer-policy-brief.pdf
- Final Policy Brief: https://www.google.com/url?q=https://biorecer.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/25-12-29_2nd-biorecer-policy-brief_final.pdf&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1763641480619377&usg=AOvVaw3rAAldnmlyJq72cX1KkvtP

The event saw 130 participants registered, with 77 actually attending, confirming strong interest and engagement. A total of 19 countries were represented, with Italy, Germany, Greece, Spain, and France being the most represented. Attendees came from a wide range of stakeholder categories, including research and academic institutions (such as universities, research centres, and R&D projects), industries and companies (involved in bio-based feedstock production and processing, manufacturing, adhesives and panels, recycling, and innovative Small-Medium Enterprises (SMEs)), as well as certification schemes and standardisation bodies, consumer associations and NGOs, and policy and sustainability experts. This diverse representation contributed to a rich and multidisciplinary discussion on sustainable certification practices.

Thanks to the active promotion and invitations shared during the event, 71 new BRSP members joined the platform (including extra-EU stakeholders). As with previous sessions, all materials and [recordings](#) were shared with participants and uploaded to YouTube and linked to the BioReCer website for wider dissemination.

4.3 The Third Multi-Stakeholder Annual Meeting

The third annual Multi-Stakeholder Meeting, titled "*Shaping trust in bio-based products innovation: digital tools for reliable certification*", took place on 11 September 2025 (Figure 13). The event brought together online a wide community of stakeholders engaged in advancing certification, trust, and innovation in the bio-based sector. The key topics of the meeting were the following:

- Project progress and tools presentation, including a general update on BioReCer and a live demonstration of the BIT;
- Certification and stakeholder perspectives, with discussions on integrating the BioReCer framework into existing bio-based certification schemes, and insights

- from key actors such as industry representatives, biomass providers, certification bodies, consumer organisations, and environmental experts;
- Interactive engagement and feedback, through a roundtable discussion, an instant survey, and an open Q&A session with closing remarks.
- The agenda is available in the Annex 4.



Figure 13. Banner to announce the Third Multi-stakeholder Annual Meeting

The session opened with a BioReCer general progress update. The first topic that was discussed was the results from the whole socio-economic analysis by UNITELMA. During the presentation the three steps (i.e., a Delphi Survey, AHP, and an online experiment) were presented but the main focus was the presentation of the results of the experiment. Insights from the consumer experiment confirmed that the presence of certifications such as International Sustainability and Carbon Certification (ISCC PLUS) and Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials (RSB) increased trust, purchase intentions, and willingness to pay, while reducing perceived environmental and health risks. These findings highlight the role of certification in shaping consumer acceptance and in fostering sustainable innovation.

The second topic presented was the summary of the work carried out in WP4 on the integration of the BioReCer framework into existing bio-based certification schemes by MCS. The presentation briefly introduced the objectives and methodology applied to integrate the sustainability and circularity requirements developed by the project into the existing biobased certification schemes. The practical guidance document that presents guidance to certification schemes to integrate the BioReCer framework into their existing system as well as concrete tools for certification bodies and industries to adopt the framework were presented.

Participants were encouraged to provide direct feedback on the presentations, including views on the role of certification schemes, the contribution of integrating BioReCer into existing frameworks, and the main challenges in the bio-based value chain.

The programme continued with the presentation of the BIT by European Green Management (EGM), which was a central moment of the meeting. The session was designed not only to showcase the tool's functionalities but also to train stakeholders on its use and to create a

space for open dialogue on its potential. Indeed, during the presentation also a practical example about the main functionality of the tool was presented (see Figure 14).

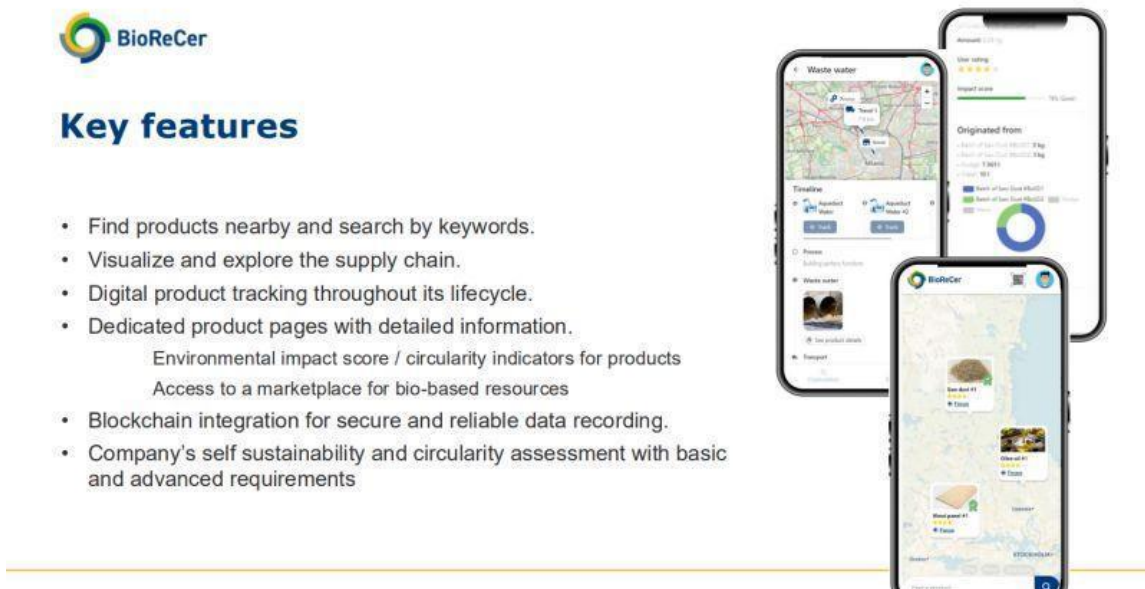


Figure 14. Slide referring to the key features of the BIT

The core of the event was a roundtable discussion that gathered perspectives on the BIT from industry representatives, consumer groups, environmental experts, and certification bodies. As shown in Figure 15, relevant representatives of stakeholders' category took part to the discussion:

- Berit Topolinski: representative of certification body;
- Helmut Frischenschlager: representative of policy expert;
- Anastasia Chatzipavlou: representative of consumer association;
- Maria Devisscher: representative of certification body;
- Martin Clemesha: representative of biomass producers.

This exchange highlighted the added value of the BIT for improving transparency and reliability in certification processes, while also addressing the barriers and challenges foreseen in its practical adoption.



Expert Perspectives on the BIT



Figure 15. Participants to the round table

The roundtable was highly interactive also using the instant poll (see Figure 16) to validate the BIT -semi-structured survey (S3)- on Zoom (Annex 5): a standardized System Usability Scale (SUS) survey shared by EGM to validate the ICT tool, with ten ISO-compliant questions measuring usability, confidence, and integration. Initial feedback received during the event provided useful insights to be taken forward. Indeed, participants highlighted that they expected additional functionalities such as:

- I. missing information (e.g., categories of different products/industries, total quantity of feedstock in a selected region or country);
- II. a simple introductory user guide;
- III. a more interactive experience with the map when searching for products.

Finally, some questions were devoted to potential suggestions and, among others, they suggested introducing simulation features to instantly show the impact of changes on sustainability and other functionalities to search for partners and stakeholders, facilitating collaboration and mapping biomass availability.

This poll was really useful as a collaborative exercise in testing and refining the digital tool together with stakeholders. Notice that the validation survey on the ICT tool was also disseminated after the event to all the BRSP members and registered participants.



Figure 16. The validation survey on the ICT tool

The meeting concluded with final Q&A, closing remarks, and the invitation to join the Final BioReCer Event at the Ciudad de la Cultura in Santiago de Compostela, Spain, on 29th October 2025.

The event saw strong interest, with 113 participants registered and 66 attending in person. Attendees represented 17 different countries, with the largest groups coming from Italy, Germany, Greece, Spain, and France. Participants came from a wide range of stakeholder categories, including representatives from industries and companies involved in the bio-based sector (such as biomass producers and processors), as well as researchers, consumer associations, policy makers, and certification bodies and schemes. This diversity reflects the multidisciplinary nature of the project and the broad relevance of certification in the bioeconomy.

As a result of the event, 64 new members joined the BRSP, further expanding the platform's reach and engagement. As for the other meeting, the recording was shared with participants and are also available on the project website: biorecer.eu/webinars.

5 Training Capsules and Brainstorming Sessions

As mentioned in the GA, an annual meeting with the overall group of stakeholders needed to be organized to present the main achievement of the project. For this reason, in addition to the multi-stakeholder annual events described in the previous Section, several targeted initiatives were organised to actively engage stakeholders in discussions, provide training opportunities, and collect feedback.

In close connection with WP8 (see also D8.7), WP5, and WP6, a series of workshops and training sessions were carried out to introduce and update stakeholders on the Circular Economy Indicators, to present and validate the BIT, to explore the Biomass Utilisation Factor, to introduce the Green Claims Directive, and to showcase the BioReCer Standardisation Toolkit. These activities were specifically designed for stakeholders engaged in the BRSP, but were always open and extended to additional interested stakeholders as well.

Several training and brainstorming activities were organised at the national level:

- The first occasion to have a “local” brainstorming session on the main aspects of the project was during the Greek stakeholder event (see sub-section 3.3.1);
- One training on the BIT during the Swedish stakeholder event (see sub-section 3.3.2) in which the first Structured Survey for the BIT Validation (S2) was presented.
- One training on the BIT during the Italian stakeholder event (see sub-section 3.3.3).
- One training session on Standards led by UNI in collaboration with Star4bbs (see sub-section 3.3.4).

5.1 The Greek stakeholder event

A stakeholders' side event was held in person during the 2nd Project Coordination Meeting - organized by CERTH in Thessaloniki on 23.10.2023 - dedicated to Greek stakeholders, with a total of 15 participants. The key topics of the meeting were the following:

- Presentation of BioReCer case studies and pilot activities;
- Evaluation and discussion of methodological tools, such as the Material Flow Analysis (MFA) diagrams and sustainability/circularity indicators;
- Stakeholder engagement and prioritisation outcomes, with a focus on the AHP results and related discussion.

The agenda is available in Annex 6. This event was moderated, ensuring its interactive nature by creating brief questionnaires based on input from each speaker. These questionnaires were easily accessible via QR codes printed on the agenda provided to each participant after each presentation. Additionally, one questionnaire was administered at the beginning of the session and another at the end, serving as an engagement tool. This approach facilitated the recording of responses from registered stakeholders, enabling even those less inclined to speak up to provide input anonymously.

A report detailing the interaction with Greek stakeholders during the Stakeholder meeting was compiled and shared with consortium members. The interaction confirmed strong interest in BioReCer activities, especially in agricultural and urban waste streams. Participants pointed to key barriers such as high costs, insufficient organisation, limited consumer awareness, and lack of traceability or certification systems. At the same time,

they highlighted the need for stronger legislation, incentives, and better networking to unlock the potential of bio-based feedstocks. Overall, the session showed both the relevance of the topic for local stakeholders and the importance of systemic changes to foster trust and wider adoption of bio-based products. As a gesture of appreciation, all participants received a Certificate of Participation and a "vignette" to proudly use in their communication channels. The stakeholder event held in Thessaloniki on 23 October 2023 is illustrated in Figure 17, which includes: (a) the official event banner, (b) a group photo of participants during the workshop, and (c) the participation badge awarded to attendees designed by nova-Institute.



Figure 17. 2nd Project Coordination Meeting, Thessaloniki, 23.10.2023

5.2 The Swedish stakeholder event

A first introductory training action with stakeholders on the BIT was held in the framework of the 4th PEB meeting and stakeholder event in Sweden on the 13 June 2024, with a total of 7 participants. This event, titled "*Certifying the Sustainability of Biological Resources in the Forest Industry: A Multistakeholder Perspective*", provided an update on the project developments and offered an exclusive preview, including an interactive training and trial, of the innovative ICT tool, which was currently in its final developmental stage.

The agenda (Annex 7) was finalized, and a written invitation was prepared, which Research Institutes of Sweden (RISE) and the consortium members shared with Swedish stakeholders. An electronic registration form was also created. The invitation was extended to EU groups in Sweden, including: National Consumer Organisations; Europe Direct Points; EU Expert Group on Forest-based Industries and Sector Related Issues; Forest Platform Members; and Forest-based Industries in the EU.

A pre-event article was published and subsequently shared on the project website, social media, and in the newsletter. Here are the links:

- Web: [Link](#)
- LinkedIn: [Link](#)
- X (formerly Twitter): [Link](#)
- Renewable Carbon Article [Link](#)

The event was also aligned with the [MainstreamBIO](#) event to broaden the stakeholder audience and leverage collaboration between the two projects under the umbrella: “Explore New Circular Bioeconomy Opportunities with BioReCer and MainstreamBIO.”

The BioReCer event, held at the RISE premises, brought together key stakeholders from the Swedish forestry sector. The participants were informed about BioReCer’s results, including sustainability indicators, the assessment framework, tracking and traceability indicators, and trained about the preliminary BioReCer ICT tool. They were also actively engaged in a brainstorming session and a site visit.

A semi-structured survey (S2) was created and administered to participants both live and online to gather additional feedback on the usability and development of the ICT tool and the 3 scenarios presented (The biocrude oil; Product’s origins; Transportation). A QR code linking to the survey was included in the presentation slides during the meeting.

According to the results of the survey, most respondents completed all three scenarios, though one encountered difficulty in Scenario 2. The average perceived complexity was low to moderate (1.5 for Scenario 1; 2.25 for Scenarios 2 and 3). Several users reported no major frustrations, but some noted a lack of information about what they were seeing. Missing elements included details such as product origin or a clearer overview of categories. Desired improvements focused on enhanced usability: faster navigation, clearer summaries on a single screen, and more interactivity. Some participants explicitly appreciated the tool’s first version and considered it easy to use. Overall, stakeholders found the tool functional and accessible, but highlighted the need for more guidance, additional data, and streamlined user experience.

In addition to the BIT, the following presentation explained, in simple terms, the concepts of tracking and traceability, their impact on consumer confidence, trust, and satisfaction, as well as the challenges in bio-based industries and the importance of high-quality data acquisition.

Moreover, Imperial College’s presentation on indicators was followed by an open discussion and a Q&A session with the audience. Figure 18 presents the stakeholder feedback survey interface (a) and its associated QR code (b), which was shared with participants for collecting suggestions and evaluations following the ICT Tool testing. Please note that the image of the survey interface is slightly blurred due to resolution constraints.

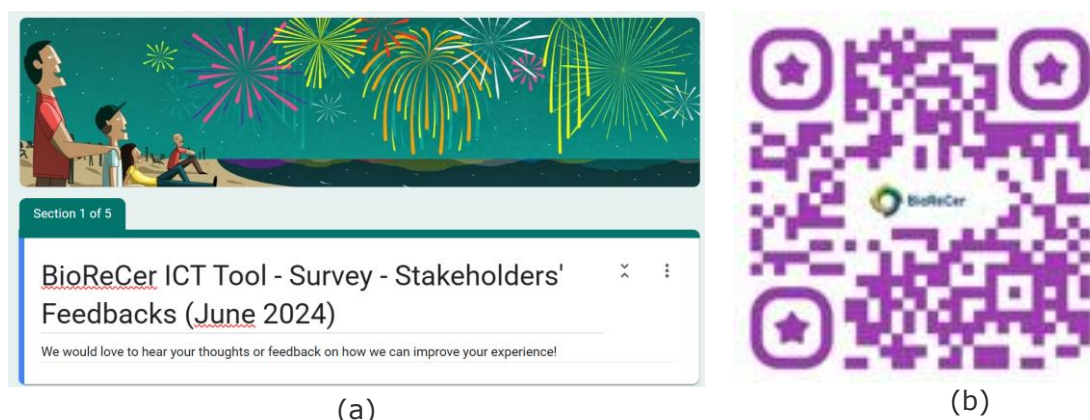


Figure 18. QR code and interface of Stakeholders’ feedback survey



Figure 19. Multistakeholder event in Sweden on the 13 June 2024

5.3 The Italian stakeholder event

A dedicated stakeholder meeting was held in Italy, with a total of 40 participants, hosted by UNI in Milan (and online) on 2 October 2024, under the title “*Enhancing the sustainability of bio-based products: new tools and future standardisation developments*”. The session expanded the discussion to the role of organic matter from municipal waste and wastewater as a valuable feedstock, with the broader goal of strengthening the EU’s bioeconomy.

Participants received an overview of the latest project outcomes and practical guidance on challenges linked to the certification and valorisation of biological waste feedstock. A key highlight was the interactive activity with stakeholders on the BioReCer BIT, which allowed them to directly test the platform, provide feedback, and explore its functionalities for managing bio-resources. Alongside this, the event featured the launch of the Open Standards Research Tool (Standardisation Toolkit), designed to support standardisation processes in the bio-based sector, and presentations on intrinsic circularity indicators and assessment frameworks for sustainability, certification, and circularity compliance.

Stakeholders also engaged in active discussions, sharing experiences and insights that contributed to the refinement of the tools and guidelines. The event created networking opportunities by connecting BRSP members from industry, research, and policy sectors. Open and free of charge, it encouraged collaboration and innovation across Europe’s bio-based industries and research communities. Ultimately, participants benefited by recognising the added value of biological waste as a resource rather than a burden, and by reinforcing their role in shaping EU policy-making towards a sustainable bioeconomy.



Figure 20. Stakeholder meeting in Italy on 2 October 2024

5.4 The final event and the Spanish stakeholder event

On 29 and 30 October 2025, the final event of the BioReCer project was held in Santiago de Compostela and Vigo. This was also an excellent opportunity for stakeholder engagement, allowing the project team to present all the results achieved and demonstrate their alignment with the initial plans.



Figure 21. Final Event of the BioReCer Project in Spain on 29 October 2025

The event was organised over two days: on 29 October, the final event meeting held in Santiago de Compostela was attended by 56 participants, of whom 26 were stakeholders from the Spanish region. On 30 October, another national stakeholder event took place in Vigo, with the participation of 36 participants of whom 12 were stakeholders representing the regional fishing and food processing industry. The agenda of both days is reported in Annex 8.

5.5 Training on Standards by UNI together with Star4bbs

On 14 December 2023, UNI – the Italian Standardisation Body – organised a free online training session in cooperation with BioReCer's related project Star4bbs, with a total of 50 participants. The training aimed to shed light on the standardisation world, explaining how it works, who the main actors are, and how it connects with certification. It also illustrated how organisations can transform R&I results into a fast-track standardisation document, the CEN Workshop Agreement (CWA). The session further presented outcomes from the BioReCer project, alongside contributions from related projects of BioReCer such as Star4bbs and Bioradar, and disseminated objectives and intermediate results to companies, research institutions, and standardisation experts.

5.6 Training of the auditors for pilot assessments

As a part of training capsules, MCS had one-on-one interactive training sessions with the auditors from the certification bodies. These auditors were selected to carry out the pilot assessment to assess the practicality of the BioReCer framework under the task T4.4 "Integration of environmental and traceability assessment framework into a current biological resource' certification scheme". The role of auditors was to validate the practicality of the BioReCer verification guidance document and audit checklist for the integration into the existing certification schemes. Therefore, the objective was to introduce them to the BioReCer framework and to guide on use of the documents together in the framework of the existing certification scheme while conducting the pilot assessments. During the training

session the documents were presented to the auditors and their feedback on the clarity on explanation of the requirement, and evidence and documentation required for verifying the compliance was collected. The two pilot assessments were carried out in Greece and Italy. The deliverable D4.3 "Integrated environmental and traceability assessment framework into certification schemes" and the "Practical guidance document" developed under T4.4 presents the details of the content shared with the auditors and the results of pilot assessment. The session with the certification body for Greece was conducted on 15th May 2024 and session with the certification body for Italy was conducted on 1st July 2024. The training included open discussions to clarify the doubts on the requirements or type of evidence to be collected and address any questions or uncertainties, ensuring auditors were fully prepared to carry out assessments in line with BioReCer's objectives.

6 Stakeholder Involvement Across Work Packages and Case Studies

This Section is devoted to the description of the main interaction with other WPs. Notice that there is also a strong interaction with Task 4.3 within the WP4: as described in sub-section 4.4, stakeholders were involved in the training capsules with the purpose of familiarise with the BioReCer framework and to be able to use of the documents within the context of the existing certification scheme throughout the pilot assessments.

6.1 Interaction with WP2: Assessment Frameworks

Within WP2, the work of Task 2.4 focused on the development of a robust set of circularity indicators for bio-based products, aligned with the ISO 59000 series (particularly ISO 59020 and ISO 59040). These indicators cover the entire product lifecycle – from material inputs and production processes to use phase, end-of-life options, and circularity benefits – and are structured through the Product Circularity Data Sheets (PCDS).

Stakeholder engagement played an important role in discussing, testing, and reflecting on these indicators throughout the project. Four stakeholder events were organized, during which the indicators and methodological choices were presented and opened for discussion: physical meetings in Thessaloniki (October 2023), Örnsköldsvik (June 2024), and Milan (October 2024), as well as an online session (November 2023). In each case, both the rationale behind the selected indicator framework and examples of its application to different BioReCer value chains were shared and discussed with stakeholders.

Although the indicators were not co-selected by stakeholders in a strict participatory sense, their input was essential for validating the relevance, feasibility, and clarity of the approach. Their contributions were instrumental in:

- Contextualise the indicators by providing feedback on sector-specific challenges (e.g. biological vs. technical cycles, the role of bio-residues, avoidable vs. unavoidable wastes);
- Identify gaps and priorities, such as the need for better characterisation of residues and wastes, consideration of hazardous substances, and clearer differentiation of intrinsic vs. consequential circularity;
- Assess practicality in terms of data availability, reporting burden, and compatibility with certification and regulatory frameworks;
- Highlight stakeholder perspectives, ensuring that the proposed set of indicators is meaningful not only for researchers and policymakers but also for producers, users, and other value chain actors.

The sharing of circularity indicators in the multi-stakeholder events had a twofold impact. First, it increased transparency regarding how circularity is defined and measured in BioReCer, reducing the risk of opaque or poorly understood metrics. Second, it fostered trust and a shared understanding among diverse stakeholders. This engagement ensured that the proposed circularity metrics are not only scientifically robust but also aligned with stakeholder expectations and practical realities, thereby strengthening their potential for uptake in future certification schemes.

The contribution of WP3 to stakeholder engagement focused on showing how traceability can turn abstract sustainability indicators into something visible and actionable across the supply chain. Whereas WP2 (Task 2.4) produced the circularity indicators, WP3 demonstrated how those indicators could be grounded in real data flows, recorded at batch and product level, and later channelled into the BIT tool (WP5).

In practice, this meant that during the stakeholder meetings, WP3 did not present a static framework but walked participants through how a digital record of a product's journey – from supplier to final user – could be created, verified, and then connected to the circularity indicators being developed in WP2. This helped stakeholders see that the metrics were not just theoretical constructs, but values that could be directly drawn from real operations and reported through the BIT tool.

The dialogue revealed different priorities depending on the type of actor. Industry partners were particularly interested in how traceability could reduce reporting burdens by linking automatically to the CI calculations, while certification bodies valued the way blockchain-backed records could reinforce credibility. Policymakers and cluster representatives saw in the combined WP2–WP3–WP5 chain a concrete pathway for making certification schemes more data-driven. The impact of this engagement was clear: stakeholders began to treat traceability not only as a compliance function, but as a bridge that connects operational practices (batch numbers, logistics data, digital passports) with systemic sustainability goals (circularity, reliability, conformity). By positioning WP3 at the intersection of WP2's indicator framework and WP5's BIT implementation, the discussions helped stakeholders understand how BioReCer is moving toward a certification ecosystem that is both scientifically rigorous and digitally transparent.

6.2 Interaction with WP5: Feedback integration and the ICT Tool Development

The activities and feedback provided by different stakeholders directly influenced the development of the BioReCer ICT tool under WP5, contributing to several key improvements. First, stakeholder input led to the adoption of standardized units, specifically implementing kilograms across all measurements. This change allowed for unified graphical representations and enhanced proportional comparisons. Second, suggestions to improve usability prompted the integration of advanced search functionalities, enabling keyword-based and geographical queries through the use of tags and search categories.

In response to concerns about precision in batch composition data, precision percentage indicators were added to increase user trust and data transparency. The tool's Decision Support System (DSS) was also enhanced through the creation of the BITAdvisor module, which now provides users with tailored recommendations for regulatory compliance and process optimisation.

Efforts to address data gaps resulted in strengthened data provisioning capabilities via Apache NiFi integration, allowing connections to various external sources such as IoT platforms, Google Sheets, and APIs. Furthermore, to meet the demand for better insights, visualisation templates were developed to provide numerical summaries and historical time-series data.

Transport-related greenhouse gas emissions were incorporated into the carbon footprint calculations, covering both road and maritime modes. Finally, feedback about user

navigation challenges led to the design of guided provisioning modules and more intuitive user interface flows tailored to different stakeholder profiles.

6.3 Interaction with WP6: Validation of the BioReCer tools

The validation of the BioReCer tools was supported by active stakeholder engagement across the four identified case studies. As detailed in Section 3, each in-person stakeholder meeting was designed not only to present the project's progress and key results but also to collect feedback from local actors directly connected to the specific case study. Furthermore, Section 5 provides a summary of all stakeholder involvement and engagement activities conducted within each case study.

6.4 Interaction with WP8: alignment, synergies, and communication activities

All the above-mentioned activities were complemented by a wide range of communication actions, implemented in different formats as also detailed in Deliverable D8.7, and carried out thanks to the efforts of several partners, most notably nova-Institute, responsible for communication and who acted as moderator of several of the national and annual stakeholder meetings, and EURADIA. Presentations, banners, surveys, factsheets, social media campaigns, dedicated mailings, and personalised invitations were developed through the close collaboration between WP4 and WP8, to broaden the audience of stakeholders and reach them through multiple channels and approaches. Additionally, nova-Institute supported the organisation of stakeholder engagement by acting as moderator in several national and annual stakeholder meetings. Nova also facilitated contact with and engagement of speakers for the final stakeholder event, and helped connect ACN with two of the interview partners later featured in the Innovation News Network.

A particularly significant set of communication actions was fully dedicated to stakeholder engagement while also serving as a tool for training stakeholders and raising awareness among the wider public about the project and its tools. Three key initiatives stood out: the social media campaign The BioReCer Quiz; a series of articles under the campaign BioReCer advances EU bioeconomy; and the #BioReCerGlossary campaign, which informed the public about key project terms and addressed frequently asked questions. These actions not only sought to improve understanding of the project's activities, but also directly involved BRSP members, who shared their perspectives on the relevance of the initiative. This "peer-to-peer" communication approach was designed to attract attention, encourage interest, and foster stronger connections with the stakeholder community. Additionally, five webinars were also organised by nova-Institute in collaboration with related EU projects. These sessions focused on BioReCer-relevant topics, including certification schemes, and presented project findings to broader audiences. Notably, many webinar participants later joined the BRSP, further strengthening stakeholder engagement and knowledge transfer.

6.4.1. BioReCer Bio-Based Quiz" social media communication campaign

As part of its communication and stakeholder engagement strategy, and as a message shared by a consumer & civil society organisation to the general public and stakeholders, ACN designed and implemented a dedicated tool: the *BioReCer Quiz*. This initiative aimed to disseminate key concepts and tools of the project in an engaging and accessible way,

while at the same time raising awareness among citizens and consumers about the environmental and economic benefits of bio-based products, the role of certification schemes, and the principles of the circular economy.



Figure 22. Figure of the BioReCer Bio-Based Quiz for social media campaign

The campaign unfolded over eleven consecutive weeks, with one quiz question released each week. Each post contained a short, accessible question accompanied by three possible answers in a visual format, which encouraged interaction and curiosity. When clicking on the post, participants were redirected to a [dedicated page on the BioReCer website](#) implemented by nova-Institute (Figure 22), where the correct answer was explained in detail. The webpage also provided additional resources, background materials, and links for those who wanted to explore the topic further. This mechanism created both a playful engagement opportunity and a knowledge platform that allowed citizens to deepen their understanding at their own pace.

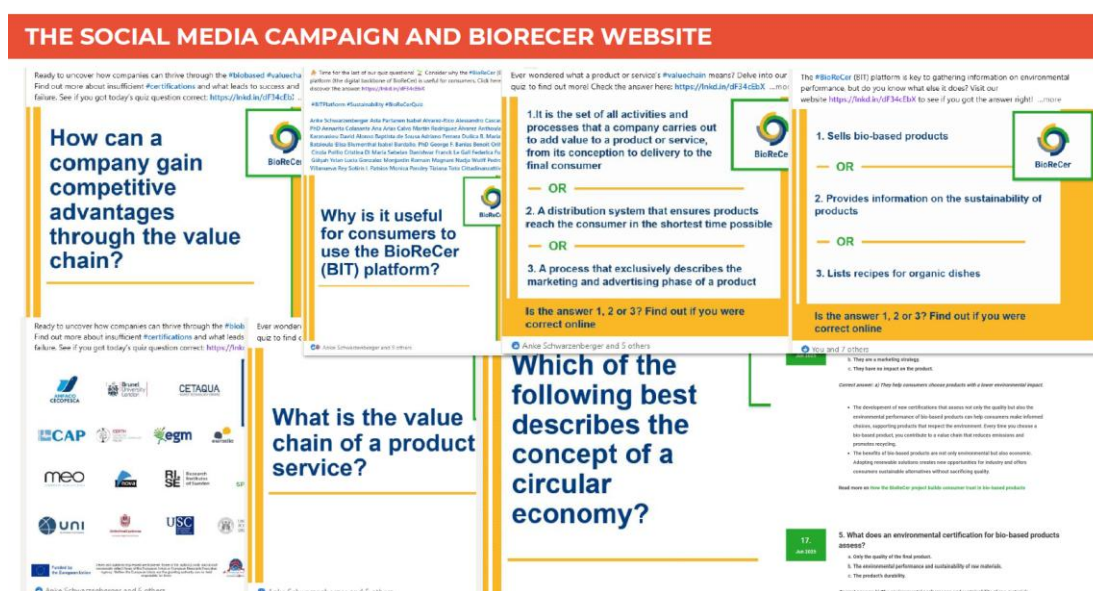


Figure 23. BioReCer Quiz posts and dedicated web page

The topics of the quiz were directly aligned with the project's objectives and outputs. They ranged from the definition and importance of a circular economy, the advantages of bio-based products over fossil-based ones, and the potential of organic waste and residues as valuable resources, to more technical themes such as environmental certifications, consumer trust, and the functioning of the BIT. Several questions were dedicated to

explaining how the BIT supports sustainability assessments, certification readiness, and consumer awareness, thus directly connecting the campaign to one of BioReCer's core innovations.

The campaign was conceived in English but made available to all consortium partners for adaptation into their national languages, ensuring maximum inclusiveness and outreach. Posts were disseminated not only on the official BioReCer LinkedIn profile but also across multiple thematic groups highly relevant to the project's themes, including *The Sustainability Groups (Europe)*, *BioBased Economy*, *Circular & Regenerative Economy*, *Certification and Labelling Schemes for the EU BioEconomy*, *Sustainability Climate & ESG Leaders*, *Circular Water Economy*, and *Economia circolare*. This cross-posting strategy amplified the visibility of the campaign and reached audiences beyond the consortium's direct networks.

To encourage active participation, the quiz was designed with a self-assessment element. At the end of the campaign, participants could check their overall score and receive a brief evaluation of their knowledge: from "great understanding" to "a starting point for learning more." This gamified feature added a sense of continuity and motivation for participants to follow the entire series, while reinforcing BioReCer's educational mission.

The campaign ran from May to July 2025. Dissemination data confirm the effectiveness of this initiative: posts received hundreds of impressions in specialised LinkedIn communities, with notable engagement in groups dedicated to sustainability, circular economy, and bio-based industries. Some concrete examples include:

- Post on Biobased Economy LinkedIn group – [link](#) → 755 impressions
- Post on Circular & Regenerative Economy group – [link](#) → 197 impressions
- Post on Sustainability Climate & ESG Leaders (1st round) – [link](#) → 340 impressions
- Post on BioReCer – Biological Resources Certifications Schemes group – [link](#) → 609 impressions
- Post on Sustainability Climate & ESG Leaders (2nd round) – [link](#) → 278 impressions

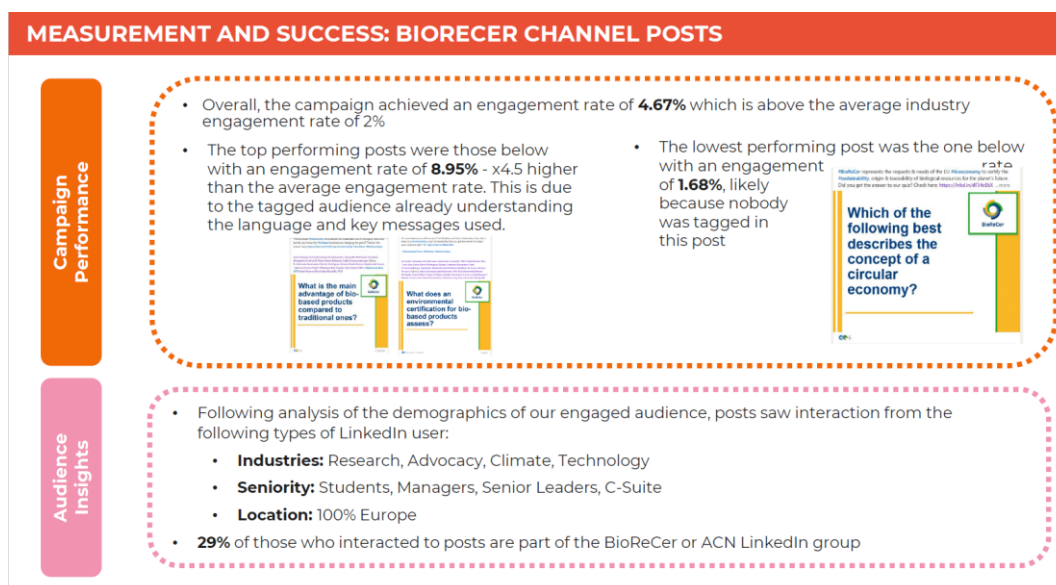


Figure 24. Performance of the BioReCer's social media campaign

Overall, the *BioReCer Quiz* proved to be an innovative tool that combined awareness-raising, education, and stakeholder engagement. It brought the concepts of the project closer to the

general public, stimulated reflection on sustainable consumption and production, and provided concrete resources for those interested in exploring the circular bioeconomy further. By fostering peer-to-peer communication and highlighting the voices of stakeholders already engaged in the BRSP, the campaign also strengthened the connection between the project's technical results and civil society, thereby amplifying BioReCer's impact across Europe.

6.4.2. "BioReCer advances EU bioeconomy" communication campaign

Towards the end of the project, a series of interviews with external stakeholders — selected from the members of the [BioResources Stakeholders Platform](#) — were able to highlight, from the perspective of qualified stakeholders, the project's added value.

The concept and rationale of this campaign were presented, discussed, and approved on the occasion of the Biorecer 3rd coordination meeting, which was held in Milan (Italy) from 1 to 3 October 2024.

With the support of [Innovation News Network](#) - since 2020, ACN's official media partner - and its quarterly publication "The Innovation Platform" the following articles have been published:

- **Unlocking trust in bio-based products** (THE INNOVATION PLATFORM. [Issue 22 – JUNE 2025, pages 200 to 205](#)) As Europe accelerates its shift toward a circular bioeconomy, the BioReCer project is emerging as a key force in redefining certification standards to ensure the credibility, sustainability, and trustworthiness of bio-based products.
- **BioReCer: Driving the EU bioeconomy through smarter certification** ([Issue 21 – MAR 2025, pages 156 to 159](#)) BioReCer is advancing the EU bioeconomy by enhancing certification schemes for sustainability, circularity, and traceability of biological resources, ensuring a greener and more transparent future.
- **Solving certification consistency for bio-based products: Insights from the BioReCer project.** INNOVATION NEWS NETWORK. 6th August 2025. Simon Schwarzwald of REDcert GmbH explores the challenges certification bodies face in adapting existing standards to the specificities of bio-based products, and how BioReCer is helping pave the way toward clearer, more consistent, and harmonised sustainability certification across Europe.
- **Unlocking trust in bio-based products.** 5th June 2025. Learn how BioReCer redefines certification standards to support credible, sustainable, and trustworthy
- **Certifying sustainability: BioReCer's impact on bio-based materials.** 27th May 2025. Martin Clemesha of Braskem discusses the impact of BioReCer's certification guidelines on bio-based materials.
- **EEKE: How the BioReCer project builds consumer trust.** 18th March 2025. Apostolos Raftopoulos, President of EEKE, discusses how the BioReCer project strengthens consumer trust in bio-based products.
- **BioReCer: Driving the EU bioeconomy through smarter certification.** 3rd March 2025. Learn how BioReCer advances EU bioeconomy via certification schemes for sustainability, circularity, and traceability of biological resources.

Together, these publications and interviews tried to amplify BioReCer's visibility and also provided authoritative voices that validated its impact, by combining stakeholder perspectives with high-level media outreach. All articles can also be accessed via the [BioReCer website](#).

7 Stakeholders' involvement in the Case Studies

7.1 Contributions and activities of stakeholders in Case Study 1

In the context of CS1, focused on the fishery sector, several actions have been undertaken involving stakeholders aware of the relevance of their collaboration in validating the BioReCer methodology. Collaboration has been established with multiple companies in the marine sector, particularly those operating in canning and seaweed processing, to gather data necessary for the development of the project's circularity indicators. Both in-person and online meetings have been conducted with companies to disseminate information about the project and promote stakeholder engagement. Additionally, participation in conferences and trade fairs has contributed to outreach efforts, including the European Biosolids & Bioresources Conference 2024, the European Biomass Conference 2025, the 15th European Congress of Chemical Engineering (ECCE), the 8th European Congress of Applied Biotechnology (ECAB), the 3rd Iberoamerican Congress on Chemical Engineering (CIBIQ) 2025, the International Forum on Industrial Biotechnology and Bioeconomy (25th and 26th September 2025), and the ANFACO World Tuna Conference 2025.

On Friday, 3 October 2025, a hybrid WORKSHOP focusing on the use of the BIT by interested companies was held at the ANFACO-CYTMA facilities. At this workshop, which has been attended by around 20 companies, the BIT has been presented step by step and a demonstration of its capabilities was given, obtaining several feedback from the participating companies. Further dissemination activities included the participation in Conxemar 2025 on 8th October 2025, with the same outreach objectives.

7.2 Contributions and activities of stakeholders in Case Study 2

Within the Italian case study, stakeholder engagement has been a cornerstone to test, validate and promote the BioReCer framework. Several dissemination and dialogue activities were organised, targeting scientific, industrial, and societal audiences:

- During the EU Green Week online workshop (25 June 2024), UNIVPM presented the general objectives of BioReCer with a focus on the Italian case study, triggering discussion on the integration of environmental and traceability frameworks into certification schemes among the about 50 scientific participants.
- On 4 November 2024, in collaboration with SPRING, UNIVPM delivered an online presentation entitled "Circular Economy & Zero Pollution: the importance of sludge traceability and the Italian contribution to BioReCer", to the Sludge Working Group (SPRING associated members), attended by approximately 25 experts. The event directly supported alignment of the BioReCer approach with existing national discussions on sludge valorisation.
- At Ecomondo (8 December 2024), UNIVPM participated in the workshop organised by UNI titled "Advancing Sustainability in Bio-Based Products: insights and new tools from European research projects", delivering the presentation "Circular Economy & Zero Pollution: the importance of sludge traceability and the Italian contribution to BioReCer". This event brought together standardisation experts, industry actors, and policymakers, who provided insights on legislative aspects, traceability requirements, and certification practices.
- Public dissemination was ensured through science festivals such as SHARPER (29 September 2023, 27 September 2024) and Fosforo – La Festa delle Scienze (26 May

2024), where BioReCer flyers were distributed and researchers engaged with citizens, raising awareness on circular bioeconomy and certification challenges.

- At international level, the Italian case study was disseminated via scientific contributions:
 - Poster presentation “Implementation of industrial biorefinery fed by ‘certified’ sewage sludge, agri-food waste and OFMSW” at IWA AD18 (26 May 2024 in Istanbul, Turkiye).
 - Poster presentation “Toward Sustainable Wastewater Management: Integrating Biorefineries for Bio-Waste Valorisation and Certified Circular Economy Practices” at IWA Resource Recovery (19–23 May 2025 in Leeuwarden, the Netherlands).

Stakeholder input was further strengthened through targeted interviews, carried out with CERTH. In particular, a Brazilian water utility invited by UNIVPM provided feedback on the applicability of the BioReCer framework, highlighting the need to consider innovation dynamics and to adopt a more quantitative scoring system within certification schemes. These interviews helped ensure international transferability.

A dedicated stakeholder event was held at Ecomondo (7 November 2025), where UNIVPM, CAP and SPRING presented the main results of the Italian case study and demonstrated the tool developed within BioReCer, collecting feedback from utilities, policy makers, and industry representatives.

Moreover, internal dissemination mechanisms reinforce stakeholder engagement:

- CAP has established a dedicated project page on its official website, providing citizens in the Milan Metropolitan Area with easy access to information about the project and its developments. Internally, CAP has kept all employees updated on the project, its key deliverables, and results through circulated news updates. Following the conference at Ecomondo, CAP organised an internal seminar for sludge management staff and relevant departments to present the certification scheme and the BioReCer tool.
- SPRING Cluster has actively used its communication channels, including newsletters and social media platforms such as LinkedIn, to disseminate project updates, share insights, and foster broader engagement among members and external stakeholders. In addition, SPRING promoted BioReCer during external dissemination events (e.g., IFIB in September 2025), helping to increase visibility and ensure broader uptake across the Italian and European bioeconomy sector.

In practice, these activities enabled the Italian case study to integrate stakeholder perspectives into the validation of the BioReCer tool and framework, ensuring that the outputs are not only scientifically robust but also relevant, feasible, and aligned with real operational practices.

7.3 Contributions and activities of stakeholders in Case Study 3

Stakeholder interaction was crucial for the development and validation of the Greek case study, centred on the agrifood sector. Two key industrial actors supported the process: one producing bio-based soil amendments from waste streams (such as straw, prunings and peach pomace) and another specialised in composite panels derived from straw or prunings. Their active involvement provided real operational data and first-hand insights into production processes, sustainability priorities, and market perspectives.

Several field visits were organised to both companies, initially by the CERTH team and later during the project's General Assembly in Thessaloniki, where the wider consortium had the opportunity to observe facilities and interact with industry experts. These visits offered a detailed understanding of feedstock origins, processing steps, and sustainability objectives, creating a solid basis for analysing the value chain and validating project methodologies. The hands-on knowledge shared during these exchanges was fundamental for testing the applicability of BioReCer's certification and traceability models, as well as for demonstrating their integration into real industrial settings.

Complementary consultations with agronomists, farmers, and certification bodies enriched the analysis by linking industrial practices with broader sectoral requirements. This iterative engagement allowed the project to carry out a pilot audit in the biofertilizers sector and to validate the usability of the BIT tool in practice. It also supported the development of replicability and transferability strategies for other European biomass flows and international value chains.

In parallel, BioReCer results were disseminated in national and international scientific conferences and dedicated workshops, strengthening stakeholder dialogue and broadening impact. Finally, the final event was conducted in October 2025 (Month 38) as an online event. In total, 21 stakeholders participated in the event covering various fields such as policy makers, bio-based industries, certification bodies and academia. In this context, the main outcomes of the project were presented and their practical application within an agricultural value chain was demonstrated. Furthermore, it introduced the BIT and its functionalities through practical examples, and collected feedback via a Mentimeter questionnaire. Overall, stakeholders provided positive evaluations, highlighting the tool's usability and suggesting improvements related to data guidance, monitoring features, and links to sustainability reporting.

7.4 Contributions and activities of stakeholders in Case Study 4

Stakeholder engagement in Case Study 4 provided valuable insights for the development and validation of the BioReCer methodology, despite challenges in reaching the original anticipated number and origin of participants.

The CS4 stakeholders listed in the proposal included i) biomass producers and more specifically the forest industry companies within the Processum cluster, ii) the bio-based industries comprising green chemicals, materials and fuels companies within the cluster, iii) trade bodies within the cluster and iv) government, e.g. region Västernorrland. For the forest industry, valorisation of forest residual streams to biofuel and bioenergy applications comprises an important valorisation route, however, since this activity was outside of the scope for the BioReCer project, it affected the possibilities of attracting and engaging stakeholders.

The particular structure of the regional forest industry, dominated by small private forest and sawmills with fewer than 10 employees, and with overlapping ownership between stakeholder groups (e.g., forest owners' associations partly owning pulp mills or pulp mills owning sawmills), further reduced the pool of distinct participants. Additional structural and regulatory factors, including administrative burdens from FSC and PEFC certifications, ongoing revisions to [RED II \(Renewable Energy – Recast to 2030\)](#), and the anticipated enforcement of the EUDR, created further uncertainty and constrained engagement. Despite these limitations, all targeted stakeholders were engaged and attended the in-person event in Örnsköldsvik 2024, which attracted 3 attendees representing biomass producers and trade bodies, 4 attendees representing the bio-based industries, and 2 attendees

representing the region and the municipality. Additionally, the participation of various entities in two online Focus Groups conducted in May 2023 showcased engagement from diverse sectors, including forestry sector interest associations, large international pulp & paper companies, startups, and SMEs, providing insights into challenges and opportunities associated with secondary feedstocks. Their inputs, reported in Deliverable 4.1, highlighted concerns regarding quantity, quality assurance, and sustainability standards, underscoring an understanding of industry dynamics. Stakeholders also emphasized job creation potential through secondary feedstock deployment and the benefits of bio-based products for import substitution and environmental sustainability.

Stakeholder input was further strengthened through targeted interviews, carried out with CERTH (Task 6.2). A first interview was held with a globally operating, world leading, forest-based company with expertise in pulp, paper, and bioenergy; however, given their strategic focus on bioenergy production, the company ultimately chose not to continue participating. This reinforced the assessment that actors prioritising biofuels and bioenergy, although highly relevant in the forest sector, fall outside the BioReCer scope and are therefore more challenging to engage. A second interview was conducted with a major international pulp & paper company which is world leading within certain renewable sectors. These interviews helped ensure international transferability.

The project systematically reached relevant actors through meetings, discussions, and participation in events, while dialogue with stakeholders from other regions helped reinforce the applicability and relevance of the BioReCer framework beyond the immediate regional context. The coordinators, CETAQUA, and the WP6 leader, ANFACO, were contacted with a proposal to expand Case Study 4 to include all of Sweden and Finland, considering the similarities in forest industry structure, residual streams, and bio-based sectors. Subsequently, stakeholders from both countries were engaged, registered on the stakeholder platform, and participated in project activities, successfully supporting project progress. Reviewing the registered stakeholders for Case Study 4, there are 6 stakeholders from 4 companies representing biomass producers and trade bodies, 3 stakeholders from 2 Swedish companies representing bio-based industries, 3 stakeholders from 2 organisations representing business associations, and 2 research organisations. A summary of stakeholder engagement is graphically represented in Figure 25.

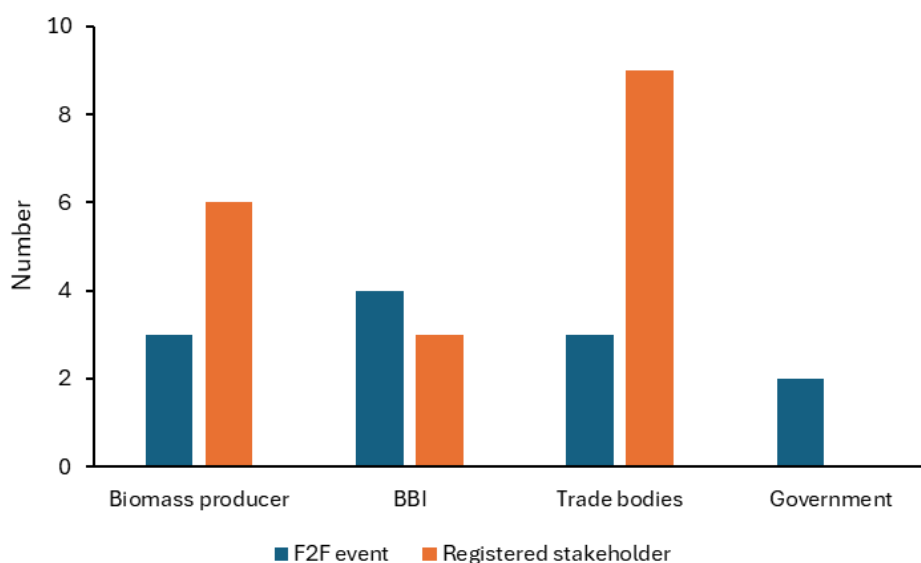


Figure 25. Summary of stakeholder engagement as attendance at the F2F event in Örnsköldsvik 2024 and BioReCer's registered stakeholders.

Please note that some stakeholders belong to two different stakeholder groups and are therefore counted twice.

RISE complemented the activities within the Processum cluster by participating in regional, national, and international events, thereby expanding visibility and stimulating stakeholder engagement across different territorial levels:

- 08.02.24 — Poster presentation at the CBE-JU & BIC Matchmaking Event (international level)
- 28.02.24 — RISE panellist at MWC24 on European projects (international level)
- 21.05.24 — Participation in SPCI Svenska Pappers- och Cellulosaingenjörsföreningen & Friends (national level)
- 13.06.24 — Organisation of the joint event "Explore new circular bioeconomy opportunities with BioReCer and MainstreamBIO" (regional level)
- 17.10.24 — Poster presentation at the Nordic Wood Biorefinery Conference (regional level with an international audience)
- 05.11.24 — Presentation at the Spanish Cork Technology Platform (online technical sessions) (international)
- 25.04.25 — Participation in InfoBlitz: Energy, innovation and euros for your business (pitch event) (regional level)
- 08.05.25 - Presentation at Processums members meeting (regional level reaching a large fraction of the Processum cluster)
- 27.08.25 — Participation in EPNOE – Bioeconomy Innovation (national event with an international audience)

These actions, together with Processum newsletters distributed in December 2023 and June 2024 and regular LinkedIn communication, were specifically designed to reach stakeholders beyond the immediate cluster and address the limited availability of actors within the regional forest sector.

In conclusion, Case Study 4 demonstrates the intrinsic difficulty of engaging forest sector stakeholders within the scope of BioReCer due to structural, ownership, and regulatory

complexities, as well as the exclusion of bioenergy-focused actors. Despite these challenges, the concerted efforts, including regional, national, and international outreach, targeted events, newsletters, LinkedIn communication, and international interviews, successfully broadened stakeholder participation and reinforced the robustness and relevance of the BioReCer framework.

8 Conclusion

The BRSP was developed at the start of the project and progressively expanded to 231 members from 32 countries, European as well as non-European. All the activities described in Task 4.2 were devoted to both increasing the number of the BRSP members and to actively engage all the stakeholders. Indeed, thanks to the events to disseminate projects achievements (i.e., annual multi-stakeholder events and local stakeholder events), we were able to engage participants from the main stakeholder categories identified at the beginning of the project, that are: biomass producers, bio-based industries, policy makers, certification bodies, and consumer associations. Furthermore, the project results got the attention of other categories like, for example, researchers and non-profit organisations.

The BRSP turned out to be the environment in which stakeholders were actively engaged to provide feedback during the main phases of the project development e.g., feedback on certification schemes requirements and sustainability indicators and to validate the main tools such as the Standardisation Toolkit, the final BioReCer policy brief, and the BIT. Stakeholders were also invited to take part in the main events (at least one per year) where the BioReCer partners disseminate the main results and goals achievement. These engagement activities were reached through: annual multi-stakeholder meetings, national workshops, training sessions, focus groups, and surveys. Thanks to these activities, representatives from industry, consumer associations, and certification bodies shared their perspectives according to their priorities.

Even though the achieved results in terms of both subscription and participation are in line with the KPIs, some issues and challenges emerged. The first one refers to the degree of involvement since it was heterogeneous across regions and sectors. Indeed, we registered a more active involvement from Southern Europe stakeholders (i.e., Italy, Greece, and Spain) with respect to those from Northern Europe. Moreover, sustaining engagement required constant effort: participation increased around the specific dedicated events, and engaging them in all the other activities required strong coordination and effort.

We conclude that all the activities listed in Task 4.2 have been successfully completed. This deliverable D4.4 was written by ACN under the supervision of UNITELMA and with the support of all project's partners. The results collected and presented in the current document are useful to understand the stakeholders' relevance for the BioReCer project and all the engagement activities that have already been finalised besides those described in Deliverable D4.1 and D4.3. This provides a clear picture of the timing of feedback collection and how they were included in the BioReCer project.

List of abbreviations

ACN	Cittadinanzattiva - Active Citizenship Network
AHP	Analytical Hierarchy Process
ANFACO-CEC	Spanish National Association of Canned Fish and Seafood Manufacturers
BioReCer	Biological Resources Certifications Schemes
BIT	BioReCer ICT Tool
BRIE-LL	Bioresources Innovation Ecosystem living-lab
BRSP	BioResources Stakeholder Platform
BUF	Biomass Utilisation Factor
CAP	CAP HOLDING SpA
CEN	European Committee for Standardization
CERTH	Centre for Research and Technology Hellas (Greece)
CETAQUA	Centro Tecnológico del Agua
CI	Circularity Indicator
CS	Case Study
CWA	CEN Workshop Agreement
DSS	Decision Support System
ECAB	External Communication and Advisory Board
EEKE	Union of Working Consumers of Greece
EGM	European Green Management (ICT tool developer)
ESG	Environmental, Social and Governance
EU	European Union
EUDR	EU Deforestation Regulation
FSC	Forest Stewardship Council
GA	Grant Agreement
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
ISCC	International Sustainability and Carbon Certification
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
MCS	Meo Carbon Solutions

MFA	Material Flow Analysis
nova-Institute	nova-Institut für Innovation GmbH (Germany)
PCDS	Product Circularity Data Sheet
PEB	Project Executive Board
PEFC	Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification
PROCESSUM	Processum Biorefinery Cluster
Q&A	Questions and Answers
RISE	Research Institutes of Sweden
RSB	Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials
SIP	Stakeholder Involvement Plan
SME	Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
SPRING	Italian Circular Bioeconomy Cluster
SO	Specific objectives
SUS	System Usability Scale
TM	Targeting Metrics
UNI	Italian Standardisation Body (Ente Italiano di Normazione)
UNITELMA	Università degli Studi di Roma Unitelma Sapienza
UNIVPM	Università Politecnica delle Marche
USA	United States of America
WP	Work package

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Annex 1: Stakeholder Involvement Plan



Stakeholder Involvement Plan – Information required

- Responsible Partner Name or Number WP
- Task
- Event/activity description
- Stakeholder type to be included
- Topics
- Expected input from each stakeholder
- Type of session (e.g., survey, training or brainstorming session, workshop)
- Face to face (specify where)/online
- Language
- Planned month
- Exact date (when available)
- No. of hours/days needed
- Number of sessions
- Contribution to deliverable

Annex 2: Agenda of the First Multi-stakeholder Annual Meeting



Biological Resources Certifications Schemes

Type of Action (Horizon-IA)

Call identifier: HORIZON-CL6-2021-ZEROPOLLUTION-01

Start date of project: 09-01-22 | Duration: 3 years (36 months)

Meeting Agenda

1) Type of meeting

Annual Multi-Stakeholder Event

3) Date

13.11.2023

2) Venue

Online [here](#)

4) Time

15:00 – 17:00 (CET)

Monday 13.11.2023		
15:00 – 15:10	Welcome greetings	Daniela Quaggia, ACN
15:10– 15:35	BioReCer Project	Pedro Villanueva, CETAQUA
15:35 – 15:55	Circular economy indicators: what should they measure?	Eliza Nika, BRUNEL UNIVERSITY
15:55 – 16:10	Q&A Discussion/online polls	Moderated by ACN
16:10 – 16:35	EU Green Claims Directive	Nicolas Hark, NOVA Institute
16:35 – 16:45	Q&A Discussion	Moderated by NOVA Institute
16:45 - 17:00	Closing of the event	

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Annex 3: Agenda of the Second Multi-stakeholder Annual Meeting


BioReCer

MULTI-STAKEHOLDER EVENT

Online Meeting

**Advancing bio-based products certification:
A collaborative path towards sustainability**

November 27th 12:00 | 14:00

12:00–12:25	BioReCer Progress Update 5 Minutes: Interaction	Lucia Gonzales CETAQUA
12:25–12:50	The BioReCer Standardisation Toolkit: overview and key components 5 Minutes: Q&A	Federica Fugaroli UNI
12:50–13:10	The Biomass Utilisation Factor 5-10 Minutes: Q&A	Nadja Wulff nova-Institute
13:10–13:30	Results of a Delphi Survey: new requirements for enhancing certification schemes 5 Minutes: Q&A	Alessandro Cascavilla UNITELMA
13:30–13:50	Policy Brief: Valorisation and use of biological waste to support the European bioeconomy 10 minutes: Interaction	Anke Schwarzenberger nova-Institute
13:50–14:00	Final Q&A and Closing Remarks	


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Annex 4: Agenda of the Third Multi-stakeholder Annual Meeting



Final Multi-Stakeholder annual online meeting - BioReCer

Shaping trust in Bio-Based products innovation: digital tools for reliable certification

September 11, 2025

14:00 to 16:00 CEST

[REGISTER HERE](#)

AGENDA

Moderator: Dušica Banduka, nova-institute

14:00 - 14:30 BioReCer Progress Update

Presenters:

Lucia Gonzalez (CETAQUA),

Alessandro Cascavilla (Unitelma),

Monica Pandey (Meo Carbon) "Integration of BioReCer framework into the existing biobased certification schemes"

14:30 -14:50 BioReCer ICT tool (BIT)

Presenter: Romain Magnani (EGM)

14:50 - 15:30 Roundtable discussion with

- Martin Clemesha, Senior Specialist Biopolymers & Advocacy External Affairs, Braskem Netherlands B.V. → [Industry partners, Biomass providers](#)
- Maira Devisscher, Manager, Innovations at [ISEAL](#) → [Certification Membership Organisation](#)
- Anastasia Chatzipavlou, Director of EEKE - Union of Working Consumers of Greece, Board Member of the [European Consumers Union \(ECU\)](#) → [consumers' representative](#)
- Helmut Frischenschlager, [Environment Agency Austria](#) → [Environmental expert and consultant](#)
- Berit Topolinski, Team Coordination Product Management at [Din Certco](#) → [Certification body](#)

15:30 - 16:00 INSTANT SURVEY + Final Q&A and Closing Remarks

Annex 5: BIT Validation Questionnaire

The written survey included the following standardized questions, rated on a Likert scale from 1 (Strongly disagree) to 5 (Strongly agree), in line with ISO standards for usability assessment:

1. I think that I would like to use this system frequently.
2. I found the system unnecessarily complex.
3. I thought the system was easy to use.
4. I think that I would need the support of a technical person to be able to use this system.
5. I found the various functions in this system were well integrated.
6. I thought there was too much inconsistency in this system.
7. I would imagine that most people would learn to use this system very quickly.
8. I found the system very cumbersome to use.
9. I felt very confident using the system.
10. I needed to learn a lot of things before I could get going with this system.

Annex 6: Agenda of the Greek Stakeholder Event



Biological Resources Certifications Schemes
Type of Action (Horizon-IA)
Call identifier: HORIZON-CL6-2021-ZERO-POLLUTION-01
Start date of project: 09-01-22 | Duration: 3 years (36 months)

Meeting Agenda

1) Type of meeting Greek Stakeholder Event	2) Venue Thessaloniki CERTH
3) Date 23.10.2023	4) Time 12:00 - 14:00 (QR Time)

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Biological Resources Certifications Schemes
Type of Action (Horizon-IA)
Call identifier: HORIZON-CL6-2021-ZERO-POLLUTION-01
Start date of project: 09-01-22 | Duration: 3 years (36 months)

Monday 23.10.2023

12:00 - 12:30	Welcome coffee/drink Introduction: Welcome greetings and BioReCer Coordinator and CS Leaders introduction	George Banias; Sothris Patino (CERTH)
12:30 - 12:40	Let's get to know each other! QR CODE 1	
12:40 - 12:55	BioReCer Pilots	Pedro Vilhena (CETAGUA); Martin Rodriguez (AHFAC)
12:55 - 12:58	Your interest in Case studies QR CODE 2	
12:58 - 13:00	For producers QR CODE 3	

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Biological Resources Certifications Schemes
Type of Action (Horizon-IA)
Call identifier: HORIZON-CL6-2021-ZERO-POLLUTION-01
Start date of project: 09-01-22 | Duration: 3 years (36 months)

12:00 - 13:15	Presentation of MFA diagrams and short discussion	Marina Skoufda (CERTH)
13:15 - 13:28	Material flow analysis QR CODE 4	
13:28 - 13:35	Discussion on sustainability / circularity indicators	Eleni Nika (BRUNEL)
13:35 - 13:40	Circularity indicators QR CODE 6	
13:40 - 13:55	Presentation of AHP Results and short discussion	Alexandro Cascavilla (UNISTELMA)
13:55 - 14:00	AHP analysis QR CODE 5	
14:00 - 14:02	Closing of the event	Sothris Patino; George Banias (CERTH)

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Biological Resources Certifications Schemes
Type of Action (Horizon-IA)
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Start date of project: 09-01-22 | Duration: 3 years (36 months)

14:02 - 14:05	Last, but not least, 2 questions! QR CODE 7	
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Annex 7: Agenda of the Swedish Stakeholder Event



The poster is for a stakeholder event titled "Certifying the sustainability of Biological Resources in the Forest Industry: A Multistakeholder Perspective". It is scheduled for 13.06.2024 at Örnsköldsvik, Västernorrland, Sweden. The event is funded by the European Union. The agenda includes a welcome, project introduction, presentations on indicators, tracking principles, and the BioReCer ICT Tool, followed by closing remarks, lunch, and a site visit. Speakers include Isabel Burdallo, Pedro Villanueva Rey, Mariano Votta, Eliza Nika, Sebelan Danishvar, and Romain Magnani.

BioReCer

STAKEHOLDER EVENT

Funded by the European Union

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Certifying the sustainability of Biological Resources in the Forest Industry

A Multistakeholder Perspective

13.06.2024

Time (CET)	Description	Speakers
09:30 – 10:15	Welcome with brief introduction to the project and presentation of the project video	Welcome: Isabel Burdallo (RISE) Intro project: Pedro Villanueva Rey (CETAQUA) Moderator: Mariano Votta (Cittadinanzattiva)
10:15 – 10:45	Indicators & Framework presentation and brainstorming session	Eliza Nika (Brunel)
10:45 – 11:05	Tracking and Traceability Principles	Sebelan Danishvar (Brunel)
11:05 – 11:55	Presentation of the BioReCer ICT Tool (BIT)	Romain Magnani (EGM)
11:55 – 12:00	Closing remarks	Mariano Votta (Cittadinanzattiva) and Johan Börjesson (RISE)
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch	
13:00 – 15:00	Site Visit	

Örnsköldsvik
Västernorrland, Sweden

biorecer.eu

Annex 8: Agenda of the final event and stakeholders' event of the BioReCer Project

**Trust, traceability & certification-
Valorising biological feedstocks**

BioReCer final event



29th of October
Ciudad de la Cultura - Santiago de Compostela

Programm

Time	Activity	Speaker(s)
9:00 - 9:30	Registration	-
9:30 - 9:40	Welcome and introduction	BioReCer coordinator Dr. Pedro Villanueva-Rey (CETAQUA)
<u>BLOCK 1: Key results and outcomes from the BIORECER project</u>		
9:40 - 9:55	BioReCer framework for assessing sustainability and circularity	Prof. Dr. María Teresa Moreira Vilar (USC)
9:55 - 10:10	Circularity indicators for biological feedstocks	Dr. Eliza Nika (ICL)
10:10 - 10:25	Integration of the BioReCer framework into certification schemes	Monica Pandey (MCS)
10:25 - 10:40	BioReCer ICT tool	Romain Magnani (EGM)
10:40 - 11:15	Coffee break at the expo corner	
<u>BLOCK 2: Round tables</u>		
11:15 - 12:15	Assessing the sustainability and circularity of the bio-based industry: Insights and lessons learnt	Moderation by Prof. Dr. María Teresa Moreira Vilar (USC) Roundtable speakers: Marta Pereira (CETAQUA) - SYMBA project Dr. Pietro Castellani (CIRCE) - CERNET project Carlos Bernárdez Casás (AIMEN) - GREEN-LOOP project Federica Fugaroli (UNI) - BIORADAR project
12:15 - 13:15	Valorisation of biological feedstocks. what's next? Insight from current european projects	Moderation by: Dr. Isabel Burdallo (RISE) Roundtable speakers: Dr. Clara Reino (CETAQUA) - ENDORSE project Luis Costa (A4F) - MULTIPLY project Dr. Francisco Corona (CARTIF) - WALNUT project Marina Navarro (FCC) - LUCRA Project
13:15 - 13:30	Closing	BioReCer coordinator Dr. Pedro Villanueva-Rey (CETAQUA)
13:30 - 14:30	Networking lunch at the expo corner	




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BIORECER FINAL EVENT & STAKEHOLDERS EVENT



30th of October
ANFACO-CYTMA - VIGO

Time	Activity	Speaker(s)
Bus service		
SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA ➡ VIGO		
9:30 - 9:45	Registration	-
<u>EXPO of projects with stakeholders</u>		
9.45 - 11.00	Exhibition of European projects in the marine sector focused on sustainability and valorisation of by-products. BIORECER - VALORISH - IMPRESS - ECOEFISHENT	Lucía Jimena (CETAQUA)
		Borja Lagoa (ANFACO)
		Ariadna Mato (ANFACO)
		Rebeca Vázquez (ANFACO)
		Moderator
		Martín Rodríguez (ANFACO)
11:00 - 11:40	Coffee break & Networking	
Bus service		
<u>Visit to Cannery industry facilities</u>		
12:15 - 13:45	VISIT TO A CANNING FACTORY FACILITIES	CONSERVAS PALACIO DE ORIENTE. BUEU
Bus service		
14:30 - 16:30	Networking lunch at Hotel Pazo los Escudos	
Bus service	VIGO ➡ SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA	

