

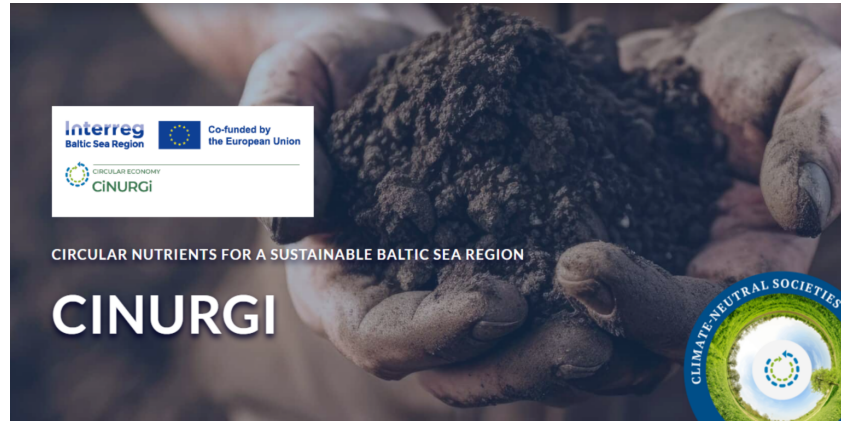
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Interreg
Baltic Sea Region



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CIRCULAR ECONOMY
CiNURGi



3/2025

CiNURGi - Newsletter

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Greeting from RISE

Dear readers,

As we enter the autumn season, CiNURGi is moving from plans to proof. Across the Baltic Sea Region, our pilots, field demonstrations, and technology testbeds are showing how circular nutrient solutions can work in real agricultural systems, delivering both environmental and economic resilience. From sludge-to-fertiliser innovations and pyrolysis pilots to greenhouse trials and farm-level demonstrations, partners are now generating practical evidence that supports farmers, utilities, and policymakers alike.



Recent discussions at Europe Forum Turku made one point clear: resilience and competitiveness increasingly depend on how well Europe manages its natural resources. CiNURGi contributes directly to this agenda, not through theory, but through hands-on solutions that reduce nutrient losses, recycle valuable resources, and improve soil health. This work shows that circular practices can strengthen regional self-sufficiency while easing pressure on the Baltic Sea.

In this edition, we share highlights from our ongoing demonstrations and upcoming activities. We thank our partners and stakeholders for their continued commitment as we turn pilots into practice and evidence into impact.

Warm regards,

Cheryl and Erik
Lead Partners, CiNURGi
RISE Research Institutes of Sweden

CiNURGi video available

A new video presenting the project has been launched and is free to use for all partners and interested parties.

In 6 minutes we move from a farm collecting manure to a Natural Resources Institute Finland (LUKE) research facility where tests can be carried out to recycle nutrients into fertilizers. Meanwhile CiNURGi partners explain the challenges we are facing and are trying to solve in nutrient recycling.

If you are pressed for time watch the first 2 minutes to hear Erik summarize the CiNURGi project goals!

The video is available on the project homepage via Youtube

[Link](#)





EUROPE FORUM

Nutrient recycling in an EU policy context

One of CiNURGi's latest efforts in talking about nutrient recycling at public events was at Europe Forum in Turku on the 27th of August. The event aims to be Finland's leading public event on all things EU, and this year's program held many climate-related panels. The panel "Circular nutrients for sustainable supply and energy independence", was organized by Centrum Balticum. Together with EUSBSR PA Nutri coordinator Elsi Kauppinen, research, policy, and business experts from CiNURGi highlighted how nutrient cycling has evolved over the past two decades and where it is heading next. CiNURGi representatives included Erik Sindhøj, Sari Luostarinen and Tero Liukas. The discussion was moderated by Kirsi Ahlman from Centrum Balticum.

CiNURGi project leader Erik Sindhøj noted during the discussion that nutrient recycling was long seen as a marginal issue. Today, however, disruptions in global supply chains, the pandemic, and the energy crisis triggered by the war in Ukraine have pushed phosphorus security and circular bioeconomy into the policy spotlight.

"It's no longer just about agriculture—it's about food supply, energy, waste management, and minimizing eutrophication", Sindhøj emphasized. Moving beyond livestock manure remains a major challenge, said Sindhøj. The discussions at the Europe Forum underscored that nutrient recycling is no longer a technical detail—it is a matter of strategic importance for the Baltic Sea Region's sustainability, security, and competitiveness.

It's possible to return to the event by watching the recording on [YouTube](#).

Picture by Linda Svarfvar.

HELCOM WORKSHOP

Safe Recycling and Well-functioning Markets as a Goal

CiNURGi was well represented at the HELCOM nutrient recycling workshop “From Potential to Practice: Safe Recycling and Well-Functioning Markets”, held alongside the Source-to-Sea meeting in Uppsala on 20 October 2025.

The workshop gathered experts and stakeholders from across the Baltic Sea Region to support the implementation of BSAP actions E32, E33, and E35. CiNURGi's interim results contributed directly to HELCOM policy processes.

Enhancing the use of recycled nutrients in agriculture (BSAP E32) begins with identifying where the potential lies. Sari Luostarinen (LUKE) presented CiNURGi's assessment, noting that while several methods can estimate recycling potential, national datasets provide the most accurate and spatially detailed information. However, data gaps exist in all Baltic Sea Region countries, and tracking nutrient flows from origin to end use remains challenging.

Eetu Virtanen (HELCOM) outlined the objective of BSAP E33: ensuring that recycled fertilizers are safe for soils, water, food systems, and the environment. Although EU and national regulations limit harmful substances, there is no harmonised monitoring of organic and emerging contaminants. Knowledge gaps persist regarding transformation processes, crop uptake, and long-term soil accumulation. Joint efforts are needed to improve assessment methods, build a shared evidence base before setting binding limits.

Markets for recycled fertilizers (RNFs) already exist, but they need further strengthening. BSAP E35 aims to improve market conditions by introducing incentives. Piotr Skowron (IUNG) presented CiNURGi's work on increasing acceptance of RNFs, which includes drafting and piloting policy recommendations and surveying stakeholder attitudes. Proposed solutions include clearer labelling requirements for RNFs and simplifying regulations for small-scale production. End users, such as farmers, want more information not just on safety, but also on the agronomic effectiveness of RNFs. Educational programmes and technical training are essential for farmers and advisors.

In total, the workshop brought together 60 participants from seven Baltic Sea Region countries, representing research, national and regional authorities, intergovernmental organisations, sectoral agencies, NGOs, and interest groups. The composition reflected a strong research–policy interface, with contributions from researchers, policy experts, and implementing authorities.

All results from CiNURGi's work packages will be published under the Solutions section on the project website.

Picture by Paula Biveson.



SAVE THE DATE

INVITATION: CiNURGi Webinar

CiNURGi is hosting an OPEN WEBINAR on Wednesday 19th November 2025.

Starting at 13:00 (CET) CiNURGi partners from RISE, IMP PAN, IUNG, VA SYD and RENDBEN will share results and give updates from our activities. This includes updates from field trials, the sludge pyrolysis pilot, recycled nutrient fertilizer production, market evaluations and more.

[Register here](#)

To join the fun please [register](#) before Monday 17th November!

CiNURGi - CIRCULAR NUTRIENTS FOR A SUSTAINABLE BALTIC SEA REGION

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Invitation to CiNURGi Webinar: Implementation of nutrient recycling solutions in the Baltic Sea Region

Welcome to hear about CiNURGi project results

The CiNURGi project is now half-way through and has results to communicate from finished reports and practical trials, including the production of recycled nutrient fertilizers. Join us to hear more about the potential for nutrient recycling and recycled nutrient fertilizers.

The webinar is open to all interested parties. Please register by Monday 17th to receive the meeting link.

Registrar [HERE](#)

Wednesday 19th Nov 2025

13:00 - 14:30 (CET)

interreg-baltic.eu/project/cinurgi

FUTURE EVENTS

EUSBSR Annual Forum

CiNURGi is being presented at the session IX: New Circular Economy Solutions at the Annual Forum, 29-30 October, in Gdansk, Poland.

Consortium Meeting

CiNURGi consortium meeting is being hosted by IMP PAN in Gdansk and Olsztyn, Poland 17–19 November 2025.

ESNI- NERM

TBC: CiNURGi will be joining the ESNI-NERM conference programme. The conference will be held in Brussels 28 April 2026 - 29 April 2026.

LATEST NEWS

CiNURGi News stories

From burning trash to recycling nutrients

Burning one's trash is an old tradition. In cities waste processing has evolved, and now when we want to get rid of something we call it pyrolysis. The residue from pyrolysis is char, and in CiNURGi we are especially looking at sludge biochar.

[Read here](#)

CiNURGi results showcased at Lanna Research Station, Sweden

CiNURGi partners at SLU, the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, have experimented with recycled nutrient fertilizers in field conditions and on the 20th of May farmers had the opportunity to see the results for themselves.

[Read here](#)

“What started as a way to reduce emissions into waters has grown into a critical issue for resilience,”- Nutrient recycling on stage at Europe Forum

Sari Luostarinen reflected at Europe Forum on how the focus in nutrient recycling has shifted from waste management to broader questions of self-sufficiency and security of supply, during her career.

[Read here](#)

CiNURGi & FERTITEC Joint Field trip to Agricultural Experimental Station of the Institute of Soil Sciences and Plant Cultivation in Grabów

On July 4th, the joint CiNURGi and FERTITEC projects' workshop and field visit took place at the Agricultural Experimental Station of the Institute of Soil Sciences and Plant Cultivation in Grabów, Poland.

[Read here](#)

Recycled fertilisers attract visitors at CiNURGi's stand at OKRA agricultural fair

CiNURGi investments and pilot solutions on display at OKRA, one of Finland's largest agricultural fairs. The biennial event attracts thousands of visitors and hundreds of exhibitors, and bringing a real agricultural fair atmosphere to Oripää.

[Read here](#)

Pushing the Boundaries of Circular Fertilisation: CiNURGi Featured at Borgeby Fältdagar 2025

This June, the agricultural community once again gathered for Borgeby Fältdagar, Sweden's flagship field event, set in the fertile farmlands of Bjärred.

[Read here](#)

OBS! on Thursday we film the pigs - Behind the scenes of project communication

What does a pig farmer, a transport entrepreneur and a biogas plant have in common? The answer is nutrient recycling. On a sunny Thursday morning in June a film crew showed up at Heikkilä pig farm to take on the challenge of communicating how they tackle nutrient recycling. Nutrient recycling has several stakeholders and, on that day, CiNURGi managed to have most of them present to tell their story.

[Read here](#)

Greenhouse trials of recycled nutrient fertilizers in progress

CiNURGi is testing recycled nutrient fertilizers during the summer of 2025. Work package 2 which is implementing the tests, is lead by The Institute of Fluid-Flow Machinery, Polish Academy of Sciences (IMP PAN), that also functions as a support centre for piloting nutrient recycling. Project partner Rendben Ltd., has produced over 300 kg dried fertilizer pellets, which will be used in greenhouse trials carried out in Poland and Sweden.

[Read here](#)

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