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Interreg
Baltic Sea Region



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CIRCULAR ECONOMY
CiNURGi



2/2026

CiNURGi - Newsletter

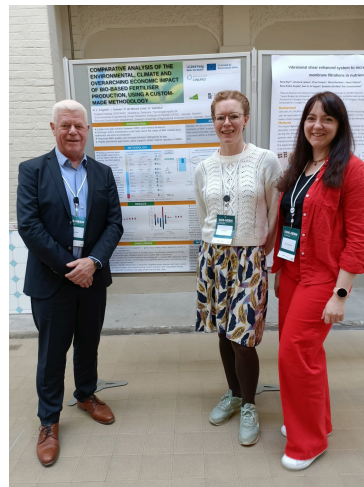
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Greeting from RISE

Dear CiNURGi Community,

With the departure of Cheryl and Erik as project leads, and their transitioning from RISE to NIBIO, where they will continue their work within the nutrient recycling and bioeconomy sector, we are moving into the next phase of CiNURGi. I would like to extend a sincere thank you to Cheryl and Erik on behalf of the entire project consortium and all our external collaborators for the excellent cooperation thus far, as I continue driving the project forward.



As CiNURGi enters its next phase, the focus will increasingly shift from research and piloting towards implementation and uptake. Key next steps include further strengthening policy recommendations to support nutrient recycling across the region, and to continue its work in stakeholder engagement and knowledge transfer, ensuring that results are accessible and actionable for farmers, industry and decision-makers. Strengthening connections to EU-level processes and initiatives will remain a priority, enabling CiNURGi to contribute to shaping a coherent and supportive framework for circular nutrient systems. The importance of CiNURGi's work has only increased in light of recent EU policy developments. In May 2026, the European Commission adopted a new Fertiliser Action Plan aimed at strengthening food security, reducing dependency on imports and accelerating the transition to circular and bio-based fertilisers.

The Action Plan explicitly highlights the need to expand nutrient recycling solutions—such as digestate, recovered phosphorus from wastewater, and other bio-based alternatives—while improving nutrient management and removing regulatory barriers. At the same time, it underlines the strategic importance of reducing reliance on fossil-based and imported fertilisers, reinforcing Europe's resilience and sustainability ambitions. In this context, CiNURGi stands as a timely and relevant initiative. The project's focus on developing standards, piloting technologies and supporting market uptake of recycled nutrient fertilisers directly contributes to the objectives outlined at EU level. By linking regional innovation with European policy priorities, CiNURGi helps ensure that circular nutrient solutions can scale effectively.

Since its launch, CiNURGi has made significant progress in advancing circular nutrient management across the Baltic Sea Region and will continue to do so well beyond October 2026.

Sincerely,

Ida Sylwan

Picture from ESNI-NERM with Henning Foged (from left), Ida Sylwan and Oksana Valetska in front of their poster.

19.5.2026

EU Fertiliser Action Plan announced

In response to the fertiliser crisis the European Commission has adopted a new Fertiliser Action Plan, a comprehensive initiative designed to address rising fertiliser costs, reduce Europe's dependency on imports, and accelerate the shift toward bio-based and circular nutrient solutions.

The action plan includes some mentions of nutrient recovery and recycling; digestate is explicitly highlighted, with the Commission committing to facilitate its use under appropriate environmental safeguards. Other pathways include nitrogen and phosphorus recovery from sewage sludge, algae biomass, biostimulants, and microbial solutions.

With the CiNURGi recently published reports and the policy recommendations covering the following objectives: Creating Business Opportunities and Improving Policy Coherence, we hope to contribute to a clearer path forward in the implementation of the Action Plan.

Follow the link to read more about the Action Plan.

[Read more](#)

ESNI-NERM

CiNURGi co-hosted a parallel session “Scaling Circular Nutrient Solutions: From Regional Innovation to European Best Practice”, at the ESNI-NERM 2026 Conference in Brussels. This strategic dissemination event highlighted what CiNURGi results can offer to further the vision of the EU Bioeconomy strategy and other policy frameworks.



The ESNI-NERM conference, a joint effort by the European Sustainable Phosphorus Platform and the Biorefine Cluster Europe, offered an excellent venue for discussing the importance of nutrient recycling and its impact on European resilience and self-sufficiency in a time of crisis. With a crowd of over 100 experts working with or interested in nutrients participating in the conference both the time and the place felt very serendipitous to discuss our project results.

Another piece of good luck on our part was that we managed to get Minna Huttunen, DG RTD, to give the key-note speech on the EU Bioeconomy Strategy, which was released late last year and is now starting implementation. In her speech Minna noted that:

"A Europe that can recover, recycle, and reuse nutrients is a Europe that is more resilient, innovative, and better positioned in global markets. This is precisely where your work becomes essential, the project presentations have demonstrated how to link different actors across sectors and regions, what technologies and processes are alternatives to the conventional ones, and how decisions can be aligned with sustainability and competitiveness. Taken together, all these elements form solid building blocks of circular economy."

The new bioeconomy strategy emphasizes several key pillars: developing markets for biobased products, ensuring biomass availability, fostering collaboration, and aligning circularity with economic growth, which CiNURGi can contribute to.

The session was moderated by Erik Sindhøj and had several speakers: Sari Luostarinen (Luke) presented on where nutrient rich biomasses can be found for recycling purposes, while Sterre van der Voort (BTG) gave listeners an overview of state-of-the-art technologies in nutrient recycling. Henning Foged (Organe Institute) presented on market barriers to nutrient recycling.

The panel discussion following these presentations brought together perspectives from research, policy, and industry, with Lotta Ruokanen from HELCOM, Lucile Sever from the European Biogas Association, Pär Larshan from EasyMining (Ragnsell Group), and Ludwig Herman of Proman Consultation (also known as the Secretary of the European Sustainable Phosphorus Platform).



Minna Huttunen, EC DG RTD, giving the key-note speech of the session.



Winners of the CiNURGi Nutrient Recycling Award Announced

The Winners of the Recycling Award were announced at the ESNI-NERM Conference on Tuesday 28th April 2026.



In a concrete effort to support the scale-up of nutrient recycling solutions CiNURGi identified as part of its activities six value-chains that were awarded a nutrient recycling prize for their innovation. The winners of the Award were identified as part of an open call, which received 24 initiatives.

The project chose to promote several outstanding nutrient recycling solutions across municipal, industrial, and agricultural sectors, highlighting the many different ways in which bio-rich nutrient flows can be transformed into fertilizer. The Award went to six outstanding initiatives.

Farming sector winners:

Planteo (Poland) and BioPir (Finland)

Municipal sector winners:

SF-SoepenberG GmbH (Germany) and Sanitation 360 (Sweden)

Industrial sector winners:

Gyllebo Gødning (Sweden) and Bio10 (Finland)

Top six solutions receiving the CiNURGi Nutrient Recycling Award

Planteo produces organic fertilizer pellets made from 100% plant-based agricultural and food waste-based digestate. The product can be used both in agriculture and private gardens and is allowed in organic farming.

Value chain*: FM2
Location: Warszawa, Poland

SF-SoepenberG GmbH turn activated wastewater sludge into a struvite granulated fertilizer through chemical processing. The end product has a high concentration of both nitrogen, phosphorus and magnesium.


Value chain: MCS
Location: Stadt Gifhorn, Germany

Gyllebo Gødning offers fertilizer pellets in a product line called "Biofer". The main raw material for the fertilizer is meat and bone meal from processing animal tissue. The nutrient content is adjusted according to intended use with minerals that are allowed in organic farming.

Value chain: IMF
Location: Malmö, Sweden

*Value chain abbreviations stand for the waste sector (M - municipal, F - farming, I - industry), the main processing technology (M - mechanical, T - thermal, C - chemical, B - biological), and the type of bio-based fertilizer (BBF end-product (P - pellets, G - granules, S - other solids, L - liquids))

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The full report including evaluation is available here 

BIOPIR OY

BioPir produce separation liquids and solids from pig manure based digestate, using natural settling followed by mechanical separation. The end product is allowed for use in organic farming.

Value chain: FMS
Location: Vehmaa, Finland

Sanitation 360 has developed a technology for collecting human urine and processing this into a nitrogen rich fertilizer granulate. The solution comprises a urine-diverting toilet or urinal, a collection tank pre-dosed with a mix of chemicals for avoiding N volatilisation before collection and processing, either on-site or at a drying facility.

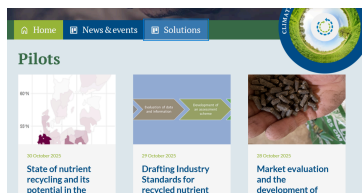
Value chain: MCG
Location: Gotland, Sweden

Bio10 is via mechanical separation of digestate producing separation liquids and solids for allowing the export of excess phosphorus out of the region. The digestate is mainly based on organic household wastes, including food wastes and food industry wastes. The end product is allowed in organic farming.

Value chain: MML
Location: Kitee, Finland

*Value chain abbreviations stand for the waste sector (M - municipal, F - farming, I - industry), the main processing technology (M - mechanical, T - thermal, C - chemical, B - biological), and the type of bio-based fertilizer (BBF end-product (P - pellets, G - granules, S - other solids, L - liquids))

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Results from WP2 available

Some new pilot articles have been appearing on the project homepage this spring and now many of them also include reports on findings. These

reports and their content will be further communicated in the coming weeks and months on the project homepage and LinkedIn account. CiNURGi project partners have published the following:

- First version of CiNURGi Policy recommendations
- Results from lab and greenhouse trials of different RNF's
- Results from field trials with different RNF's
- Mapping of RNF production facilities in the Baltic Sea Region

All materials available have been published on the project homepage for your reading pleasure.

Policy recommendations

A first version of the CiNURGi Policy recommendations has been completed and will be shared with select stakeholders during the summer and early autumn, before being finalized. The report is titled *Policy Recommendations for Recycled Nutrient Fertilisers in the Baltic Sea Region, Advancing Market Development, Policy Coherence, and Safe Use of Recycled Nutrients*.

Read the full report by pressing the button below:

[Read the report](#)

Lab and greenhouse trial results

The report *Piloting the evaluation standards for quality control and agronomic value for recycled nutrients* answers the question of how to assess the agronomic value of RNF's and provides proofs from both lab and pot trials. These trials focused on assessing the agronomic value of 12 RNFs currently established or emerging on the market.

Read the full findings by pressing the button below:

[Read the report](#)

Field trial results

The field trials that were carried out during the growing season of 2024 and 2025, have now been successfully analysed and the results shared in the report: *Field trial report on agronomic efficiency of Recycled Nutrient Fertilizers*. The field trials put several RNFs to the test to see how they perform in real farming conditions.

Read the full findings by pressing the button below:

[Read the report](#)

RNF production facilities in the Baltic Sea Region

CiNURGi has reviewed 15 nutrient recycling solutions in the Baltic Sea Region, further mapping and supporting the development of circular nutrient management. Working together with SME and start-ups this report (*Case Study: RNF Fertiliser Production Facilities in Baltic Sea Countries*) is a part of CiNURGi's effort to support businesses and the market in nutrient recycling.

Read the full findings by pressing the button below:

[Read the report](#)

SAVE THE DATE

Consortium meeting

The last in-person consortium meeting is being planned for Lund, Sweden, 20–21 October 2026. More information will follow.

LATEST NEWS

CiNURGi News Stories

Field Trials Confirm the Potential of Recycled Nutrient Fertilisers

New results from the CiNURGi project show that Recycled Nutrient Fertilisers (RNFs) can play a significant role in sustainable large-scale fertilisation strategies across Europe.

[Link](#)

CiNURGi support centre activities ready to be fully deployed by industry

On 20 May 2026, the support centre led by RISE was introduced to a crowd of farmers, policy makers, regional authorities, interest organisations, agricultural advisors, researchers, research associations, and more, in association with the 80th anniversary of RISE.

[Link](#)

EU Launches Fertiliser Action Plan to Strengthen Food Security and Boost Circular Nutrients

The European Commission has adopted a new Fertiliser Action Plan, a comprehensive initiative designed to address rising fertiliser costs, reduce Europe's dependency on imports, and accelerate the shift toward bio-based and circular nutrient solutions.

[Link](#)

CiNURGi showcased at the EUSBSR Annual Forum 2026 Networking Village

The Interreg Baltic Sea Region project CiNURGi participated in the Networking Village of the EUSBSR Annual Forum 2026, bringing its work on nutrient recycling and circular bioeconomy solutions to one of the Baltic Sea Region's most important cooperation events. The forum took place in Tallinn from 11–13 May 2026 under the theme "Resilience Edition."

[Link](#)

CiNURGi presented at the European Agricultural Forum 2026

The CiNURGi (Circular Nutrients for a sustainable Baltic Sea Region) project was presented at the IUNG PIB exhibition stand during the European Agricultural Forum, held on 1–2 April 2026 in Jasionka near Rzeszów, Poland.

[Link](#)

CiNURGi reporting from Brussels: From Strategy to Implementation in European Bioeconomy

Last week the Interreg BSR funded CiNURGi project co-hosted parallel session "Scaling Circular Nutrient Solutions: From Regional Innovation to European Best Practice", took place at the ESNI-NERM 2026 Conference in Brussels. This strategic dissemination event highlighted how the EU's updated bioeconomy strategy positions nutrient recycling as a cornerstone of sustainability, resilience, and strategic autonomy, and what CiNURGi results can offer to further that vision of the future.

[Link](#)

One football game at the time towards a circular economy

There is something special about the toilets at the Studenternas football arena in Uppsala, Sweden, which connects the sports fans with nutrient recycling and the CiNURGi project.

[Link](#)

CiNURGi participation in BIOECONOMY 2030+ conference in Puławy, Poland

CiNURGi partners IMP PAN and RENDBEN took part in the BIOECONOMY 2030+ conference in Puławy on March 31st organized by National Centre for R&D in Poland, contributing to the event's poster session held during the coffee break and networking segment.

[Link](#)

Presentation of the CiNURGi Project at AGROTECH 2026

During the 31st International Fair of Agricultural Technology AGROTECH in Kielce, held on 13–15 March 2026, the IUNG-PIB exhibition stand featured a presentation of the CiNURGi project titled "Circular nutrients for a sustainable Baltic Sea Region".

[Link](#)

Top Six Bio-Based Fertiliser Production Cases from Open Call Published – CiNURGi evaluation results available

As part of the project's efforts to promote markets for nutrient recycling CiNURGi invited companies to present their solutions. Out of an initial pool of 24 value chains for production of bio-based fertilisers (BBFs), the two best cases, evaluated from various criteria, from each of the municipal, industry and farming waste sectors were shortlisted as finalists for the CiNURGi recognition prize, the Best Nutrient Recycling Award.

[Link](#)

The effectiveness of recycled nutrient fertilizers tested in greenhouse trials

CiNURGi partner IMP PAN has been carrying out greenhouse experiments growing ryegrass over four sequential harvests. Recycled nutrient fertilizers (RNFs) help reuse nutrients in a circular way, but their sustainability is often judged only by how much crop yield they produce. This study looked at both crop yield and nutrient efficiency to better understand how sustainable these fertilizers really are.

[Link](#)

Stakeholder meeting with Pomeranian Voivodeship - Interreg Baltic Sea Region

Local government is an important stakeholder for the project. On Thursday 26th of February CiNURGi partners from Gdansk, Poland met with their local

representative at the Pomeranian Voivodeship.

[Link](#)



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