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CiNURGi - Newsletter

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Greeting from RISE



As the CiNURGi project reaches its conclusion on 31 October, it is a fitting time to reflect on the work accomplished over the past three years and the collaborations that have made it possible. Throughout the project, partners have worked together to prepare, pilot and support the transfer of nutrient recycling solutions from testing environments into practical implementation. This has included the assessment and implementation of technologies, pot and field trials, and the development of policy recommendations aimed at supporting more circular nutrient management in the Baltic Sea Region.

Our final project meeting in Lund, 20-21 Oct, provided an inspiring opportunity to look back on the project's achievements while also discussing the future of nutrient recycling. The strong attendance and active engagement from project partners demonstrated the continued commitment to this important topic.

Participants also visited two local recycling initiatives, Wrams/Söderåsen Biogas and VA SYD's sludge biochar pilot plant, highlighting practical examples of how nutrient recycling solutions are being developed and implemented.

Although CiNURGi is coming to an end, the work continues. The policy recommendations developed within the project will be further promoted through the Interreg-funded CirCan project, helping to bring project insights into future discussions and decision-making processes. At the same time, nutrient recycling technologies will continue to be mapped and showcased through the EU Horizon-funded FERTITEC project, contributing to knowledge sharing and innovation across Europe.

As we close this chapter, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to all project partners, stakeholders and collaborators who have contributed to CiNURGi over the last three years. Your expertise, engagement and commitment have been essential to the project's success. We look forward to staying connected and continuing our joint efforts towards more sustainable and circular nutrient management in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

Ida Sylwan, RISE Research Institutes of Sweden

Photo: Ida presenting at the final project meeting.

CiNURGi Results



Over the course of the CiNURGi project, 24 partners have worked across research, business and policy to explore how nutrients recovered from organic waste can be returned to agriculture, reduce dependence on conventional fertilisers and support a more circular and resilient food system.

As the project reaches its conclusion, we are pleased to share the key results, practical examples and policy recommendations developed through our collaboration. All of our experiences, solutions and lessons learned are being preserved on the project homepage for your disposal. There on the SOLUTIONS page you can find detailed descriptions of our project activities and their results, all our reports and other deliverables as easy downloads, our publications library and other materials.

Listed below are all the topics the project has covered. Press the link in the title to access the relevant homepage.

Market Evaluation and the Development of Markets in Recycled Nutrients

CiNURGi has identified and described the most innovative and optimal solutions for nutrient recycling and assessed their market potential in our reports. These findings helped contextualize much of our work with promoting the development of markets. Analysing the social cost of nutrient recycling into fertilizers, CiNURGi

has been able to calculate the solutions that offer the most effective recycling solutions and their benefit to society.

Supporting Recycled Nutrient Fertiliser Production

To help product development, CiNURGi has supported companies and stakeholders in nutrient recycling to test their products and refine their production processes. Six project partners supported companies such as water, wastewater and waste management utilities, biogas plants and SMEs with testing out different fertiliser production methods, such as mechanical and thermal processing and chemical treatment of a variation of feedstocks. This exchange of knowledge and resources facilitated an essential feedback loop between experts and target groups, aiding the ambition to scale up nutrient recovery processes.

CiNURGi has also compiled a list of companies that provide solutions for nutrient recycling based on organic wastes from farming, industry and municipalities, which are already commercialised or close to being market mature and having potential for a wider dissemination in the Baltic Sea Region.

Drafted Industry Standards for Recycled Nutrient Fertilisers

CiNURGi has by integrating regulatory, technical, practical, and policy perspectives and by addressing topics still outside current legislation, compiled a report on Industry Standards for nutrient recycling, that represents an step toward a shared and future-oriented quality assurance framework for recycled nutrient fertilisers. It operationalises existing EU provisions, expands them through practical and scientific insight, and supports the broader CiNURGi objective of fostering a safe, circular, and sustainable nutrient economy in the Baltic Sea Region. The findings of the report have been used in the compilation of the CiNURGi Policy Recommendation, althought the report itself makes no claim to completeness. As the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan action E33 calls for the development of recycled nutrient fertiliser safety requirements by 2027 and for the minimisation of harmful compounds to ensure compliance, the work to create industry standards continues.

State of Nutrient Recycling and its Potential in the Baltic Sea Region

CiNURGi has assessed the current state of nutrient recycling in the Baltic Sea Region, through mapping the recyclable biomasses available from agriculture, municipalities and industry, their location and current use. This process has been documented in two reports and a database available on the project homepage. The mapping and monitoring the state of nutrient recycling and its potential is greatly hindered by issues with monitoring and data entry, making the data collection process and analysis of results difficult, and a challenge to be solved.

Field Experiments with Recycled Nutrient Fertilisers

To test recycled nutrient fertilisers in real conditions is central to assessing their potential for replacing mineral fertilizers. CiNURGi has carried out large-scale field experiments during the years 2024 and 2025. Growing crops using recycled nutrient fertilisers and analysing the results has given CiNURGi valuable insight into the agronomic efficiency of these fertilisers, meaning the impact of these fertilisers on yield and nutrient uptake, plant growth and development. Based on

these trials we claim that recycled nutrient fertilisers can replace part of the conventional fertilisers used today.

The Agronomic Value of different Recycled Nutrient Fertilisers

Agronomic value reflects the effectiveness of a fertilizer on plant growth and yield. Six CiNURGi project partners, the Centre of Estonian Rural Research and Knowledge (METK), the Institute of Fluid-Flow Machinery (IMP-PAN), the Julius Kühn Institute (JKI), the Natural Resource Institute of Finland (Luke), Linnaeus University (LU) and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), have conducted both soil incubation tests and greenhouse pot trials to assess the agronomic value of several recycled fertilisers. The tests showed that some recycled fertilisers did have comparable results to conventional fertilisers. Read the full results in the report.

Investments in Nutrient Recycling Solutions

In collaboration with industry partners, the project has enabled four companies across the Baltic Sea Region to plan, procure, and implement innovative nutrient recycling systems. Br. Göransson Maskinstation and Kuljetus Tero Liukas, have invested in NIR technology to improve how nutrient content in manure and digestate is measured during handling and application, while Sanitation360 has developed an innovative technology to recycle nutrients from urine into high-quality fertiliser. RENDBEN a Polish start-up built a mobile production unit for recycled fertilisers and has toured local waste-water facilities and farms to showcase the production process. These investments demonstrate how circular nutrient solutions can work under real operational conditions, and has even given birth to new business ideas.

Policy Recommendations for Nutrient Recycling in the Baltic Sea Region

The goal of the CiNURGi project was to cultivate a circular nutrient economy and support the implementation of the HELCOM Baltic Sea Regional Nutrient Recycling Strategy. To achieve this, CiNURGi has produced policy recommendations and will support their uptake through HELCOM policy processes. The project has published one report and a summary of said report on policy recommendations.

MORE INFORMATION

To access all our deliverables and results visit the CiNRUGi project homepage

Find all our publications on Zenodo

QUICK SURVEY

We are grateful for your active involvement in the project CiNURGi. In this survey, we would like to investigate if and how your participation in the project increased the institutional capacity within your organisation. Institutional capacity is defined as an organisation's ability to set and achieve goals through knowledge, skills, systems and institutions. An organisation increases its institutional capacity by securing the resources (human or technical) and

structures (organisational or governance) it needs to perform its mandated tasks better.

Please, take some minutes to answer the questionaire not later than 13th of November. Thank you for taking the time to help us with your feedback! Access survey here.

Fill the survey

HELCOM, EETU VIRTANEN:

CirCan continues to support regional cooperation on nutrient recycling after CiNURGi

As the CiNURGi project comes to an end in October 2026, cooperation on nutrient recycling in the Baltic Sea Region will continue through the new CirCan – Capacities for Nutrient Circularity in the Baltic Sea Region project platform.

CirCan, led by the HELCOM Secretariat and co-funded by the Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme, will run until October 2028. Its main activities begin as CiNURGi reaches completion, providing continuity for regional cooperation and policy development on nutrient recycling. Several organisations and experts involved in CiNURGi will also continue their cooperation through CirCan, allowing the platform to build directly on the knowledge, networks and results developed during the project.

The project platform brings together results and knowledge from recent EU and national projects, including CiNURGi, and aims to make this knowledge more accessible and usable for HELCOM, national authorities and other organisations working with nutrient recycling. The work will focus on three main themes: market understanding, environmental and societal benefits and trade-offs, and policy options for nutrient recycling.

CirCan will produce three synthesis publications on these themes and contribute to the further development of regional nutrient recycling policy. An important part of this work will be to review the Baltic Sea Regional Nutrient Recycling Strategy. While CiNURGi supported implementation of the Strategy, CirCan will help assess progress, identify gaps and discuss priorities for the next phase of regional cooperation.

CirCan will work through existing regional structures to discuss its policy-oriented outputs and connect project knowledge with regional implementation. The project will also support continued knowledge exchange through the nutrient recycling cooperation group being developed in cooperation between the EUSBSR Policy Areas Nutri, Bioeconomy and Hazards.

In spring 2028, CirCan plans to organise a joint event with Policy Area Nutri and the nutrient recycling cooperation group to present the project's outcomes and discuss future needs and priorities for nutrient recycling in the Baltic Sea Region.

Learn more about CirCan:

CirCan homepage

CiNURGi final project meeting in Lund



Meeting up for the last time at the RISE office in Lund, the CiNURGi partners spent a few days recapping the achievements of the project and experiencing field trips to local companies engaged in nutrient recycling.

As CiNURGi comes to an end, the partners were asked what the most important results were from their point of view. Their answers share a few things: pride in what was built, honesty about the limits, and a wish to see the work continue.

From concept to practice

Partners described the importance of making nutrient recycling more understandable and concrete. One summed it up as “turning nutrient recycling from a largely technical concept into a more practical, credible and policy-relevant option for the Baltic Sea Region.” Recycled fertilisers were tested in field demonstrations in several countries, which takes the project and its solutions closer to actual end-users. That was also seen as important for increasing farmers’ trust in the new solutions. The pilot investments were kept modest, which would make them easier to accept and replicate. As one partner put it, “In previous projects investments have been perhaps too large to be easily accepted.”

Clear answers, including uncomfortable ones

Not all findings were good news. When the candidate technologies were analysed thoroughly from the socio-economic perspective, most of them turned out not to be viable. This was naturally quite unheartening, but at the same time a very important result. Knowing where feasibility at a more holistic level needs to be improved is also progress.

The hard part: policy

The project produced evidence-based policy recommendations, but partners were realistic about what comes next. One noted that transferring them into concrete changes in national and regional policy remains a major challenge; another called it “highly important to go from recommendations to actually implementing policy that supports recycling.” Partners also admit that a project this broad could not do everything: “Some very important activities didn’t have enough resources, which is a problem in such wide-ranging projects.” Open questions remain, such as how much nutrient plants can actually use from recycled fertilisers.

Together towards more sustainable nutrient management

Many partners named the network itself as one of the most lasting results. Researchers, advisors, industry and farmers from across the Baltic Sea Region worked side by side, sharing knowledge from technical details to questions of governance. One partner pointed to “the excellent cooperation and good spirits during the meetings and in the project among all partners.” Another believes the most underrated result is “the incredible variety of activities, organisations, people and findings that we have made during the whole project.”

CiNURGi leaves behind knowledge, a network and a clearer road map. The real test begins now: turning that road map into practice, together.

SAVE THE DATE

EUSBSR PA Nutri Talks Webinar

5 November 2026, 12:30 - 15:30 (CET) Online. The EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region policy areas Nutri, Bioeconomy and Hazards invite you to a webinar to discuss cooperation needs in the Baltic Sea Region for promoting nutrient recycling. The aim of the event is to initiate regular cooperation that will lead to a systemic and full value-chain overview of nutrient recycling in the Baltic Sea Region.

Register

LATEST NEWS

CiNURGi News Stories

CiNURGi connects with Sweden's agricultural community at field events

From showcasing circular fertiliser solutions at Borgeby Field Days to meeting farmers and industry representatives at Brunnby Farmer Days, CiNURGi has brought nutrient recycling closer to agricultural practice through two major events in Sweden.

Read more

IMPACT AND CONSULTATIONS: The Circular Economy Act: Three Policy Priorities from CiNURGi for Closing Europe's Nutrient Loop

During the month of July CiNURGi has contributed to the European Sustainable Phosphorus Platform (ESPP) consultation on the Circular Economy Act (CEA). As a member of the ESPP CiNURGi is well placed to share the results of the projects work on policy recommendations for nutrient recycling.

Read more

Farmers' Parliament, Latvian NGO, Holds Field Days on Soil Improvement Material Spreading

The Latvian Farmers' Parliament "Zemnieku Saeima" organized two field days this summer as part of the CiNURGi project, bringing together more than 100 participants — farmers, industry representatives, researchers and advisors — for practical demonstrations of spreading and incorporating various soil improvement materials containing recovered nutrients.

Read more

Mobile technology for recycled fertilizer production – an option how to create local nutrient value chains

How can local waste streams be transformed into safe, effective fertilizers while reducing transport and disposal costs? A mobile pelletization technology from CiNURGi was presented at the Interreg South Baltic-funded ECONUT project Final Conference “Nutrient Recycling for Regional Sustainability”.

Read more

CiNURGi brings Baltic Sea Region experience to 14th International Conference on Sustainable Development

On 9–10 September, Priscila de Morais Lima, researcher at RISE, presented CiNURGi and its work on nutrient recycling for a sustainable Baltic Sea Region at the 14th International Conference on Sustainable Development (ICSD 2026) in Rome. The international conference brought together researchers and experts to discuss how research, practice and education can contribute to sustainable development.

Read more

CiNURGi results presented at the Finnish Bioeconomy Days 2026

Held in Seinäjoki on 15–16 September, the Finnish Bioeconomy Days 2026 were organised by the Finnish Biocycle and Biogas Association (SBB), a partner in the CiNURGi project. The event brought together experts, companies, researchers, authorities and other stakeholders working with biogas, nutrient recycling and the circular economy.

Read more

Harvest Festival time! CiNURGi activities on nutrient recycling presented in Poland

On 13 September 2026, representatives of the Institute of Soil Science and Plant Cultivation – State Research Institute (IUNG PIB) took part in the Polish Harvest Festival in Spała.

Read more

CiNURGi Presented at the 10th Scientific Conference in Chełm

Partners of the CiNURGi project from the Institute of Soil Science and Plant Cultivation, State Research Institute (IUNG-PIB) in Puławy took part in the 10th Scientific Conference of the series "Science and Practice – Different Perspectives on Agriculture", held on 17-18 September 2026 at the State University of Applied Sciences in Chełm, Poland. This year's conference was organised under the theme "Agricultural Challenges in the Context of Climate Change".

Read more

Presentation of the CiNURGi Project in Sielinko

On 29-30 September 2026, the CiNURGi project was presented during a meeting focused on modern agricultural technologies and Agriculture 4.0 solutions, held at the Wielkopolska Agricultural Advisory Centre (WODR), Sielinko Branch.

Read more

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“International Conference on tccb, this is when in 2 years I want to be, so Szymon please do it every year ...!” CiNURGi results presented at the Int' Conference of Thermochemical Conversion & Bioeconomy

CiNURGi project partner Ksawery Kuligowski presented research on the production of pelletised recycled nutrient fertilisers at the 2nd International Conference of Thermochemical Conversion and Bioenergy (TCCB 2026), held in Łódź, Poland, on 24–26 September. Alongside sharing his scientific work, he also took to the stage for a musical performance.

Read more

Machines and methods - CiNURGi at the Agricultural Machinery Trade Fair in Helsinki

Solutions at the heart of the CiNURGi project attracted a great deal of attention at the Agricultural Machinery Trade Fair in Helsinki, Finland. The event, held at the Helsinki Expo and Convention Center on 8-10 October, drew nearly 19,000 visitors.

Read more

CiNURGi publishes policy recommendations to accelerate nutrient recycling in the Baltic Sea Region

How can Europe make better use of recycled nutrients and turn circular nutrient management into standard practice? CiNURGi has published an accessible summary of its policy recommendations, bringing together three years of research, practical testing and stakeholder collaboration to support the transition towards a circular nutrient economy.

Read more

From practical investments to policy action: CiNURGi presents its final results

How can nutrient recycling move from promising technologies to everyday practice? At its final webinar on 8 October 2026, the Interreg Baltic Sea Region

project CiNURGi brought together practical investment cases and policy recommendations to explore what it takes to build a functioning circular nutrient economy.

Read more

CiNURGi

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