



SCALE^{UP}

community-driven
bioeconomy development

SCALE-UP Community of Practice

Proceedings of the kick-off event
1 December 2022



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Introduction to SCALE-UP

On 1 December 2022, a first joint online meeting of the SCALE-UP Community of Practice (CoP) took place. The aim of the event was to introduce the external members of the CoP to the project, and to present and discuss the joint activities in which they and their regional stakeholders may participate. In total, 21 participants took part in the meeting, consisting of 14 consortium members and seven representatives of external CoP members.

Holger Gerdes and Zoritzia Kiresiewa (Ecologic Institute) opened the meeting by welcoming all participants and **introducing** the overall objectives of the SCALE-UP project. They explained how SCALE-UP aims to support rural actors in different regions across Europe in the (further) development of regional biobased solutions (i.e. value chains and associated products and services). They pointed out that, within the project, capacity building among regional actors will primarily take place through cross-regional knowledge exchange and sharing of good-practice examples. According to Holger Gerdes and Zoritzia Kiresiewa, the CoP will be a key instrument to bring together stakeholders from the project's six case study regions and relevant actors from further regions and communities with the ambition to facilitate mutual learning regarding the identification, development, and implementation of small-scale bio-based solutions.

The regional project partners then provided brief overviews of the regional biomass feedstocks and associated valorisation options, which will be explored in the project's six case studies, namely:

- Northern Sweden (covering Norrbotten, Västerbotten, Västernorrland, Jämtland), facilitated by [BioFuel Region](#)
- Mazovia (Poland), facilitated by [UNIMOS Foundation](#)
- The French Atlantic Arc (covering Pays de la Loire, Normandy, Brittany, Nouvelle Aquitaine), facilitated by [AC3A](#)
- Upper Austria, facilitated by [Business Upper Austria](#)
- Strumica (North Macedonia), facilitated by [SDEWES-Skopje](#)
- Andalusia (Spain), facilitated by [Technological Corporation of Andalusia](#)

Upcoming activities in the frame of the CoP

Luise Dauwa and Kristina Pammer (Business Upper Austria) **presented** the training programme for regional stakeholders, which will be developed and implemented by the SCALE-UP partners. They explained that the training programme will be structured along seven thematic work streams and that it is planned to organise at least three virtual capacity-building events per work stream. Via a questionnaire, which will be circulated in February 2023, all CoP members will have the chance to provide feedback to the draft training programme structure, thereby ensuring that the contents and formats meet the needs of their stakeholders.

In the following, **Gerardo Anzaldúa** (Ecologic Institute) **introduced** the project's business model design activities, which build on the [BRIGRID Business Development Programme](#) and its MAF+ tool. He explained the concept of the 'task forces', which will support selected entrepreneurs in the (further) development of their bio-based innovations, thereby ensuring that regional dynamics, market needs and gaps, and potential barriers to commercialisation are appropriately considered

Conclusions

At the end of the meeting, the participants discussed the relevance of the planned activities for their regional stakeholder networks. The following key messages emerged from the discussions:

- Participants suggested that the following topics should be covered by the training programme:
 - a) environmental, social, and governance (ESG) requirements on the side of SMEs;
 - b) the cascading principle of biomass use;
 - c) increasing competition for biomass (utilisation conflicts).
- A general remark was that, in order to attract SMEs to the training programme, the topics need to be of practical relevance and the language used should be less academic.

List of participants

First Name	Last Name	Organisation	Country
Gerardo	Anzaldúa	Ecologic Institute	Germany
Nina	Baillet	Association of Chambers of Agriculture in the Atlantic Arc	France
Tomasz	Bober	UNIMOS Foundation	Poland
Rafael	Castillo	Technological Corporation of Andalusia	Spain
Luise	Dauwa	Business Upper Austria	Austria
Frans	Feil	Partnership for Bioresources and Sustainable Energy Eastern Netherlands	Netherlands
Maximiliano	Gabrielli	Municipality of Maipu	Argentina
Holger	Gerdes	Ecologic Institute	Germany
Marisa	Groenestege	BTG Biomass Technology Group	Netherlands
Rumyana	Grozeva	Regional Economic Development Agency of Stara Zagora	Bulgaria
Mette	Jørgensen	Municipality of Guldborgsund	Denmark
Zoritza	Kiresiewa	Ecologic Institute	Germany
Darja	Kukovic	ITC - Innovation Technology Cluster	Slovenia
Chuan	Ma	WIP Renewable Energies	Germany
Magnus	Matisons	Biofuel Region	Sweden
Emilija	Mihajloska	SDEWES-Skopje	N. Macedonia
Kristina	Pammer	Business Upper Austria	Austria
Katarzyna	Rull	UNIMOS Foundation	Poland
Vilma	Quesada	Lithuanian Innovation Centre	Lithuania
Martijn	Vilutyte	BTG Biomass Technology Group	Netherlands
Tomaž	Vis	ITC - Innovation Technology Cluster	Slovenia
	Zadravec		

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