



Press Release, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016

## New €3.8 million SuperBIO project to support industrial innovation within the EU bioeconomy

SuperBIO is an innovation project supported through the EU Horizon2020 funding programme. The € 3.8 million project supports the development of promising industrial value chains in the bioeconomy. It therefore engages with the EU bio-based business community. The project provides 10 different types of innovation services to third party SMEs which are funded by the project for 75%. As such, it brings these value chains closer to reality. The SuperBIO consortium includes four industrial cluster organisations (from Belgium, France, Spain and Poland), and six service providers (from the UK, Germany and Belgium).

The EU bioeconomy in general comprises those parts of the economy that **use renewable biological resources** from land and sea – such as crops, forests, fish, animals and micro-organisms – to produce food, materials, chemicals and energy. A flourishing bioeconomy offers **multiple advantages for the EU in the global economy**. It decreases dependence on oil-producing countries by displacing fossil resources, uses local feedstock, decreases greenhouse gas emissions, and enables job creation, economic growth and re-industrialization of the EU. It currently already employs more than 18 million people and represents a turnover of more than €2 trillion. This strong foundation means that Europe is well placed to **grow and diversify its current bioeconomy**. Innovation focusses on producing a larger variety of bio-based bulk or specialty products, using various types of feedstocks and introducing bio-based products in new sectors.

To further **innovate in the EU bioeconomy**, new partnerships and connections need to be established between different sectors (e.g. between chemistry and agriculture, between producers and end-users). SuperBIO helps to build these connections by engaging with **the wider bio-based business community**. It supports cross sectorial and cross border industrial value chain building and provides innovation support services to SMEs. Industrial stakeholders are invited to submit their idea for an innovative value chain to the SuperBIO project. The consortium ensures that their information will be treated confidential throughout the process. The combined expertise in the bio-based economy and skills of the consortium enable them to identify promising ideas for new innovative value chains. SuperBIO then supports cross sectorial and cross border **development of the value chain** of the selected ideas. Once a value chain is created SuperBIO analyzes the gaps to be filled and further requirements to bring this value chain closer to the market. Based on this, SuperBIO offers selected innovation services to SMEs that are part of the value chain. Six services providers are included in the consortium offering a **combined set of 10 different professional innovation services**: scale-up and proof-of-concept, IP support, life cycle assessment, techno-economic evaluation, feedstock analysis, market research, sustainability advice, business planning, access to investors and grant writing. These services are **funded by the project** for 75%, the remaining 25% being covered by the SME receiving the service.

In short, SuperBIO offers a **unique opportunity to bring innovative, sustainable, cross border and cross sectorial value chains closer to the market**.

The SuperBIO project aims to build at least 10 new value chains around innovative and promising ideas from the business community. In addition, SuperBIO will offer innovation services to at least 30 third party SMEs that are part of identified value chains.

For more information regarding the SuperBIO project and the scope of its innovation services, contact the project manager, the cluster organisation that covers your country, or visit our website: [www.h2020-superbio.eu](http://www.h2020-superbio.eu).

## Notes to editors:

### 1. The SuperBIO cluster organisations are:

#### **From Belgium:**

Ghent Bio-Economy Valley, Ghent, Belgium, [www.gbev.org/en](http://www.gbev.org/en)

- Project manager: Mr Stefan Ruyters – [Stefan.Ruyters@gbev.org](mailto:Stefan.Ruyters@gbev.org) - Tel.: +32 (0)9 335 70 01
- EU coverage: Belgium, The Netherlands, UK, Ireland, Germany, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Norway, Iceland, Faroe Islands, Turkey

#### **From France:**

INRA Toulouse White Biotechnology, Toulouse, France, [www.toulouse-white-biotechnology.com/toulouse-white-biotechnology/](http://www.toulouse-white-biotechnology.com/toulouse-white-biotechnology/)

- Mr Olivier Galy – [ogaly@insa-toulouse.fr](mailto:ogaly@insa-toulouse.fr) – Tel.: +33 (0)5 61 28 57 91
- EU coverage: France, Luxembourg, Austria, Croatia, Cyprus, Malta, Slovenia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Switzerland, Tunisia

#### **From Spain:**

Fundación Corporación Tecnológica de Andalucía, Seville, Spain, [www.corporaciontecnologica.com](http://www.corporaciontecnologica.com)

- Mrs Gloria de la Viña Nieto – [gloria.vina@corporaciontecnologica.com](mailto:gloria.vina@corporaciontecnologica.com) – Tel.: +34 (0)954 46 13 52
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- Mrs Beatriz Colado (Press Officer) – [beatriz.colado@corporaciontecnologica.com](mailto:beatriz.colado@corporaciontecnologica.com)
- EU coverage: Spain, Portugal, Greece, Italy, Israel

#### **From Poland:**

Lodz University of Technology, Polish Technology Platform of Bioeconomy, Lodz, Poland, [www.p.lodz.pl/en/polish-bioeconomy-technology-platform](http://www.p.lodz.pl/en/polish-bioeconomy-technology-platform)

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- EU coverage: Poland, Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Moldova, Ukraine, Georgia

### 2. The SuperBIO partners providing innovation service are:

#### **From Belgium**

Bio Base Europe Pilot Plant, Ghent, Belgium, [www.bbeu.org/pilotplant/](http://www.bbeu.org/pilotplant/)

- Mrs Lieve Hoflack – [Lieve.Hoflack@bbeu.org](mailto:Lieve.Hoflack@bbeu.org) – Tel.: +32 (0)9 335 70 01
- Mr Brecht Vanlerberghe – [Brecht.Vanlerberghe@bbeu.org](mailto:Brecht.Vanlerberghe@bbeu.org) – Tel.: +32 (0)9 335 70 01

Biotechsubsidy, Aalter, Belgium, [www.biotechsubsidy.com](http://www.biotechsubsidy.com)

- Mr Marc Van de Craen – [marc@biotechsubsidy.com](mailto:marc@biotechsubsidy.com) – Tel.: +32 (0)9 324 69 20
- Mrs Evelien De Clercq – [evelien@biotechsubsidy.com](mailto:evelien@biotechsubsidy.com) – Tel.: +32 (0)9 324 69 20

### **From Germany:**

nova Institut, Hürth, Germany, [www.nova-institut.eu/](http://www.nova-institut.eu/)

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- Mr Tobias Kirchhoff – [kirchhoff@bcnp.com](mailto:kirchhoff@bcnp.com) – Tel.: +49 (0)221 95 43 97 41

### **From UK:**

The National Non-Food Crop Centre, York, UK, [www.nnfcc.co.uk/](http://www.nnfcc.co.uk/)

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Gill Jennings & Every LLP, London, UK, [www.gje.com](http://www.gje.com)

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## **2. Horizon 2020 European Union Funding for Research&Innovation**

The SuperBIO project is supported by Horizon 2020, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation as an innovation action (691555-2) under Innosup call Cluster facilitated projects for new value chains 2015-01: <http://www.clustercollaboration.eu/eu-initiatives/innosup-initiative/superbio> .

## **3. SuperBIO Project Office:**

The SuperBIO project is coordinated by Ghent Bio-Economy Valley (Ghent, Belgium). For more information, comment or interview requests about SuperBIO, please contact:

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