



**SinCE-AFC**  
Interreg Europe

**4<sup>th</sup> NEWSLETTER**  
**August 2021**

**You are reading the 4th SinCE-AFC Newsletter!**

In this issue you will get an overview of what happened in the life of the project during the fourth semester.

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The main focus in the 4<sup>th</sup> semester of the project was on:

- interregional meeting
- organisation of local support group (LSG) meetings
- study visits
- import workshop
- e-book

## **4th INTERREGIONAL MEETING, 25-26.05.2021, Marshal Office of the Wielkopolska Region, Poland - online via ZOOM**

The first day of the two-day event there was the Interregional Exchange Experience Meeting in which all project partners, local stakeholders' groups members, and representatives of the selected SMEs attended. Next, during the session, Wielkopolska Region, as organiser, presented the initiatives and strategies at national level and each of the project partners presented one or more Good Practices from their region. Wielkopolska Region organised a virtual study visit, focusing in SMEs of the Region, which are active in the Agri-food sector and incorporate good practices of circular economy. Within virtual study visit, high-quality films were prepared in which the

Biogas Plant in Przybroda and the SemCo company were presented.

During the second day project management issues, future tasks and first drafts of Action Plans were discussed. The participants were divided into smaller groups to discuss good practices, their interest in specific examples and the possibilities of their implementation. The second group discussed the activities planned to be implemented under the Action Plans which are being prepared now, and the third one discussed other ideas and further steps in finding and identifying good practices among partners.

More information about the event [here](#).





## LOCAL SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS (LSG)

### Ireland, 09.02.2021

The first LSG meeting of Semester 4 took place via Zoom as Ireland was in strict Level 5 Covid19 restrictions. New members were warmly welcomed to the meeting and at the outset Maura Toner, SinCE-AFC Project Executive gave a synopsis of the SinCE-AFC project and our work to date.

The local good practices were introduced which included Green Generation in Kildare, Nutra Mara in Kerry. Also, the local Facebook page was introduced which was created to promote the SinCE-AFC project in Ireland.

The LSG were advised of the upcoming event being organised by Marshal Office of the Wielkopolska Region in Poznan, which given Covid19 restrictions will be most likely online. A brief discussion took place about the Action Plan. The Circular Economy event, Harnessing Green, was introduced which will be a part of Enterprise Week on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March 2021. This will be an online event with contributors from around the island of Ireland who are expert in the area of sustainability, CE etc.

More information about the meeting [here](#).

### Ireland, 26.04.2021

The second LSG meeting of Semester 4 took place via Zoom as Ireland was still in Level 5 Covid19 restrictions.

At the outset Maura Toner, SinCE-AFC Project Executive gave a summary of the various online seminars and events attended in the area of the Circular Economy. The LSG were advised that the 2nd Stakeholder Consultation process is underway. Maura Toner gave examples of her research into GPs which included Meade Food Group's production of starch from excess/waste potatoes and Hexafly who are producing insect protein. The members of the stakeholder group were encouraged to visit the Interreg Europe and SinCE-AFC website to review Good Practices researched project partners of SinCE-AFC project. The LSG members were invited to attend the upcoming online event being organised by Wielkopolska Region, Poland in May, dates to be confirmed.

The next LSG meeting is scheduled for September 2021.

More information about the meeting [here](#).





## Romania, 16.06.2021

South Muntenia Regional Development Agency organised the fourth Local Stakeholder Group Meeting on June 16th, 2020, online, through the ZOOM application.

The event was attended by 13 representatives of national and local public authorities, business and research in the South Muntenia region.

The participants were informed about the status of the SinCE-AFC project, the fourth meeting of project partners (event organised by the Wielkopolska Region (Poland) in May 2021), future actions within the project and good practices identified in the regions. Initiatives related to the first draft of the Action Plan were also presented and discussed and the second phase of the project stakeholder consultation process was launched.

More information about the event [here](#).

## Italy, 16.06.2021

The meeting was organised online by the Offices of the Metropolitan City of Bologna (MCBO) Economic Development Area.

First the purpose of this meeting was briefly introduced, that is starting a discussion for the development of the local action plan and its line of actions on the selected topics of the Bio-district and the local markets to be drafted in the next months. The objective of the session was double: firstly, to give the participants the opportunity to get to know each other about their own expertise and recent activities, and secondly to arrange an agenda for the next steps of the local stakeholder group. After a brief presentation from each participants a discussion followed on how Circular Economy can be introduced in the Bolognese Apennine Bio-district. Even if agriculture is basically circular, it has to be investigated how the cultivations are done and whether the techniques can improve.

More information about the event [here](#).





## Greece, 28.06.2021

The meeting was organised by the Regional Development Fund of Central Macedonia, on behalf of the Region of Central Macedonia, in collaboration with ANATOLIKI SA.

The 4th LSG meeting started with a review of the actions taken so far, during the implementation of the 1st phase of the SinCE-AFC project.

Then the draft Action Plan of the Region of Central Macedonia was analysed.

The next section of the meeting included the presentation of three new selected circular economy good practices and whether these practices could be applied to smaller Greek production units.

The last section of the meeting included a summary of all the good practices identified so far in the Region of Central Macedonia.

More information about the event [here](#).

## Bulgaria, 26-27.07.2021

The meeting took place in the Plenary Hall of the Municipal Council - Devnya.

On the first day of the meeting, the project team presented good practices from the fourth interregional online meeting of SinCE-AFC project partners on 25 - 26 May 2021 hosted by Wielkopolska region and a virtual study visit to a biogas plant in Przybroda and SemCo in Poznan.



On the second day the meeting continued with Entrepreneurial Workshop - knowledge transfer and presentation of personal experience.

The meeting ended with an interactive Q&A session among the participants.





## STUDY VISITS

### Poland, 25.05.2021

Wielkopolska Region organised a virtual study visit, focusing in SMEs of the Region, which are active in the Agri-food sector and incorporate good practices of circular economy. Within virtual study visit, high-quality films were prepared in which the Biogas Plant in Przybroda and the SemCo company were presented.

The first virtual visit was at the Biogas Plant located in the Agricultural and Fruit Experimental Station in Przybroda, belonging to the University of Life Sciences in Poznan. The innovative biogas plant launched in 2019 is an extremely modern installation, and thanks to the solutions used in it, it is even unique in Europe. This is due to both technical solutions (innovations in construction) and technological solutions (advanced solutions in the fermentation process). The installation is in line with the global trends in the development of the energy sector aimed at technologies using energy storage, renewable energy sources and ensuring universal energy security.

The second virtual visit was in Smilowo, at the SemCo company, a family business founded in 1990 and managed by the 2nd generation of the Just family. They attach great importance to personal contact with their clients and employees. They pay attention to the needs of their clients and they change for them. They pay attention to strengthening regional, sustainable production and maintaining traditional production processes by carefully selecting raw material suppliers and maintaining an efficient machine park.

In addition, using local agricultural raw materials, they care for the environment and try to guarantee minimum transport routes for their raw materials. Their traditional, unrefined, cold-pressed oils delight with taste, aroma and colour.

More information about the event [here](#).

The videos of the study visit are available on the project's [website](#) and [YouTube channel](#).





## IMPORT WORKSHOP

The objective of an Import workshop is to identify good practices of circular economy in small and medium enterprises of the agri-food sector from other regions participating in the project, be inspired from them and then transfer the knowledge and apply them in the case of the workshop organising region.

### Italy, 15.06.2021

The import workshop was organised by Metropolitan city of Bologna online. The participants were from Metropolitan City of Bologna, ANATOLIKI SA, Lagada Biogas, Ambiente Italia and Resolvo.

The workshop started with a video presentation of Biogas Lagada which was streamed and after that Mr Koupatsiaris from Lagada offered a short explanation about the settling up of the practice and the factors that led to this choice.

Farmers had problems with the waste ad so they decided to set up a biogas plant. Farmers and breeders cooperated for the initial capital and they provide materials for the plant. Both benefit from the electric energy, while thermal energy is used to digest the residues, that are finally used as fertilizers by the same farmers.

Giorgio Pirazzoli briefly presented the Rediscovered Market. The Market is an established reality in Bologna, where quality local products are sold but not only; the position and organization of the market make of it as a melting point where agri-food selling combines with culture.

Producers of the market would be interested in the cooperation applied for the setting up of the Biogas plant. Connections between the producers and the biogas managers will be created and maintained with the help of Metropolitan city of Bologna and Anatoliki.

During the workshop the Action Plan of Metropolitan City of Bologna was discussed.





## Greece, 08.07.2021

The greek Import Workshop within SinCE-AFC project was organised by Regional Development Fund of Central Macedonia on behalf of the Region of Central Macedonia (RCM), in collaboration with ANATOLIKI SA and took place online on Thursday 8th July 2021 at 11.00 am.

In the import workshop participated representatives from the Region of Central Macedonia, the Regional Development Fund of Central Macedonia, ANATOLIKI SA, the Metropolitan City of Bologna, who are all project partners, as well as representatives from the Italian ENEA organisation.



During the workshop, the draft Action Plan of the Region of Central Macedonia was presented with specific reference to the proposed actions that will be included in the Plan. Mrs. Erika Mancuso, representative from the ENEA organisation (National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development, Italy) presented the ICESP, which is a Platform for Stakeholders of the Italian Circular Economy, giving useful and analytic description of how this platform operates. The ICESP platform is integrated into ECESP (European Stakeholder Platform for the Circular Economy), was established in 2018 and is essentially a network that aims to create a national convergence of initiatives, experiences, crises and expectations for the circular economy that Italy should represent in Europe.





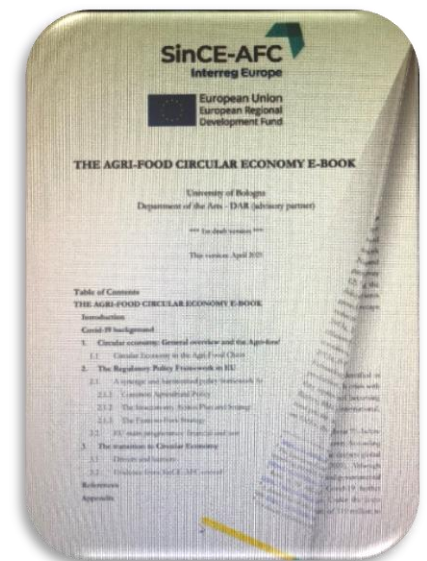


## E-Book

The projects Agri-Food Circular Economy e-book is ready!

The main goal of the e-book is to provide an overview of circular economy, outlining the European regulatory framework, analysing the transition path, and illustrating the collected good practices at regional level.

The e-book is available on our website [here](#).



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