

EU4ALGAE WORKING GROUP ACTION PLAN

WG Name	Algae4Feed	WG Number	4
Facilitator	Efthalia Arvaniti	Organisation	s.Pro – sustainable projects. GmbH
Identified Constraints, Obstacles, and Issues			
<p>According to EC, approximately there are 5 million EU farmers raise animals for food production, for which they need approximately 450 million tons of feed for their animals. As a result, to use as animal feed, EU imports 27 million tons soybean alone¹, putting an enormous pressure outside EU borders. The feeds are a commodity product and thereby qualities and prices are controlled by global markets. Feeds from algae, such as ingredients and additives, are an upcoming application sector in EU, directly replacing feed imports, as algae feed products have been extensively studied and tested by industry, and there are some products in the market already.</p> <p>However, to replace feed imports, we need to meet the market demand on supply and commodity prices, and so far ingredients from algae-based ingredients are costly, while innovation and market access is slowed or even stopped by regulatory barriers, lack of investment, business support and also product standards.</p>			
General Objective			
The aim of WG4 Algae4Feed is to promote algae feed product development by improving the business environment and cooperation across the algae feed value chains.			
Specific Objectives			
<p>The specific objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop recommendations for best business support • Promote interregional cooperation for R&D, innovation and market access, by increasing visibility of funding opportunities • Develop an algae feed online knowledge hub and promote research and development needs by consolidating studies and project results, incl. national projects. • Support integrating technologies that promote circular economy. • Identify algae feed regulatory barriers and make recommendations to boost innovation and market access. • Identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threads to improve market access of new feed products. • Promote algae feed products, their benefits, and the sectors they are applied. • Promote current markets, players, for new entries. • Identify sectors particularities and seek solutions to transfer from other sectors and also WGs. • Develop licensing roadmaps for 1-2 product categories, considering scaling barriers, distinguishing feed additive vs. feed ingredient. 			

¹ <https://www.eea.europa.eu/media/infographics/eu-animal-feed-imports-and-1/view>

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Working Groups Actions
<p>For delivering the outputs/outcomes, the planned activities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrate knowledge from relevant studies and project results into a knowledge hub on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> novel feed ingredients and clinical trial results on large studies energy integration in production, e.g. microalgae production combined with industrial flue-gases, solar-powered algae production science to policy e.g. continue work on EC regulation on algae heavy metals Define next level of R&D needs of most important themes Develop 1-2 product licensing roadmaps Raise awareness to understand the feed market and consumer trends. Meet 5x online or physically, usually for half a day or one day and back-to-back with existing events e.g. AlgaEurope, IFIF FAO, Nordic Algae, AES etc
Outcomes
<p>The planned deliverables by the end of 2024 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Factsheets on R&D needs for feed products. Legislation barriers for feed additives and ingredients, e.g. novel feed. Funding opportunities for innovation and market access Guidance on best available business support (collaboration with WG7) Campaigns for algae feed products 1-2 product licensing roadmaps e.g. feed ingredient vs. feed additive.
Next Steps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact WG participants with summary (meeting agenda, action plan, tasks) Identify WG chair and secretary for the next 6 months Scope activities, expectations from WG participants and timeline for the outcomes. Build a repository of projects, studies and initiatives

Working Group Participants				
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