

The Algae event - EU BC&E 2014

The Algae Event co-organized by EUBC&E, Re-Cord, the EnAlgae project and Eubia on 25th June attracted over 120 participants. With 22 oral presentations and 11 posters, this event presented the most up to date results of ongoing research and industrial activities globally, from cultivation to conversion methods, products and applications, economics and finally sustainability.

At 9.45 of wednesday 23rd of June 2014, Andrea Salimbeni (EUBIA) presented the ALGADISK project, with a special focus on the ALGADISK Pilot Plant in Almazan. ALGADISK got a real deep interest from the more than 100 participants sitting in the hall. After the presentation, which was focused on the excellence of ALGADISK solution compared to the other PBRs, the low footprint and the efficient CO₂ abroption of this technology, many question have been asked to the presenter, in order to better understand the logistic of the plant, water recirculation, CO₂ injection system etc..



Among the other main highlights, Vinicius Valente presented the current status of Intesusal, a demonstration project to produce 90-120 tonnes of algae per hectare per year, which is on track to realize a 1 hectare pilot unit, with the ambition to develop a 11 hectare business case by 2015. Located in Southern Portugal, the project uses glycerol as feedstock for the growth of heterotrophic organisms, then algae are grown subsequently on the biomass and nutrients

generated by these organisms to produce biodiesel. 0.8 kg o biomass can be obtained from 1 kg of glycerol. The first lines of fermenters, raceways and photobioreactors should be installed soon and the first demo trials are expected for this October.

Kristin Sternberg, German Agency for Renewable Resources, Germany presented the status of the EnAlgae map, an effort to create a database of who does what in algae activities in North West Europe. She showed the results of an interesting survey on 264 algae stakeholders in Europe. Most of research and demo activities are focused on microalgae development, while macroalgae are currently developed in France and UK. Matteo Prussi, ReCord Italy, presented the analysis of pyrolysis oil obtained from algae. An interesting industrial demonstration project now under development in Chile was also presented. Carried out by a public private consortium, the Algaefuels project is developing systems for the massive culture of micro algae for the production of biofuel and high-value compounds, including the realization of two demonstration pilot plants of a size of 1ha each. The project is currently in the middle stage and interesting results were obtained. The production of oily biomass with CO₂ from a coal power plant has been demonstrated and the biomass was characterized; to date 600 kg of algae were produced at the first pilot site, while at the second plant, 183 liters of biodiesel were produced, and the oil was characterized in order to demonstrate its suitability for fuel usage.