

**NEWSLETTER Nº 4** 

June 2021

Dear subscriber of BioTHOP LIFE project newsletter! The fourth newsletter is already in front of you, designed to provide project information and ideas you might need.

**BIOTWINE HOP** WASTE TRANSFORMATION INTO NOVEL **PRODUCT** ASSORTMENTS FOR PACKAGING AND **HORTICULTURE** 

**SECTOR** 

Several LIFE projects are finding ways to turn waste into valuable resources. Among them is also the LIFE BioTHOP project - Hip hop hooray!

The LIFE BioTHOP project has been running for 24 months (starting in July 2019, ending in June 2022) in the demo hop-growing region Lower Savinja Valley and is an example of good practice for the world. In the last half-year, besides focusing on technical work, we have been also facing the COVID situation across the world so we have focused more on online activities such as Technical seminar within the 58th Hop Seminar, international webinars, conferences, symposiums, training. We are honoured to collaborate with the LIFE project CITRUSPACK at their online final conference. As part of the in-side business meeting in Kutjevo Municipality (CRO), the delegation from Žalec also presented the LIFE BioTHOP project and the current results to the municipality representatives and the largest local winegrowers.

You are invited to watch our 2nd project video, talking about BioTHOP PLA twine installation. Project manager dr. Barbara Čeh has presented the project and biodegradable BioTHOP PLA twine on national TV at Ljudje in zemlja (People and their land), an educational-advising programme that considers all aspects of agriculture. Among results regarding twine, they present composting of hop biomass intertwined with biodegradable twine and mentioned new and innovative biodegradable products that project partners have been produced and test (ZT's hop fibres, TECNO's bio-composite, TRIDAS's 100 % biodegradable and compostable packaging for wine bottles and TECOS's 100 % biodegradable

Hip hip and compostable planting pots) during this time. hooray!

For further information, visit our WEB PAGE.

Thank you for subscribing to our newsletter! Life BioTHOP partnership

## **PROJECT NEWS**

## Project co-financers

Besides European Commission also all 6 municipalities of the Lower Savinja Valley (Braslovče, Polzela, Prebold, Vransko, Tabor and Žalec), Ministry for Environment and Spatial Planning and Slovenian Growers Association have been cofinancing and supporting the international environmental project LIFE BioTHOP since the summer of 2019. This year 9 hop growers from our valley and 6 replicative regions from SI and wider EU are testing biodegradable (PLA) BioTHOP twine again. Hop growers will also gain knowledge in the field of properly composting process of hop biomass after harvest to obtain excellent organic compost.



## Company DOLEJŠI modni gumbi (fashion buttons) tested a **BioTHOP** composite material

DOLEJŠI Gumbi iz BioTHOP kompozita P composite buttons

Within the LIFE BioTHOP project, TECNOPACKAGING, Zaragoza, Spain, developed a new material formulation based on biopolymer of lactic acid (PLA) and waste hop fibre, which was tested this year by the local company DOLEJŠI modni gumbi (fashion buttons) from Šempeter in the Lower Savinja Valley. In cooperation with the partner TECOS from Celje, they produced the first biopolymer buttons reinforced with hop fibre.

## 2nd and 3rd TECHNICAL NEWSLETTERS

Technical e-newsletters will introduce you to the newly formed bio-composite and demonstration of packaging product solutions (biodegradable wine bottle tray). Both based transformed hop waste.





The video represents the Installation of the BioTHOP PLA twine which was made in order to introduce circular economy, starting with using biodegradable compostable twine for hop plant support.

2nd BioTHOP project VIDEO

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