



NEWSLETTER N° 6

June 2022

BioTHOP LIFE18 ENV/SI/000056

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



Dear subscriber of BioTHOP LIFE project newsletter!

The sixth newsletter is already in front of you,
designed to provide project information and ideas you might need.

It's summer again. From spring onwards, the hops climb intensively up the twines until August, when they form beautiful flowers with a strong and distinctive scent. In mid-August, as the hops start to mature and summer fades, the hop harvesting season will be upon us once again. We have also been carrying out the LIFE BioTHOP project (starting in July 2019, ending in December 2022) in the Lower Savinja Valley hop-growing region for almost three years as an example of good practice, and we are testing the project's results in many other hop-growing regions around the world.

You are kindly invited to read about the achievements of the project at the regional, national and EU levels, to find out more about the partners' meeting in Zaragoza (ES) and the project's presentations at fairs, meetings, symposiums and conferences in Slovenia and abroad (IT), and to get acquainted with at least one of the eleven biodegradable products from hop biomass.

This newsletter also focuses on sustainable development and the circular economy in hop growing. We would like to know your opinion on sustainable development and the circular economy, in relation to the concrete results of the project, which are an excellent alternative to conventional plastics. To do this, we have prepared a survey. Hop biomass after harvest together with biodegradable (PLA) twine became good material for on-site composting or to be used for fibre extracting and in such form as an ingredient for new bioplastic products for various sectors (bio-composites, planting pots, bottle packaging). The use of the BioTHOP twine will significantly reduce agro-waste and will increase the economy. The project has a positive socio-economic impact on the local economy and the local community (additional benefits in terms of environmental improvement and additional entrepreneurial opportunities). We are proud to have been able to confirm this with two first prizes for innovation. Of course, the two awards are also a commitment to bringing the circular economy into practice in the Lower Savinja Valley as soon as possible.

Congratulations to dr. Barbara Čeh (IHPS) and dr. Vesna Žepič Bogataj (TECOS) for the idea,
to the partners and co-financiers (EU LIFE Programme, MOP,
all 6 municipalities of the Lower Savinja Valley, the Association of Slovenian Hop Growers)
and to all those who have supported the project for the last three years!

For further information, visit our **WEB PAGE**

Thank you for subscribing to our newsletter!

Life BioTHOP partnership



PROJECT NEWS

BioTHOP received 2 first prizes

We are proud! After the 1st place at the awards ceremony for the Innovator of the Year 2021 of the Lower Savinja Valley for the development of biodegradable material and products BioTHOP, the same name LIFE BioTHOP project has received another outstanding award – the golden award for the best innovation of the Celje region.

You are warmly invited to watch video highlights from the ceremony and an interview with Dr. Barbara Čeh.

By winning the Gold Award within Celje region, the LIFE BioTHOP project has also been nominated for the national level and will compete for the highest awards at the national level in the competition of the best innovations in Slovenia.



We would like to know your opinion on sustainability and the circular economy, in relation to the concrete results of the project, which are an excellent alternative to conventional plastics.

The results of the research will be used to prepare a second study within the LIFE BioTHOP project. It can also be an opportunity for new business collaboration. Participation is anonymous. The survey will take you a few minutes and will be open until 15 July 2022.

7th BioTHOP SC Meeting in Zaragoza (ES).

On 7 June 2022, all 7 partners from 5 EU countries gathered in Zaragoza for the 7th SC meeting. Partner TECNOPACKAGING hosted the event and showed us around not only the company but also Zaragoza.

Eleven 100% biodegradable products were (a mulching film from waste hop biomass, butter trays, shoe horns etc.) made by Tecnopackaging and TECOS using hops fibres extracted by ZelfoTechnology.



Article “Demanding the industrial biocircular economy together”

This article is taken from “FORUM”, the June edition of the Brandenburg Economics/Industrial monthly magazine.

In the photo, Richard Hurdling from Zelfo Technology, a partner of the LIFE BioTHOP project, is showing a BioTHOP Hops/PLA panel (that they produced at Zelfo's test plant in Schwedt) to the Secretary of the German Ministry of Economics and to the Minister of Economics in Brandenburg.



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