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Nouveaux projets environnementaux : la Commission européenne investit 160,6 M€

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Emballage&Environnement

Dans le cadre du programme LIFE en faveur de l'environnement, la Commission a approuvé un programme de 96 nouveaux projets (sur les 1117 propositions reçues). Ils sont cofinancés par l'Union européenne à hauteur de 160,6 millions d'euros.

Sur les 96 projets sélectionnés, 51 s'inscrivent dans le programme LIFE Environnement & Utilisation rationnelle des ressources. Certains d'entre eux visent l'emballage, directement ou indirectement. En voici la

liste.

En place depuis 1992, le programme LIFE est «l'instrument européen de financement pour l'environnement et l'action pour le climat». Il dispose, pour la période 2014-2020, d'un budget de 3,4 milliards d'euros à prix courants.

== Italie

Sur les 12 projets LIFE Environment & Resource Efficiency (21,3 M€) :

- **LIFE-PLA4COFFEE (Aroma System Srl)** : The project will develop a demonstration-scale compounding plant for coffee capsules made from polylactic acid (PLA), a substitute for polyethylene, polyethylene terephthalate and aluminium. The project will test the performance of the compostable PLA coffee capsules which, if introduced on an industrial scale, could significantly reduce landfill waste and CO2 and other emissions. It will also use the coffee capsule to demonstrate performance of the PLA formulation to the whole plastics industry and to consumers.

- **LIFE ECO-PULPLAST (SELENE SpA)** : The objective of the project is to reduce to nil the amount of pulp waste from paper mills sent to landfills and incinerators. To this end, it will build a demonstration production line manufacturing euro-pallets from more than 50 % pulp waste and draft a business plan for a 30 000 tonne/yr industrial facility in the Lucca area, the hub of European tissue paper manufacturing and converting. Use of the pallets within the Lucca area would create a local circular economy for pulp waste recycled into new plastic compounds and products. The project will also draft guidelines to enable replication of the pallet production methodology in other paper manufacturing locations.

== Suède

Sur 2 projets LIFE Environment & Resource Efficiency (5,8 M€) :

- **DURAPULP for LIFE (Södra Skogsägarna Ekonomisk förening)** : The project aims to use airlaid thermoforming processes to manufacture packaging materials from DuraPulp, a patented renewable and biodegradable fibre-based material. A pilot plant will produce and evaluate at least six products for different end uses. The project will also perform a life-cycle assessment of DuraPulp, compared its environmental impact against existing plastic packaging, and verify options for disposal, including incineration, industrial composting and reuse in pulp manufacturing.

== Espagne

Sur 23 projets LIFE Environment & Resource Efficiency (34,3 M€) :

- **LIFE ECORKWASTE (Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya)** : The project aims to demonstrate the technical, environmental and economic feasibility of several different options for the reuse of cork waste. It will construct a hybrid artificial wetland using cork waste as granular media to treat winery wastewaters. It will also test the potential of other types of cork waste (used cork stoppers and cork powder) as a substrate for syngas production by gasification in fluidised bed systems. To this end, the project will construct a gasification pilot plant based on a fluidised bed system with a treatment capacity of 10 kg/day and energy recovery capabilities. Results from these trials will enable the project to draft an integrated waste management plan for the cork industry.

- **LIFE MULTIBIOSOL (FUNDACIÓN AITIIP)** : This project will develop innovative, economically-viable and fully-biodegradable plastic agro-films to replace the non-degradable polymers currently used in mulching film and fruit protection bags. The new films will completely eliminate this form of waste, reduce life cycle CO2 emissions from agro-films by 50% and improve soil quality through the addition of oligo elements.

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