

Project partners:

1. A4F, Algafuel, SA (A4F)
2. Mikrobiologicky Ustav AV CR V.V.I (IMIC)
3. Forfarmers Corporate Services BV (FF)
4. Instituto de Biologia Experimental e Tecnológica (IBET)
5. International Flavors and Fragrances IFF (Nederland) BV (IFF)
6. Laboratorio Nacional de Energia e Geologia I.P. (LNEG)
7. Phycom BV (PHY)
8. Upfield Research and Development B.V. (UPF)

MULTI-STR3AM

A sustainable multi-strain, multi-method, multi-product microalgae biorefinery integrating industrial side streams to create high-value products for food, feed and fragrance

BBI-2019-SO1-D2 - Produce components for various materials, including for food and feed, from microalgae

Collaborative project

Start date of the project: 01/05/2020

Duration: 48 months

Deliverable 6.6

Press Release 1

WP	6	Communication and dissemination
Task	6.3	Production and dissemination of a communication materials package (M1-M48)

Dissemination level ¹	PU	Due delivery date	30/04/2021
Nature ²	DEC	Actual delivery date	29/04/2021

Lead beneficiary	A4F
Contributing beneficiaries	IMIC, FF, IBET, IFF NL, LNEG, PHY, UpF

¹ Dissemination level: **PU** = Public, **CO** = Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the BBI), **CI** = Classified, information as referred to in Commission Decision 2001/844/EC.

² Nature of the deliverable: **R**: Document, report (excluding the periodic and final reports), **DEM**: Demonstrator, pilot, prototype, plan designs, **DEC**: Websites, patents filing, press & media actions, videos, etc., **OTHER**: Software, technical diagram, etc.

WP 6:	A4F	Author
	A4F	Approval by WP leader
	A4F	Approval by coordinator

Document Version	Date	Partner	Comments ³
V0	22/04/2021	A4F	Creation
V1	28/04/2021	A4F	Final version for evaluation
V2	29/04/2021	A4F	Final version

³ Creation, modification, final version for evaluation, revised version following evaluation, final

Deliverable abstract

This delivery corresponds to the annual press release comprising achievements in the project during year 1 (May 2020, April 2021).

Linked to task 6.3, “Production and dissemination of a communication materials package”, this delivery aims to inform the public and all interested stakeholders about the ongoing work developed by MULTI-STR3AM consortium.

A press release consists of newsworthy information to the press or journalists. For this press release, the MULTI-STR3AM consortium chose to communicate how resilience and adaptation enabled the partners to launch a new innovative project in the middle of an unpredictable pandemic.

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1 Objective of the press release 1

This annual press release aims to communicate the challenges and scientific and technological achievements in the project during year 1, from May 2020 to April 2021.

However, these first 12 months have been challenging for all given the spread of a world pandemic, and lack of predictability on the short and medium term business environment. This has caused severe impacts on the core technical tasks of MULTI-STR3AM.

With this scenario, the strategy of the first press release was to communicate the resilience and capacity of adaptation of the MULTI-STR3AM consortium to put in place an important innovation project that will make viable a multi-stream and multi-product biorefinery, able to supply products to three new sectors: food, feed, and fragrances.

This press release aims to notify the media and important stakeholders on the first challenging year of the project, and the importance of the adaptation of research and innovation projects to help EU reach their economic, environment and social sustainability goals, towards bioeconomy.

This communication piece was shared with all partners and their communication departments, disclosed at the project website, and partners social networks.

2 Press release content

MULTI-STR3AM towards bioeconomy: Innovation goes on and adapts to a new reality of a world pandemic

2020 has been a world challenge, and it was not different to the innovation ecosystem. The MULTI-STR3AM consortium launched an innovative project, focused on a multi-products microalgae biorefinery, while their companies had to quickly adapt to this new reality.

The project officially started on May 1st, 2020, with no risks regarding a world pandemic previously mapped. This four-year long innovation project on biotechnology relies strongly on laboratory work besides the construction of a new demo scale biorefinery.

It is known that the COVID-19 caused a downfall on the world logistics. In addition, some industries had their effort changed towards the production of equipment like mechanical ventilators, masks, and other consumables demanded by all countries facing a lack of personal protective equipment needed not only for the hospitals but to protect their population. Besides all health care demand, overnight all offices were closed and the manufacture of all equipment incorporating electronic chips was affected as the demand by laptop producers rocketed due to remote work. These are just few examples of how the pandemics caused an overall impact across industries.

Nonetheless, the MULTI-STR3AM consortium overcame all difficulties such as, the delay on the orders of new equipment needed for the partners' laboratories, biomass production and biorefinery. Also, the transport and commissioning are taking longer than planned, but everything is moving on. All face-to-face meetings moved to online platforms, and the partners laboratories and industrial facilities have reduced the number of researchers and other employees circulating on the day-by-day business. Considering that, experiments were replanned and reinforced monitoring has been implemented to decide upon mitigation actions every six-months, in order to avoid further impacts.

Still, resilience is the word and the world has shown its capacity to adapt to a sudden unforeseen reality. The MULTI-STR3AM consortium has faced the challenge and will continue to support Europe towards a more sustainable and economically viable bioeconomy.

The Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking's project MULTI-STR3AM addresses the challenges of scale of microalgae-based products by integrating sustainable multi-strain, multi-method and multi-product microalgae biorefinery in industrial side streams. This EU-funded project is designed to help close the gap between research and industrial scale on microalgae cultivation.

The MULTI-STR3AM project is coordinated by A4F – Algae for Future (PT), and brings together the companies ForFarmers (NL), International Flavors & Fragrances (IFF, NL), Phycom (NL), UpField (NL), and the R&D institutions IMIC CAS - Centre Algatech (CZ), Instituto de Biologia Experimental e Tecnológica (iBET, PT), and Laboratório Nacional de Energia e Geologia (LNEG, PT).

More information: www.multi-str3am.com

3 Final version



Press Release

MULTI-STR3AM towards bioeconomy: Innovation goes on and adapts to a new reality of a world pandemic

Lisbon, April 28th, 2021

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Nonetheless, the MULTI-STR3AM consortium overcame all difficulties such as, the delay on the orders of new equipment needed for the partners' laboratories, biomass production and biorefinery. Also, the transport and commissioning are taking longer than planned, but everything is moving on. All face-to-face meetings moved to online platforms, and the partners laboratories and industrial facilities have reduced the number of researchers and other employees circulating on the day-by-day business. Considering that, experiments were replanned and reinforced monitoring has been implemented to decide upon mitigation actions every six-months, in order to avoid further impacts.

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More information: www.multi-str3am.com

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This project has received funding from the Bio Based Industries Joint Undertaking under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 887227



This project has received funding from the Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking (JU) under the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 887227. The JU receives support from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme and the Bio-based Industries Consortium.

