Press release
Thursday, October 4, 2018

EUROPEAN SSUCHY PROJECT
PARTNERS MEETING - UPDATE AFTER 1 YEAR OF WORK

October 4 and 5, 2018
Stockholm University (Aula Magna)

SSUCHY

One year after the project launch, the European partners of the consortium review the first results of their work

SSUCHY Project, which is positioned on the development of composite constituents, based on a renewable resource (i.e. biopolymers and plant fibre reinforcements) for applications in the transportation and audio sectors, calls its 17 European partners together in Stockholm on 4 and 5 October. The opportunity for the consortium to take stock of his first year of work, which has allowed the advancement of the most upstream activities in the value chain dedicated to the development of bio-based composites products: production, harvest and exploitation of raw material.

Zoom on the obtained results

The first year of work of SSUCHY Project included the production, harvest and exploitation of raw material for the development of bio-based composites products.

The production of hemp and its transformation into textile preforms and composite materials has made significant progress. Regarding the production of plants, the varieties have been selected and the cultivation practices optimized thanks to the previous knowledge collected in the MULTIHEMP European project. The beginning of September 2018 was marked by the end of the harvests, providing the SSUCHY consortium a plant material whose history is well-known and its traceability assured. It should be noted that, for the first time, results demonstrating mechanical properties equal to or greater than those obtained with the most efficient flax reinforcements on the market have been collected at the scale of thermosetting matrix composite.

In addition, the activities carried out by the SSUCHY consortium led to a 100% bio-based polyepoxide matrix, at the laboratory scale, synthesized from wood and plant derived synthons and in particular from lignin, combining high mechanical and fire resistance properties.

Besides these two major lines of development, parallel activities and news should be highlighted:

▪ Work on the improvement of the sustainability of bio-based composites and the understanding of their damping properties
▪ First tasks related to the development of demonstrators, tied to the transportation and audio sectors targeted by the project (chassis of an electric motor scooter, high-end audio system, interior panels for the automotive sector, cockpit interior part of an electric plane)
▪ Beginning of the census of the data required for the realization of life cycle analyzes (LCA) of materials and products developed in the project
▪ Reinforcement of the research teams involved in the project by recruiting around ten PhD students and post-doctoral researchers

About SSUCHY*

The SSUCHY project is positioned on the development of composite constituents, based on a renewable resource (i.e. biopolymers and plant fibre reinforcements) for the development of multifunctional recyclable and/or biodegradable bio-based composites with advanced functionalities for application in different sectors: transportation (ground transportation and aerospace) and high value market niches such as the acoustic and electronics sectors. It is dedicated to the development of specific concepts, technologies and materials to achieve a complete value chain and prove the principle at the scale of product demonstrators. SSUCHY brings together 17 European partners. Coordinated by the Université de Franche-Comté, the project will be carried out over 48 months, from September 2017 to August 2021, with a total budget of € 7 411 150, including € 4 457 195 of BBI JU contribution. SSUCHY has received funding from the Bio-Based Industries Joint Undertaking under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No 744349

The 17 European project partners

• One competitive cluster: IAR, The French Bioeconomy Cluster (France)

• 10 academic institutions: Université de Franche-Comté FEMTO-ST (France), Chimie Paris Tech – CNRS (France), Ecole Nationale d'Ingénieurs de Tarbes (France), Ecole Nationale Supérieure Arts et Industries Textiles – ENSAIT (France), Université de Bourgogne (France), Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Italy), University of Bristol (United Kingdom), University of Derby (United Kingdom), Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Belgium), Stockholms Universitet (Sweden)

• 3 SMEs: Wilson Benesch (United Kingdom), EADCO GmbH (Germany) and NPSP BV (Netherlands)

• 3 industries: AkzoNobel Functional Chemicals BV (Netherlands), Linificio e Canapificio Nazionale Srl (Italy) and Trèves (France)

Next meeting of the consortium in January 2019

Make a note in your diaries! The next partners meeting will take place in January 2019 in Tarbes and will aim to prepare the official evaluations that will concern the first M1-M18 period of the project as well as the planned mid-term review in M21.

**SSUCHY: Sustainable Structural and Multifunctional Biocomposites from Hybrid Natural Fibres and bio-based polymers*

More information:

- SSUCHY website: www.ssuchy.eu
- European Commission website: http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/210573_en.html

Contacts:

Press
Sophie MURIAS
Communication officer | IAR, The French Bioeconomy Cluster
+33 6 12 54 01 99 - murias@iar-pole.com

Project coordinator
Université de Franche-Comté
Vincent PLACET
+33 3 81 66 60 55 - vincent.placet@femto-st.fr

BIO-BASED INDUSTRIES Public-Private Partnership
Bio-based Industries Consortium
Horizon 2020 European Union Funding for Research & Innovation