



ESPP's vision

Concerns about **phosphorus stewardship and sustainability** can be expected to increase in coming years with international pressures on raw materials, ongoing and widespread impacts of eutrophication, concerns about contaminants.

Phosphorus is a non-renewable resource, non-substitutable for agriculture and food production and **directly linked to global food security**, as well as being important in a range of other industrial and technical uses. The world's mineral phosphate resources are finite, so that although there is debate about their extent and extractability and about their geographical concentration, the need for phosphorus stewardship will endure, generating innovation and business opportunities.

At the same time, **phosphorus losses pose major environmental issues**. Phosphorus is the principal contributor to surface water quality failure (eutrophication) in much of Europe, whilst **Europe's population eats around twice as much phosphorus as is required for health**.

These issues have **synergies** with other challenges, including nitrogen management, water treatment, biogas and biofuels, food waste, soil erosion, contaminants and food safety, food security.

Improving the **efficiency of phosphorus processing and use**, in industry, agriculture, livestock production, food processing and diet, and developing reuse or recovery-recycling of phosphorus can save money, contribute to reducing nutrient pollution, and **create jobs in the circular economy**.

ESPP's areas of action

- **sustainable phosphate rock supply**, mining and processing, including industrial applications
- **phosphorus re-use, recovery and recycling** in synergy with other nutrients and carbon/energy
- **phosphorus use efficiency in agriculture** (in crop and animal production) and **in the bio-economy** (biorefineries, bio-energies and bio-materials production)
- **sustainability and safety of the food chain**, from farm to diet

ESPP's organisation and objectives

ESPP is a not-for profit organisation which brings together industry, knowledge institutes and public establishments to promote and implement phosphorus sustainability in Europe:

- Define and promote a long-term **vision for phosphorus sustainability** in Europe
- Mediate dialogue towards policies and regulatory adaptation
- Identify and facilitate collaborative actions, policies, business cases, value-chains
- Address short-term obstacles, propose solutions, identify and communicate opportunities

Phosphorus sustainability requires dialogue, innovation and collaborative actions across society, and **ESPP works with a wide range of sectors and stakeholders**: farming, fertiliser and animal feed, chemicals and minerals, waste and water treatment, agricultural supplies, food processing, bio-resources, food safety and diet ...

ESPP's actions

- P Stakeholder dialogue** to define a vision for phosphorus sustainability and shared proposals for policies and actions
- P Networking and cooperation** throughout the phosphorus value-chain: to transfer know-how and experience, to identify business models, obstacles and opportunities
- P Inventory and data-base of competences and resources**
- P Monitor (globally) and disseminate** innovation, knowledge, demonstration, and best practice, benchmarking and success stories, through the SCOPE Newsletter (40 000 emailing worldwide), Twitter, website, workshops and meetings, participation in relevant conferences ...
- P Facilitate collaborative proposals** for innovation development or project funding: identify opportunities, facilitate consortium and project preparation, ensure contacts between potential partners and projects
- P Identify and address regulatory issues**, define and promote policy tools for efficient phosphorus use and for recycling and reuse
- P Define and promote phosphorus sustainability research and implementation**, in particular through the EU's Horizon 2020 and EIPs on Raw Materials, Water and Sustainable Agriculture
- P Economics and jobs**: identify policies to develop jobs and industries involved in the context of geopolitical and market developments
- P Promote Platform members' activities**
- P Support the development of national Nutrient Platforms**, local actions towards phosphorus efficiency or a Circular Economy for phosphorus
- P Mutual gains approach with phosphate producing countries**
- P Awareness raising**, promoting phosphorus sustainability and related business opportunities and job creation

Platform partnership sectors

- P Water and waste treatment
- P Fertilisers and soil amendments, agricultural supplies, animal feeds, food and beverage industry
- P Phosphate mining, processing and chemicals industries
- P Technology suppliers, advisors services, knowledge institutes
- P Partner networks: composts, digestates, manure management, R&D networks ...
- P Nutrient platforms/networks and partner NGOs: Netherlands, Flanders, Germany, Baltic (BSAG) ...
- P Geographical extension towards Baltic, Black Sea, Mediterranean Neighbouring Countries
- P Farmers' organisations, organic farming, environmental and consumer NGOs
- P Local / regional authorities

Platform Members and Partners

See updated list and Member' presentation pages on www.phosphorusplatform.eu



Platform membership conditions

- Member States, Nutrient Platforms = 10 000 €
- Regional / local authorities = 4 000 €
- Knowledge institutes, NGOs = 2 000 €
- Platform **Members** make up the Platform's General Assembly and decide the Platform's positions and policies
- Platform **Partners** pay the same fee (with possibility for payment via projects or in kind for knowledge institutes and NGOs). They participate in the Platform's network and activities, but do not vote in legal decision making.
- Companies = 6 000 €
- SMEs = 2 000 €

www.phosphorusplatform.eu
 [@phosphorusfacts](https://twitter.com/phosphorusfacts)



Defining the future

After an initial establishment phase 2013-2014, the European Sustainable Phosphorus Platform adopted statutes in December 2014 (see website) and is now formally open to Membership and Partnership. 2015 is thus a key time to **join the Platform and to be involved**, to participate in defining the Platform's orientations and actions, and be visible amongst Europe's leaders in sustainable phosphorus management.

Specific actions planned in 2015

P Networking and contacts:

- develop a structured IT data base to enable Member access to expertise, experience, competence
- communicate proposals for collaboration and calls for contacts (new 'Opportunities' section on website, May 2015)
- showcase Members' actions, success stories and innovation on the ESPP website

P Member training webinars on thematic / technical / regulatory questions

P Awareness and communications:

- ESPP website www.phosphorusplatform.eu
- ESPP/ SCOPE Newsletter (emailed to 60 000 contacts worldwide) – see website
- Twitter professional information relay [@phosphorusfacts](https://twitter.com/phosphorusfacts)
- dissemination of related projects: e.g. **P-REX eMarket for recycled P** on ESPP website
- participation in conferences etc.

P Policy and regulatory monitoring, EU Commission thematic contacts and other international organisations, e.g.: EU Fertiliser Regulation revision: inclusion of organic fertilising products (composts, digestates), recycled phosphates (e.g. struvite, ashes ...), EU List of Critical Raw Materials (MSA assessment and phosphorus flows data), biorefineries, EU / EIB nutrient recycling investment fund, standards (CEN, ISO) and BAT (IED), Nitrates Directive and recycling of manure phosphorus, Horizon 2020 RTD, EIP Agriculture ...

P International: GPNM / UNEP-GPA, US/Canada NAPPS

P ESPC2: 2nd European Sustainable Phosphorus Conference, Berlin 5-6 March 2015.

P Development of national nutrient platforms, enlargement of ESPP action to the Baltic (with BSAG www.bsag.fi), nutrient platform projects in UK, France, Norway ...

P Define with stakeholders a phosphorus sustainability knowledge agenda (research, integration and implementation) through an inclusive, consultative methodology

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European Sustainable Phosphorus Platform www.phosphorusplatform.eu

Netherlands 2010 www.nutrientplatform.org

Flanders 2012 <http://www.vlakwa.be/nutrientenplatform/>

Germany 2013 www.deutsche-phosphor-plattform.de

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