

Joint declaration for the launch of a European Phosphorus Platform

At the 1st European Sustainable Phosphorus Conference 2013, held in Brussels on 6-7 March 2013, participants reached consensus to launch the European Phosphorus Platform to continue dialogues, raise awareness and trigger actions to address the Phosphorus Challenge that have implications for ensuring food security, geopolitical stability and environmental sustainability.

We, participants, therefore declare and commit to develop a European Phosphorus Platform with the following goals

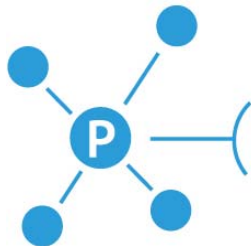
- Bring together knowledge and experience necessary to strengthen innovation and knowledge through the EU for better stewardship of phosphorus, to recycle more and to create green jobs within the framework of a circular economy;
- Contribute to formulating a knowledge agenda which can be connected to the research and innovation agendas of Horizon 2020 and the EIPs on Raw Materials, Water and Sustainable Agriculture;
- Circulate information and promote sustainable phosphorus management and related job creation;
- Work together closely in the precompetitive phase of innovation, to exchange experience, best practice and benchmarking

The platform will operate according to the following principles

- Bring together public and private organisations and individuals concerned with “The Phosphorus Challenge”
- Work and learn together for innovation in the sustainable use and management of phosphorus between industry, science, governments and non-governmental organisations to develop cross-sectoral alliances between the water, food, agricultural, waste and energy sectors;
- Be open to new members who want to invest actively in sharing technologies, knowledge and experiences, and act together in building a strong and vibrant network.

We declare that for the start of the platform it will be necessary to

- Define and agree on efficient ways of networking, including meetings, virtual meetings, e-networks;
- Develop a common governance structure which is suitable for all (not too formal, not too institutionalized) and make financial and communication arrangements in the first meeting of the platform in September 2013;
- Use smartly the existing networks of industry, science and governments like currently existing platforms, associations and collaboration programmes within the EU.



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for the launch of a European Phosphorus Platform

We declare that it is an essential prerequisite that

- Industry (including agriculture, water and waste, fertilizer companies and other phosphorus producers and users) has the lead to invest in cross-sectoral innovations in the value chain;
- Through innovation, we take steps in closing the phosphorus cycle, i.e. we use less, recycle more and improve processes to meet the demands of end-users for the right quality, quantity and price of phosphorus;
- Knowledge institutions and governmental organisations at the regional, national and European levels will create an enabling environment;
- All parties collaborate with each other to achieve sustainable solutions;
- All parties are committed to create more awareness about the Phosphorus Challenge and propose solutions;
- The platform keeps a strong link to global networks, realizing that the Phosphorus Challenge has an international reach.

We propose as actions for the Platform

Networking and exchange to monitor, share information, develop input, feedback and representation on:

- Phosphorus data collection: phosphorus flows, resources, recovery potential, uses, including information on contaminants
- Regulations, new technologies, interferences, impact assessments, monitoring of P-recycling and P-stewardship policies and international benchmarks of processes, cost models, product norms
- Business models and experience, business cases and viable routes of P-recovery and treatment in the context of a developing market;
- Economic and jobs: identify policies to develop jobs and industries involved
- Proposals for project funding, eg. in the context of Horizon 2020 and the EIPs on Raw Materials, Water and Sustainable Agriculture;
- Circulate information on the Phosphorus Challenge by newsletters, website www.phosphorusplatform.eu and a project and experience database.

Sign up for the European Phosphorus Platform at our information desk at Expo hall 100