Europe has strong Green Deal ambitions to develop Organic Farming. At the same time, Russia’s war of aggression has caused a mineral fertiliser supply and price crisis. This does not directly impact Organic Production, but has implications for food security and inflation and accentuates the need for Organic Farming to optimise use of recycled nutrients, in coherence with Organic Farming’s environmental objectives. Recycled struvite and precipitated phosphates have been added into the list of authorised inputs as fertilisers in EU Organic Farming, with appropriate limitations (January 2023*). Certain other recycled nutrients are already authorised, again with conditions.

This meeting will discuss which further recycled nutrient products might be appropriate for Organic Farming, based on practical examples, and under what conditions they might be considered for addition to the EU Organic Farming regulations. The objective would be to then put proposals forward to EGTOP and to the European Commission, and to define what further information might be needed.


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**Programme**

**14h00 - Opening – Eric Gall, Deputy Director, IFOAM Organics Europe**

**Summary of RELACS conclusions and outputs and presentation of the FiBL “Reflections Paper” of 29/9/2021: Else Bünemann-König, FiBL**

**Current status of recycled nutrient materials and products in 2021/1165, recent updates, previous EGTOP Opinions: Frank Willem Oudshoorn, Aarhus Innovationscentre for Okologisk Landbrug and EGTOP**

**Discussion of 4 key questions – moderator Andrea Beste, Gesund-Erde, Germany**

- solubility / plant availability of nutrients
- origin of raw materials (sewage, manure, food waste …) and limitations
- chemicals used in recovery process and LCA
- contaminants and safety

**Break**

**Discussion of example “pending” recycled nutrient products – Eric Gall, Deputy Director, IFOAM Organics Europe**

*In each case, 3-minute presentation of the recycled nutrient product by a producer / technology provider / recycler (addressing in particular the 4 questions above). Then questions and discussion.*

- **Calcinated phosphates (EGTOP Opinion 2/2/2016)** – Julian Künstler, Metso Outotec & Ludwig Hermann, Proman
  - chemicals and environmental impacts of nutrient recovery process
  - nutrient plant availability / solubility
  - contaminants and safety

- **Biochars from food waste, food industry wastes** - Helmut Gerber, Pyreg and Donata Chiari, European Biochar Industry Consortium
  - contaminants and safety
  - link to EU Fertilising Products Regulation

- **Inorganic phosphate fertilisers derived from sewage sludge and slaughterhouse ashes** – Lucas van der Saag, ICL Growing Solutions - chemicals and environmental impacts of nutrient recovery process

- **Recovered ammonium sulphate from sewage treatment, food waste digestate** – Denis De Wilde, Detricon, Christophe Bonvin, Membratec and Gunnar Thelin, Ekobalans
  - chemicals and environmental impacts of nutrient recovery process: sulphuric acid = industrial by-product
  - nutrient plant availability / solubility
  - desirability of recycled nitrogen for Organic Farming and EGTOP Opinion June 2018

- **Fertilisers from aquaculture and other marine waste:**
  - Krister Hagström, EasyMining RagnarSells - secondary nutrients from aquaculture (fish farm sludge)
  - Anne-Kristin Loes, Norsok secondary nutrients from seafood processing
  - Question: is aquaculture considered to be “factory farming origin”?

**Outline of some other “pending” recycled nutrient products:** Chris Thornton, ESPP

**Discussion and conclusions. Next steps.**

**Close 17h00 - Total**