

Plants for the Future's EU Green Week Partner event 2025 - Application

EU Green Week 2025 Theme: A Circular Economy

Event title: Harnessing plant breeding for a more circular bioeconomy

Date: Monday 2nd June 2025 from 14 to 16 CET

Location: COPA-COGECA office, Rue de Trèves 61, 1040 Bruxelles, BE

Type of event: Hybrid event

Event description/Abstract

Plant breeding is the heart of our agrifood systems and the future of a more circular bioeconomy. In the last 20 years, plant breeding alone accounted for 67% of crop productivity gains in the EU. As part of the Green Deal goals, the EU aims to move away from the use of fossil fuels towards a more circular bioeconomy. To succeed, alternative sources of carbon must be leveraged. Plants have an important role to play in providing a broad range of biobased materials for diverse purposes, but care should be taken to avoid competition between food, feed and raw biomass for the wider bioeconomy. The event aims to highlight the importance of plant breeding and how it can play a key strategic role in ensuring food security, while reducing the environmental impact of our agrifood systems and providing sufficient biobased raw materials for a growing bioeconomy.

Tentative Agenda

Welcome from 13:30

14:00 Welcome and Opening remarks

14:10 Leveraging plant breeding R&I for optimising biomass for a circular bioeconomy

14:20 The challenges in breeding multipurpose crops

14:30 Better valorisation of biomass provide new business opportunities for farmers

14:40 Are we on the right track to fully exploit plant breeding for a more circular bioeconomy?

15:00 Panel discussion

15:45 Closing remarks

16:00 End of event