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## PRESS RELEASE

# TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC MODEL FOR THE PRODUCTION OF ALGAE AND ALGAE-BASED PRODUCTS

The CIRCALGAE project aims to develop sustainable algae-based biorefineries and products supporting the health of aquatic ecosystems for a healthy planet and people. In this way, 21 partners work to valorise industrial algae waste streams into high-value products to foster future sustainable blue biorefineries in Europe.

By developing a new green biorefinery concept, the project aims to extract ingredients with health and functional benefits to produce new high added value products with a neutral environmental impact. These products are intended for food ingredients, protein rich feed and cosmetic formulations.

The cultivation of algae will be optimized, in particular thanks to new parameters that will make it possible to extract ingredients with the greatest possible benefit.

In order to integrate a viable economic model, the project involves consumers and professionals through working groups, surveys and tests.

*“CIRCALGAE brings together 21 partners from 11 countries. It is a real opportunity to pool all these skills to make a real impact in the Blue bioeconomy in Europe. We will be working together the next 4 years with a project budget of 10.3 M€” Project coordinator*

While the European Union has set targets to reduce pressure on natural resources, while creating growth, jobs and carbon neutrality, CIRCALGAE is making a contribution in the algae sector.

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### Why valorise algae waste streams?

Algal biomass is massively produced (over 36Mt/year worldwide) but at the same time underexploited. Vast amount of waste is generated by the algal industries (up to 95% of the initial biomass in some cases). Through a cascade biorefinery approach this waste material can be transformed into high-value products.



Photo of the partners taken at the kick-off meeting on 17-18 October in Stockholm

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