

Harnessing plant breeding for a more circular bioeconomy Plant ETP's EU Green Week 2025 - Partner Event

Date: Monday 2nd of June 2025, 14:00 - 16:00 CET

Location: COPA-COGECA Office, Rue de Trèves 61, 1040 Brussels, Belgium

Description: 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.

Registration: <https://form.jotform.com/250973962933368>

Tentative Agenda	
13:30	Doors open
14:00	Start of the event: Opening remarks
14:10	Leveraging plant breeding R&I for optimising biomass for a circular bioeconomy <i>Speaker to be confirmed</i>
14:20	The challenges of breeding multipurpose crops <i>Speaker to be confirmed</i>
14:30	Better valorisation of biomass provides new business opportunities for farmers <i>Max Schulman, Finnish Farmer and advisor to the Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners (MTK)</i>
14:40	Are we on the right track to fully exploit plant breeding for a more circular bioeconomy? <i>Amrit Nanda, Executive Manager of Plants for the Future</i>
15:00	Panel discussion with speakers
15:45	Closing remarks
16:00	End of event