

ESPP workshops on phosphorus as a Critical Raw Material and on White Phosphorus (P₄)

Brussels – Wed. 19 – Thur. 20 November 2025

During the [EU Raw Materials Week](#) (18-20 November 2025)

Wednesday 19th November:

10h30 – 12h: ESPP General Assembly (members only)

14h30 -18h00: Phosphate – an EU Critical Raw Material, key to food security and agriculture resilience

18h00: Networking drinks – 20h informal dinner

Thursday 20th November:

9h – 13h00: P₄ (white phosphorus) a 'Strategic' Raw Material for Europe ?

P₄ and 'Strategic' technologies – P₄ supply projects in Europe.

Day 1 - Wednesday 19th November:

10h30 – 12h: ESPP General Assembly (members only)

- vote of 2026 budget, election of Board, etc
- definition of priority actions for 2026
- networking lunch

14h30 – 18h00: Nutrients as Critical Inputs for EU food security

Objectives:

This workshop will discuss the criticality of nutrients as agricultural inputs, essential for food production and agricultural sovereignty:

- Which nutrients are 'Critical' for EU agriculture, regarding quantitative needs, supply security (EU production, global supply, EU supply security, quality criteria) ?
- Links between farm nutrient use efficiency, nutrient recycling, supply security
- The EU Critical Raw Materials Act (2024/1252) centres on actions for "Strategic" industries: should the EU have a Critical Agricultural Inputs Act ?
- How should the next EU Common Agricultural Policy 2028-2034 address nutrient security ?

Phosphate – an EU Critical Raw Material	
14h30 – 16h	Nutrients and food security worldwide and in Europe - Overview of EU nutrient use, supply and losses (t/y of N, P, K for different uses, recycling today and potential for recycling) - Kimo van Dijk, Wageningen University & Research - Nutrient security worldwide - Aimable Uwizeye, FAO - Action for global nutrient policies, UN Global Partnership on Nutrient Management – Tobias Eriksson, Ragn-Sells - Stewardship of and perspectives for the world's most important phosphate rock reserves – Zineb Jabri, OCP
16h – 16h30	Coffee break
16h30 – 18h00	EU phosphate supply and agriculture resilience - From dependency to strategic autonomy – Tiffanie Stepani, Yara - Nutrient supply security and nutrients in the CAP – Stephanos Kirkagalis, DG AGRI, European Commission - Perspectives for EU phosphate supply security – Allan Pickett, Fertecon - S&P Global - The future of the fertiliser industry in Europe and consequences for agriculture and consumers? Fertilizers Europe (tbc) - New phosphate supply routes for Europe? - Will Myles, NorgeMining - Panel and discussion of possible policy proposals
18h00 – 19h00	Networking drinks
20h00 – ...	Informal dinner

9h – 13h00: P₄ – a ‘Strategic’ Raw Material for Europe ?

Objectives:

P₄ (white phosphorus) is included in the EU Critical Raw Materials List in the EU Critical Raw Materials Act 2024/1252 (under the term ‘Phosphorus’, separately from ‘Phosphate Rock’). But it is not included in the sub-list of ‘Strategic’ Raw Materials (that is: for “Strategic Technologies”, defined as green transition, in particular renewable energies, digital, defence and aerospace). This is despite P₄ being essential in e.g. fire safety (electronic and electrical systems, data cables, insulation, biobased materials, aerospace ...), batteries, semiconductors, photovoltaic panels, crude oil extraction, jet engine lubricants, metallurgy, chemicals ... And despite the EU and the world market being today dependent on only two suppliers: Vietnam and Kazakhstan.

8h30 – 9h	Welcome coffee and registration
9h – 10h30	P₄ and Strategic Technologies - For which ‘Strategic Technologies’ is P₄ essential ? where ? why ?, Willem Schipper - Why fire safety is essential for Strategic Technologies, and why P₄ is essential for fire safety - Adrian Beard, Clariant - Phosphorus in batteries: different uses in batteries (P₄ or purified phosphoric acid ?), quantitative perspectives, phosphorus and battery recycling - Alain Germeau, Prayon & John Passalacqua, FirstPhosphate Canada (<i>online</i>) - Short presentations by user industry federations of their knowledge of and vision for P₄ in their sector: batteries, semiconductors, photovoltaic, chemicals; Maxime Castes, European Semiconductor Industry Association (ESIA); Carlos Galeano, Italmatch; ...
10h30 – 11h	Coffee break
11h – 11h45	P₄ projects in Europe - Spodofos: ThermusP - Frans Horstink - Flashphos: Christian Schmidberger, University of Stuttgart and Carlos Galeano, Italmatch - Tohoku University - Shingo Ishihara
11h45 – 13h00	How to move forward? SCRREEN3 reassessment of Critical and Strategic Raw Materials lists: policy objectives, data requirements for P₄, link to criticality assessment calculation parameters and methodology defined in CRM Act annexes – Rovena Preka, ENEA (<i>online</i>) - Why is the ‘Critical Chemicals Alliance’ (see COM press release 7 6 25) relevant for the phosphorus (P₄, phosphates) industry in Europe ? Alain Germeau, Prayon – Adrian Beard, Clariant – Norberto Gatti, Italmatch – Thoralf Kuchler, Lanxess – Sander Kroon, ICL Panel conclusions and discussion