



Algae in the European policy context

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EU algae initiative

- EU communication, scheduled for 1st half of 2022
- OPC – ended 18 January – 79 contributions – mostly positive
- IA Study – Deloitte, Wageningen University – 16/02/21-16/01/22
 - Objective: refined Policy options for, the EU algae initiative
 - Interviews, 5 webinars, OPC (3 months)

Towards a strong and sustainable EU algae sector – conclusions from the public consultation



11/02/2021

The European Commission is preparing a comprehensive cross-sectoral EU algae initiative. The aim of the initiative is to increase the sustainable production, consumption and use of algae and algae-based products. Because of their small carbon and environmental footprint, raising the profile of algae will help achieve the objectives of the European Green Deal, the transition to a green, circular and carbon-neutral EU.

Blue Bioeconomy – towards a strong and sustainable EU algae sector

The initiative aims at increasing sustainable production, ensure safe consumption and boost innovative use of algae and algae-based products in Europe.

Option 2: Targeted activities to support the sustainable growth of the algae sector: 5 objectives

- 1. Improving governance framework** e.g. guidance on sustainable production, large scale cultivation of algae, standardization, recommendations etc
- 2. Support functioning of the market** – novel algae species, funding mechanisms

Algae are regarded as a functional group of organisms consisting of microalgae, macroalgae, cyanobacteria and labyrinthulomycetes (CEN:17399:2020)

Blue Bioeconomy – towards a strong and sustainable EU algae sector

3. **Improving business environment** – specific funding needs, one-stop-shop/assistance mechanism
4. **Increasing social awareness and acceptance** – communication campaigns, labelling, inclusion into MSP processes
5. **Closing knowledge, research and innovation gaps** - developing improved algae cultivation and processing systems, new methods, carbon sequestration quantification etc

Option 3: Targeted activities to support the sustainable growth of the algae sector including regulatory measures – inter alia for harvesting of live seaweed, targets to substitute fish based fish feed, better integration into CFP
(on top of option 2)

