



# Sustainable chemistry for life

*The role of chemistry in  
the European bioeconomy*

**13<sup>th</sup> ECRN Congress**  
**8 October 2015 Novara**  
**9 October 2015 Milan**

Hosted by  
European Chemical Regions Network  
(ECRN) member regions  
Novara & Lombardy



The **13th Congress of the European Chemical Regions** brings together decision-makers, industry representatives and stakeholders from regions and the EU Commission to exchange views and experiences. Participants will hear about and have a chance to discuss policies and good practices on sustainability, chemistry and bioeconomy.

The event will be organized in two parts. The first day will be held in Novara and the second day in Milan. On the first day, we will focus on sustainable innovations and technological advancements in the field of biotechnology and bioeconomy. During the second day, we will address policies and future perspectives. Discussions will also be linked to the broader themes of Expo Milan 2015, "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life". The discussions will be enriched by a "market of ideas" introducing regional experiences, best practices and projects that illustrate the variety of activities taking place in and across chemical regions in Europe.

Chemistry and the chemical industry can contribute to new innovations in various frontiers, ranging from agriculture and food production to preparation and product safety, as well as conversion and re-utilisation of waste in value-added processes. Sustainability requires interdisciplinary innovations and cooperation throughout the value chain. As such, it is also linked to broader questions about resource use and environmental, social and economic phenomena. Bioeconomy offers an approach that can bind together complex systems and inter-connected challenges. It spans diverse sectors from agriculture, fisheries, food, chemicals, biotechnology, energy and other related sectors. The chemical industry plays an important, enabling role throughout the value chains and serves a vital function in achieving new improvements. The opening session will highlight the ways in which chemistry and chemical innovations can enhance contribute to bioeconomy and sustainability.

The afternoon of the first Congress day is dedicated to the Market of Ideas with examples of regional projects and innovative chemical companies and clusters. Representatives from projects and organizations will present their activities and be available throughout the session to answer questions and provide additional information on their initiatives. Congress participants will also have a chance to network and find new partners and contacts during the session.

On the second day of the Congress, we will move from Novara to Milan, which is hosting the world exhibition EXPO 2015 "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life". In this context and at the event of the 13th Congress of European Chemical Regions, ECRN wants to use this opportunity to reflect on and debate on how Europe is addressing the issue of sustainable chemistry and bioeconomy – particularly in the areas related to EXPO 2015 themes.

Chemistry is a key source for sustainable solutions. Chemical industry contributes to numerous other sectors throughout the value chain and is a key driver for innovations for better life and a sustainable planet. Future challenges on issues like sustainable feeding or biobased solutions for a circular economy are very important for the chemical industry as its role is crucial in order to deliver on the potential of more sustainable world economy. Europe is in a good position to enhance sustainability throughout value chains.

During the second day, we will discuss developing and mainstreaming novel innovations and biobased chemicals to drive the development of European bioeconomy. We will discuss examples, experiences and different approaches on taking good practices and new products from regional to global markets. In the closing session, we will draw together the key messages from the two Congress days. We will review the lessons learned from regional experiences and good practices and discuss what policy implications they have. With a panel of political representatives, we will discuss the policy actions and initiatives needed at regional, national and European level to support development of sustainable chemistry and Bioeconomy.

The Congress will close with a presentation of ECRN Congress Declaration on Bioeconomy.

## Agenda | Day 1 | 8 October 2015 Novara

*Moderator: Laura La Posta (Il Sole24ore)*

### 10.00 **Registration and coffee**

*Auditorium Banca Popolare di Novara - Via Negroni 11*

### 10.30 **Welcome & opening of the 13<sup>th</sup> ECRN Congress**

*Auditorium Banca Popolare di Novara - Via Negroni 11*

- **Matteo Besozzi**, President of Province of Novara
- **Andrea Ballarè**, Mayor of Novara City
- **Giuseppina De Santis**, Piedmont Region Minister of Production Activities and Research
- **Cesare Emanuel**, Rector of "Amedeo Avogadro" University of Western Piedmont
- **Hartmut Möllring**, ECRN President, Saxony-Anhalt

### 11.15 **Chemical industry and bioeconomy – fostering sustainability and safer, healthier life and products through more effective, interconnected value chains and synergies**

*Auditorium Banca Popolare di Novara - Via Negroni 11*

- *Green revolutions in regions and continuous innovations*  
**Catia Bastioli**, European Bioeconomy Panel, CEO of Novamont
- *Plea for a sustainable, bio-based economy (view from Germany)*  
**Prof. Christine Lang**, German National Bioeconomy Council
- *Innovation for a sustainable chemistry*  
**Sergio Lombardini**, Executive Vice President, Versalis S.p.A., Italy
- *BIG C: cross-border and cross-national activities between North Rhine-Westphalia, Flanders and the Netherlands*  
**Jan Van Havenbergh**, FISCH Managing Director, Flanders, Belgium
- *Deployment of Biorefineries in EU: How could regions, countries, EU offer (synergic) solutions to support investment in the bioeconomy?*  
**Sandro Cobror**, Head of Public Affairs Biochemtex SpA – Mossi Ghisolfi Group, Italy

### 13.00 **Lunch**

*Arengo del Broletto – Novara - Corso Italia, 29 / Via Fratelli Rosselli, 20*

### 14.00 **Networking in the Market of Ideas – building bridges across the value chain to develop new solutions for sustainability and Bioeconomy**

*Arengo del Broletto – Novara - Corso Italia, 29 / Via Fratelli Rosselli, 20*

- *Chemical Innovation supporting local development*  
**Franco Pellacini**, Isagro SpA & Polo Ibis (IT)
- *Innovation in bio-chemistry*  
**Marco Versari**, Novamont (IT)
- *Intelligent Factory Association Lombardy and European collaboration on advanced manufacturing in the Vanguard Initiative*  
**Giacomo Copani**, Lombardy (IT)
- *The Lombardy Green Chemistry Association*  
**Francesca Punzi**, Lombardy (IT)
- *Project on value chain partnership*  
**Daniel Gottschald**, Chemie-Cluster Bayern (DE)
- *Site Development Program (new ways for internalisation of clusters outside Europe)*

- **Daniel Gottschald**, Chemie-Cluster Bayern (DE)
- *Where wood meets chemistry – model region for a biobased future*  
**Dr. Rainer Busch**, Bioeconomy Cluster, Saxony-Anhalt (DE)
- *New successful possibilities with EU funding*  
**Piotr Popik**, Mazovia Development Agency Plc, Mazovia (PL)
- *High added value substances from plants species to be used in industrial sectors*  
**Francesco Cellini**, Alsia, Basilicata (IT)
- *The LX-Process – pre-treatment for decentral bioeconomy*  
**Friedrich Streffer**, Maxbiogas, Brandenburg (DE)
- *DEELOCSI - Delivering Energy Efficient Low Carbon Sustainable Industry*  
**John Brady**, NEPIC (UK)
- *The Experience of Versalis Green chemistry research center of Novara*  
**Gianni Girotti**, Versalis S.p.A. (IT)
- *Wagralim, an agro-industry Competitive Cluster in Wallonia*  
**Laurie Delmer**, SPW Wallonia (BE)
- *Chemiepark Knapsack – experiences of operating chemical plants and sites*  
**Pierre Kramer**, Infracore / Chemiepark Knapsack, NRW (DE)
- *Understanding Proteins*  
**Alberto Massarotti and Andrea Moretti**, Ixtal srls - start up Fondazione Novara Sviluppo
- *Activities of the Pharmaceutical Sciences Dept. in the fields of Chemistry and Food*  
University of Eastern Piedmont "Amedeo Avogadro"
- *ETV - Environmental Technology Verification –first Italian results of the European project*  
**Alessandro Sassi & Silvia Alemani**, Certiquality srl (IT)
- *Model region for an innovative and sustainable use of material flows*  
**Dennis Herzberg**, CLIB2021, NRW (DE)
- *Resource Efficiency in the circular economy, 15 years experiences and economic results within SMEs*  
**Andreas Kunsleben**, Efficiency Agency, NRW (DE)
- *The role of industrial pilot lines in the Strategy for successful bioeconomy*  
**Brecht Vanlerberghe**, Bio Base Europe, Pilot Plant Ghent, (BE)

16.30 <b>Concluding remarks and preview on the next day in Milan</b> <i>Arengo del Broletto – Novara - Corso Italia, 29 / Via Fratelli Rosselli, 20</i>
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## Congress Reception | 8 October 2015 Novara

20:30 <b>ECRN Congress Reception and Networking Dinner</b> <i>Arengo del Broletto – Novara - Corso Italia, 29</i>
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*Dinner with Congress participants, speakers and other invited guests*

*Keynote speech:* **Fabrizio Sala**, Lombardy Region Minister for EXPO2015 and  
Business Internationalization / ECRN Vice President

## Agenda | Day 2 | 9 October 2015 Milan

*Moderator: Laura La Posta (Il Sole24ore)*

(8:30 **Bus transfer** from Novara to Milan / Palazzo Pirelli)

9:00 **Registration and coffee**

*Palazzo Pirelli, 31<sup>st</sup> floor - Via Fabio Filzi, 22, Milan*

09:30 **Opening words**

- **Roberto Maroni**, President of Lombardy Region
- **Fabrizio Sala**, Lombardy Region Minister for EXPO2015 and Business Internationalization / ECRN Vice President

09:45 **The role of chemistry in a sustainable future**

- EU Commission perspective: **Achim Boenke**, DG GROW, EU Commission
- Chemical industry perspective: **Giorgio Basile**, Member of the Board of Federchimica, President of Isagro SpA (IT)
- View from academia: **Prof. Fabrizio Cavani**, University of Bologna (IT)

10:45 **How to develop an effective bioeconomy in Europe?**

- **Francois Wakenhut**, DG ENVI, EU Commission (tbc)
- **Joanna Dupont-Inglis**, EuropaBio, Brussels (BE)
- **Prof Ludo Diels**, VITO (BE)
- **Gianluca Carenzo**, Parco Tecnologico Padano (IT)
- **Daniele Colombo**, Lombardy Green Chemistry Cluster (IT)

11:45 **Concluding remarks and a debate on policies towards sustainable future**

- **Patrizia Toia**, ITRE Vice President, European Parliament Committee
- **Hartmut Möllring**, Minister of Science and Economic Affairs, Saxony-Anhalt / ECRN President
- **Fabrizio Sala**, Lombardy Region Minister for EXPO 2015 and Business Internationalization / ECRN Vice President
- **Willem Sederel**, Biobased Delta, (NL)
- **Riccardo Bellato**, President of the Chemical Group of Assolombarda
- **Fulvio Uggeri**, Head of Global Research & Development, Bracco Imaging SpA / Chairman of the SusChem Italian Committee

*Presentation of ECRN Congress Declaration on Bioeconomy*

13:00 **Lunch**

