



Biobased Composites for Mobility & Transportation: Moving Towards Sustainability

15-16 DEC 2021
Cambridge University



Feedback on FLOWER 4th Conference

The [European project FLOWER](#) (co-financed by the [Interreg Channel Programm](#) through ERDF fund) organised its 4th and last conference on December 15th and 16th 2021. The University of Cambridge, one of the project partners, was in charge of this conference. The event, initially planned as in-person with 80 participants, was finally in a hybrid form, greeting 27 participants on Cambridge Campus and 38 online. Overall, 65 persons followed the event, despite sanitary restrictions. With the end of FLOWER project approaching, it was the opportunity to review the project progress and to show the industrial development of the bio-composites developed in the transport sector, the theme of the conference.

The conference consisted of three half-day topic sessions: From fark to Fibre, Resins and Biocomposites, Applications and Circularity. Each session was launched by two 30 minutes keynotes from one company and one academic: Karim Behlouli ([EcoTechnilin](#)), Prof. Vijay Kumar Thakur ([Scotland's Rural College](#)), Alan Banks ([Ford Motor Company](#)), Dr Stuart Coles ([University of Warwick](#)), Dr Arthur Monti ([CHEREAU](#)), Prof Fabrizio Scarpa ([University of Bristol](#)). These presentations reviewed the progress in terms of the diversity of linings used but also of biocomposites manufacturing techniques. The presentations covered various application areas for bio-composites, with the transport sector being particularly highlighted in the presentations, be it air, car or sea.

These keynotes were complemented by 11 presentations of about 20 minutes each by presenters from a variety of backgrounds, whether in terms of their sector of work, their function or the status of their organisation. Numerous questions enriched the debates following these presentations and led to the emergence of possible collaborations. The development of biomass materials in the UK was particularly highlighted, both in terms of cultivation, which is showing strong dynamism in fibre extraction, and in terms of the implementation of materials; collaborations were initiated between some of the actors present at the conference, both within and outside the Flower project. Within the framework of Flower, new industrial developments, not planned at the beginning of the project, could see the light of day in the months to come.

In addition, the first day ended with a panel discussion from experts who answered the questions raised during the two first sessions.



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The conference gathered a diverse audience, of which:

12 from companies: [CAMBOND](#); [CHEREAU](#); Eco-Composites LTD; [EcoTechnilin](#); [Far UK LTD](#); [Flaxland](#); [Ford Motor Company](#); [Kairos Environnement](#); [Rare Earth Global](#); [Elsoms](#); [UKHempcrete](#); [Unyte Hemp](#)

16 from higher education and research: [Bangor University](#); [Ecole Centrale de Nantes](#); [Ecole Nationale des Ingénieurs de Brest](#); [Ecole Nationale d'Ingénieurs de Tarbes](#); [Institut Nationale de Recherche pour l'Agriculture, l'Alimentation et l'Environnement](#); [National Institute of Agricultural Botany](#); [National Physical Laboratory](#); [The Royal Society of Chemistry](#); [Université de Bretagne Sud](#); [University of Cambridge](#); [University of Hertfordshire](#); [Université de Lorraine](#); [University of Portsmouth](#); [University of the West of England Bristol](#); [University of Warwick](#); [Scotland's Rural College](#)

2 working in business support organisations: [Green Rose Chemistry](#); [BioLadies Network](#)

FLOWER project will end in June 2022 with a final event organised by the Lead Partner, the University of South Brittany.

Recordings / Enregistrements :

All three sessions were recorded and the presentations can be found at the links below:

Les trois sessions ont été enregistrées et les presentations sont accessibles aux liens ci-dessous :

15th Dec Session 1: Farm to Fibres

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/l9z2t72t21srtqs/15th%20Dec%20morning%20session.mp4?dl=0>

15th Dec Session 2: Resins and Biocomposites

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/uk0fqf74o0b07ns/15th%20Dec%20afternoon%20session%20a.mp4?dl=0>

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/ehx9ua4lmnoiumb/15th%20Dec%20afternoon%20session%20b.mp4?dl=0>

16th Dec Session 3: Applications and Circularity

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/q8gbhbmec769m0h/16th%20Dec%20morning%20session.mp4?dl=0>



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flowerconf.sciencesconf.org

Final Conference of the FLOWER Project



Register on the website
Submit your abstract until 30/10/2021



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Programme available

6 keynote talks & 12 presentations

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