

# [***Turning food waste into sustainable soil improvers for better soil health and improved food systems***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BC1-MRM1-JDJN-643J-00000-00&context=1516831)

Mena Report

February 17, 2024 Saturday

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**Length:** 550 words

**Body**

Turning Food Waste Into Sustainable ***Soil*** Improvers For Better ***Soil Health*** And Improved Food Systems

Ready To Reshape The Future Of Food Waste Managementthe Food IndustryS Waste Output Is Taking A Toll. Mountains Of Food Processing Residues, Once Discarded, Contribute To Pollution And ***Soil*** Degradation. The Eu-Funded Waste4Soil Project Will Pioneer 10 Solutions To Transform These Residues Into Local, Bio-Based Circular ***Soil*** Enhancers. It Will Introduce A Standardised Evaluation Framework, Empowering Stakeholders Across The Food Value Chain To Assess Their Progress In Achieving Circularity With Food Processing Residues. Seven ***Soil Health*** Living Labs Will Be Established Across Europe, In Greece, Spain, Italy, Hungary, Poland, Slovenia And Finland, To Explore The Potential Of Eight Different Types Of Food Processing Residues. The Project Will Also Establish An Advanced Management Platform For Data Analytics And Internet Of Things Device Integration.

Funded Under

Food, Bioeconomy Natural Resources, Agriculture And Environment

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6 999 461,25

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Coordinated By

Ethniko Kentro Erevnas Kai Technologikis Anaptyxis

Greece

Objective

Waste4Soil envisions the development of 10 technological and methodological solutions for recycling food processing residues from the food industry into local, biobased circular ***soil*** improvers for improved ***soil health***. A user-driven standardised Evaluation Framework will support stakeholders from the food value chain, including waste managers, to assess their status towards food processing residues circularity and take action for recycling suitable waste streams into beneficial ***soil*** improvers. To ensure co-innovation and collaborative research, Waste4Soil will setup 7 ***Soil Health*** Living Labs across Europe, in Greece, Finland, Spain, Poland, Hungary, Italy and Slovenia, to study the valorisation of 8 types of food processing residues (i.e. meat, fish, dairy, cereals, olive oil, beverages (wine), fruits and vegetables, and processed food). The project focuses on assessing and improving the effectiveness of existing routes of food waste management to ***soil*** improver components, formulation and application methods by focusing on:

1) Anaerobic digestion residues by employing novel nutrient separation including Selective Electrodialysis, bio-electrochemical and membrane systems

2) Novel efficient Biochar production from food processing wastes and digestates

3) BioPhosphate processing

4) Effective composting process of solid residues

5) Protein hydrolysates acting as ***soil*** improvers and AD-Microalgae combined processes for ***soil*** biostimulants

and

6) An enabling management platform applied in all living labs, with a growing database of data analytics, route optimisation applications, ***soil health*** evaluations and application recipes, commercial aspects, and the capacity to use IoT devices in logistics.

The 27 partners and 1 associated partner supporting this project proposal are fo

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