

Press release
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FIRST YEAR UPDATE: SCALE PROGRAM DELIVERS SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS

- SCALE, the European BBI JU Flagship program coordinated by Microphyt was holding its General Assembly at the End of June 2022.
- One year after the project launch, the 11 EU partners met on Microphyt site in Baillargues, to review the work achieved and plan for the next years of the project.

The SCALE project, which strives to build and operate the world's first fully-integrated microalgae biorefinery to produce natural active ingredients of high nutritional value for the food, food supplements, feed and cosmetics sectors, brought its 11 European partners together in Baillargues, South of France, on 22nd and 23rd of June for their first General Assembly.

This event was the opportunity for the consortium to present all the results of their work, such as the beginning of the construction of the plant with a dedicated visit, the launch of two bio-inspired cosmetic solutions: Luteana and Renouvellance, and the first clinical study results in food supplement.

CONSTRUCTION OF SCALE PLANT: THE WORK HAS BEGUN!



This flagship plant scale-up the microalgae production process from demonstration scale to Flagship industrial scale with an annual capacity production of more than 100 tons of high-value ingredients. It will be located in Baillargues, near Montpellier. and will create up to 60 direct jobs and 190 indirect jobs by 2025.

The plant will deliver large scale production of Microphyt's ingredients for the food, food supplements, feed and cosmetics sectors. Its construction began at Microphyt's facility in France in September 2021 and represents the first-of-its-kind fully-integrated microalgae biorefinery at an industrial scale.

The biorefinery aims to implement sustainable processes to convert microalgae biomasses into a variety of ingredients.

« We are really proud to coordinate the SCALE project which foster the transition towards sustainably produced microalgae-based ingredients for nutrition and wellness. SCALE is a key milestone for the company and for each partner as it unlocks the full potential of microalgae and its amazing biodiversity. Despite the sanitary and geopolitic context, the project is on good track and we hope the second year of the project to continue on the success of 2021», announced Vincent Usache, CEO of MICROPHYT.



WORK IN PROGRESS



Over its first year, the efforts of the consortium were concentrated on the new plant design and start of the building. 3000m² of the plant is now achieved with the creation of 15 new jobs. Microphyt worked closely together with Evolys and Sunti respectively for the design of LED-based lightening solution and the energy diagnosis to analyse the thermal and power demand of the extended site.

New microalgae-based ingredients have already been tested by the industrial partners for the targeted applications: Institut Paul Bocuse Research centre for food, Plameca for food supplements, Lallemand Animal Nutrition for feed and Chanel Perfume & Beauty for cosmetics.

The next steps will continue to deliver new microalgae & ingredients as well as accelerating the work programs on

CUTTING EDGE NATURAL INGREDIENTS

Microphyt develops, produces and markets microalgae-based ingredients for Advanced Beauty and Novel Nutrition. Since the Kick-off of the project in June 2021, Microphyt has received the results of the first clinical study in Novel nutrition and launched 2 new products in Advanced Beauty



- **Luteana™**. Based on its research on cognitive and systemic health, Microphyt has developed an innovative approach to sensitive skin using a Tahitian golden microalgae species, *Tisochrysis lutea*, which has an extraordinary ability to adapt since it is considered sensitive yet it lives in a stressful environment, i.e. hot waters with a high salt and acidity content. Thanks to its unique sustainable technology, Microphyt developed Luteana, a precious oily extract containing powerful compounds such as omega-3 fatty acids, sterols and xanthophylls, namely fucoxanthin. Thus, Luteana tackles the multi-factorial dimension and persistent of sensitive skin and lastingly relieves sensitive skin to improve well-being.

- **Renouvellance™**. Adopting a biomimetic approach, Microphyt was inspired by a resilient and adaptogen red microalgae, *Porphyridium cruentum*, capable of protecting itself to survive in extreme environments. By exploring the defense mechanisms of red microalgae elaborated millions years ago and shared with humans, Microphyt has designed Renouvellance able to activate the skin's natural defenses response and shield cells against the harmful effects of UV rays and pollution for a healthier complexion. Obtained thanks to Microphyt's sustainable patented technology, Renouvellance contains a high content in 2 synergic compounds: Phycoerythrin, a pink antioxidant pigment able to absorb light energy and boost natural defenses & Exopolysaccharides, a marine polymer able to chelate heavy metal and maintain cell's structure.

More information:

SCALE's key figures:

- **48 months:** from June 2021 to May 2025
- **€24.5M total cost:** with €14.3M of EU & BBI-JU contribution
- **11 partners from 4 European Countries:** MICROPHYT – Coordinator (France), SUNTI (France), EVOLYS (Norway), CENTRE DE RECHERCHE DE L'INSTITUT PAUL BOCUSE (France), PLAMECA (Spain), CHANEL PARFUMS BEAUTÉ (France), LALLEMAND ANIMAL NUTRITION (France), TECNALIA (Spain), NUTRASTEWARD (United Kingdom), PNO CONSULTANTS (France), BIOECONOMY FOR CHANGE (France)

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