

Workshop facilitated by the [GiantLeaps](#), [reKult4Food](#) projects and
the [Horizon4Proteins](#) platform

Closing the Loop: Circularity and Alternative Proteins in Food and Feed

Workshop Overview

Interactive, multi-actor co-creation Workshop on the circularity potential of alternative biomass with special focus on the past and future innovations scoped with research questions and methodologies centred around sustainability.

Expected Outcomes:

- Generating 2 best case scenarios on the sustainability benefits of alternative protein-based, high quality, safe, nutritious, sustainable food and feed ingredients. Focus: economic feasibility and consumer acceptance.
- Transdisciplinary, cross-pollinating approach: newest innovations will be presented, and networking will facilitate the generation of new ideas for future projects

Target groups

- Primary producers
- Processors
- Consumers
- Policy makers
- Regulators
- NGO's

Discussion points/questions:

- How does the nutrient return via circular approaches influence the sustainability of the food systems?
- What is the starting point for the circularity of nutrients in the food production chains (systems)?
- Which stakeholders can be the catalysts of the circular economy changes?
- Can we return nutrients in the food systems using alternative proteins efficiently and sustainably?
- How can we efficiently quantify the impact of nutrient return on economic, environmental, and social aspects via existing or new tools (LCA, multi-objective optimisation, indices etc.) and methodological approaches (consequential or attributional, ecodesign etc.)
- How much nutrients can be effectively returned to food systems via alternative protein circularity approaches
- What are the bright examples of sustainable circularity by alternative proteins? (Showcasing products derived from the Horizon4Proteins platform projects and GiantLeaps)

Specific Activities:

- Showcasing **the sustainability metrics obtained by the Horizon4Proteins projects**, emphasising how sustainability assessment (E-LCA, S-LCA, LCC) have helped stakeholders shape the future of certain alternative-protein specific ecosystems
- Spotlight how **DSS and eco-design** approaches can support agri-food stakeholders (primary producers, processors) to overcome barriers during the transition to circular alternative-protein based food systems

Tools and equipment: Beamer, Mentimeter, Flipcharts, Stickits, tables for product showcasing (refrigerator perhaps also needed for storage), alternative protein foods, etc.

AGENDA (preliminary)

- 16:30-16:35 Introduction to Horizon4Proteins platform’s mission (Dr. Paul Vos)
- 16:35-16:45 Giant Leaps: an overview (Dr. Paul Vos)
- 16:45-16:55 Brief introduction to the reKulti4Food project (Dr. Christian Lambertz)
- 16:55-17:30 Mentimeter Questionnaire (Breaking the Chain!) and group discussions on how nutrients can be effectively returned from different parts of the supply chain back into the food system (Flipchart session)
- 17:30-17:40 Foreseen sustainability impacts in GiantLeaps based on multicriteria approach (Prof. Sergiy Smetana)
 - Focused on upstream agri-food system actors (industry)
 - Engaging with consumers showcasing incentive scenarios
- 17:40-17:50 Summary and ranking of Workshop outcomes & future prospects
- 17:50 Conclusions. Wrap-up

The Giant Leaps Project has received funding from the European Union's HORIZON EUROPE research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101059632.



The four EU-funded projects working on alternative proteins, [NextGenProteins](#), [ProFuture](#), [Smart Protein](#) and [SUSINCHAIN](#), launched **Horizon4Proteins** at the end of 2021 to work together in key aspects such as: **Consumer acceptance of alternative proteins, Safety and Regulatory challenges, Food applications, and Sustainability**. Beginning of 2023, the EU Horizon Europe funded projects [GIANT LEAPS](#), [LIKE-A-PRO](#) and [VALPRO Path](#) joined the collaboration.

The reKulti4Food Project has received funding under the Grant Agreement 031B1206C from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

