



National Technical University of Athens  
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## Stepwise verification and upscaling process for bioethanol production from source separated food waste

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# CORFU2022

15-18 JUNE

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Eco Friendly  
Biofuels

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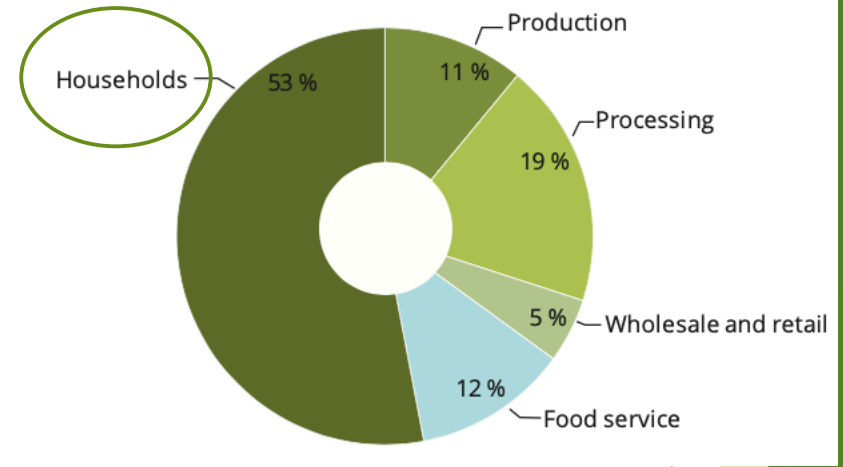
# BioWaste - Food Waste

Environmental Impact

Economic Impact

Social Impact

Biowaste: 34% of municipal waste in Europe



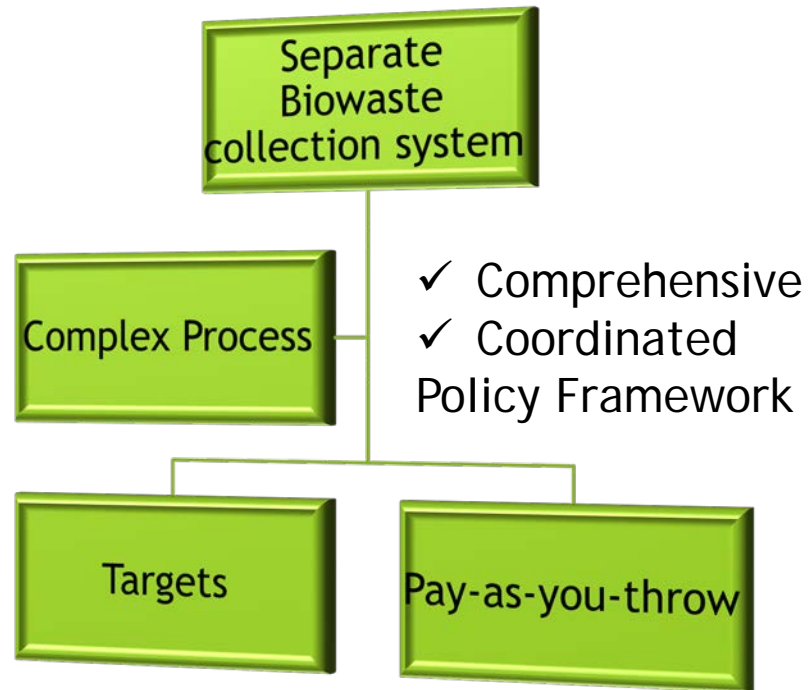
FoodWaste accounts for 60% of all Biowaste



# Source-Separated Food Waste

High-quality value-added products needs:

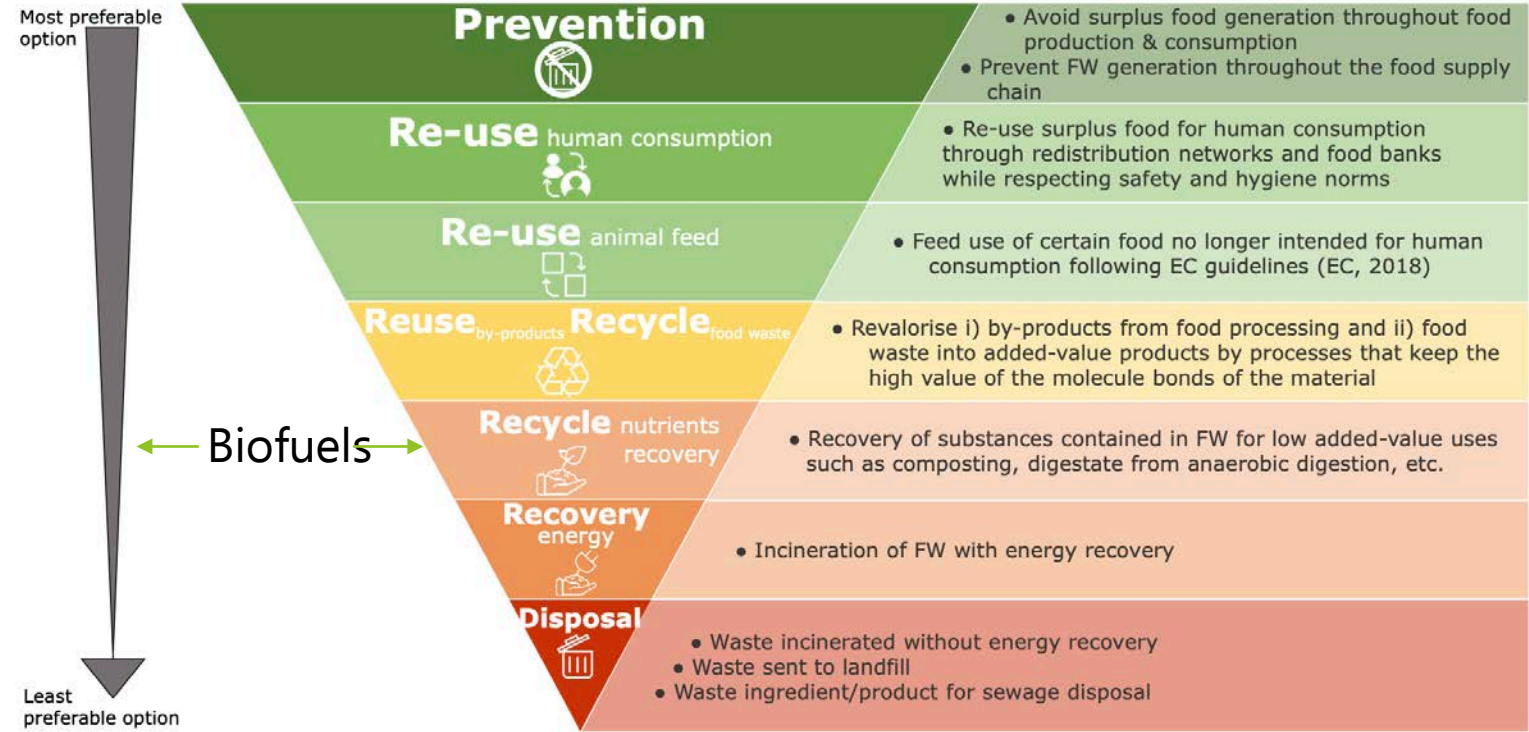
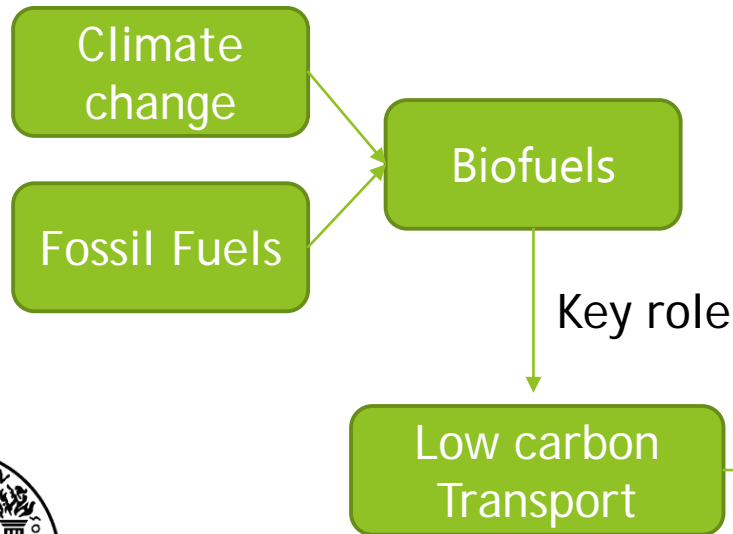
- Collected separately at source



# Food Waste Hierarchy

NOT ALL FOOD WASTE WILL BE PREVENTED :

✓ Technologies about valorizing them must be developed



# EXPERIMENTAL



# Source-Separated Food Waste



Cleaning service of the Municipality of VVV

- ✓ Collection
- ✓ Transportation
- ✓ Feedstock Delivery
- Delivery Frequency: 15 days
- Feedstock Quantity: 200 kg



# Feedstock Delivery

Food Waste Code	Delivery Date	Quantity (kg)
«K»	15/09/20	129,00
«L»	20/09/20	153,72
«M»	13/10/20	90,00
«N»	27/10/20	190,00
«O»	01/12/20	199,50
«P»	01/12/20	173,00
«Q»	26/01/21	199,50
«R»	09/02/21	195,00
«S»	20/04/21	190,84
«T»	25/05/21	135,74
«U»	08/06/21	155,92
«V»	12/10/21	76,00
«W»	02/11/21	170,91
«X»	23/11/21	121,08
«Y»	07/12/21	150,65
<b>SUM</b>		<b>2330,86</b>





# Drying and Milling

GAIA GC-100 Organic Waste Dryer



50 kg Wet Solids

75% Moisture



15-18h, 120 °C



12,5 kg Dry Solids (25% TS)

Residual Moisture 5%



# Composition of Feedstocks

Dry Basis (%)

A/A	Date of Delivery	Moisture	Fats & Oils	Water Soluble Solids	Ash	Cellulose	Hemi-cellulose	Starch	Acid Soluble Lignin	Acid Insoluble Residue
1	15/9/2020	75,71	11,52	39,37	12,25	14,24	35,32	3,70	1,28	9,16
2	29/9/2020	77,98	13,07	33,66	13,81	20,50	7,04	2,98	1,41	10,35
3	13/10/2020	76,19	13,81	37,47	12,31	19,99	4,19	4,77	1,47	9,53
4	27/10/2020	76,84	12,27	36,31	13,27	24,71	4,58	3,92	1,25	9,47
5	24/11/2020	76,00	9,17	35,39	13,09	16,82	4,38	4,66	1,01	16,14
6	1/12/2020	75,09	14,49	39,89	12,88	14,67	4,15	3,62	1,03	6,64
7	26/1/2021	73,17	15,22	37,28	7,82	17,25	9,76	8,30	1,14	8,89
8	9/2/2021	72,61	11,23	25,50	11,83	18,42	8,69	9,70	2,98	13,19
9	20/4/2021	73,90	14,64	27,68	7,46	15,98	8,50	10,36	1,41	17,88
10	25/5/2021	71,49	15,44	29,08	7,80	12,84	5,14	18,49	2,38	15,14
11	8/6/2021	76,68	9,65	40,50	10,45	10,92	14,12	9,63	1,16	11,01
12	12/10/2021	79,15	17,04	31,25	11,10	10,73	8,78	7,67	1,74	12,67

## Physicochemical Characterization



	<b>Composition (% w/w d.b.)</b>
<b>Moisture (Wet basis)</b>	75,89 ± 2,24
<b>Oils</b>	13,14 ± 2,14
<b>WS</b>	34,43 ± 4,45
<b>Ash</b>	10,83 ± 2,39
<b>Cellulose</b>	16,13 ± 3,60
<b>Hemicellulose</b>	9,07 ± 7,23
<b>Starch</b>	7,63 ± 3,94
<b>ASL</b>	2,11 ± 2,46
<b>AIR</b>	11,90 ± 4,38
<b>Free Glucose</b>	2,35 ± 1,17

# Experimental Protocol

Fermentation mode: SSF at 35 °C (Simultaneous Saccharification Fermentation)



1<sup>st</sup> Scale up



2<sup>nd</sup> Scale up



## Factorial experiment

Process Variables:

- ⑩ Amylase Dosage (Spirizyme XL)
- ⑩ Cellulose Dosage (NS87014)
- ⑩ Yeast Dosage (*S.cerevisiae*)
- ⑩ Ethanol yield

## 4L Reactor

Optimal conditions of factorial experiment

Variable testing:

- ⑩ Solid Loadings

## Pilot Trials

- SSF mode
- Optimal conditions of the previous experiments



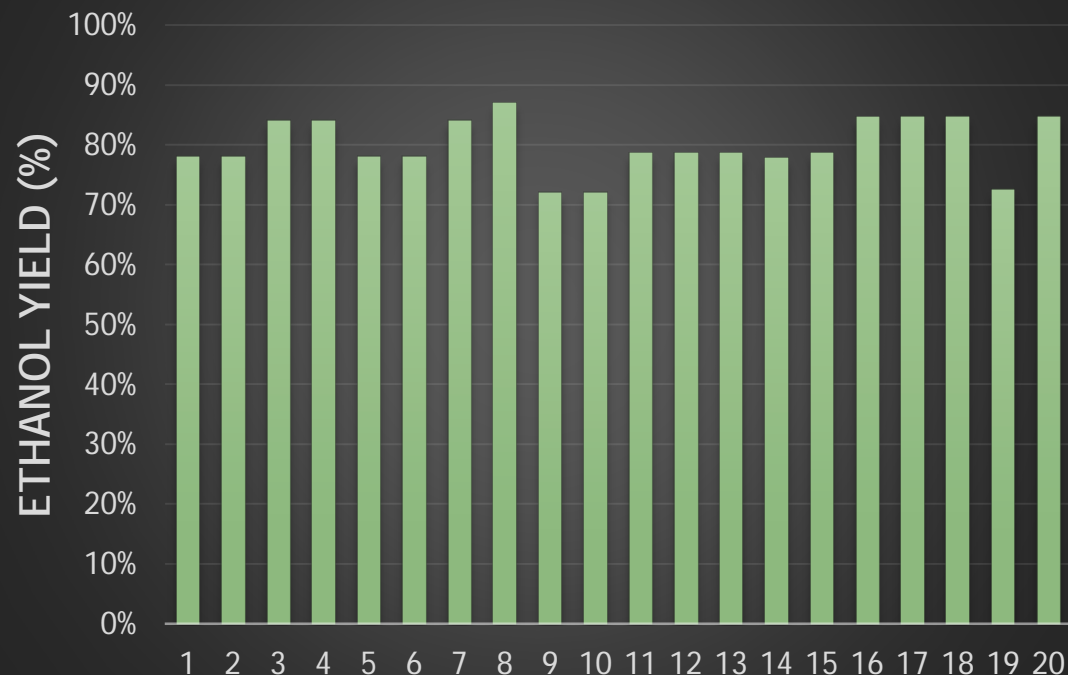
# Lab-Scale Experiments (100 mL)

Controlling variables and levels of the factorial experiment:

Parameter	Low Level (-)	High Level (+)	Center
SpirizymeXL (μL/g starch)	20	60	40
NS87014 (μL/g cellulose)	100	250	175
S. Cerevisiae (%)	1	3	2

- ✓ SSF mode
- ✓ 35 °C
- ✓ 10% Solid Loading

## Factorial Experiment Results



Results:

- Average Ethanol Yield: 80,1 %
- Highest Ethanol Yield: 84,7%



# Lab-Scale Experiments (4L)

1st Scale up to 4L:

- ▶ At optimum conditions of the factorial



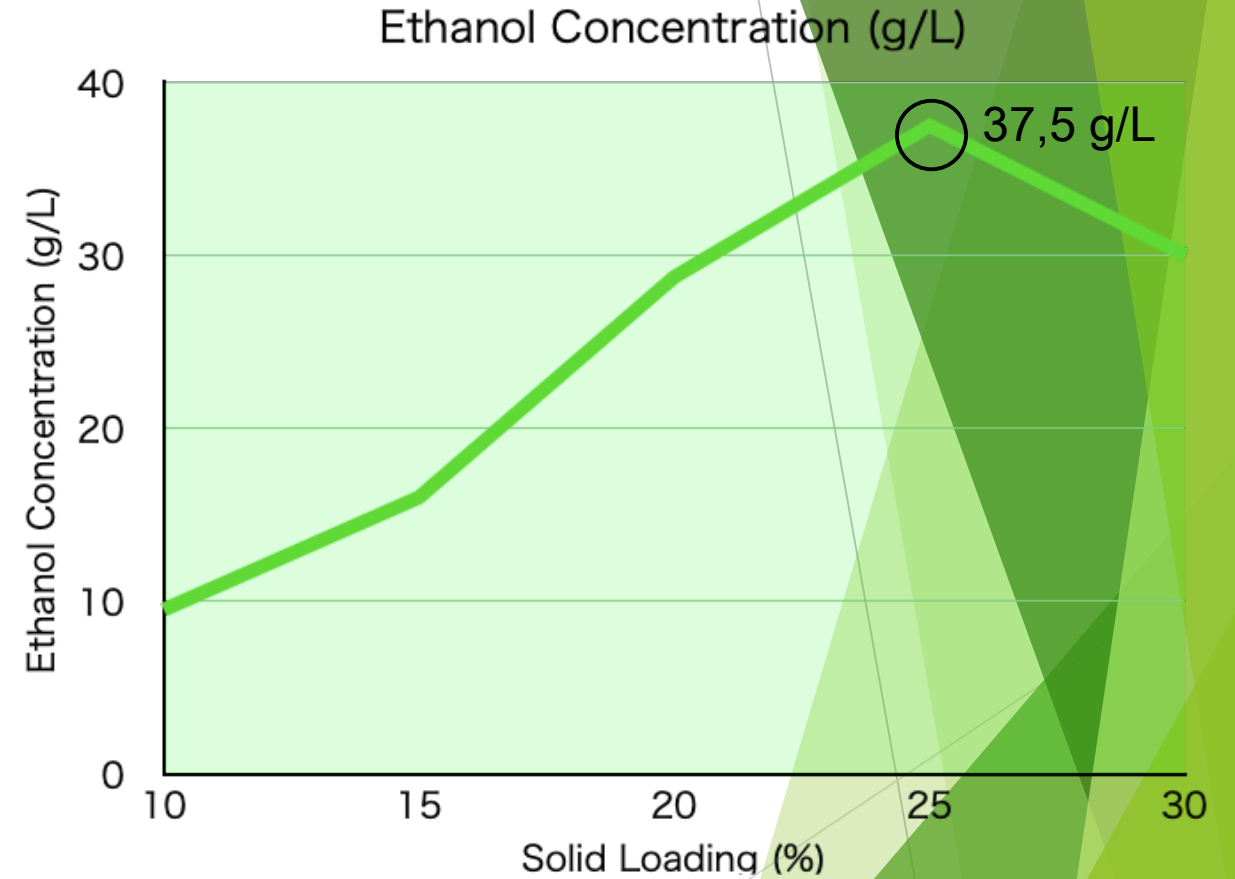
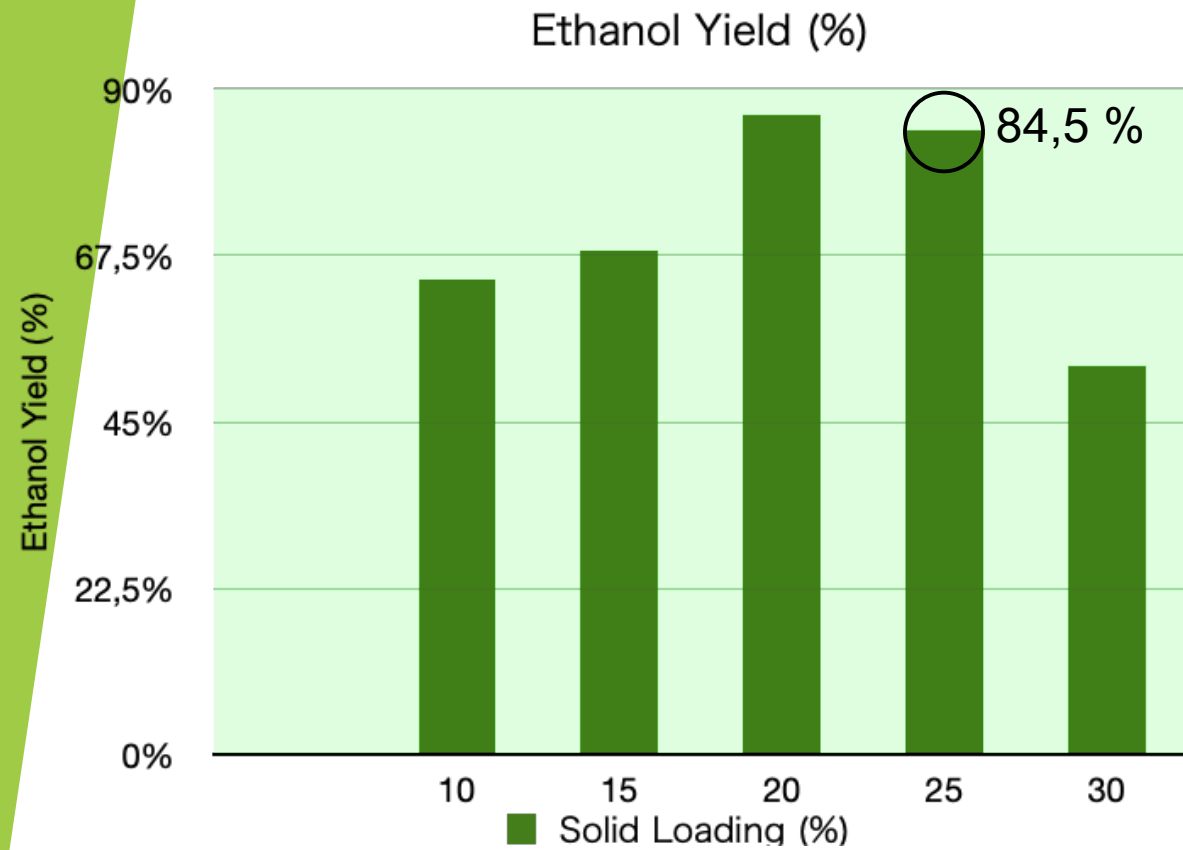
Experiments (No)	Solid Loading (%)	Spirizyme ( $\mu\text{L/g}$ starch)	NS87014 ( $\mu\text{L/g}$ cell)	S.Cerevisiae (%)
1	10	40	175	2
2	15	40	175	2
3	20	40	175	2
4	25	40	175	2
5	30	40	175	2

## Results:

✓ Optimum Results:

- 25 % Solid Loading
- Ethanol Yield: 84,5 %
- Ethanol Concentration: 37,5 g/L

# Lab-Scale Experiments (4 L)



# Pilot Scale

- ✓ Fermentation mode: SSF
- ✓ Temperature : 35 °C
- ✓ Solid Loading: 25 %
- ✓ Residence time: 24 h

Optimum Conditions:

Amylase: 40  $\mu\text{L/g}_{\text{starch}}$   
Cellulase: 170  $\mu\text{L/g}_{\text{cellulose}}$   
Yeast: 2 % of TS





# Hydrolysis - Fermentation

## Characteristics:

- Two rotating vessels
- Double walls
- Temperature control with water
- Controlled by PLC



Interior of Reactor:



PLC:



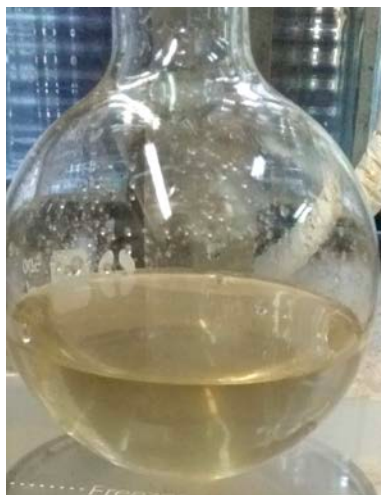
# Distillation - Dehydration

Distillation Unit:

- 70 °C
- Vacuum pump



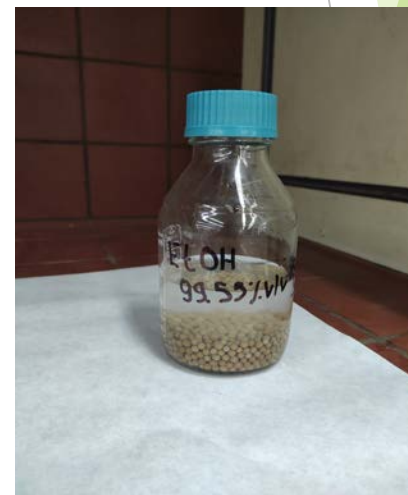
1<sup>st</sup> Distillate:  
35 % v/v



Lab-scale two  
stage distillation:  
94-95 % v/v



Zeolite 3A:  
99,55 % v/v



# Ethanol Yield

Ethanol yield as the main target was calculated as:

$$Y_{EtOH} = \frac{\text{Maximum Ethanol Concentration}}{\text{Theoretical Ethanol Cocncentration}}$$

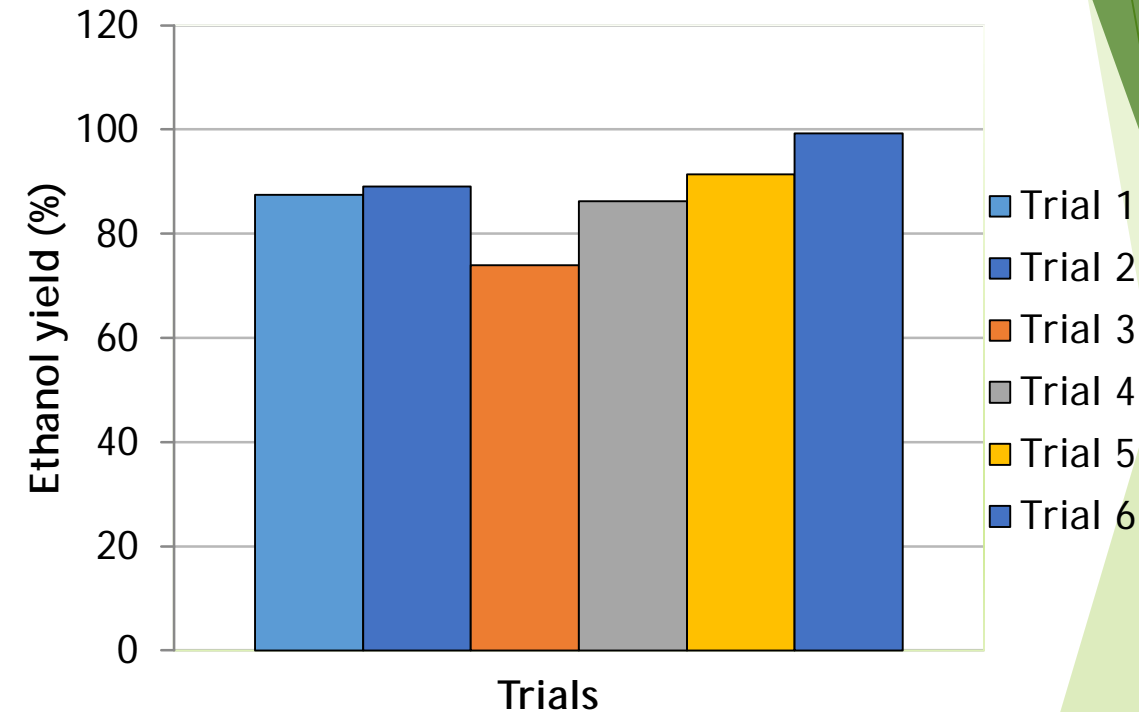
Notes:

1. Maximum Ethanol concentration was about at 8 hours.
2. Ethanol yields were verified by polysaccharides' degradation.

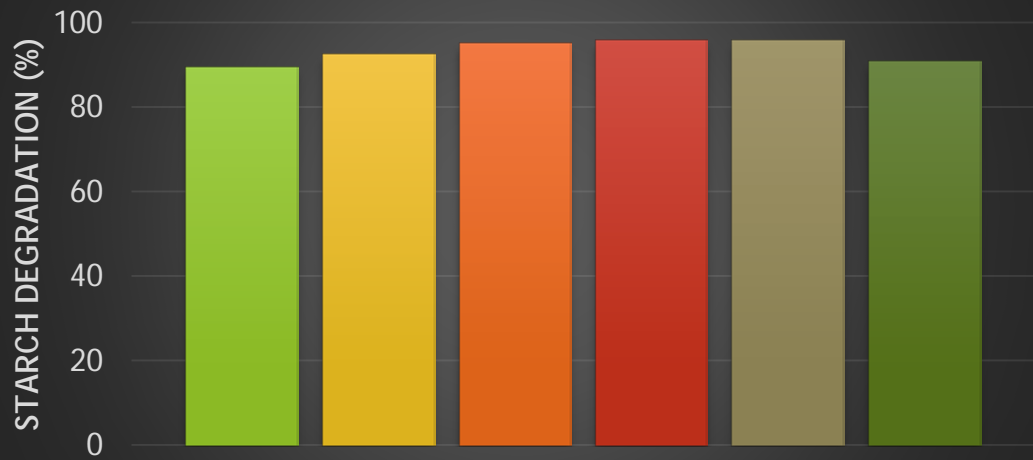
Conclusions:

1. The results were successful and repeatable.
2. The Ethanol yield was between 73 to 90 %.

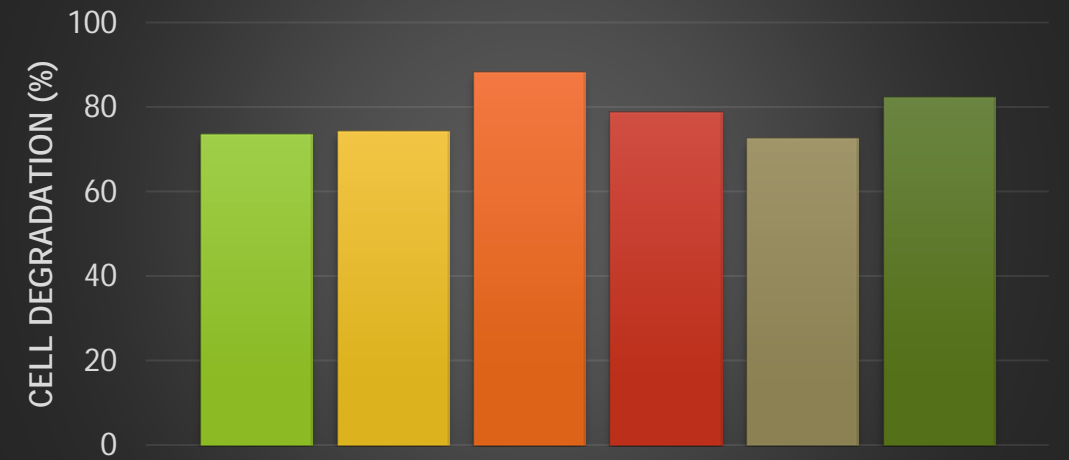
Pilot Scale - Ethanol Yield



## Starch degradation



## Cellulose degradation



### Conclusions:

1. Starch Degradation is very high and is between 89 and 95 %.
2. Cellulose Degradation is significantly higher than other studies, from 72 to 88 %.
3. Repeatable results are obtained.

# Polysaccharides Degradation



# Total Results

Degradations	Pilot Trials						Average
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Solid Degradation (%)	46,28	63,86	70,2	67,96	64,27	68,54	<b>63,52 ± 8,8</b>
Cellulose Degradation (%)	73,61	74,27	88,31	78,78	72,48	82,33	<b>78,30 ± 6,14</b>
Starch Degradation (%)	89,46	92,34	95,17	95,65	95,85	90,77	<b>93,20 ± 2,73</b>
Ethanol Yields							
Max Ethanol Conc (g/L)	34,66	39,26	39,01	42,12	30,03	40,05	<b>37,49 ± 4,38</b>
Ethanol yield (%)	87,46	89,01	73,92	86,23	91,45	99,24	<b>87,89 ± 8,25</b>
EtOH yield by Cell,Starch,Glucose Degradation (%)	75,14	83,09	91,4	86,92	83,72	86,59	<b>84,48 ± 5,44</b>
EtOH yield by Cell and Starch Degradation (%)	69,3	68,37	83,67	76,58	81,99	77,16	<b>76,18 ± 6,31</b>



# BioEthanol Analysis

## Analysis by HELPE



**High quality  
Ethanol**



**High purity (99,55% v/v),  
according to EN 15376:2012**



**Production of biofuel E10 (Gasoline 95 RON +  
10% Bioethanol) agree with the properties of  
unleaded gasoline 95 RON according to  
EN 228:2012**



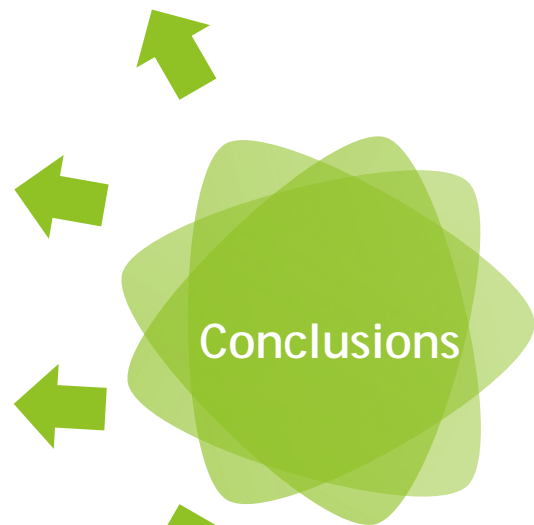
# Conclusions & Challenges

**Upscaling** of bioethanol production at pilot scale

The **new enzymatic cocktails** were very efficient at 35 °C

Very **high** and **repeatable** results

- High **quality** and **purity** of BioEthanol
- **Properties of E10** Biofuel in line with the limits



Use of **defatted raw material** will increase the efficiency

**Mix substrates** for better ethanol yield

Energy optimization





# THANK YOU



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement no.818308



## WaysTUP!

VALUE CHAINS FOR DISRUPTIVE TRANSFORMATION OF URBAN BIOWASTE INTO BIOBASED PRODUCTS IN THE CITY CONTEXT



## Pure Ethanol


<b>Test</b>	<b>Meas. Unit</b>	<b>Method</b>	<b>Result</b>
Density at 15 oC	g/ml	EN ISO 12185	0.7951
Methanol	%w/w	EN 15721	0.01
Propan-1-ol	%w/w	EN 15721	0.15
Butan-1-ol	%w/w	EN 15721	0.01
Butan-2-ol	%w/w	EN 15721	0.27
2-Methylpropan-1-ol	%w/w	EN 15721	0.00
2-Methylbutan-1-ol	%w/w	EN 15721	0.15
3-Methylbutan-1-ol	%w/w	EN 15721	0.00
Higher saturated (C3-C5) mono-alcc	%w/w	EN 15721	0.57
Ethanol and higher saturated alcohol	%w/w	EN 15721	99.91
Water	%w/w	EN 15489	0.450
Total acidity (expressed as acetic aci	%w/w	EN 15491	0.001
Electrical conductivity at 25 oC	uS/cm	EN 15938	0.20
Appearance	---	EN 15769	Clear
Colour	----	EN 15769	Colourless
Inorganic chloride	mg/kg	EN 15484	0.1
Sulfate	mg/kg	prEN 15492	1.0
Involatile material	mg/100 ml	EN 15691	1
Total sulphur	ppm-w	ASTM D-5453	2.1

## E10 Biofuel

Test	Meas. Unit	Method	Result
Density at 15 oC	g/ml	EN ISO 12185	0.7506
Vapour pressure at 100oF-Mini	kPa	EN 13016-1	77.3
Total sulphur	ppm-w	EN ISO 20846	0.6
* Research Octane Number, RON	---	EN ISO 5164	97.4
* Benzene	%v/v	EN ISO 22854	0.80
* Aromatics	%v/v	EN ISO 22854	34.7
* Olefins	%v/v	EN ISO 22854	1.4
* bio-Ethanol	%v/v	EN ISO 22854	10.0
* Ether>5C (MTBE-ETBE-TAME)	%v/v	EN ISO 22854	1.9
* Oxygen content	%w/w	EN ISO 22854	3.1
* Tert-butyl alcohol	%v/v	EN ISO 22854	0.0
* Appearance	---	VISUAL	Clear & Bright
* Colour	---	VISUAL	Undyed
* Vapour Lock Index	---	Calculated	1122
* Water	%w/w	EN 15489	0.061
I.B.P.	oC	EN ISO 3405	30.7
F.B.P.	oC	EN ISO 3405	190.2
Evaporated at 70 oC	%v/v	EN ISO 3405	49.8
Evaporated at 100 oC	%v/v	EN ISO 3405	58.9
Evaporated at 150 oC	%v/v	EN ISO 3405	87.8
Residue	%v/v	EN ISO 3405	1.0

## Unleaded Gasoline 95 RON

Density at 15 oC	g/ml	EN ISO 12185	0.7463
Vapour pressure at 100oF-Mini	kPa	EN 13016-1	70.7
Total sulphur	ppm-w	EN ISO 20846	0.4
* Research Octane Number, RON	---	EN ISO 5164	*** 93.6
* Benzene	%v/v	EN ISO 22854	0.90
* Aromatics	%v/v	EN ISO 22854	*** 38.0
* Olefins	%v/v	EN ISO 22854	1.5
* bio-Ethanol	%v/v	EN ISO 22854	0.0
* Ether>5C (MTBE-ETBE-TAME)	%v/v	EN ISO 22854	2.0
* Oxygen content	%w/w	EN ISO 22854	0.4
* Tert-butyl alcohol	%v/v	EN ISO 22854	0.0
* Appearance	---	VISUAL	Clear & Bright
* Colour	---	VISUAL	Undyed
* Vapour Lock Index	---	Calculated	937
* Water	%w/w	EN 15489	0.005
I.B.P.	oC	EN ISO 3405	29.3
F.B.P.	oC	EN ISO 3405	193.3
Evaporated at 70 oC	%v/v	EN ISO 3405	32.9
Evaporated at 100 oC	%v/v	EN ISO 3405	52.8
Evaporated at 150 oC	%v/v	EN ISO 3405	86.6
Residue	%v/v	EN ISO 3405	1.0



# 1<sup>st</sup> Energy Analysis



The distillation took place for 2h and the recovery of ethanol was 63 % and 2.2 L.

The measurement is until the 1st distillate.

## Energy Analysis for a pilot scale experiment with 25 kg of dry solids

Drying	61,5 kWh
SSF	17 kWh
Distillation	30,3 kWh
Total	108,8 kWh
Total per unit	48,5 kWh/L <sub>ethanol</sub>