

Welcome to upPE-T

Dear all,

We hereby send you the first issue of the upPE-T newsletter. It contains some updates on recent activities within the consortium and information on what is currently going on with the project.

Details on upPE-T news can always be found on the upPE-T website www.uppet.eu, which was recently launched.

You can also follow us on Twitter [@t_uppe](https://twitter.com/t_uppe) and LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/in/uppe-t-project-700591201/>

Enjoy your reading and let us stay in touch. We are very happy to receive any comments you may have at info@uppet.eu

upPE-T Kick-off

The project officially started on November 1st, 2020 and had its Kick-off Meeting (KoM) on 23–24 November 2020. During the two days the members of the consortium had the opportunity to introduce their organization and present their roles within upPE-T.



Scientific Progress

All the partners have made their research plans for year 1, but after only a few experiments at ECO (ECOPLASTICS) and confirmed by CETEC (CENTRO TECNOLÓGICO DEL CALZADO Y DEL PLÁSTICO), we found that the bottle caps we thought contained only polyethylene (PE), are actually blends containing up to 10% of polypropylene (PP) as well. So now we are faced with the decision to change the research plans and include testing future enzyme systems for PP as well, or staying the course and focus only on PE. Work at CETEC and BOKU (UNIVERSITÄT FÜR BODENKULTUR) on the characterization of the different batches of plastic waste (hand sorted by ECO) progresses and increases the understanding of the material. On the PET side in WP2, ECS (ENZYMICALS AG), in collaboration with UG (UNIVERSITÄT GREIFSWALD) has been able to successfully test the first PETase enzymes on a commercially available PET. TAU (Tampere University) and CETEC are finishing up their first round of plastic waste pre-treatments and ECS is ready for determining the effect of those treatments on enzyme activity.

With the recent hiring of a researcher dedicated to WP3, UG can now start their search for a PE degrading enzyme system.

Science Week – 12th February 2021

upPE-Ts coordinator, CETEC, participated in a Science Week event in Murcia, focusing on Women in Science. Students from secondary school had the opportunity to learn about upPE-T and get introduced to the notion of research on the circular economy.



1st Advisory Board meeting – 22nd March 2021

The first Advisory Board meeting took place on March 22nd, 2021 in which its nine members gained insight on upPE-T's vision, future plans, opportunities and impact. The upPE-T AB is an independent group composed of external experts that will give guidelines and provide expert advice to the project in order to maximize the impact of the project results.



1st clustering activity – 13th May 2021

A clustering activity workshop took place on 13th May between upPE-T and two other H2020 projects – UPLIFT and PRESERVE – that focus on introducing new technologies in plastic packaging aiming at reducing the adverse impact of plastic to the environment. Partners from the three projects agreed to meet on a monthly basis; organise together a stakeholders' workshop in October; and explore future collaborations in terms of dissemination.



Forthcoming events:

- 2nd Advisory Board meeting on 18th October 2021
- Stakeholders' workshop in October

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