Ecopreneur.eu Activities Report 2024

Key results and activities in 2024

- ✓ In continuation of 2023, **unprecedented progress on EU Green Deal legislation**, including the entering into force of:
  - Ecodesign Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR) with the Digital Product Passport (DPP) and Textiles Strategy
  - Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD)
  - Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD)
  - Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)
  - European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR)
  - Nature Restoration Regulation
  - Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA)
  - Construction Products Regulation (CPR)
  - Right To Repair Directive
- ✓ Additional legislative progress on:
  - Packaging & Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR)
  - Waste Framework Directive (WFD) revision
  - Directive on Substantiation and Communication of Explicit Environmental Claims ("Green Claims Directive")
- ✓ Successful application for the **Ecodesign Forum** of the European Commission governing implementation of the Ecodesign Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR)
- ✓ Welcoming **B Lab Europe** as a new member, bringing in 1700 companies with the B Corps label across Europe into the membership
- ✓ The **staff of two operating at maximum capacity** thanks to a grant supporting Ecopreneur.eu's advocacy and capacity building in 2024-2027
- ✓ Successfully **onboarded an intern** for 6 months via Erasmus scholarship, supporting Ecopreneur.eu with fundraising
- ✓ Continued advocacy for a **level playing field for high-quality mechanical recycling** in close collaboration with business members Werner & Mertz, REMONDIS and Alpla, calling for a fair method of calculating recycled content through an implementing act under the Single-Use Plastics Directive (SUPD), culminating in a supported motion tabled by the GREENS/EFA group in the European Parliament
- ✓ Publication of a new **position paper with policy demands** for the New European Commission, 18 **co-signed statements**, 3 responses to EU **public consultations** as well as sending 5 **letters** to new Commissioners and 1 to the Hungarian Presidency, 1 **press release** and 1 **newsletter**
- ✓ **Featured in 8 media publications,** including the Brussels Contexte magazine, the Dutch Financieele Dagblad and the Recycling Magazine

- ✓ **Meetings with European institutions** officials Thomas Verheye and Sarianne Tikkanen (DG ENVI) and Pascal Canfin MEP (Renew), totalling 38 **advocacy meetings**, including 19 attended events, plus 41 meetings with stakeholders and (potential) funders
- ✓ The launch of Ecopreneur.eu's **EU legislation overview** covering over 80 laws related to sustainability, updated almost daily and freely available members and their member companies
- ✓ **Continued collaboration** with SMEunited, the Business for a Better Tomorrow Coalition, True Animal Protein Price (TAPP) Coalition and CLG Europe, joining of the global Business For Nature coalition
- ✓ **Intensified collaboration** with stakeholders including the European Environmental Bureau, ZWE, the WWF and ECOS, new collaboration with Client Earth, Solar Impulse, and Transport & Environment

Speaker / panellist at 3 events:

- ✓ Online speaker at the 2024 ASEIC Global Eco-Innovation Forum in **Korea** to present the ECESP with sustainable business examples from the Ecopreneur.eu membership
- ✓ Speaker at the **Hannover Messe** on a panel with European Commission official William Neale (DG ENVI)
- ✓ Speaker at the BFBT Manifesto launch event in Brussels

Publication of

- ✓ 24 **news items** and social media posts resulting in a total of 15.900 web page views

Plus:

- ✓ The staff participated in person in the 2024 **BNW Annual Event** and **Circular Economy Working Group** in Berlin and the Annual **SME Assembly** in Budapest
- ✓ Steady growth of 141 new registrations for the **Circularity Check**, totalling about 1390 users
- ✓ Successful **finalisation of the ORIENTING and Fashion for Change projects**
- ✓ Intensified **fundraising**, resulting in 6 proposals filed with consortium partners including the American Sustainable Business Network, Ellen MacArthur Foundation, SMEunited and the Enterprise Europe Network, with valuable lessons learned and promising prospects for 2025.

Despite funding challenges for the years to come, **Ecopreneur.eu continued to punch above its weight in EU advocacy**. With a strong network and clear mission, we look forward to building on this momentum in 2025.

(see next page for some highlights)

Ecopreneur.eu highlights 2024

ORIENTING Final Event

March 28, 2024

At a special event on April 18th at the World Circular Economy Forum in Brussels, you will learn about the outcomes of the ORIENTING project our Federation has been involved in over the last three years. As part of an international consortium of 17 organizations from eight different countries, Ecopreneur.eu...

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Life cycle sustainability assessment methodology developed by ORIENTING project

May 2, 2024

Brussels, May 2, 2024 - Ecopreneur.eu, the European Sustainable Business Federation, proudly announces the conclusion of the ORIENTING research project, aimed at fostering sustainability in product life cycles. The project consortium of 17 organisations has developed an operational methodology for Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment (LCSA) that integrates environmental, social, and...

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Interactive list of sustainability assessment tools published

July 12, 2024

Brussels - Ecopreneur.eu, the European Sustainable Business Federation, provides easy access to a list of 42 existing tools, indicators, software solutions, databases, data standards and related applications in relation to sustainability assessment that was recently developed by the EU project ORIENTING. A brief questionnaire (3 minutes) guides users, especially SMEs,...

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Unique online EU sustainability legislation overview available

July 16, 2024

Brussels - Are you also struggling to keep up with EU legislation? You are not the only one. Ecopreneur.eu, the European Sustainable Business Federation, is keeping up with sustainability legislation constantly and has now launched a unique online EU legislation overview that allows you "to see the forest through the...

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Priorities of the Hungarian Presidency

August 19, 2024

Under the slogan "Make Europe Great Again", Hungary states seven priorities for its presidency programme: (1) a new “competitiveness deal”, (2) strengthening European defence policy, (3) a consistent and performance-oriented enlargement policy, (4) curbing illegal migration, (5) shaping the future of cohesion policy, (6) a farmer-oriented agricultural policy and (7)...

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Ecopreneur.eu welcomes B Lab Europe as a new member

September 16, 2024

Ecopreneur.eu welcomes B Lab Europe as a new member of the European Sustainable Business Federation. Founded in 2013, B Lab Europe is part of an international network that transforms the global economy through standards, policies, tools, and programmes for businesses and certifies companies — known as B Corps — that...

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Ecopreneur.eu policy demands and priorities for the new European Commission

October 24, 2024

Designed as a strategic blueprint for a "Clean Industrial Deal", the Draghi report on "The Future of European Competitiveness" offers many constructive ideas. While Ecopreneur.eu endorses its call for significant EU investments in high-potential sectors, we stress the importance of integrating the circular economy for all sectors into that strategy...

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Ecopreneur.eu in the media: an Omnibus regulation could lead to unpredictability

November 28, 2024

Brussels, 26 November 2024: Ecopreneur.eu is quoted in an article the Dutch financial newspaper Het Financieele Dagblad on the European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen's recent suggestion to introduce an 'Omnibus' regulation aggregating the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD), Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD) and the EU Sustainable Finance...

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