



GO GRASS
Grass-based circular business models
for rural agri-food value chains



BIOCHAR MEETING MINUTES

1. Meeting Information

Date	15.02.2023
Starting time	15.02.2023; 13.00 CET
Ending time	15.02.2023; 15.00 CET
Meeting type	Face-to-face meeting
Venue	BIOFACH Nürnberg DE, Hall 4, 271
Requested partner	ATB Postdam DE Carbonauten DE GK-Explocom RO ARAD RO

2. Attendance List:

N ₀	Name and Surname	Institution	E-mail address
1	ALBERT IMRE	BIOTERRA	imre.albert@yahoo.com
2	MIRCEA VOINEA	BHS BIO	office@biohumusol.ro
3	PETRIȘOR PETRESCU	ADT	agrodanubiustrading@gmail.com
4	LIVIU CIULEI	ADT	agrodanubiustrading@gmail.com
5	AUREL PETRUȘ	ECOFRACT	augerpetrus@gmail.com
6	COSTIN LIANU	INTERBIO	biooffice@interbio.ro
7	ALEX PETRESCU	FRAȚII CALCIU	alex.petrescu85@gmail.com
8	GEORGE CRISTEA	TOPSEM	georgeisst@yahoo.com
9	ALINA VARADI	CASABIO	alina@casabio.ro
10	ION TONCEA	A.R.A.D.	tonceaion@gmail.com
11	GEZA KOVACS	EXPLOCOM	kovacsgeza@retorte.ro

3. Agenda

13:00 – Introduction:

- GO-GRASS presentation (Ion Toncea);
- Introduction of participants;

13:30 – EXPLOCOM RO – Biochar Business Model;

14:15 – Questions & Answers

The meeting started with a short presentation of GO GRASS "Grass based circular business models for rural agri-food value chains" objectives, WPs and Tasks in which ARAD is partner, by the Ion TONCEA. This presentation was support with leaflet of GO-GRASS.

Next step consisted of brief introduction of each Romanian participant, about profession and them business activities, as representatives of several organic farmers associations – **NATIONAL FEDERATION OF ECOLOGICAL AGRICULTURE (FNAE)**, first organic farming umbrella association of Romania; **BIOTERRA**, one of the oldest organic farmer association; **INTERBIO** – an organic clusters association; **AGRO DANUBIUS TRADING (ADT) SRL**, a company of trading and service supplier in organic farming; **BHS BIO INNOVATIONS SRL** – organic fertilizer and pesticides producer and supplier; **TOPSEM** – seeds, fertilizer and pesticides supplier; **ECOFRACT** and **FRAȚII CALCIU** – the biggest organic field crops farms; **CASABIO CU SANATATE** – a producer and supplier company of about 100 organic products: of beekeeping, vegetables, fruits, bakery and products from cereal legumes, technical, medicinal and aromatic plants,, inclusive hemp, colloidal minerals and activate zeolite; **GK** – **EXPLOCOM**, the biggest biochar producer from wood, wheat and maize straw and any type of grass from Romania.

EXPLOCOM RO – Biochar Business Model

This meeting part was presented by the Mr. Geza Kovacs, owner of the GK – EXPLOCOM. He is started with a short history and the presentation of business model of GK – EXPLOCOM regarding re-technologising of GK – EXPLOCOM, the row materials – wood, wheat and maize straw and all kinds of grass, products – biochar, wood vinegar and the organic solid and liquid Ro-fertilizers, the informative price of the EXPLOCOM products and the future of the Biochar producing at level of farms (big) in small units for saving the cost of raw materials transport, more and more high. Also, at this point he insisted for cooperation with ATB regarding small Biochar units and about EXPLOCOM availability to cooperate with other organic inputs producers, mainly with BHS BIO INNOVATION SRL for enriching of the biochar quality with other nutrients and microorganisms.

Questions & Answers

The main scientific questions and comments were about characteristics of EXPLOKOM biochar, wood or straw vinegar and solid and liquid characteristics and effect on soils and crops. In this context, it was remarkable the discussion

about biochar efficiency comparative to other organic fertilizer, like Biohumusol, which is apply to decompose the straw on the soil and increase the soil micro-organisms diversity. The effect of biochar regarding carbon sequestration in the soil and importance of it for organic farmers was another interesting debate.

Also, the farmers representatives, asked about availability, price, transport and other market aspects of the Biochar and fertilizers based on biochar.

The final steps were dedicated to bilateral talks between GEZA and business companies, respective Romanian organic farming representatives about developing biochar business.