



# FACCE SURPLUS

## SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT AGRICULTURE FOR FOOD AND NON-FOOD SYSTEMS

FACCE SURPLUS (Sustainable and Resilient agriculture for food and non-food systems) is an ERA-NET Cofund, formed in collaboration between the European Commission and a partnership of 15 countries in the frame of the Joint Programming Initiative on Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change (FACCE-JPI).

FACCE SURPLUS is committed to improve collaboration across the European Research Area in the range of diverse, but integrated, food and non-food biomass production and transformation systems, including biorefining. Among other things, the ERA-NET Cofund aims to support innovation and value creation from biomass and biorefineries and organises joint calls between funding bodies from Member States and the European Commission.

It contributes to the strategic objective of FACCE-JPI to build a European Research Area in the domain of agriculture, food security and climate change as well as to the scientific objective of enhancing resilience in agricultural production systems. In turn, this will contribute to tackling the Grand Challenge of ensuring food security and agricultural production in the face of climate change.

### FACCE SURPLUS First call and Second call

The first call for transnational research projects was launched in January 2015 with an indicative total available budget amounted to 17M€. In November 2015, 14 projects were selected to receive funding in the frame of FACCE SURPLUS.

Recognising that other initiatives are considering the scope and application of large-scale biorefineries in the EU context, the second call of FACCE SURPLUS focuses on the small-scale biorefinery concepts and their potential role in enhancing the sustainability and productivity of EU agriculture, as well as their scope to benefit the rural economy. 10 partners joined this call for transnational research projects with an indicative budget of 6,25M€. The deadline for submission of pre-proposals was March 7, 2017, while the deadline for full proposal submission is July 17, 2017.

For further information please visit [facesurplus.org](http://facesurplus.org) and [facejpi.com](http://facejpi.com)



Subscribe to the FACCE SURPLUS newsletter on [facesurplus.org](http://facesurplus.org) and stay updated on the latest news from the ERA-NET Cofund.



FACCE SURPLUS has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 652615

# MISCOMAR

## Miscanthus biomass options for contaminated and marginal land: quality, quantity and soil interactions

Bioenergy is a key element of the EU renewable strategy and exists at the interface of policies on agriculture/land use and energy generation. Currently the majority of biofuels are produced from food crops grown on agricultural land, whereas the majority of solid biomass used for heat and power is woody and comes from forests. To avoid tension between food and fuel production, changes to the current approach are proposed by the European Commission to grow energy crops on medium or low quality agricultural land wherever possible.

The main goal of the research project **MISCOMAR**, funded within the frame of FACCE SURPLUS, is to develop techniques for biomass production on marginal land in Europe by improving the understanding of land suitability for miscanthus cultivation in general and especially on marginal land and by developing concepts for sustainable integration of miscanthus on farm and landscape levels.

Therefore MISCOMAR tasks will focus on the following objectives:

- investigate the field performance of novel, stress tolerant miscanthus hybrids in comparison to the standard genotype *Miscanthus x giganteus* on economically marginal and heavy metal contaminated soils
- quantify the impacts of miscanthus production on soil parameters
- identify utilisation options for biomass and study the impact of varying environmental conditions on potential miscanthus end uses
- develop concepts for the integration of miscanthus into existing landscapes, crop rotations and farming systems

The gathered data and the developed model concepts of the project will help to inform strategic agricultural policy development for increased sustainability and reduced environmental impact. Further, the project results will offer economically viable production alternatives for land less suitable or unsuitable for food production, with reduced risk for heavy metal introduction into the food-chain.



### Coordinator

Dr. Marta Pogrzeba  
Institute for Ecology of Industrial Areas, Poland  
Email: m.pogrzeba@ietu.pl



**Project partners:** University of Hohenheim, Germany and Aberystwyth University, United Kingdom.

**Total funding:** 575.000 €

**Project period:** 2016 – 2019

For more information, please visit: [miscomar.eu](http://miscomar.eu) or [facceturplus.org/research-projects/miscomar](http://facceturplus.org/research-projects/miscomar)