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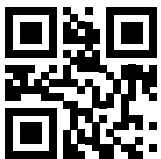
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Dissemination

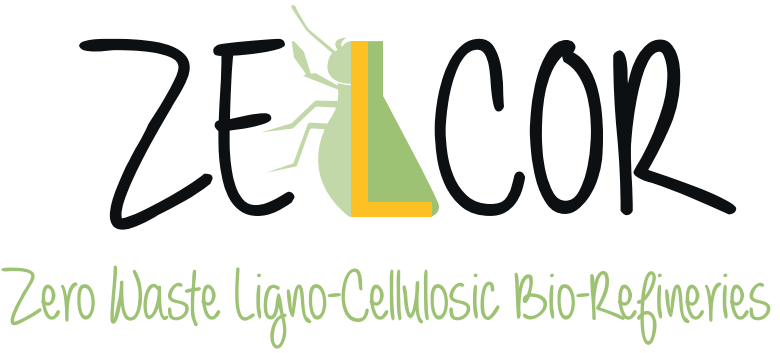
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Converting recalcitrant side streams into high added-value biobased products

Zelcor project aims at demonstrating the feasibility of transforming lignocellulose biorefinery recalcitrant side streams into high added-value biobased products, including fine chemicals. Its concept is to combine chemical and enzymatic catalysis with insects-based biological conversion, within a biorefinery integrated approach.

The project is conceived to avoid waste production by recycling waste bio-based products and improve the sustainability of existing second generation biorefineries. It addresses three types of recalcitrant raw materials: lignocellulosic residues from ethanol production, lignins dissolved during pulping process and lignin-like humins formed by sugars conversion. Enzyme and process engineering are implemented to design efficient conversion routes and permit technological breakthroughs.

A platform for assessment of the biomolecules functionalities

A transversal platform for the characterisation of biomolecules has been settled to identify bio-products of commercial interest among lignins and humins multifunctional nanoparticles, phenolic antioxidants, insects-based chitosans and aromatic chemical intermediates. Thanks to this platform, Zelcor is enhancing knowledge of the structure-function relationships and the mechanisms involved in recalcitrant raw materials catalytic depolymerisation and bioconversion.

Demonstration of the approach feasibility is performed by process scaling-up, formulation of end-product prototypes and value chain sustainability and safety assessment.

The presence of industrial partners all along the value chains, from lignocellulosic feedstock to end products, facilitates demonstration activities and technological transfers. With this strong industry drive, Zelcor will lead to large scale production of biomolecules for cosmetics, packaging and chemical industry, as well as novel biocatalysts.

Zelcor is a 5.2 M € collaborative project, 49% of which for SMEs (43% EC grant). It gathers 14 organisations from 8 countries including 5 academia, 7 SMEs, and 2 corporations.

Zero Waste Ligno-Cellulosic Bio-Refineries



Zelcor Consortium

