



GENERAL ASSEMBLY M8

After a successful kick-off meeting eight months ago, the ZEBRA-LIFE consortium met again on the 21st and 22nd of June in Sangüesa (Navarra, Spain) at Smurfit Kappa plant for its second General Assembly to discuss further on the progress of the project, the different milestones and collective achievements reached during this period and to define the next steps for the following semester.

Representatives of the consortium partners attended the meeting: [CENER \(National Renewable Energy Centre of Spain\)](#), [Centro Tecnológico Riojano](#), [Roka Furadada](#), [Repsol](#), [ASINCAR](#), [Bioquochem](#), [Inveniam Group](#) and [Smurfit Kappa](#) that hosted the meeting and gave the unique opportunity to visit their MG Kraft paper production process. The good ambience plus the proactive mood of all the consortium members during the meeting were at the fore, promoting fruitful discussions around the project and demonstrating the excellent consortium relationship.



These are the event main takeaways from the meeting:

- The project is advancing on the right direction: the first batch of ZEBRA-LIFE products has been produced, characterized and delivered to the end users for testing in the different applications with promising preliminary results.
- The evaluation of the different samples delivered to the application will be key to define the next project steps.
- The construction of the ZEBRA-LIFE pilot plant is on the right track, where so far there are no delays, and the expectation is that it can be executed according to the project schedule. The excellent preparation and the good collaboration with the right stakeholders are being key for the achievement of this important milestone.

The project, which aims to transform the lignin-rich black liquor from the pulp and paper industry into bio-aromatics with high antioxidant capacity, is in the good path to achieve its objectives. From now on, the right coordination of the following project activities will be key to demonstrate that these renewable products can really have a direct use as additives in multiple industrial sectors (cosmetics, food, rubber, fuels and lubricants) bringing alternatives to the current energy recovery process of the black liquor, thus, contributing to an improved life cycle based on circular economy.

Co-funded by the European Union under the LIFE Programme, ZEBRA-LIFE will continue to work to reach its objectives and make a positive impact by creating sustainable alternatives to fossil-based additives.

Find more information at <https://zebra.bio2c.es/>

