



Schedule

09:00 Reception

09:10 Welcome Session

António M. Cunha (Rector, UMINHO)

Monique Levy (ECOplast Project Officer, European Commission)

Margarida Casal (Full Professor, UMINHO)

Session 1. Biochemical and molecular basis of renewable polymers

Chaired by GRUPO ANTOLIN

09:30 PLA polymerization technology, processing, properties and applications

Robert Haan (Senior Polymer Technician, PURAC)

10:00 PHB compounds as technical bioplasts

Urs J. Hänggi (Director and Founder, BIOMER)

10:30 Microbial machines to produce Protein-Based-Polymers

Margarida Casal (Full Professor, UMINHO)

11:00 Coffee Break

Session 2. Novel reinforcements, nanofillers and additives

Chaired by UMINHO

11:30 Nanoclays to improve the physical performance of bioplastics

Eugenia Núñez (R&D Coordinator and Project Leader, NANOBIMATTERS)

12:00 Wood based fibres and nanocellulose

Kirsi Immonen (Senior Research Scientist, VTT)

12:30 Natural plant fibres: Chemical structure, production and applications

Mona Duhme (Junior Research Scientist, FRAUNHOFER UMSICHT)

Aims

The ECOplast workshop, organised under the scope of the ECOplast - European Research Project aims to present and discuss cutting edge progress in tailor-made bio-composites, from design and production, to present and prospective applications.

Conscious of the increasing ecological awareness along with new legislation that boosted the demand for products with a high ecological image, both scientific and industrial partners are aiming to develop biopolymers based on renewable resources that fulfill the required specifications of the highly demanding automotive industry.

The ECOplast workshop will address the recent developments of new biomass-based composites, biopolymer production, novel reinforcements, nanofillers and additives, and the adaptation of conventional processing techniques for the next generation of bioplastics.

Venue

University of Minho, **School of Sciences Auditorium**
Campus de Gualtar, Braga, Portugal

13:00 Lunch

Session 3. Adaptation of conventional processing techniques to the new biocomposites

Chaired by NANOBIMATTERS

14:30 Injection Moulding and Extrusion Polymer Processing

Rui Magalhães (CEO, PIEP)

15:00 Compounding is the key

Birgit von Hansen (Project Engineer / Application Technology, FKUR)

15:30 Palltruder: Production of biocomposite granules

Carlos Gómez (Project Management and Sales, PALLMANN)

16:00 Coffee Break

Session 4. Round table

Chaired by CTAG

16:30 R&D in the automotive industry

Pablo Soto Losada (Non-metallic Materials Research Manager, GRUPO ANTOLIN)

Ines Alonso Garcia (R&D Engineer, MEGATECH)

Denise Garcia (R&D Engineer / Plastic Product/Process Area, CTAG)

17:30 Closing Session

Pilar Vidal (ECOplast Project Coordinator, CTAG)

Margarida Casal (Full Professor, UMINHO)