



Strategic Targets for 2020 - Collaboration Initiative on Biorefineries

**To all stakeholders
of the European Biofuels Platform**

Contact:

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**Information request:
Visionary R&D projects in the area of Biorefineries**

Dear Madam or Sir,

I am contacting you in the framework of the Star-COLIBRI project (Strategic Research Targets for 2020 – Collaboration Initiative on Biorefineries), which is a Coordination and Support Action funded by the European Commission's 7th Framework Programme. The project involves five European Technology Platforms and 5 major European Research organisations.

Star-COLIBRI (www.star-colibri.eu) aims at overcoming fragmentation and promoting cross-fertilization in the area of biorefinery research. The project will support innovations by speeding up and facilitating **industrial exploitation** of research results in the biorefinery field. In addition it promotes coordination in the field of future R&D funding and facilitates the creation of a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) in the area of biorefineries.

The most challenging exercise in the project is the definition of **visionary and trendsetting Biorefinery Research and Development Projects** in Europe. For the selection and identification of leading European Biorefinery projects (**so-called 'Star-Projects'**), we would very much appreciate your support. We would kindly ask you to provide your input to this subject by sending us information about trendsetting projects and political strategies in this area that are ongoing in your country. All information that will be received by Star-COLIBRI project will be analysed in order to stimulate and enhance transnational cooperation between different selected Star-projects. This strategy is called StarClustering. Being part of a StarCluster will have numerous

benefits. It will among others, enable projects to enhance their results, impact, as well as their visibility.

The potential Star-Projects should comply with seven pre-selection criteria, which were pre-defined by the Star-COLIBRI consortium:

1. **Raw materials shall be biomass.**
All types of biomass must have an origin in plants and / or fauna source, including industrial and urban waste.
2. The project should not only focus on laboratory level. The R&D programme must have **at least a pilot scale step**. The reason for this criterion is that a Star Project must have a substantial industrial relevance and strategy.
3. The project must have a minimum size and therefore a minimum R&D budget (necessary to cover lab and pilot scale activities). As a first estimation, we propose to fix this **minimum budget to EUR 5 million**. This limit could be refined in the future.
4. The project shall be finished before the year 2020 (primary timeline).
5. The project should not be finished or end in short term as there is a need to initiate collaborations. We propose to only select projects with (still) a minimum running time of **at least 18 months before the end of the project**. This means that all Star projects pre-selected during Star COLIBRI project should not finish before January 2012.
6. As the project must have a substantial industrial relevance / strategy, there must be **at least one (key) industrial partner** in the consortium.
7. The project should integrate different parts of the value chain(s) and should not be focused on only one step.

Please let me know, if you have information about any projects in your country that comply with these criteria until **19th March 2010**.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for any further information.

Sincerely,

Kristin Sternberg