



SURFsUP

NEWSLETTER #4

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The SURFs UP project has had an incredibly active start to 2026. From international conferences to stakeholder forums and a prestigious award, our consortium has been busy bringing biosurfactant innovation to the world stage. Here's a look at what we've been up to and what's coming next.

Where we've been

• Técnico Innovation Summit 2026

On February 3rd, the IST-ID team, showcased SURFs UP's vision and consortium, including insights of biosurfactant production from sustainable, renewable substrates using non-conventional yeasts. They also had the chance to meet, researchers, startups, industry partners and policymakers all in the same room, an extraordinary occasion to remind that science and policy must go hand in hand to drive Europe forward.



• ANTHOS 2026

On March 9th, at ANTHOS 2026 in Vienna, LEITAT presented how the SURFs UP project integrates the Safe and Sustainable by Design (SSbD) framework from day one. Their poster presented the assessment of hazard profiles, ecotoxicity, biodegradability, and the full value chain demonstrating how safety and sustainability are integrated through the innovation process, rather than bolted on at the end.



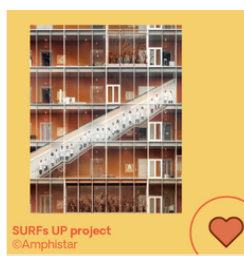
• CBE JU Stakeholder Forum 2026

On March 24th, SURFs UP attended the CBE JU Annual stakeholder forum, where the project had a dedicated booth showcasing the preliminary formulations for a dishwashing liquid, a kitchen degreaser and a bathroom cleaner formulated with safe and sustainable biosurfactants derived from waste-based feedstocks.



A special highlight of the event was the participation of Sophie Roelants from Amphistar in a panel on scaling bio-based innovations where industry experts discussed how best to tackle the technical, regulatory and systemic conditions needed to move from lab to industrial deployment.

SURFs UP wins the audience award in the People and Skills category



SURFs UP participated in the CBE JU photo competition with this amazing photo from Amphistar. This was a wonderful recognition of the people powering this project forward. Thank you to CBE JU and everyone who voted for us!

Meet SURFs UP at upcoming international events!

- **17th - 21st May 2026 - SETAC Europe 36th Annual Meeting 2026.** SURFs UP's partner LEITAT will present at Europe's leading environmental toxicology and chemistry congress, in Maastricht, The Netherlands. The project contributions will cover sustainability assessment methodologies, Safe and Sustainable by Design (SSbD) implementation frameworks, and the environmental safety profiles of innovative bio-based surfactants.
- **17th - 22nd May 2026 - Lignin GRC 2026** - VTT will participate in the prestigious Gordon Research Conference on Lignin, in Lucca, Italy, with a poster showcasing the SURFs UP' activities at VTT involving the alkali-O₂ oxidation of hardwood lignin to produce a novel class of bio-based surfactants. The Lignin GRC is an international conference uniting researchers from academia, industry, and government to advance lignin science and its applications as a sustainable, renewable alternative to petroleum-based materials.

Stay connected via our [website](#) and our [LinkedIn](#) account to know early about upcoming events, results and stories!

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#Sustainability #Innovation #CircularEconomy
#Biosurfactants #CBEJU