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GtoG Highlights

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Editorial

After the summer break, the GtoG project gets a flying start with the new activities.

By end of September, the DA1 Report: Inventory of current practices, wrote by UPM in collaboration with all the project partners, was submitted to the EC – DG Environment. This report joined the Inception Report, the first official activity report foreseen. We are expecting an answer from the Commission by the end of this year.

Our main challenge is the launch and the interaction of the core Actions. Indeed the pilot phase over the value chain will run during two years. The search of the five jobsites by the demolishers started last July (Action B1) and will be followed by the processing of the demolition waste and its valorisation and specification by recyclers (Action B2) and thereafter the re-incorporation in the manufacturing process (ActionB3).

The success of those core actions by producing the expected high quality deliverables will rely on a great collaboration between the leaders of actions and the coordinators of sub-actions.



Technical aspects of the project

Action A1, the value chain analysis:

On 27th September 2013, the **DA1 Report: Inventory on current practices** of deconstruction, recycling and manufacturing processes was submitted to the DG Environment after being approved by the SC members (18th June 2013) and after being peer-reviewed by an internal committee composed of some project partners (Eurogypsum, Saint-Gobain, Siniat, Knauf Gips and Recovering).

Thereby the Consortium reached the first Milestone of the GtoG project according to the Grant Agreement.

Action B1: Eco-efficiency of deconstruction/segregation: technical, economic and market feasibility

Sub-action B1.1: Auditing of building, deconstruction project - Recovering

The objectives of B1.1 are:

- Creation of a **reference catalogue** on materials audit 20-30 years ago and more especially on gypsum based (GB) systems.

Data required:

- Qualitative inventory of the main categories of materials to be deconstructed. Focus on GB products.
- Identification of routes for each type of GB products regarding technical, legal, environmental and logistics aspects
- Possible methods of deconstruction for each type of GB products.

- Creation of an ideal methodology to carry out a **waste audit** prior to deconstruction

Data required:

- Gather different characteristic audits from the countries of the study
- Identify the lacks of these audits
- Focus on gypsum based materials diagnostic.

- Improvement of the economical approach of deconstruction and waste management with the partners so as to test it in the phase of B1.2

Results achieved so far:

The data collection to prepare the **catalogue** will come from the jobsite of partners. The deadline for the catalogue is foreseen on 30th June 2014.

The numbers of **waste audits** collected per country are: UK = 2; Germany = 2; Belgium = 2 and France = 6.

On 18th October, Recovering send the **1st draft of the waste audit** to be tested by the demolishers on site to identify the points to improve and the missing ones.

The deadline for the waste audit is foreseen on 28th February 2014.

Selection of demolition sites by partners:

Demolishers	jobsite
Cantillon - UK	Refurbishment of offices in London with only plasterboards. Quantity not yet assessed due to the on-going occupation of the building. Contact with NWGR and Siniat UK have been made for the processing of the gypsum based waste
Occamat France -	Refurbishment of 35 000 m ² of offices in the suburb of Paris. According to the waste audit, 330 tons of plasterboard are available. Contact with Siniat France have been made
Recycling Assistance Belgium -	Refurbishment of 34 000 m ² of offices in Brussels with only plasterboards. According to the waste audit, 300 tons of plasterboard are available. Recass will deal with NWGR and St Gobain Gyproc in Kallo to process the waste.
KSE - Germany	KSE is looking for a jobsite and will deal with GRI and Knauf Gips KG to process the waste.
Pinault Gapaix France & -	PIN had a jobsite with 30 tons of plasterboard in September. The deadline to evacuate the waste was too short to be processed by recyclers, thus this project won't be part of the GtoG. PIN will find another jobsite. PIN will deal with NWGR and St Gobain Placoplatre.

Identified deadlock:

The demolition companies need a clear answer from the manufacturers regarding:

- the support of the costs



- The amount of GBW needed for the trials. If the answers have not been given so far, all partners of the same recycling route (demolishers, recyclers and manufacturers by country) must coordinate their efforts to find gentlemen agreements.

Sub-action B1.2: Technical economic evaluation of deconstruction steps - Occamat

The objectives of B1.2 are:

- Collect data for the reference catalogue
- Test the ideal methodology to carry out a waste audit prior to deconstruction on jobsites
- Test the economical approach of deconstruction and waste management on jobsites
- Test and verify indicators in sub-action C1.1. on jobsites.

This sub-action will be operational once the demolition jobsites will start.

Action B2: Valorization of deconstruction waste

The Action B2 is under development. The start of the first sub-action B2.1: "Processing of deconstruction gypsum waste" is pending due to the actual beginning of the demolition jobsites. The logistics details (transport of waste from demolishers to recyclers) will be assessed on a case to case.

The sub-action B2.2 "Valorization and qualification of deconstruction gypsum waste" is pending due to the required tonnage by the manufacturers.

The organization of a conference call between the recyclers and the manufacturers in the coming month will help to clarify the situation and to draft a planning for those sub-actions.

Action B3: Towards sustainable lightweight systems

The Action B3 is under development. The first sub-action B3.1 "Gypsum waste recycling,

technical feasibility, process adaptation", starts with a test method proposal for gypsum plasterboard sent by LOEMCO to all the manufacturers. It will allow manufacturers (and recyclers) to approve which tests methods to use for all of the samples. Once test methods will be decided, a tentative initial test program should be approved including total number of tests to carry out in order to adjust the works to the budget of the project.

The second sub-action "Economic evaluation, energy raw material saving potential" starts with a **questionnaire template** sent by **NTUA** to all the manufacturers to be filled in **by 31st October 2013**.

LOEMCO and NTUA are the neutral parties for Action B3, in order to lead the technical survey and will collaborate with UPM for the carbon footprint assessment.

Action C1: Monitoring of impact in the value chain

Sub-action C1.1: Definition of best practices indicators - UPM

UPM send a proposition for the deconstruction indicators (technical, economic, environmental, legislative and social) that was reviewed by Recovering. The indicators for the deconstruction process will be ready by 31st October.

In November, UPM will develop a working document for the recycling and manufacturing processes to be completed by the manufacturers and the recycler's partners.

General coordination of the project

Reporting

On 27th September 2013, the Inception Report was sent to the European Commission, DG Environment with the following amendments:

- Renaming the partner Lafarge into Siniat



- The withdrawal of Jaeger Ausbau and its replacement by KS Engineering
- A proposition of a new calendar to submit the activity reports foreseen (remove two progress reports and reschedule the deadlines)

The GtoG project will receive then a letter from the Commission with probably a request to amend the actual partnership agreement. Indeed, from Astrale's perspective, some elements are missing.

Therefore a global amendment of the partnership agreement will be carried out in one shot to avoid the excessive number of document versions.

The next report to the EC, DG Environment will be the mid-term report scheduled on September 2014. The following amendments will be proposed:

- Change of LOEMCO legal status
- Reallocation of Action C1 with budget modifications.
- Any other amendment that might occur before September 2014.

Way Forward

Eurogypsum will produce the **1st Life + Information Board** in **December 2013**, according to the Grant Agreement. It will describe the project and report regularly on the developments and achievements.

The **next progress report news** is foreseen on **15th January 2014** and will cover the period from October to December. Eurogypsum will ask the contribution of:

- Recovering for Action B1 and C1
- GRI (in close cooperation with NWGR) for Action B2
- Knauf Gips (in close cooperation with NTUA and Siniat France) for Action B3.

Communication and Dissemination

Design the GtoG Website

The GtoG **website**, www.gypsumtogypsum.org went live on 23 September 2013.

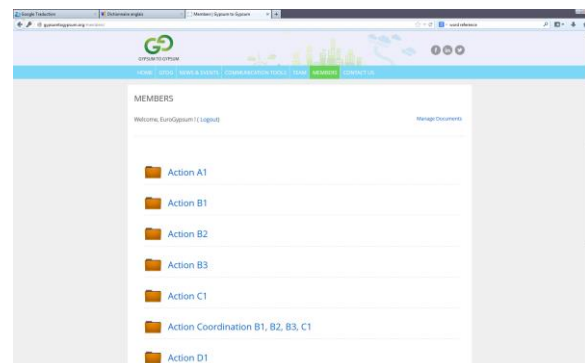
The website has a stylish and colorful design and includes the GtoG interactive diagram which briefly presents each step of the value chain for effectively closing the loop of the plasterboard products.

It is divided into 7 sections: the homepage, the GtoG, the news and events, the communication tools, the team, the members and contact us.



We look forward for your visit and your feedback by posting a comment with the contact page!

The **Intranet gateway** is now operational since early October. The GtoG partners can access the Intranet through the website with the section "Members".





A [press release](#) for the launch of the website was published and disseminated to the GtoG stakeholders on 1st October 2013.

GtoG partner's corner

In September 2013, Steve Hemmings (Siniat UK) published an article entitled "**Chasing our tails**" in Chartered Institute Waste Management (CIWM) journal. The article can be read [here](#).

On 3 October 2013, the GtoG project was presented at the **Thematic Group 3 Sustainable use of natural resource**.

On 16 October 2013, the Gypsum Forum was a successful event.

Two videos on [recycling](#) and on [megatrends in construction](#) were shown during the Forum. Click on the links to watch the video.

To consult the presentations made by the speakers, click [here](#).

Jean-Yves Burgy from Recovering made a presentation on the GtoG project entitled "first step towards gypsum circular economy".



Mr. William Neale, Member of cabinet – Commissioner Potocnik, Commissioner for the Environment, reminded the audience that the GtoG project with its original integrated approach will produce interesting results which are strongly expected by the EC.

We would like to thank the GtoG partners who attended the Gypsum Forum this year!



Spread the word on the GtoG project in your plants!

Communication support (leaflets, posters) are about to be sent to your plants so that your employees can be informed and aware of the development on the GtoG project.

GtoG forthcoming events: save the date!

IRCOW final conference– 24 October 2013, Brussels

Reuse, recycle and innovate.

The EU FP7 project IRCOW: Innovative Strategies for High Grade Material Recovery from Construction and Demolition Waste will present its final results of technical and non-technical nature related to managing C&DW as a resource of valuable materials which can be recovered for high-grade applications back in the construction sector.

For more information, click [here](#).

GtoG internal meetings

- Coordinating meeting sub-action C1.1 – 17 December 2013, Madrid.
- Coordinating Meeting Action B3 – 21 January 2014, Brussels



- Steering Committee meeting – 22 January 2014, Brussels
- Coordinating meeting Action B3 – 20 March 2013, Brussels

Organisation of seminars with the gypsum national associations.

In 2014, according to the Grant Agreement, presentations of the GtoG project at national level are forecast through the organization of seminars in close cooperation with the gypsum national associations.

National Association	Country
NBVG / ABLG	Belgium / The Netherlands
SNIP	France
BV Gips / WKO	Germany / Austria
Atedy	Spain
Polski Gips	Poland
GPDA	UK

The GtoG project manager will present to the audience what have been done so far and the upcoming steps of the GtoG project.

So far, a presentation is scheduled with **GPDA (UK)** during the next PSP (Plasterboard Sustainability Partnership) – 14 January 2014 in London.