



European
Commission

Aganfoils

No plastic too tough to recycle



Attero B.V. in Wijster, the Netherlands, recovers reusable materials and converts them into new products.

Photo: Aganfoils

OUR STORY

Attero B.V. recycles waste from one in three Dutch households. In our drive to recover reusable materials and reduce landfilling, we have pioneered cutting-edge technologies to extract reusable materials from domestic waste on an industrial scale, either converting them into energy or reprocessing them as new products.



Circular economy



Waste reduction



Environment

Larger with Life

Between 2016-2019, the EU LIFE Programme will invest €3 million in the €28 million Aganfoils project to recycle low-density polyethylene (LDPE), the kind of plastic often used in food wrapping and shopping bags. LIFE supported the construction of two recycling facilities in which Attero B.V. now supports the circular economy by transforming intractable LDPE foils into plastic granules that can be recycled into materials that are **as good as new foils (Aganfoils)**.

EU added value

- **Boosted plastic recycling to 70%**
- **Protect natural environments**
- **Recycling facilities created 28 jobs**

Prospects

- **Mitigate over 500 tonnes CO₂ a year**
- **Cut foreign imports of petrochemicals**
- **Produce energy from waste heat**

Achievements

- Demonstrated that plastic foils can be **recycled** as versatile, high-quality plastic granules
- Recycled plastic foils and other sources of LDPE from municipal solid waste
- Launched two **demonstrations plants** capable of recycling over 24 000 tonnes of plastic a year
- Streamlined **water** and **heat recovery** to reduce the environmental impact of the process
- Entered talks with Procter&Gamble to use material for **packaging** dishwasher tablets

Policy support

- Underpin the EU plastics strategy to make all **plastic packaging recyclable** by 2030
- Recycle **domestic waste** to avoid landfilling as set out as in the EU Waste Framework Directive
- **Safeguard resource** for EU businesses as laid out in the EU action plan for the circular economy

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Environment
& Climate
Action



LIFE supporting companies



The **LIFE Programme** has financed green innovation and clean tech solutions since its start in 1992. One of today's key priorities for LIFE is to support close-to-market projects delivering innovative environmental solutions, ensuring that they are sustainable and capable of being widely taken up by society in general, and the economy in particular.

The **Close-to-market initiative's** aim is to help and assist the LIFE projects with market potential to develop towards successfully maintaining project results via commercialisation and upscaling of the proposed innovative solutions.

How can LIFE support beneficiaries with close-to-market activities?

- Expert review of the close-to-market stage of your project and assessment of the close-to-market potential.
- Help with determining milestones and action points based on project readiness and assisting you with their progress during your project's whole lifecycle.
- Flexibility to use the LIFE project budget to get the necessary expertise including market analysis, detailed business plan preparation, coaching etc.
- Linking you with a network of advisers including the Enterprise Europe Network, coaches and accelerators.
- Assistance with financing and contacts with the investor community through events, introducing you to the SME Instrument and the European Investment Bank Group.
- Networking opportunities through LIFE platforms in order to build business partnerships with other key players.
- Gaining additional publicity for your innovative green solutions through the Innovation Radar platform and via dedicated handouts promoting close-to-market activities of LIFE.

“LIFE can help you to sustain and thrive even after the end of the LIFE project.”

LEARN MORE

 ec.europa.eu/life  [LIFE programme](#)
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HOW TO APPLY FOR LIFE FUNDING

The European Commission organises annual calls for proposals.
Full details are available at <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/funding/life.htm>
<https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/your-close-market-proposals-tips-applying>

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