

THE BRITTANY ALGAE CLUSTER

On April 6, 2023, the constituent General Assembly of the Brittany Algae Cluster was held in Landerneau in order to create the association, a new structure, to carry the Brittany Algae Cluster.

THE BRITTANY ALGAE CLUSTER AIMS TO MAKE BRITTANY A TERRITORY OF EXCELLENCE, A LEADER IN THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE ALGAE SECTOR.

IT IS AN ALLIANCE WHICH BRINGS TOGETHER COMPANIES, DRIVING FORCES OF THIS SECTOR, TERRITORIES, RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL ORGANISATIONS, AND FINANCIAL ORGANISATIONS.



THE BRITTANY ALGAE CLUSTER WAS INITIATED BASED ON A FOURFOLD OBSERVATION

- A powerful **ecosystem of innovative companies in Brittany using algae as a raw material is emerging**, a source of value creation (biomaterials, proteins, etc.). These companies have the technologies, the outlets and require a supply of raw materials in quantity, quality and regularity, to ensure their development.
- **France, the first global exclusive economic zone (EEZ) with 11,686,526 km², has a unique potential for algal culture, and more particularly Brittany.** Paradoxically, today it is structurally a net importer (130,000 tonnes of algae imported in 2022), and the harvest of natural algae, subject to strict regulations for the preservation of the environment and the renewal of the available biomass, will not be able to increase.
- **Algae are the fastest growing plants in the world** and in an environment where biomass is subject to increased competition in use (human and animal food, energy, fibers, green chemistry, etc.), they can be a new source of raw material, without inputs and without competing for land use.
- Brittany has historically hosted **research and higher education organisations** (CNRS Roscoff Station; UBO; Ifremer; Institut Agro, etc.) which **have internationally recognised expertise and skills** in the field of macroalgae.

As a result, the algae sector in Brittany is particularly well positioned to take a leading role in an already very dynamic European and international context.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE BRITTANY ALGAE CLUSTER

Based on this observation, **the founders have wished to contribute to the development of a network of activities around algae**, with the expected benefits being notably:

- **Boosting the circular economy** and innovative companies in the algae ecosystem, promoting financial support for companies in the Breton sector;
- **Networking and sharing a strategic ambition** for the Breton algae sector, promoting the Breton algae sector and its societal commitment;
- **Encouraging the emergence of collaborative projects** with the prospect of creating activities throughout Brittany;
- **Creating sustainable jobs** and offering new activities to existing marine sectors;
- **Contributing to the fight against climate change** by storing carbon and avoiding CO₂ emissions by replacing fossil-based products; **Taking into account sustainable development and the preservation of natural resources** at the heart of this sector in all the undertaken and supported actions.
- **Supporting food and energy sovereignty** in Brittany, in France.



MEMBERS OF THE BRITTANY ALGAE CLUSTER

The preparatory work of the Brittany Algae Cluster was carried out (November 2021 – March 2023) by the Pôle métropolitain du Pays de Brest as a continuation of its commitment to the algae sector : [Pays de Brest algae cluster 2018-2021](#) .

A mapping to identify the actions already carried out in Brittany with the objective of positioning the Brittany Algae Cluster to complement and add value to what was existing was carried out and a broad consultation of the stakeholders **of the sector** conducted.

A tight working group, made up of business leaders and representatives of the Education and Research organisations actively supporting the project (TECHNATURE - Laboratoires Gilbert - ALGOLESKO - ALGAIA - AGRIMER - PENN AR BED and the Roscoff Biological Station), was **responsible for proposing a structure and an economic model for the Brittany Algae Cluster**. The statutes, the roadmap and the contribution grid were adopted during the constituent General Meeting last April.

The association is organised around two categories of contributing members:

- **Active members** who participate in the operational governance of the association as members of the board of directors: companies, territories (EPCI -public establishments for cooperation between local authorities- and Brittany region), higher education and research organisations, banking organisations. They pay a contribution whose amount is fixed or calculated according to the number of jobs (companies-EPCI)
- **Associate members:** players in the ecosystem of the algae sector in Brittany (professional organizations, scientific mediation, associations, economic development agencies, consular chambers, etc.) who will integrate the working groups and theme projects which will be defined according to their expertise. The amount of their annual contribution is fixed.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

“Territories” Panel

Urban community of the Pays Bigouden Sud
Lannion Trégor Community
Urban community of the Pays de Landerneau-Daoulas
Urban community of the Pays des Abers
Pontivy Community
Morlaix Community

“Business” Panel

Harvesting and Production of Algae : ALGOLESKO (Loctudy) and AZOLLAE (Groix)

First Processing – Ingredients: ALGAIA (Lannilis)

Cosmetics : TECHNATURE (Dirinon/Le Relecq Kerhuon)

Agriculture – Plant-Animal Nutrition and Health, Inputs: OLMIX (Bréhan) and AGRIMER (Plouguerneau)

Nutrition and Human Health : TER'MER APPRO CONSULT (La Forest Landerneau)

Pharmaceuticals : GILBERT Laboratory (Plouédern)

Biomaterials : AKORIS LITTORAL (Lorient)

“Education and Research” Panel

Roscoff Biological Station

UBO-IUEM

AGRO INSTITUTE RENNES ANGERS

“Partner” Panel

BPGO Maritime Credit

Agricultural credit

ARKEA – CMB

AMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEMBERS

President : Mr. Jean Pierre RENNAUD, President of AZOLLAE

Vice-President : Mr. Patrick LECLERC, President of the conurban community of Pays de Landerneau Daoulas

Treasurer : Mr. Frédéric FAURE, General Director of ALGAIA

Secretary : Philippe LEGORJUS, President of ALGOLESKO

Deputy Secretary : Valérie STIGER, HDR Lecturer/Associate Professor, LEMAR-IUEM-UBO marine environmental sciences laboratory

This structure will enable effective and operational work in the field of economic development, with a strong alliance of companies and territories, while respecting the expertise and specificities of all players in the sector's ecosystem.

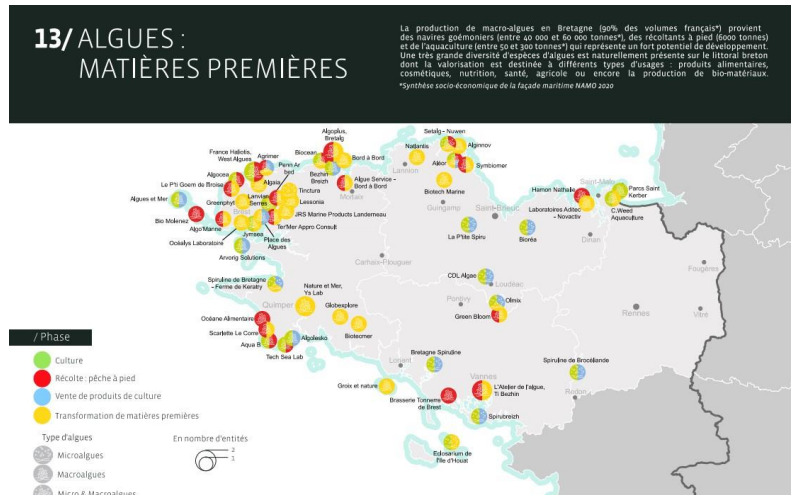
THE MISSIONS OF THE BRITTANY ALGAE CLUSTER

MISSIONS AND ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE CONTINUITY OF THE PAYS DE BREST ALGAE CLUSTER
Economic observatory: complete and enrich the CRAFT/BDI collaborative database for regular monitoring of the economic development of companies in the sector (Cluster Algues administrator of the Algae Area of Interest since 2018).
Knowledge networking: create recurring opportunities for meetings, exchanges, learning (workshops, meetings, site visits, newsletter, etc.), build a state of mind in the algae sector generating new real and sustainable cooperation. Creation of an Expertise Portal: economic, scientific and financial.
Positive communication: promote the sector via social networks, press relations, etc. (expertise, success cases, social commitments, etc.).
Cooperations: consolidate exchanges of experience and establish new collaborations with other territories at national, European and international level.

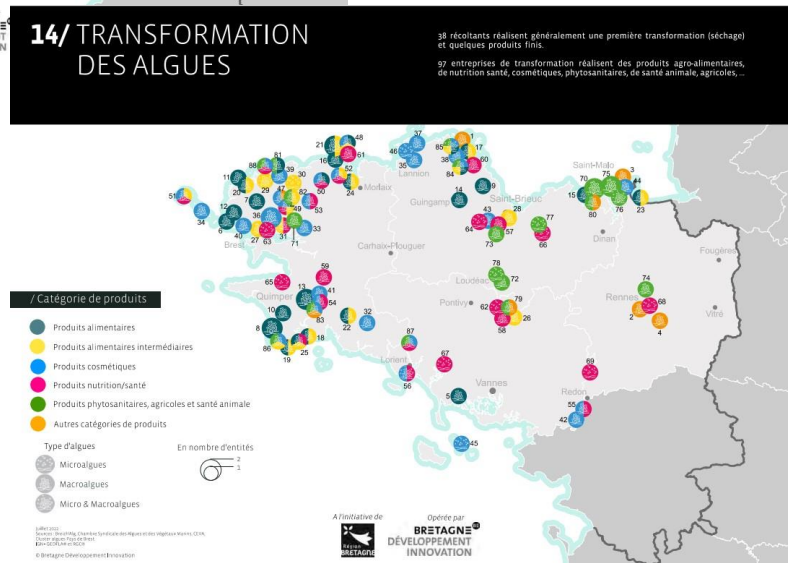
MISSIONS	PROPOSED ACTIVITIES
1 NETWORKING FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE SECTOR	Financing: Collaborations and synergies to be implemented between companies and the three historical banking partners of the Brittany Algae Cluster. In the longer term, development of a club of Brittany Algae Cluster partners.
	Pooling: Collectively analyze the opportunity or feasibility of shared tools for the transformation and valorization of algae, Facilitate collective negotiations for a reduction in the costs of some expenses.
2 PROMOTE THE SECTOR AND ITS SOCIETAL COMMITMENT	Attract and recruit: Initiate collective actions to address the shortage in skills (raise the level of awareness of professions, collaborate with employment and vocational training operators, etc.), Collaborate with other economic sectors (seasonality, complementarity of competences...).
	Sustainable development and prospects: Take into account sustainable development and preservation in all the activities of the Brittany Algae Cluster. Work collectively on the current and future needs of companies: raw materials, quality, markets, etc. Define the needs for complementary and transversal knowledge beneficial to the entire sector. Support, in partnership with the territories, the development of business installation projects in seaweed farming and integrated multi-trophic aquaculture.

By creating an Algae Cluster across the Brittany region, the players of this sector are providing with a valuable tool which will ensure the sustainable development of this promising sector. This is an interesting example of fruitful collaboration between companies, research centers and communities guaranteeing the performance of this sector.

MAPPING THE ALGAE INDUSTRY IN BRITTANY IN 2020



Available by following this link: [The Breton algae sector](#)



PRESS CONTACT

Caroline Peltier, Project Manager
 +33 7 60 83 73 56
contact@clusteralgues-bretagne.com
 Website: [Brittany algae cluster](#)