



# R&D+I offer in Biorefinery & Bioprocesses

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**INNOVATION**  
**INRAE**



#ScienceForInnovation





# INRAE: Science dedicated to life, humans, and the Earth

## Our job

- ✓ To produce and disseminate knowledge to help solve major global challenges
- ✓ To put this knowledge to work to foster innovation

## 14 Research divisions



Find more: <https://www.inrae.fr/en>

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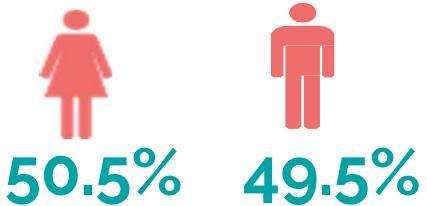


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# INRAE - Key figures\*

**>11000 FTE**

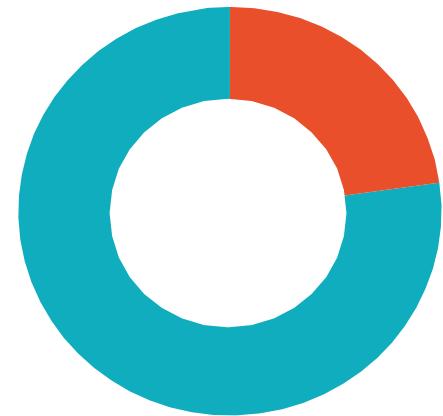


2005 researchers  
3179 engineers  
3045 technicians  
1850 PhD students  
2029 trainees

**75% permanent staff**

**25% non permanent staff**

## Budget



23% Own ressources  
77% Public service grant



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\*2020 data

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# Innovation - what we can do for you

An adapted response to every need

Do you want to develop new solutions  
(products, services or processes) ?

**Collaborative R&D projects can contribute to  
cope technological and societal challenges.**



Do you have a specific question or problem ?

**We propose expertise, research &  
subcontracting services for short-term  
cooperation.**



Do you need support for **result-oriented solutions**?

**We provide asset-based services: skills,  
knowledge-related facilities, access to  
our platforms.**



Are you looking for technical solutions **or technology  
transfer opportunities**?

**Take a look at our technology offer & patent  
portfolio for licensing or for startup  
business creation.**



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# INRAE - Our fields of innovation



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# From biomass to advanced biobased solutions

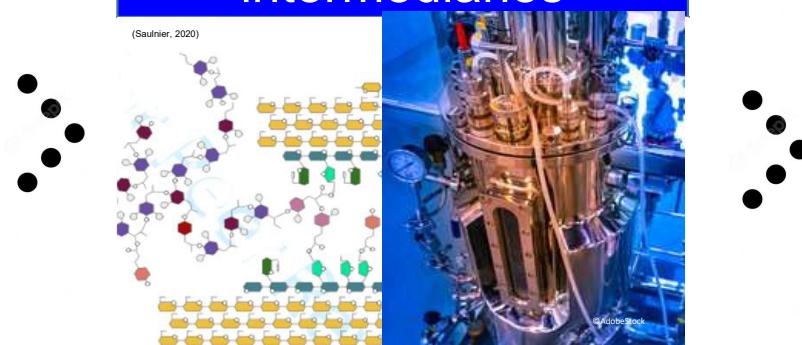
To meet market demand with a sustainable approach



## Renewable feedstocks



## (bio)Processes & intermediaries



## Products & services molecules, materials & energy



Advanced characterization methods | Biomass deconstruction |  
Biocatalysis - Fermentation | Industrial & environmental biotechnology |  
Functionalization | Formulation | Downstream processes | Ecodesign & LCA | Modelling & control |



# Our expertise in biobased solutions by segment



## Molecules



**We design** sober and efficient processes for the production of bio-based molecules for the chemical and agri-food sectors: antioxidants, pigments, fibers, emulsifiers and other bio-based substitutes for fossil resources, such as bioplastics and biofuels.

## Materials



**We develop sustainable** materials for numerous applications (construction, packaging, textile) from renewable biomass to replace their petroleum-based equivalents. Flax or sunflower fibers, wood, food waste... so many resources for creation of new materials!

## Energy & EB\*



\*Environmental Biotech

**We aim to facilitate the transition** to a more circular and bio-based economy by developing processes based on resource recovery, capable of creating value while treating bio-waste & waste water streams.



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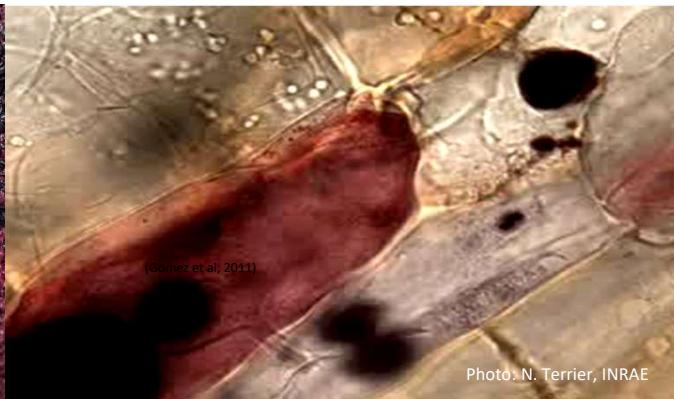
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- **Biomass fractionation, extraction, precision fermentation**
- **Platform molecules and use products (all fields of application)**
- **Drop-ins as well as new molecules/uses**
- **Properties of biopolymers during production, extraction and purification**
- **Bio-based binder to replace fossil-based resins**
- **Emulsions**

In France 1 M tons million tons of grape pomace are produced annually

Photo: D. Garcia-Bernet, INRAE



(Gomez et al, 2011)

Photo: N. Terrier, INRAE



**Natural E163 pigment for food applications from grape pomace**

# Molecules



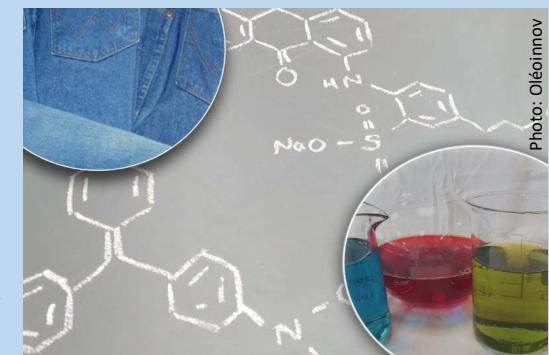
# Success stories

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The EU ZELCOR project (2016-2020) demonstrated the feasibility of transforming lignocellulose biorefinery recalcitrant side streams into high added-value biobased products, including fine chemicals by combining chemical and enzymatic catalysis with biological conversion by insects.

Created in 2019, after six years of collaboration between INRAE, Aix-Marseille University, Terres Inovia and Terres Univia, the startup OléoInnov **proposes biotechnological tools** (antioxidants, biocatalysts) for textile bleaching and industrial colored effluent treatment.





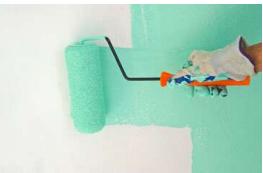
# Molecules



# Application examples

## Markets

I. Capron

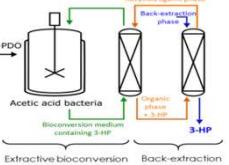


**Hihg stability, surfactant-free Pickering emulsions preparations from wood nano-particles** Highly stable emulsions, possibility to use particles of controlled size, polarity and texture for different applications.

Cosmetics Phyto

Pharma Agri-Food

C. Saulou-B



**Microbial process for the production of organic acids and hydroxyacids (continuous extraction)** 3-HP concentration higher than 60 g.L-1, average volume productivity of 2.79 g.L-1.h-1 at lab-scale.

Agri-Food Cosmetics

Chemistry Health

Séverac



**Green non-ionic surfactants of varying structures/sizes with different types of linkages and degree of branching** for new ranges of excipients or cosmetic ingredients with HLB>14 that cannot be obtained chemically.

Cosmetics Health

Chemistry

H. Fulcrand



**Biobased furylated polyphenols: custom-made functionalized platform molecules for speciality chemistry (resin, hardner agent).** One-step, low-pollution, soft conditions production process from Douglas fir bark.

Chemistry

Automotive

# Materials



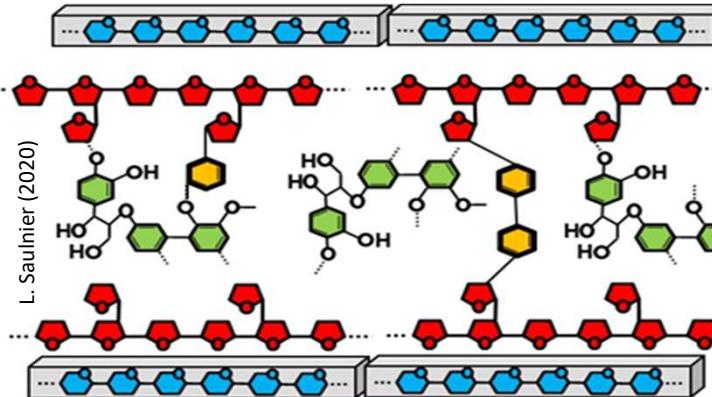
# Overview



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- Bioplastics & alternatives to plastic
- Plant-based and other biobased materials (animal waste)
- Fibre-based materials & textiles
- Sustainable manufacturing processes economically competitive
- Characterization and processing of advanced biobased materials
- Functional materials and objects using 3D and 4D printing
- Nano-materials & composite materials (including recycling)





# Materials



# Success stories

**Development of 2 types of semi-products**  
Développement de 2 types de renforts

**For 3 industrial sectors**  
Pour 3 secteurs industriels

**Depestele**  
Vendée Vendéealine  
Long fibres reinforcements  
Biaxial 100% flax (NCF)  
Grid

**Non-tissés**  
50% biopolymère / 50% lin

**Eco-technik**  
Non-wovens  
100% flax  
50% Biopolymer - 50% flax

**HOWA TRAMICO**  
Automotive  
Automobile

**kairos**  
Point-of-sale advertising  
Publicité sur lieu de vente

**Sailing**  
Nautisme

**Interreg**  
France (Channel Manche) England  
European Regional Development Fund

<https://flower-project.eu/language/en/>



The main objective of the FLOWER project (2018–2023) was to develop **flax fibre reinforcements for the emergence of new products for the sport, automotive and advertising applications**. FLOWER covered the entire value-chain, from the production of flax fibres to commercialisation of end products and allowed the development of high performance, biodegradable, light-weight or recyclable products with reduced environmental impacts.



**4FM - FARE & FRD-LAB** common laboratory for Future Fibres and Materials (FRD) aims to validate the results of projects carried out jointly by FRD and UMR FARE in an operational situation on the scale of Europe's largest hemp production basin. Hemp concrete was first used in house construction in 1986. Hemp shives are the fundamental ingredients in this biobased concrete. INRAE partnership with company FRD to improve the quality of hemp shives as well as that of other plant fibres.





## Materials



## Application examples

S. Domenech



**Biobased (100%) and biodegradable PLA with improved mechanical properties.** Possibility of film production by blown film extrusion. Can be implemented on a large scale on existing industrial installations.

## Markets

Packaging

Agri-food

C. Mayer



**Biobased composite powders (10-200 microns) for additive manufacturing (selective laser sintering 3D printing) of materials.** Modulation of the final properties by formulation (% PHA, waxes and lignocellulosic fillers).

Plasturgy

Packaging

Vandenbosche



**Agromaterials production by bioextrusion of a solid lignocellulosic material seeded with fungal biomass;** low density for building materials, packaging, thermal insulation, or high density after thermopressing.

Plasturgy

Building

Sports

Packaging

B. Bakan



**Biosourced & recyclable shape memory elastomer from hydroxylated fatty acids.** Breaking strength (10 mm/min): approximately 2 MPa. Elongation at break (10 mm/min): 150 - 250 %. - Solvent- and chain-blocker-free process.

Cosmetics

Phyto

Health

Pharma



# Energy & EB\*



\*Environmental Biotech

# Overview

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## Exploring the potential of biodegradable waste streams as a feedstock and their role in closing loops of raw materials, nutrients, carbon and water

- Renewable energy, biofuels
- Effluent & waste treatment and resource recovery: design, operation, and optimization of treatment facilities
- Anaerobic digestion, methanation, electro-fermentation
- CH<sub>4</sub> & CO<sub>2</sub> conversion
- Fate of micro-pollutants & biogas monitoring on-site



Mixed biowaste streams represent an important challenge for viability, given the high dilution, pollution and disparity of content.



Microbiology can help to produce energy carriers from waste

# Energy & EB\*



\*Environmental Biotech

# Success stories



While all households are expected to be able to sort biowaste at the source by late 2023\*, the EU project DECISIVE (2016-2021, 14 partners) has focused on developing micro-scale anaerobic digestion (AD) in urban areas. DECISIVE **has led to full-scale testing of efficient micro-AD units at local level**, capable of producing both energy for local use and a biopesticide for farms.

BioEnTech developed software and analytical solutions to optimize the performance of AD facilities. Since its creation in 2013, more than 40 biogas plants in France and abroad have benefited from BioEnTech's pioneering technology, based on two families of patents with INRAE and INRIA. In 2022, SUEZ acquired BioEnTech, with the aim to accelerate its innovation efforts in AD.



# Energy & EB\*



\*Environmental Biotech

# Application examples



I. Gimbert



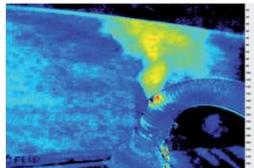
**Lignocellulosic biomass pretreatment by filamentous fungi for biofuels or biogas production** Improves delignification (30 to 50% wheat straw); wild, lignin-selective strain with a low cellulose and hemicellulose degradation.

Fuel

Energy

Biorefinery

N. Auvinet



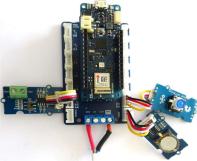
**Simple and fast quantification of fugitive biogas emissions from anaerobic digestion installations** for prevention of unwanted methane emissions and environmental and economic impact of these emissions.

Fuel

Energy

Biorefinery

R. Clément



**Low-cost sensors for WWTP and DIY open hardware (dataloggers)** For physico-chemical, volumetric & energy on-line measurements.

WWTP

Energy

ML Daumer



**Biological process for dissolving and recycling of iron and phosphorus in WWTP sludge, enabling phosphorus dissolution percentage between 50 and 75%.**

WWTP

Energy



# Our labs and platforms

