



PROGRAM Day 1: 30 November 2026



13:30 – 13:40: OPENING

by Organiser **Bio Base Europe Pilot Plant**
supported by “*The Protelnn Club*”
and “*Pilots4U powered by CoPilot*”

13:40 – 15:45 KEYNOTE SESSION: The European Bioeconomy in 2026: Sink or Swim?

13:40 – 14:45: PART 1: Successful Deployment of Industrial Biotechnology Business Cases.

In this part of the keynote, we want to inspire our ecosystem by showcasing successes based on reality, not on pipe dreams. Both a start-up and a corporate will share details on their scale-up journey and production plans with focus on the success factors, the hurdles and how to overcome them, and how to handle the shift from “Green is the Dream” to “Techno-Economics is the Name of the Game”.

This part will be concluded by a panel discussion adding contributions by an investor and a pilot facility to the discussion.

13:40 – 13:45 **Introduction**

by moderator Melina Gerdts, bioCircular Loop

13:45 – 14:00 **Keynote Presentation by a Start-up**

Company and speaker will be announced ASAP

14:00 – 14:15 **Keynote Presentation by a Corporate**

Company and speaker will be announced ASAP

14:15 – 14:45 **Panel Discussion 1: “Feet on the ground” proves to be a key driver for successful commercialisation of industrial biotechnology innovations**

Moderated by Melina Gerdts, bioCircular Loop, TBC



14:45 – 14:55

Short Engaging Reflections & Q&A with co-organiser DI Biosolutions

Mikael Wraae Valsted, Head of DI Biosolutions, TBC

14:55 – 15:55: PART 2: Panel Discussion 2: The 2026 Toolbox: Will it Turn the Tide for the Bioeconomy Sector?

Introductory text will be added ASAP.

14:55 – 15:05 **Introduction and Presentation of the Panel Members**



by moderator Melina Gerdts, bioCircular Loop, TBC

15:05 – 15:45 **Panel Discussion**

Panel Members TBC, Moderated by Melina Gerdts, bioCircular Loop, TBC


15:45 – 16:15 Investor High Tea

kindly offered by Flanders Investment and Trade

	16:15 – 16:25 Short Engaging Reflections & Q&A with co-organiser: Flanders Investment & Trade - Speaker, TBC Stad Gent - Invest in Ghent – Speaker, TBC	
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16:25 – 17:15 Investor Pitch Session 1

Several pitches by investors, exact content TBA & TBC

	17:15 – 17:25 Short Engaging Reflections & Q&A with co-organiser Brabantse Ontwikkelingsmaatschappij - Speaker, TBC
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17:25 – 18:00 Investor Appetite Drink with drinks and bites

kindly offered by Brabantse Ontwikkelingsmaatschappij

18:00 – 18:50 Investor Pitch Session 2

Several pitches by investors, exact content TBA & TBC

	16:15 – 16:25 Short Engaging Reflections & Q&A with co-organiser Planet b.io - Speaker, TBC
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19:00 – 19:10 Surprise Act

19:45 – 20:15 Informal Walking Dinner

kindly supported by [Bio-based Industries Consortium](#)

Enjoy a tasty and copious informal walking dinner, included in the registration day of Day 1.

19:45 – 20:15 Speed Dating Session 1

20:30 – 21:00 Speed Dating Session 2

Expand your network rapidly by enjoying five surprise one-on-one conversations in just 30 minutes. Max. 60p. per session, register via registration form.

21:00 – 23:00 Cosy Pitch Perfect Networking Lounge