

BIOTECH WEEK | *Biosolutions: Driving Europe's Agri-Food and Industrial Future and Competitiveness*

Monday – October 5, 2026

Rome, Associazione della Stampa Estera
Palazzo Grazioli, Via del Plebiscito, 102

The event aims to demonstrate to Italian and European policymakers that biosolutions are not a theoretical utopia, but a market-ready reality serving both the agri-food and industrial sectors.

Bringing together policymakers, industry representatives and key stakeholders, it will explore the opportunities offered by biosolutions, the barriers still limiting their uptake, and the policy and market pathways needed to accelerate their deployment across Europe.

The event will also leverage the launch of "**The 4th Agri-food Revolution**" **Position Paper**, which highlights the strategic role of biotechnology and biosolutions in building a more resilient, sustainable and competitive agri-food system, and calls for a more innovation-friendly European regulatory and industrial framework, including through the future European Biotech Act II, to accelerate their development and adoption across the agri-food value chain.

The initiative is promoted by **Assobiotec-Federchimica** as part of the **14th European Biotech Week**, an important annual event coordinated and promoted in Italy by Assobiotec. It contributes to the broader dialogue on innovation, scientific research, and the strategic role of biotechnology in addressing current and future societal challenges, while fostering collaboration among institutions, companies, researchers, and stakeholders across the sector.

DRAFT PROGRAMME

9:30 – 10:00 | Registration & Welcome Coffee

10:00 – 10:30 | Welcome Remarks

Focus: Driving European Competitiveness and Sovereignty through Biosolutions.

- **Carlo Ciccio**li, MEP, European Conservatives and Reformists Group (ECR);
- **Luca De Carlo**, President of 9th Standing Committee (Industry, Trade, Tourism, Agriculture and Agri-food Production) of the Italian Senate;
- **Dario Nardella**, MEP, Progressive Alliance of Socialists & Democrats (S&D);
- **Elena Sgaravatti**, Vice President, Federchimica Assobiotech;
- **Sergio Strozzi**, Head of Innovation, Technology and Startups, MAECI.

10:30 – 11:00 | FIRST PANEL – Biosolutions Across the Innovation Timeline: From Market-Ready Solutions to Future Horizons

Focus: Mapping ready-to-market solutions in agri-food and bio-manufacturing, addressing technological scaling issues and supply chain resilience.

- **Luigi Cattivelli**, Researcher, CREA Research Centre for Genomics and Bioinformatics;
- **Marco Pistocchi**, Coordinator of Industry and Environment WG, Federchimica Assobiotech;
- **Claire Skentelbery**, Director General, EuropaBio;
- **Masami Takeuchi**, Food Safety Officer, FAO.

11:00 – 11:25 | "The 4th Agri-Food Revolution" – Producing More with Less through Biological Innovation": Assobiotech Proposal

- **Luigi Galimberti**, Coordinator of Agritech WG, Federchimica Assobiotech;
- **Paolo Girelli**, President, Federchimica Assofertilizzanti;
- **Deborah Piovan**, President, National Protein Crop Federation, Confagricoltura;
- **Massimo Scaglia**, President, Federchimica Agrofarma.

11:25– 11:45 | Coffee Break

11:45 – 12:00 | Business Spotlight: Industrial & Agri-Food Best Practices

Fast-paced corporate pitches showcasing real-world economic impact.

- **Clementina Dellomonaco**, Senior Vice President Food Biosciences, IFF – "La Dolce Scienza. Applying biotechnology to help feed a world hungry for the future";
- **Massimo Nurisso**, Head of Sales Italy, Dairy, Food & Beverage Biosolutions, Novonesis – "Novonesis: real-life experience with biosolutions application in the food system".

12:00 – 12:45 | SECOND PANEL – Realizing the Potential of Biosolution: Overcoming Regulatory Bottlenecks and Unlocking Capital

Focus: Policies (e.g. Biotech Act, Omnibus Food & Feed), tech transfer limitations, venture capital, and European market integration.

- **Claudia Biffoli**, Head of Biotech & Pharma, Mimit;
- **Patrick Gerlich**, Managing Director, Bayer CropScience Italy;
- **Pernille Rype Elley**, Director, European Biosolutions Coalition/DI Biosolutions;
- **Serenella Sala**, Head of the Sustainable Supply Chains and Bioeconomy Unit, European Commission, JRC and **Teresa Lettieri**, Principal Investigator, European Commission, JRC;
- **Kristin Schreiber**, Director for Chemicals, Health, Retail and Agrifood, DG GROW;
- **Sofia Torreggiani**, Senior Economist, Directorate for Sectoral Strategies, Scenarios and Impact Analysis, CDP.

12:45 – 13:00 | Closing Remarks

- Summary by the Moderator and closing remarks by Assobiotec.

13:00–14:00 | Light Lunch

Moderator: **Emanuele Bompan**, Editor-in-Chief, *Materia Rinnovabile*.

**invited to participate*