

Toopi Organics secures €16M to flood European agricultural markets with urine-based biostimulants

- €11M Series A financing round was led by international fund VisVires New Protein, alongside European impact funds and historical investors.
- Additional €5M non-dilutive funds were obtained through French grants.
- Toopi Organics' first-in-class urine-based biostimulant for the partial replacement of mineral fertilizers (up to 50%) is now distributed in France & Belgium.
- With market approvals obtained in 6 EU countries, Toopi Organics aims to collect and transform over 2 million liters of human urine in EU in 2027, thus saving over 24 million liters of drinking water in the toilets.

Bordeaux, France, September 12th, **2023** – Toopi Organics, a French biotechnology startup developing plant biostimulants derived from the fermentation of human urine, today announces the closing of a \in 16M (\$17M) financing round. The fresh capital will be used to expand the company's urine collection network, launch 3 new urine-based products in EU, and establish two industrial sites, in France and Belgium, in order to reach a transformation capacity exceeding 2 million liters of urine per year by 2027.

This series A financing round was led by <u>VisVires New Protein</u>, a global fund supporting ambitious teams developing transformative solutions for a healthier, safer, and more regenerative agri-food system, alongside European impact funds <u>Edaphon</u>, <u>Noshaq</u> and <u>MAIF</u> <u>Impact</u>, as well as <u>BNP Paribas Développement</u>. Existing investors, including <u>IRDI</u>, <u>JOHES</u>, and <u>MakeSense</u>, also participated.

In addition to attracting \in 11M in equity, Toopi Organics secured \in 5M of non-dilutive funding. Creating new opportunities for water conservation and for the transition to a more sustainable and resilient farming model in the EU, the company obtained a \in 3,8M impact grant from the French government (<u>ADEME</u>) and a \in 1,1M grant from <u>Bpifrance</u>.





Alexandra Carpentier, Chief Executive Officer, and Michael Roes, President and Founder of Toopi Organics. Credits: Toopi Organics

"With this fundraise, our goal is to deploy a range of urine-based biostimulants across 600,000 hectares of crops in Europe in 2027. Over the past 3 years, our first product – the Lactopi Start - underwent over 40 agronomic trials. It is now approved, including for use in organic agriculture, and thus provides a straightforward solution to reduce the EU dependence on phosphate fertilizer imports. For farmers, it means preserved yields, reduced overall fertilization costs, and low carbon footprint. The product was very well received in Belgium this year, with very encouraging field results from clients, which bodes well for the distribution campaign in France, which is starting now." Alexandra Carpentier, CEO of Toopi Organics

"Within 3 years, Toopi Organics set up a unique human urine collection network in France, through partnerships with major players such as Vinci Highways for motorway rest areas, and EU-wide toilet rental company WC Loc for music festivals. The team also achieved a tour de force, obtaining market approvals in 6 EU member states for a first-in-class microbial biostimulant, based on the fermentation of human urine. This financing round really marks the transition from startup to scale-up, with exciting milestones in terms of industrialization, market adoption, and environmental impact. » Marie-Anne Dupin, Partner, VisVires New Protein

"Ending urination in drinking water, and seeing urine as a natural resource, were seen as funny, offbeat ideas when Toopi started out in 2019. Since, a scientific consensus on the benefits of human urine diversion and upcycling has emerged. The war in Ukraine led to unprecedented fertilizer shortages in 2022, with prices skyrocketing by up to 300%. There were droughts of course, with for instance water restrictions starting in March in France this year. With our technology, we finally provide a viable economic model to human urine upcycling for agriculture. Now, with this new consortium of international investors, our ambition is to go fast and far, in Europe and elsewhere." Michael Roes, Founder and President of Toopi Organics



About Toopi Organics

Toopi Organics is a high-impact biotechnology company specializing in the collection and transformation of human urine into microbial plant biostimulants for agricultural use. Founded in February 2019 in the South-West of France, Toopi Organics now has a team of 27 employees across France and Belgium. Currently expanding its urine collection network (highway rest areas, music festivals, public buildings and theme parks) and renforcing its production capacities, the company aims to distribute over 2 million liters of urine-based biostimulants in Europe in 2027.

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