



European Biostimulants Industry Council

## EBIC IS SHAPING THE BIOSTIMULANT INDUSTRY

### Secure & develop a single market in EU for biostimulants

Securing appropriate European regulation for biostimulants is a top priority for EBIC. This will help create a sector where biostimulants can fully contribute to sustainable agriculture and to society in general.

EBIC is a **trusted partner** and **resource** for EU policy-makers in their ongoing efforts to harmonise the sector.

### Reinforce the reputation and credibility of the industry

Promoting the scientific basis for biostimulant claims is an integral part of EBIC's work and is aimed at boosting the **credibility** and **reputation** of the industry.

Through its Code of Conduct, EBIC requires its members to make only science-based claims, ensuring that any products sold are effective, safe and respect the principle of loyal competition.

### Drive green economic growth and contribute to sustainable agriculture and the circular economy

EBIC is making a strong contribution to the growth of the biostimulant market.

EBIC is an important source of reliable information to inform investors about the sector to support market development.



Find out more and contact us | The EBIC secretariat is provided by Prospero & Partners, an independent consultancy helping food and agriculture organisations to create value sustainably. The secretariat also provides public affairs support to EBIC. Contact details at

[www.biostimulants.eu](http://www.biostimulants.eu)



## HOW WE WORK

EBIC's strategic objectives are driven by its **Board of Directors**, an overarching body of company experts.

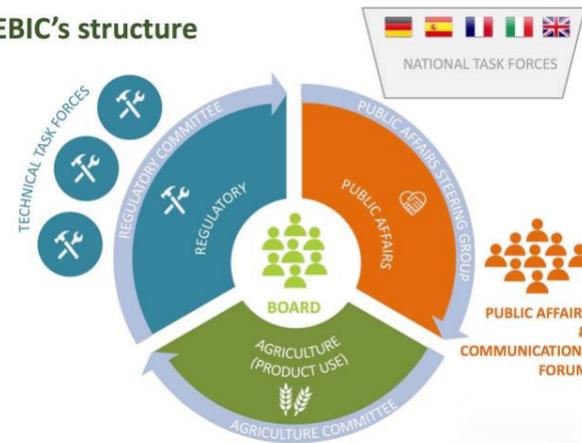
The responsibilities of the Board include:

- overseeing operations and finance
- establishing and managing committees and task forces
- supervising the secretariat
- confirming admission of new members
- approving external communications

The board is accompanied by a number of experts who form committees and working groups.

For more details on EBIC's current Board composition, please visit: <http://www.biostimulants.eu/about/board/>

### EBIC's structure



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[WWW.BIOSTIMULANTS.EU](http://WWW.BIOSTIMULANTS.EU)

# 5 CONTRIBUTIONS TO SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Increasing quality & yield

Boosting crop resilience

Reducing nutrient losses

Improving the food chain

Enhancing water conservation



## MEMBERS COMMIT TO A CODE OF CONDUCT

EBIC members are committed to transparent and ethical product marketing. Members must comply to our **Code of Conduct**, which means they commit to:

- Producing **scientific evidence** to justify the agronomic claims made for their products
- Ensure claims are **appropriately authorised**
- Share their research data with authorities (subject to data protection).

## What is a biostimulant ?

EBIC's definition:

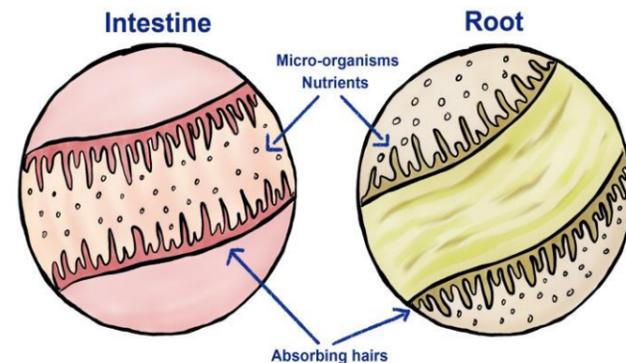
Plant biostimulants means a material which contains substance(s) and/or micro-organisms whose function, when applied to plants or the rhizosphere, is to stimulate natural processes to enhance/benefit nutrient uptake, nutrient efficiency, tolerance to abiotic stress, and crop quality, independent of its nutrient content.

## What role do biostimulants play in plant nutrition ?

Plant nutrition is an important factor in plant health. In the same way that humans need vitamins and enzymes as well as minerals, plants need biostimulants in addition to fertilisers, to **boost their vitality and reach their full potential**.

Plants **absorb nutrition** through their roots in the same way **humans digest food** through their intestines.

A common effect of biostimulants is to stimulate root development. This helps plants **access more nutrients and water** in the soil.



## How do biostimulants work ?

Biostimulants affect interactions inside the plant and between the plant and the beneficial microorganisms around it.

Biostimulants stimulate natural processes to benefit nutrient uptake & efficiency. They also help **improve crop quality** and **tolerance** to abiotic stress, such as **tough climate conditions** or lack of water.

Biostimulants are an **additional tool in farmers' toolboxes** alongside fertilisers and plant protection products.

## What are biostimulants made of ?

Common ingredients in biostimulants include:

- microorganisms
- plant and seaweed extracts
- amino acids
- humic acids
- mineral salts and some chemicals.

## What advantages would the right regulatory framework bring ?

EBIC believes that the right regulation can strike a balance between ensuring products are safe and effective and promote ongoing innovation. Advantages include:

- A single European market for biostimulants
- A transparent, predictable and cost-effective process to launch biostimulants
- Recognition that authorised biostimulants are **safe, effective products** that **protect the consumer** and the **environment**.

**“Biostimulants are defined by what they do not what they are”**

Professor Patrick du Jardin,  
University of Liège Gembloux

## It's the combination that matters

Biostimulants are comprised of many different ingredients. Just like a cooking recipe, it is the **combination** of ingredients, and not the specific ingredients themselves, that make the final product unique and effective !

