

## PRESS RELEASE

### Transforming Feather Waste into Sustainable bio-based products: Farrelly & Mitchell's Collaborative Role in EU Funded UNLOCK project.

[Farrelly & Mitchell](#), a leader in agribusiness consulting, is pleased to showcase their significant contributions to the European Union-funded UNLOCK project. With extensive experience in sustainable agricultural practices, Farrelly & Mitchell have authored three comprehensive reports offering insights into transforming poultry feather waste into sustainable bio-based products. The reports analyse the industry's current practices, economic impacts, and strategic opportunities across key European countries.

#### Farrelly & Mitchell's Strategic Role in the UNLOCK Project:

The reports led by Farrelly & Mitchell with contributions from partners, including Polish poultry processor [CEDROB](#), provide a detailed analysis of the poultry breeding, meat processing, and rendering industries in key EU countries. They highlight feather feedstock availability, economic distribution among key actors, and challenges in establishing feather-based value chains:

1. [Report on Analysis of Feather Waste Sources & Management](#): Offers a comprehensive analysis of the poultry industry, detailing feather feedstock availability and the roles of rendering operators in valorisation.
2. [Report on EU's Feather-Based Economy & Challenges Ahead](#): Examines economic and logistical challenges within the feather value chain, focusing on aspects such as supply chain efficiency and adherence to quality standard within the industry.
3. [Report on Supply Chain Solutions for Target Countries](#): Suggests strategies for addressing challenges, focusing on transportation, feather quality, regulatory requirements, and market dynamics.

Farrelly & Mitchell have been crucial in understanding the dynamics and potential of feather waste valorisation, influencing the UNLOCK project's development of sustainable feather-based value chains.

#### Overview of the UNLOCK Project:

Funded by the [Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking](#) (BBI JU), the UNLOCK project involves 14 partners from seven EU countries and aims to create a feather-based bioeconomy. It focuses on producing functional bio-based materials for agricultural applications such as forest/seed trays, nonwoven geotextiles, mulch films, and hydroponic foams. These materials offer environmental benefits like biodegradation, nitrogen enrichment for soils, and zero waste at end-of-life. The project utilizes different processes - mechanical treatment, steam explosion, microbial fermentation - to valorise feathers based on the end products desired. Annually, Europe generates 3.6 million tonnes of poultry waste, which UNLOCK seeks to transform into high-value, sustainable agricultural products.

#### Conclusion:

The reports offer critical insights into the challenges and potential solutions, guiding the industry towards more sustainable and circular practices. For access to the full reports,



please visit the [UNLOCK Project Resources](#).

You can follow the progress of UNLOCK on Twitter [@UNLOCK\\_BBI](#) and on LinkedIn [UNLOCK\\_project](#). More details on the project's objectives and achievements are available at <https://unlock-project.eu/>.



This project has received funding from the Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement N° 101023306. The JU receives support from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme and the Bio-based Industries Consortium.