

APAG - Oleochemicals Europe

a sector group of Cefic

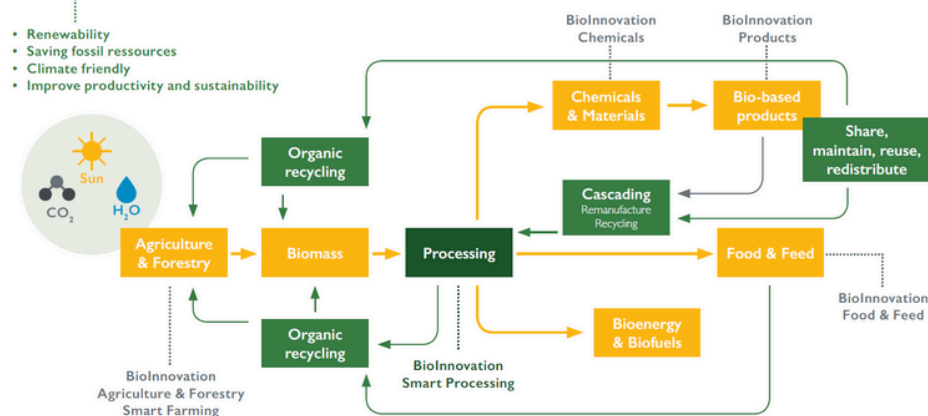
What are Oleochemicals?

Oleochemicals are **bio-based chemicals** derived from fats & oils. They serve as sustainable alternatives to fossil-based chemicals, contributing to a greener future. Oleochemicals are versatile building blocks found in various applications.

OLEOCHEMISTRY IN BIO-BASED ECONOMY AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Bioeconomy: a step beyond circular economy

■ Bioeconomy ■ Circular Economy



- The oleochemical industry is one of the oldest parts of the bio-based economy, using plant oils and animal rendered fats that replenish themselves in the natural biological cycle.
- The oleochemical industry makes valuable use of by-products from other industries such as food and meat processing and paper-making. Additionally, oleochemical products serve as additives - e.g. for paper applications - that enhance the recyclability of several products.
- Using high-volume plant oils and side-streams from other industries and by enabling recycling for bio-based products, the oleochemistry is a crucial part of the Circular Economy.

Raw Materials

Animal Rendered Fats



Vegetable Oils



Basic Oleochemicals

Fatty Acids
Fatty Alcohols
Glycerine

Oleochemical Derivatives

Fatty Esters
Metallic Soaps

Key Applications of oleochemicals



About us

APAG, a sector group of Cefic, represents European producers of Fatty Acids, Glycerine, Alcohols, Metallic Soaps and Fatty Esters.

APAG represents a long-established sector of the European Bioeconomy. Since the early 19th century, the oleochemical industry has been using rendered animal fats and vegetable oils to manufacture bio-based products used for candles, paints, detergents, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and many other applications. Our industry continues to invest in sustainable technologies: for instance, oleochemical products are used to de-ink used paper to enable recycling; they are also used to de-ice airplanes as an alternative to fossil-based materials