

# COP27 | Sustainability Challenges & Opportunities at Organics2Power by 2023

## 1. Hi Claudia, before we start, could you briefly explain to us what your position within the Sustainability Department of Organics2Power (O2P) consists of?

For those of you who don't know me, I am the Sustainability Assistant & Project Manager for Roberto Pérez, O2P's Sustainability Director. To sum up, we could say that I help Roberto in all the projects related to Sustainability that our division carries out in one of the three countries we manage: Poland, France and Spain.



For example, I am currently the Project Manager of the Net Zero Carbon Project, which consists of calculating the carbon footprint of all O2P units, as well as establishing the objectives and action plans to make our activities CO<sub>2</sub> neutral, i.e. zero, by 2050 and, among many other tasks, I help develop O2P's Sustainability strategy, providing support to all departments involved in achieving it.

## 2. During the last COP27 in November, issues related to Climate Change that affect us as citizens were openly discussed. Could you tell us what is your vision?

First of all, I would like to explain what the term COP27 refers to. Specifically, the COP is the Conference of the Parties, an annual meeting of the member states of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to discuss and negotiate measures to combat climate change.

COP27, held in Egypt in November last year, focused on key issues such as **reducing greenhouse gas emissions, financing for sustainable development and adaptation to climate change.**

### **3. Do the agreements that were signed at COP27 have any linkages for companies and other bodies such as SARIA and O2P?**

**We can call it indirect influence.** There may be agreements and decisions adopted at COP27 that have binding implications for companies, depending on national legislation and action taken by individual governments. For example, if a government adopts measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, companies operating in that country may be subject to those regulations.

**In short, although there is no direct link, everything that happens at COP27 affects us as a company.** However, in the philosophy of SARIA and O2P, there is a clear commitment to the environment and the fight against climate change, which means that we are always aligned with most of the issues that arise at these conferences.

### **4. With this explanation in mind, what sustainability challenges does O2P face in 2023?**

The challenges we face as a division are many but can be summarized as follows:

- **Increased commitment and regulation on CO<sub>2</sub>.** This refers to the need to limit greenhouse gas emissions, such as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), to combat climate change. Europe has committed to a 55% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, however, there are specific targets for certain sectors, such as a 62% reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> in the industrial sector or 40% CO<sub>2</sub> reduction in the agricultural sector by 2030, as well as 30% reductions in methane or the obligation for 6% of jet and ship fuels to be biofuels by 2030. These objectives affect us in O2P, as there are companies such as SecAnim that are currently paying for the CO<sub>2</sub> they emit. In addition, thanks to our biodiesel, aviation biofuel (SAF), biogas or low-carbon organic fertilizers, we can help other sectors such as road transport, aviation, maritime or the agricultural sector to meet their challenges.
- **Commitment to methane reduction.** In the EU, this includes the implementation of stricter regulations in key sectors such as agriculture, livestock and energy production. At O2P, we are working every day to improve existing technology that will allow us to reduce methane in key sectors such as the food industry. For example, with ReFood, we are helping to make better use of organic waste and in Germany, we are working hand in hand with farmers to treat slurry, reducing

the methane released into the atmosphere and the contamination of agricultural soils.

- **Water security and water stress reduction objectives.** This refers to the need to ensure the availability and sustainable access to safe and quality water to meet human and ecosystem needs. Although it may seem that O2P is not affected, this is one of the biggest challenges we have as a company, as we manage a large amount of water in our day-to-day business. The best example is SecAnim, which for several years now has had a water treatment plant in each of its facilities, which allows us to reuse the water we treat and obtain in each of our processes.

## 5. What about opportunities?

In my view, there are three opportunities we cannot afford to miss:

- **Increased public and private investment in sustainability.** During COP27, the creation of a fund of more than 100 million EURO for the circular carbon economy was announced, which aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions at source and store or reuse CO<sub>2</sub> instead of releasing it into the atmosphere. Having the support of the EU and leading international environmental bodies makes all the difference for companies and divisions like O2P, as it allows us to deepen and invest in cutting-edge technology that promotes the circular economy and the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions into the atmosphere.
- **Organic fertilizers to reduce the carbon footprint of agriculture.** SARIA and O2P have been involved in the organic fertilizer sector for many years, but it is now more than ever that the agricultural sector is demanding organic products that will enable them to begin the transition to environmentally friendly farming.
- **Importance of governance in sustainability.** Governance is key to ensuring that sustainability initiatives are implemented effectively and fairly. A board with a true Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance identity can help ensure that the company has a clear and committed approach to sustainability, as is the case at SARIA. However, our employees, customers and the public authorities demand even more sustainability efforts to make SARIA and O2P an international benchmark for sustainability.

**6. Thank you Claudia. It was a great pleasure to see how our company is involved in sustainability approach on such a high level, and in the meantime how many things we are currently doing as O2P division. Can I ask you to be my regular guest for next interviews.**

(Laughing) We are a team so, it wouldn't be necessarily me every time. We have a lot fantastic people working in sustainability area. And I will even say more – every employee of O2P division can say something interesting about sustainability improvement. It is why we prepare communication plan with you and we'll be constant present in internal channel. So stay tuned!

**Thank you.**