ORG-VITI Workshop in Kirchhain

March 22-29, 2026

Program (as of March 3, 2026)

Sunday, March 22

18:00	Arrival of invited guests

Monday, March 23

09:00 – 09:05	Welcome address of Mayor Olaf Hausmann
09:05 – 09:10	Welcome address of Mayor Sokol Haliti
09:10 – 09:15	Welcome address of the DBU (Alexander Bittner)
09:15 – 09:30	Introduction of participants
09:30 – 09:45	ORG-VITI: What has been done so far, introduction to the workshop and outlook (Rainer Waldhardt)
09:45 – 10:05	Introduction to the LEADER Region Marburger Land and its work on Circular Economy (Tessina Ott)
10:05 – 10:20	Coffee break
10:20 – 10:40	Status quo of organic waste management in Viti (Mustaf Mehmeti)
10:40 – 11:00	Introduction to the status quo of waste management in Kirchhain: The Green Bin in the context of separate waste collection (Olaf Hausmann)
11:00 – 11:20	Introduction to the status quo of waste management in Kirchhain: Financial management (Bernhard Paul)
11:20 – 11:40	Public relations work on (organic) waste management in Kirchhain and awareness rising on (organic) waste collection in kindergartens of Kirchhain (Kerstin Ebert and Sabine Balzer)
11:40 – 12:00	Introduction to sustainable management of hedges, shrubs and trees in the Marburg-Biedenkopf County and to the concept of landscape management associations (LPV) concept (Jens Eidam, Judith Ziemek)
12:30 – 13:30	Trade company for organic food „Ökokiste“ in Kirchhain-Großseelheim
13:00 – 13:30	Light lunch in Großseelheim

14:00 – 15:00 World Café on ideas to further improve the (organic) waste management in both municipalities

15:00 – 15:15 Presentation of the World Café outcomes

15:15 – 15:30 Coffee break

15:30 – 16:00 Organic wastes as a valuable resource: Introduction to potential value chains in Viti (Labinot Kryeziu)

16:00 – 16:15 Recap of the first day of the workshop and introduction to the best practice examples to be visited on the 24th and 25th (Rainer Waldhardt)

18:30 Joint dinner in Kirchhain

Tuesday, March 24

09:00 – 13:00 Visit of best practice examples in Marburg-Biedenkopf County
- 09:00 - 09:45: Sewage plant Kirchhain
- 10:00 - 10:45: Bioenergy village Erfurtshausen
- 11:00 - 12:00: EAM Biomass Center Stausebach

12:00 – 13:30 Lunch break

13:30 – 16:00 Visit of best practice examples in Marburg-Biedenkopf County
- 13:30 - 15:00: Management of municipal shrubs and trees in the context of nature protection and bioenergy production in Kirchhain (Meike Bonsa)
- 15:00 - 16:00 Management of organic waste at an agricultural farm in Kirchhain-Langenstein

17:00 – 18:30 City tour Marburg

18:30 Dinner in Marburg

Wednesday, March 25

09:00 – 11:45 Visit of best practice examples in Giessen County
- 09:45 - 10:45: LANG BioEnergy Hüttenberg-Rechtenbch
- 11:15 – 11:45 Giessen Student Services Association and its waste management

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch in a JLU canteen

13:00 – 14:30	Visit of selected research groups in the IFZ of JLU and its research on organic wastes in Kosovo and biochar production and utilization in Albania
14:30 – 14:50	Coffee break
15:00 – 16:00	Visit of (a) the IME Fraunhofer Institute and its research on insect protein quality and production, (b) PROMBYX company on insect protein as food for pets, and (c) entoSOLUTIONS company
16:15 – 17:45	City tour Giessen
18:30	Arrival in Kirchhain

Thursday, March 26

09:00 – 10:30	Work from students of “Alfred-Wegener-Schule” (AWS) Kirchhain: Tackling the topic of (organic) waste in art class (Marlene Beckmann and students)
10:45 – 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 - 12:30	Group work I on potential approaches for organic waste collection and upcycling in Viti
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 - 16:00	Group work II on potential approaches for organic waste collection and upcycling in Viti (coffee in between)
18:00 - 21:00	Festivity in Kleinseelheim

Friday, March 27

09:00 - 12:00	Group work III on potential approaches for organic waste collection and upcycling in Viti (coffee in between)
12:00 - 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 - 16:00	Group work IV on potential approaches for organic waste collection and upcycling in Viti (coffee in between)
16:00 – 16:30	Recap of the workshop and next steps (Rainer Waldhardt)

Saturday, March 28

09:00 – 15:00	Excursion on cultural sites and renewable energy production in Kirchhain and nearby municipalities of the Marburg-Biedenkopf County (lunch on the way)

Sunday, March 29

10:00	Departure of invited guests

List of participants:

Viti municipality
Sokol Haliti (Mayor)
Fadile Demelezi (Agricultural Services and GLV Vitia)
Tefik Salihu (Civil representative from Smira village)
Mustaf Mehmeti (Public relations)

Kirchhain municipality
Olaf Hausmann (Mayor)
Bernhard Paul (Department of Financial Administration; Head of Department)
Meike Bonsa (Department of Real Estate, Construction, and Urban Development)
Sabine Balzer (Department of Family and Social Affairs; Head of Department)
Kerstin Ebert (Specialist Department of Public Relations, Citizen Participation & Associations)

Prishtina University
Prof. Dr. Arben Mehmeti
Prof. Dr. Hysen Bytyçi

Giessen University
Prof. Dr. Rainer Waldhardt
Prof. Dr. Rolf-Alexander Düring
Labinot Kryeziu (PhD student and research assistant)
Taulant Shabani (PhD student and research assistant)
Aleksander Peqini (PhD student)
Valmire Ramadani (DBU Fellow)

Further participants
Alexander Bittner (DBU)
Tessina Ott (LEADER-Region Marburger Land)
Marlene Beckmann (Art teacher at AWS Kirchhain)
Judith Ziemek (LPV Marburg-Biedenkopf)
Jens Eidam (Agricultural Services, Marburg-Biedenkopf County)