

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF COMMUNITY OF INTEREST

WP2 – Methodology and support tools for developing regional bioeconomy strategies

Leader: CIRCE - Centre of Research for Energy Resources and Consumption

Results achieved

Task 2.1 (*Priority setting with and for regions*) allowed understanding the activities from the beginning of the project which was one of the critical points not only for planning to join actions between regions but also for motivating them. The results of task 2.2 (*Determining the key factors and main features for characterizing regional bioeconomies*) will consist of having a set of key factors and indicators that allow identifying the potential at the regional level in terms of bioeconomy. This set of indicators represent a standardized method to characterize regions and it will contribute to the development of Bioregional Strategy Accelerator Toolkit (BSAT). In task 2.3 (*Assessment of existing tools for analysing regional bioeconomy potential*) the most suitable tools were collected to guide the development of bioeconomy at the regional level. The evaluation of tools has focused on the content and user interaction aspects and included recommendations on further use of the tools by the regional stakeholders.

Next steps in 2019

In task 2.4 (*Development of the bioregional strategy accelerator toolkit*), we will be working on the development of BSAT, receiving inputs along the project lifespan from WP3, WP5, and WP6. Bio-based solutions will be connected to the catalogue that is to be developed in WP3 to key factors for characterizing regional bioeconomies developed in task 2.2. As POWER4BIO BSAT will be developed in task 2.4 and includes the catalogue developed in WP3.

WP3 – Catalogue of bioeconomy solutions and good practices examples

Leader: WR - Stichting Wageningen Research

Results achieved

One of the key deliverables of WP3 is a catalogue containing factsheets with existing bio-based solutions with tested potential for market uptake for bioenergy, biomaterials, biochemical and food and feed. So far, the most relevant topics to be covered in the factsheets have been identified. Currently, we are working on the design and development of the database to store the information of the solution factsheets and which allows parallel feeding/uploading of information by partners and optimal use by end-users later on in the project and afterward. These end-users can be policymakers, industry, consultants, etc.

Next steps in 2019



We continue to further develop the database. Next step is to identify a long list of regional bio-based solutions and from that select a limited list of high potential solutions. Key info of these solutions will then be collected and stored in the database, such that the info will be searchable and available to end-users. Later on this year, best practices, examples will be described in more detail. Special attention will be given to practices which can be deployed at a small scale in rural areas.

WP4 – Bioeconomy business models and funding instruments

Leader: BZN - Bay Zoltán Nonprofit Ltd. for Applied Research

Results achieved

This work package will start in September 2019.

Next steps in 2019

The aim of WP4 starting in September 2019 is to characterize the business models behind the previously selected bio-based solutions and to identify the most relevant policy and financial instruments available to regional authorities and stakeholders to facilitate and foster the deployment of those solutions in European regions. In the first step POWER4BIO will elaborate a methodology to describe bioeconomy-related solutions to have a precompetitive, general business model which can be further adapted by companies and other relevant stakeholders and will also give an overview of public policies and regulations for bio-based business models at a regional level and the existing funding opportunities in the field of bioeconomy.

WP5 – Developing and reinforcing the bioeconomy in EU regions

Leader: DBFZ - Deutsche Biomasseforschungszentrum gemeinnützige GmbH

Results achieved

Central and East European Regions have developed their Regional Bioeconomy Hubs (RBHs) in the last six months, with the assistance of DBFZ. Following a step-by-step guideline based on EU cases studies and the experiences of WE regions in POWER4BIO, with provided tools to support the recommended activities. The new created RBHs have been an accelerated effort of each region to build a platform with key and complementary regional stakeholders that will impulse the following phases in the development of a regional bioeconomy strategy. Finally, in June, all regions hold their visioning workshops, which will provide with a draft of their regional bioeconomy vision in preparation for the next activities.

Next steps in 2019

During the following months, an analysis of the regional bioeconomy status quo and its potentiality will be conducted by each region with the contributions of its RBH and the support of CIRCE, following the main aspects and indicators defined in WP2. This will allow identifying the main assets and challenges of each regional bioeconomy by means of a SWOT analysis.



WP6 – Capacity building programme and interregional cooperation

Leader: NARIC-AKI - National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre - Research Institute of Agricultural Economics

Results achieved

The cross-visit themes based on WP2, WP3 & WP7 have been determined and detailed cross-visit guidelines (including 6 modules: Kick-off; Group work for developing or improving the regional bioeconomy; Field visits; Feedback session and wrapping up the discussion on the recommendations based on the field visits and group work; Symposium; Social event) have been developed. Tailored communication about individual cross-visit has already started with BZN (Hungary) and SPRING (Italy.)

Next steps in 2019

The first cross-visit will be organized by BZN in the South Great Plain Region of Hungary and Budapest at the end of September 2019 with the aim of exploiting the potential synergies to be created by the National Agriculture and Food Exhibition and Fair (OMÉK) (the largest agricultural event) and the second one by SPRING embedded in the IFIB conference in Naples at the beginning of October 2019.

WP7 – Communication and dissemination

Leader: EPC - Projektgesellschaft für Klima. Nachhaltigkeit. Kommunikation. mbH

Results achieved

Within WP7, dissemination, and communication, a detailed dissemination and communication strategy was elaborated. Also, an appealing project identity was created that is reproduced in all internal and external project materials, first dissemination materials were already produced. The POWER4BIO website and social media channels launched in January 2019 and are constantly updated with relevant material. More than 100 stakeholders from neighbouring regions of the consortium members has participated actively in a one-month long e-conference during March and April 2019. 20 more committed persons/firms have signed also the letter of intent to join the Community of Interest (CoI).

Next steps in 2019

Until the end of the year, several dissemination materials will be produced, for example, a project brochure. The website will be extended by regional subsites in the national languages of the POWER4BIO regions. All dissemination activities are monitored within WP7 and will be reported in September. CoI members are expected to introduce themselves in a short bio to be uploaded onto the project website and they will be invited to the cross-visits to be held in Hungary and Italy.

