

Online - Conference

Summary Workshop Conclusions

Challenges and opportunities of the bioeconomy at regional level

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Agenda – 24th June 2020

Time	Topic	Speaker
09:00 – 09:15	Opening and Welcome	Dr. Nora Szarka (DBFZ)
09:15 – 09:25	Keynote speaker: Overcoming the challenges of bioeconomy regions	Prof. Dr. Anna Aladjadjiyan (National Biomass Association – Bulgaria)
09:25 – 11:00	Workshop session: solutions for regional bioeconomy challenges	With the participation of attendants
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee break	
11:15 – 11:45	Summary and feedback of workshop session	Laura García (DBFZ)
11:45 – 12:00	Final words of the event	Dr. Nora Szarka (DBFZ)

Regional Bioeconomy Challenges



- Cooperation between sectors - understanding between specialized stakeholders
- Lack of supporting legislation – Legislation inflexibility - lack of incentive systems benefiting bio-based economy.
- Market competition is led by market, instead of other product characteristics. Motivating market, dissemination.
- Funding to impulse SMEs. Support for scalability of technologies.
- Difficulty to coordinate actions between different financial instruments
- Information with the detail of regional level.

Workshop session

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- Brainstorming and discussion of solutions (measures) to overcome regional bioeconomy challenges. Discussing the effectivity of regional bioeconomy strategies
- Collective knowledge
- Discuss the steps to be taken for the implementation of prioritized solutions.

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Blocks for discussion:

1. Introduction of challenge (3 min)
2. Brainstorming of solutions (5 min)
3. Discussion round 1 of prioritized solutions: Please provide your explanation and provide with examples (8 min) 
4. Voting/prioritising the most important solutions (3 solutions/person) (1 min)
5. Discussion round 2 of prioritized solutions: What are the next steps in order to implement these prioritized/most voted solutions. (8 min)

1st Discussion

How to incentivize the systemic contributions of bioeconomy?



- Make sure regional bioeconomy activities to be sustainable
- Reduction of CO2 emissions
- Valorisation of sidestreams, residues and wastes
- Potential to reactivate regional economy

Prioritised solutions - ideas



Solutions/measures to incentivize the systemic contributions of bioeconomy

- Harmonized regulation promoted by citizens urgency/push for a change towards bio-based products.
- Simplify procedures and changes to obstructing legislation
- Provide good examples
- Make solutions more sustainable and cheaper
- A general CO2 tax on products and energy
- Show synergies (interaction) between bioeconomy with other regional development plans
- Consistent terminology

2nd Discussion

What impact a bioeconomy strategy might/should have?



- For the advance and acceleration of regional bioeconomy
- For stakeholders exchange
- To implement set goals and advance regional development.

Summary of ideas



Impact of regional bioeconomy strategies

Potentially:

- Impact on SME´ s preformance and cross-sectoral cooperations.
- Oriented towards local value chains and opportunities for primary sectors of the region.
- Improve use of organic side-streams
- Facilitate market entry of bio-based products
- Better long-term jobs
- Cross-sectoral solutions
- Monitoring bioeconomy within natural and sustainability limits
- Support regional development plans
- Awareness raising

3rd Discussion

In which ways could the gap between R&D and industry be closed?



- Existent applied research not matching the local industry
- Lack of dissemination and transferability of R&D findings
- Lack of communication of industry needs

Prioritised solutions - ideas



Solutions/measures to close the gap between industry and R&D

- Integrate industry in funded R&D –
- Alligning planning perspectives between industry (tending to short-term planning) and R&D (tending to long-term planning)
- Create conditions and rules for commercial R&D
- Intensify the exchange of real work experience (living labs)
- Intermediate bodies (Clusters, hubs) or a task-force to coordinate actions
- Open access pilot and demos
- Green public procurement

Thank you for your attention!

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Smart Bioenergy – Innovationen für eine nachhaltige Zukunft

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