



Developing Rural Bioeconomies by focusing on Regional Strengths

Insights from the BE-Rural Project



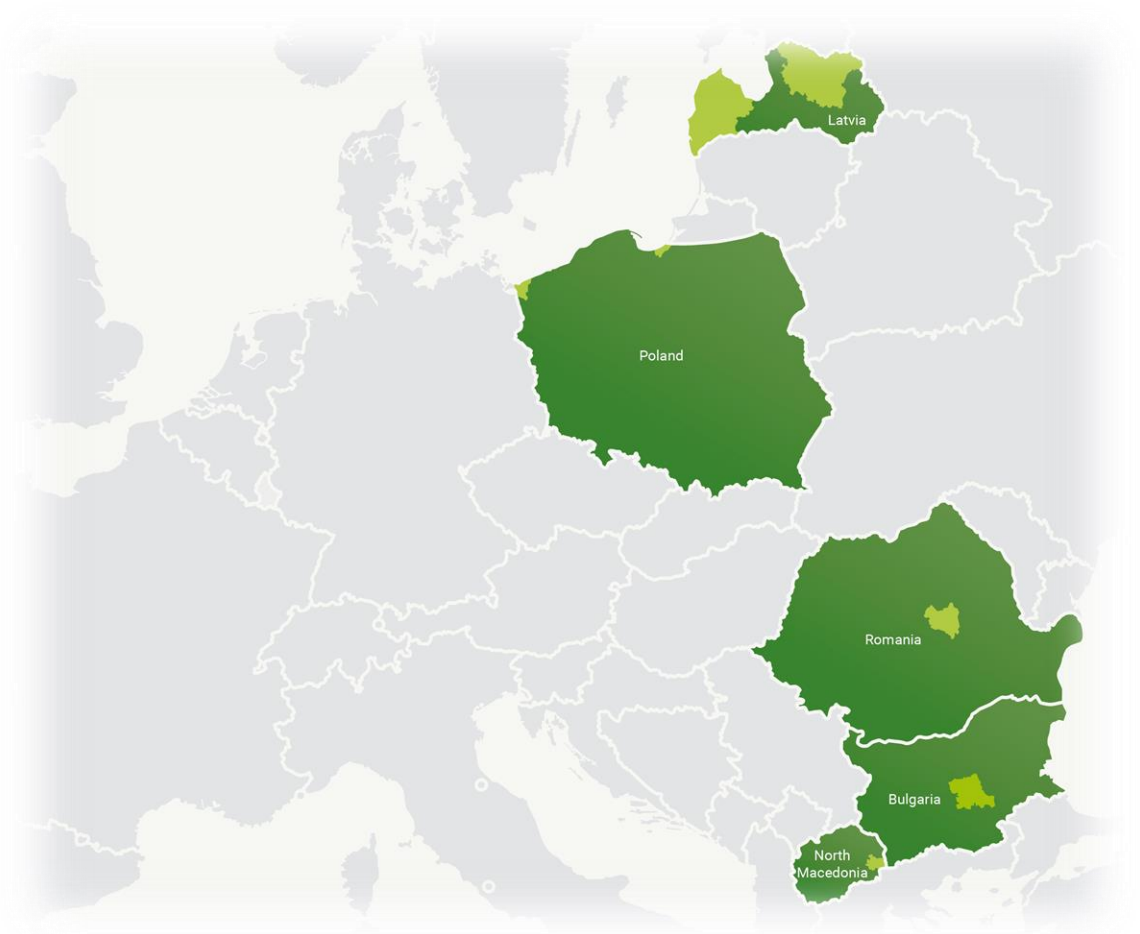


Overview

BE-Rural supports the **participatory development of regional bioeconomy strategies and roadmaps** in five European countries:

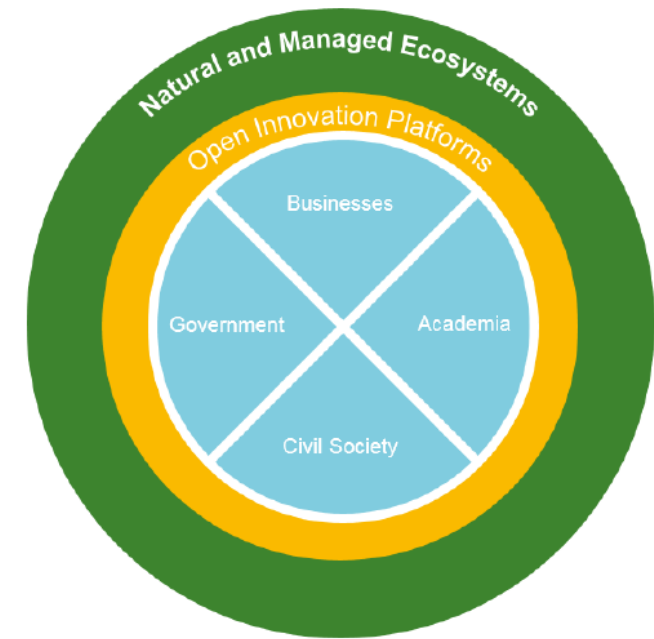
- Romania: Covasna
- Bulgaria: Stara Zagora
- North Macedonia: Strumica
- Latvia: Vidzeme and Kurzeme
- Poland: Szczecin and Vistula Lagoons

Overview of regions: <https://be-rural.eu/innovation-regions/>



BE-Rural's key principles of participatory bioeconomy development:

- **Co-creation:** Facilitating the active involvement of a broad spectrum of stakeholders and citizens in the development of strategies.
- **Openness & Inclusiveness:** Ensuring that all relevant stakeholder groups will have the opportunity to engage.
- **Sustainability:** Designing a bioeconomy that promotes the sustainable use of agricultural, forest and marine ecosystems.
- **Transparency:** Documenting and evaluating all participatory activities.

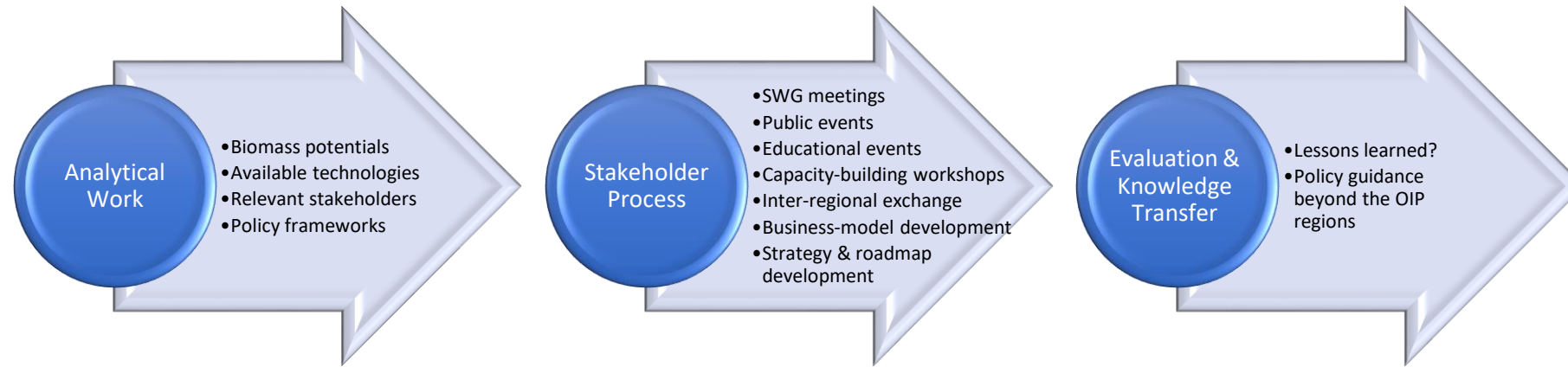


Quintuple Helix Approach as applied in BE-Rural

Source: Abhold et al. (2019): Sustainability and Participation in the Bioeconomy: A Conceptual Framework for BE-Rural.



Implementation process



Bottom-Up Approach!



Participatory activities



Educational
Events



Capacity Building
Seminars



R&I Capacity
Building Workshop



Teachers'
Summer School



Bio-based
Pop-up Stores



Policy Workshop
and Conferences

Visit us at www.BE-Rural.eu !



Potentials for inter-regional collaboration

- Contacts established with national bodies implementing the BIOEAST initiative and the BIOEASTsUP project; effective collaboration with the Power4Bio project!
- Synergies related to activities on regional and local level?
- Elaboration of Smart Specialization Strategies: identifying areas of excellence for smart development
- Contribution to the development of national bioeconomy strategies
- BE-Rural outputs (<https://be-rural.eu/resources/>) ready for uptake in parallel processes and initiatives:
 - Assessments of regional biomass potentials
 - Overview of innovative business models and technologies: Handbook available in 7 languages!
 - Educational materials for schools and universities: available in 6 languages!
 - ...more to come!



Thank you for your attention

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