

The role of Forestry TWG in the BIOEAST Initiative

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BIOEAST Forestry Working Group (BFWG)

- active since 2018, first thematic working group in BIOEAST,
- nominated members of all 11 BIOEAST countries,
- interlinks to Forest Technology Platform, SCAR, FOREST EUROPE, relevant international organizations, processes, initiatives, competitive excellence projects

BIOEAST Forestry Working Group (BFWG)

- led by Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic
- organizes regular meetings to exchange knowledge and experience to support and to coordinate activities related to forest sector and to development of the BIOEAST Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) for forestry and forest-based value chain within the Central and Eastern European (CEE) macro-region

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in 11 BIOEAST Initiative countries

- forests cover more than 38 million hectares, representing about 38% of land in these countries (about quarter of forests in EU)
- GVA in forest sector (forestry, wood processing and paper industry) in BIOEAST countries was about 18 bil. Euro in 2015 (about 18% of forest sector in EU, indicating needs to identify priorities and strategies for further development)

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- SRIA Forestry pillars and structure based on experience with Strategic Research Agenda creation process (Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda 2030 of the European Forest-based sector)

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- Public-private partnerships and improved science-policy-public interface are crucial for both knowledge generation and successful implementation of actions
- Planning forestry development considering priorities of EU for the programming period 2021 - 2027 and EU tools for sustainable growth, competitiveness, research and innovation.

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- at national level, National Forest Programmes constitute a participatory, comprehensive, inter-sectorial and interactive process of policy planning and strengthen coherence and synergies within the forest sector as well as between policies aimed at sustainable forest management and other relevant policies

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- Development of Forestry SRIA builds on experience from successful competitive projects in BIOEAST countries, EXTEMIT-K (CZ), EVA4.0 (CZ), AGRO-CLIMATE 2 (HU), BioEcon (PL), CoE LignoSilva (SK), CoE InnoRenew (SI), BRIDGE2BIO (SI), SRIP (SI), BenchValue (LT), etc.

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Challenges considered in Forestry SRIA:

- Sustainability of forest resources and wood production,
- Keeping and further strengthening of traditional and development of high-tech wood processing industries,
- Challenges in woody biomass bioenergy,
- Challenges in paper-pulp technologies,
- Recycling and cascading systems of wood and wood products,
- Balance in regional development,
- Forest services,
- Education and communication related to forest sector

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Thanks for attention!