



EUROPEAN FOREST
INSTITUTE

Introducing “Circular Bioeconomy Alliance” & Comments on Green Deal

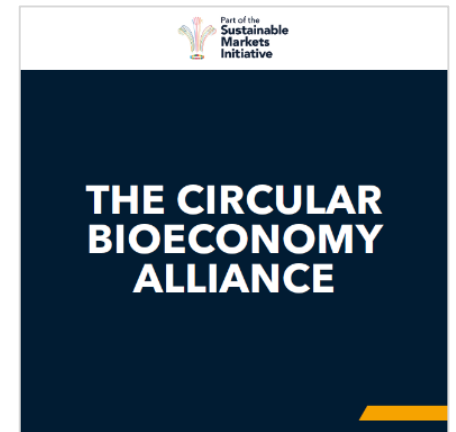
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“European Parliament Intergroup on ‘Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development’” seminar, 17 March 2021

Circular Bioeconomy Alliance (CBA)

- Established in 2020 by His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales
- Part of the HRH Sustainable Markets Initiative
- Facilitated and coordinated by European Forest Institute (EFI)
- Members include among others:



For details, see: <https://efi.int/cba>



HRH with the coordinator of CBA,
Marc Palahí, Director of EFI

CBA Objectives

“Accelerate the transition to a circular bioeconomy that is climate neutral, inclusive and prospers in harmony with nature”

- Supports science informed transition to a circular bioeconomy
- Connecting investors to investable solutions



Activities guided by 10-point Action Plan on Circular Bioeconomy

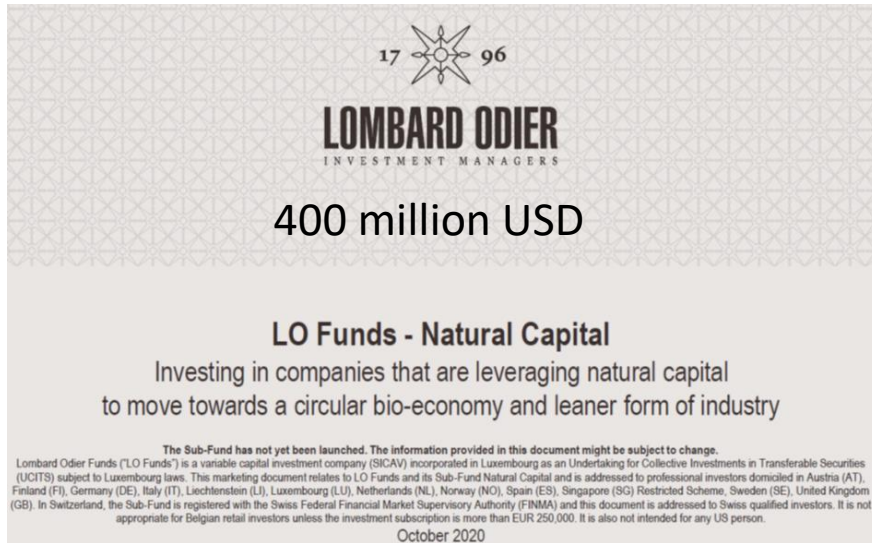


<https://efi.int/publications-bank/investing-nature-true-engine-our-economy-10-point-action-plan-circular-bioeconomy>

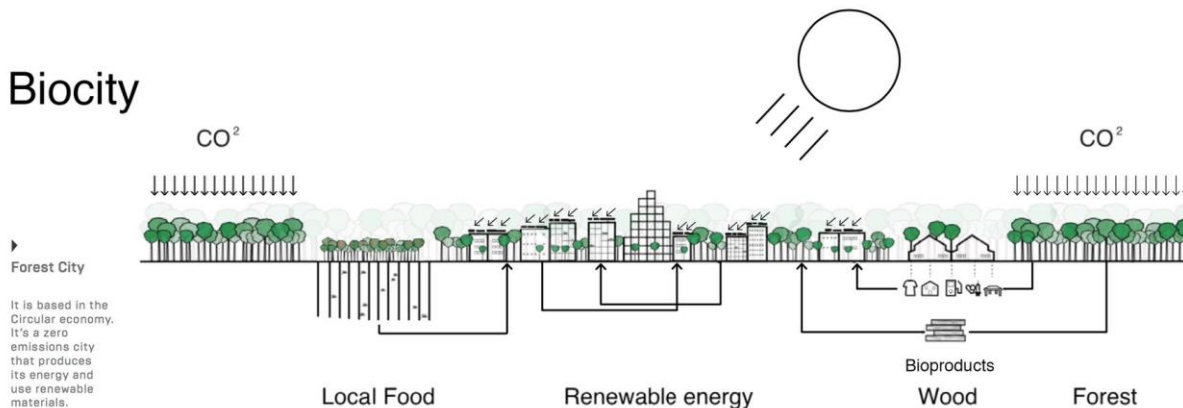
Activities include e.g.:

- Raising awareness and inspiring action towards circular bioeconomy: from nature-based solutions to reimagining cities
- Catalyzing investments and connecting investors to companies, start-ups and scale-up projects on circular bioeconomy
- Supporting governments & investors to develop science-informed strategies & investments on circular bioeconomy
- Demonstrating the potential of circular bioeconomy via pilot projects and training modules
- Accelerating land restoration initiatives, e.g. African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100)

Examples of impacts/activities



Biocity



Conceptualize, educate, debate, create and demonstrate circular bioeconomy approaches, e.g., for cities

EU Green Deal is welcome and necessary, but needs updating to be stronger



How Green Deal sees the forest bioeconomy?

- It hardly sees it. No reference to EU Bioeconomy Strategy 2018
- Forests are seen in a rather narrow perspective: sink and biodiversity
- Very few statements on the multiple benefits forests provide to society
- EU forest-based sector can do much more for reaching the Green Deal climate, biodiversity, economic and social objectives than the proposal now indicates
- The Post-COVID19 recovery enhances the above point

Narrow, few options



Wide, many options



EU forest-based sector climate mitigation impacts

CATEGORY	IPMACTS
Biophysical	Forest carbon sequestration to trees and soil (<i>forest sink</i>)
	Forest albedo
	Forest aerosols
	Forest disturbances
Substitution	Forest-based raw materials and products substituting for fossil raw materials, energy and material products
Storage	Storing carbon in forest products
Environmental, socio-economic and political	Synergies and trade-offs between the mitigation impact and other impacts and societal objectives: <i>e.g., biodiversity impact, carbon leakages impact, income and employment impact, societal & political support or resistance for mitigation measures</i>
Production and logistics	Emissions from forest products value-chain

Green Deal proposal's focus is mainly in this

The net mitigation impact will be the combined impact of all these categories

Green Deal should address more holistically the different mitigation channels

Key Messages



1. Green Deal goals on climate neutrality and resource efficiency cannot be met without also a new range of biobased solutions: bioeconomy is a missing link to achieve that
2. EU forest-based sector can do much more in creating synergies to address holistically climate, biodiversity, economic and social objectives than Green Deal proposal now indicates
3. Circular bioeconomy is essential for post-COVID19 recovery strategy: it helps to combine carbon neutrality + employment and income needs