



May 2022

The Bioeconomy in the EU

*Peter Wehrheim – Head of unit RTD.B2 Bioeconomy and food system,
European Commission*

A decade of policy

2012



- Efficient use of renewable resources
- Focus on R&I

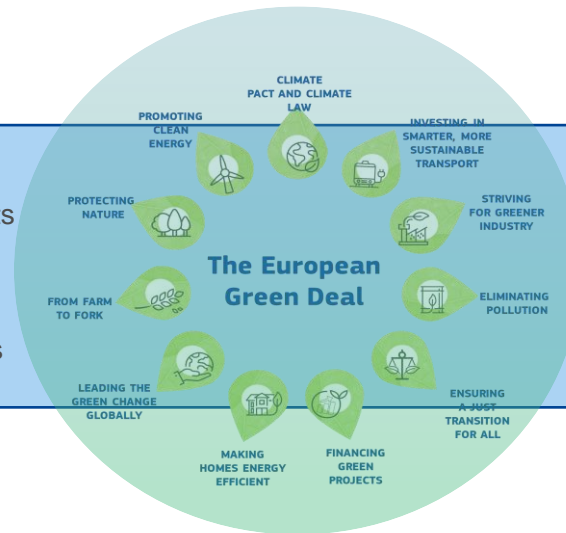
First Bioeconomy Strategy

2018



- + Substitution of harmful products
- + Regional development
- + Understanding ecological limits

Updated Bioeconomy Strategy



Towards a green and just transition

2019



Council Conclusion

2022



Bioeconomy Progress Report

- Three sustainability dimensions:
- (1) management of land and biological resources within ecologic boundaries
 - (2) sustainable value chains and consumption
 - (3) social fairness and just transition



The EU's Bioeconomy Strategy

— A policy framework for sustainability —

Findings of the Progress Report

<https://op.europa.eu/s/wmT4>

Bioeconomy continues to be a crucial policy for the EU

- Contributes to the European Green Deal objectives
- Enables sustainable, just transition pathways to a climate-neutral & nature-positive 2050.

Bioeconomy policy ever more important in the current food and energy crisis

- Transition to resilient and sustainable food systems & clean energy
- Respecting ecosystem boundaries
- Managing potential trade-offs from a holistic perspective



EU definition

Bioeconomy encompasses all sectors and associated services and investments that produce, use, process, distribute or consume biological resources, including ecosystem services. **As such it is a natural enabler and result of the European Green Deal transformation.**

Additional focus needed



Biosphere stewardship strategy

Focus on resolving multiple pressures on land and sea



Consumption-based framework

Focus on the overall consumption of biological resources



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*“The European Green Deal is
Europe’s Man on the Moon
Moment”* December 2020

*“The fossil fuel economy has
reached its limits!”* July 2021

#EUGreenDeal



European
Commission



“ *With its potential to connect and implement transformative policies holistically, the bioeconomy will contribute to all dimensions and objectives of the European Green Deal. Research and innovation will enable Europe to lead the green and digital transition.* ”

Mariya Gabriel, EU Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth

Research and
Innovation

Bioeconomy - a blueprint for green growth which:

- Holistically addresses the economic, social and environmental aspects
- Contributes to a climate-neutral future
- Promotes resource efficiency and circularity
- Reduces dependence on non-renewable resources
- Safeguards biodiversity and ecosystems
- Provides opportunities for fair and just transition
- Green business opportunities for SMEs

See Factsheet on **How the bioeconomy contributes to the Green Deal** (<https://op.europa.eu/en/web/eu-law-and-publications/publication-detail/-/publication/66722c8d-2e03-11eb-b27b-01aa75ed71a1>)



Last but not least...

Bioeconomy Conference

- High-level **Bioeconomy Conference** in Brussels to present the Progress Report on the EU Bioeconomy Strategy
- **6-7th October 2022**
- **Please save the date!!!**

Thank you

The EU's Bioeconomy Strategy:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/research-area/environment/bioeconomy/bioeconomy-strategy_en

CBE JU:

<https://www.cbe.europa.eu>

EU Bioeconomy Strategy Progress Report

https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/adoption-bioeconomy-strategy-progress-report-2022-jun-09-0_en

Infographic on the bioeconomy and the findings of this Report:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/files/eu-bioeconomy-strategy-progress-report-infographic_en

#HorizonEU #EUScience&Innovation #EU_ScienceHub



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