Support for green jobs in forestry through the EU Bioeconomy Strategy and Horizon 2020

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Figure 2. The EU’s main policy priorities and EU forest-related policies. Stars (*) refer to topics that are addressed in both the EU flagship initiatives and the new 10 European Commission priorities.
Blueprint for Sectoral Cooperation on Skills

- "New framework for strategic cooperation between key stakeholders in a given economic sector to deliver sector-specific skills solutions".

- **Steps:**
  1. Selection by criteria: EU priorities; skills gaps; sector maturity; stakeholders involvement; etc.
  2. EU Partnership: funding from ERASMUS for Sector Skills Strategy
  3. National/regional partnership: funding from e.g. ERDF, ESIF, etc.

- 6 pilot sectors Jan 2017: automotive, defence, maritime tech, space/geo information, textile, tourism:

- Further actions 2017 tbd: ...
Establishing a European Pillar of Social Rights COM(2017)250

"We have to step up the work for a fair and truly pan-European labour market. As part of these efforts, I will want to develop a European Pillar of Social Rights, which takes account of the changing realities of Europe’s societies and the world of work.[...]"

(EC President Juncker, State of the Union Address, 9 Sep 2015)

SWD(2017)201

- Chapter I – Equal opportunities and access to the labour market
- Chapter II – Fair working conditions
- Chapter III – Social protection and inclusion
EU Bioeconomy Strategy, 2012

"The bioeconomy encompasses the production of renewable biological resources and their conversion into food, feed, bio-based products and bioenergy. It includes agriculture, forestry, fisheries, food and pulp and paper production, as well as parts of chemical, biotechnological and energy industries."
EU Bioeconomy Strategy & Action Plan

**Investment in R&I**
- Horizon 2020 (€3.5b SC2)
- Increase multi-disciplinary & cross-sectoral R&I
- ESIF - Smart Specialisation
- EFSI

**Policy interaction & stakeholder engagement**
- EU Policy coherence
- Regional and national bioeconomy strategies
- Bioeconomy Panel
- Bioeconomy Observatory
- International cooperation

**Enhancement of markets & competitiveness in bioeconomy**
- Sustainable intensification of primary production
- Expansion of new markets
- Increase EU competitiveness
- BBI JU
Forest production systems & wood-based products

(average 2000–2010)
Levers et al. 2014 - In EFI 2015
130 Horizon 2020 projects, ca. 260 MEUR – 'forest' in abstract

(June 2017, including BBI JU)
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<tr>
<th>Societal Challenges</th>
<th>Industrial Leadership</th>
<th>Excellence in Science</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Health, demographic change and wellbeing</td>
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<td>2. Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine, maritime and inland water research and the bioeconomy (ca.3.5 bn€)</td>
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<td>3. Secure, clean and efficient energy</td>
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<td>4. Smart, green and integrated transport</td>
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<td>5. Climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials</td>
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<td>6. Inclusive, innovative and reflective societies</td>
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<td>7. Secure societies</td>
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allow:

- innovative products and services to be developed in every area imaginable, including climate change, healthy living and active ageing
- new companies to be started
- a new generation of entrepreneurs to be trained

The Innovation Communities carry out activities that cover the entire innovation chain: training and education programmes, reinforcing the journey from research to the market, innovation projects, as well as business incubators and accelerators. The EIT’s role is to guide the process and set the strategies, but it’s up to the Innovation Communities to put these into practice and provide results.

There are currently six Innovation Communities and each focuses on a different societal challenge:

- EIT Climate-KIC: addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation
- EIT Digital: addressing Information and Communication Technologies
- EIT InnoEnergy: addressing sustainable energy
- EIT Health: addressing healthy living and active ageing
- EIT Raw Materials: addressing sustainable exploration, extraction, processing, recycling and substitution
- EIT Food: putting Europe at the centre of a global revolution in food innovation and production
Horizon 2020 highlights

- Unified rules, simplified access, open to 'all'
- Variety of instruments & implementing bodies
- Enhanced focus on innovation and higher TRLs
- Enhancing policy-relevance of research projects ('P4P')
- Forest system/value chain approach (e.g. LCA) increasing under SC2
Projects SC2 calls 2014-2015
SC2 call 2017

- **SFS-19-2016-2017**: ERA-NET Cofund: Public-Public Partnerships in the bioeconomy
  - E. [2017] Innovative forest-based bioeconomy

- **RUR-05-2017**: Novel public policies, business models and mechanisms for the sustainable supply of and payment for forest ecosystem services (IA)

- **BB-03-2017**: Adaptive tree breeding strategies and tools for forest production systems resilient to climate change and natural disturbances (RIA)

Upcoming WP 2018-2020

- **Greater impact**, by developing a mission-oriented approach
  - 'Mission' defined for every call; expected impacts at topic level relate to the call mission
  - Better linkage from topic to call and programme objectives

- **Simplifying the call text**
  - Challenge-based, clearly delineated, but not prescriptive topics funding a portfolio of projects
  - In relation to 2016-2017, targeting:
    - 50% reduction text length;
    - 50% reduction topics number.
National Bioeconomy Strategies.

Source: German Bioeconomy Council

- France: Feb 2017
- Italy: Mar 2017
- Other MS are following...
Forest-based sector:
- ca. 3 Mill. jobs;
- Ca. 0.5 Trill. EUR
Further developing green jobs in forest-based sector, e.g.

- *Forest management* (e.g. *Silvicultural operations*)
- *Ecosystem services* (e.g. *PES*)
- *Sustainable wood mobilisation* (e.g. *Hardwood*)
- *NWFP valorisation*
- *Novel/innovative forest-based products & processes*
- ...

7/7/2017
Reviewing progress 2012-2017....
Bioeconomy Strategy review

- **Circular Economy Action Plan 2015:**
  "the Commission will examine the contribution of its 2012 Bioeconomy Strategy to the circular economy and consider updating it if necessary".

- **Conclusions of ENV council June 2016:**
  "assess the contribution of bioeconomy to circular economy and update the bioeconomy strategy accordingly".

- **Accelerating Clean Energy Innovation 2016:**
  "The corresponding role of the bioeconomy will be considered in the upcoming review of the bioeconomy Strategy and its possible update".
BioE review timetable

- **December 2016**: Launch review expert group
- **May 2017**: Committee of the Regions Opinion on BioE, Report on mapping of EU regions on BioE
- **July 2017**: Report from review expert group, BioE stakeholders Manifesto, Mapping BioE in the MS (JRC+SCAR)
- **Q3 2017**: Report of BIOMASS study
- **14-16 Nov 2017**: Conference on SWD BioE, review, Manifesto and showcasing BioE (SC2)
- **Q1 2018**: Council conclusions on review (tbd)
- **2018**: Decision on revision of bioE strategy

7/7/2017
'Bioeconomy Policy Day' - Brussels, 16 Nov 2017

The event will launch the SWD publicly and will provide the beginning of more 'external', looking forward discussions with policy makers and stakeholders regarding a possible update of the current BE Strategy.

- Session on Bioeconomy Stakeholder Manifesto
- Session on SWD followed by discussion sessions led by relevant DGs

Thank you!

www.ec.europa.eu/research/bioeconomy