



EU Bioeconomy Strategy Progress Report

Civil Dialogue Group Forestry and Cork 14.10.2022

DG RTD, B2 Bioeconomy Team

A decade of policy

2012



First Bioeconomy Strategy

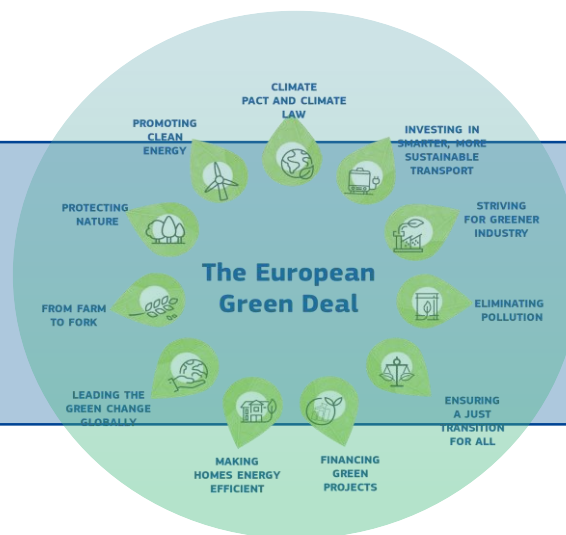
- Efficient use of renewable resources
- Focus on R&I

2018



Updated Bioeconomy Strategy

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



Towards a green and just transition

2019



Council Conclusion

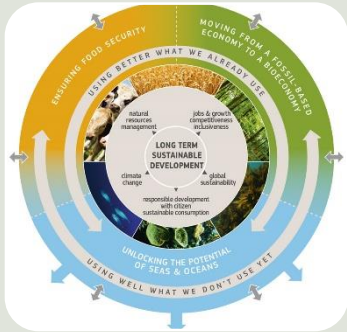
2022



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

Objectives of the Progress Report



1 Report on the progress of the implementation of the 2018 EU Bioeconomy Strategy, as well as the general progress of the bioeconomy in Europe.



2 Frame the bioeconomy within the new policy context, e.g. the European Green Deal.

EU Bioeconomy Progress Report

- Executive Summary

1. Introduction
2. What is bioeconomy?

Background and concept

3. General trends in the development of the bioeconomy in Europe
4. EU Bioeconomy Strategy objectives in the context of the European Green Deal
5. Progress of bioeconomy activities under the EU Bioeconomy Strategy Action Plan

Assessment

6. Unlocking the opportunities of the bioeconomy

Next building blocks

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6. Unlocking the opportunities of the bioeconomy

What is bioeconomy?

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.



Image by pmvchamara .com from Pixabay



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Image by Ralf Unstet from Pixabay



Image by StockSnap from Pixabay

What is bioeconomy policy?

EU bioeconomy policy

Bioeconomy policies take a cross-sectoral perspective to improve policy coherence and identify and resolve

Bioeconomy policies contribute to build a bioeconomy addressing all three dimensions of sustainability:



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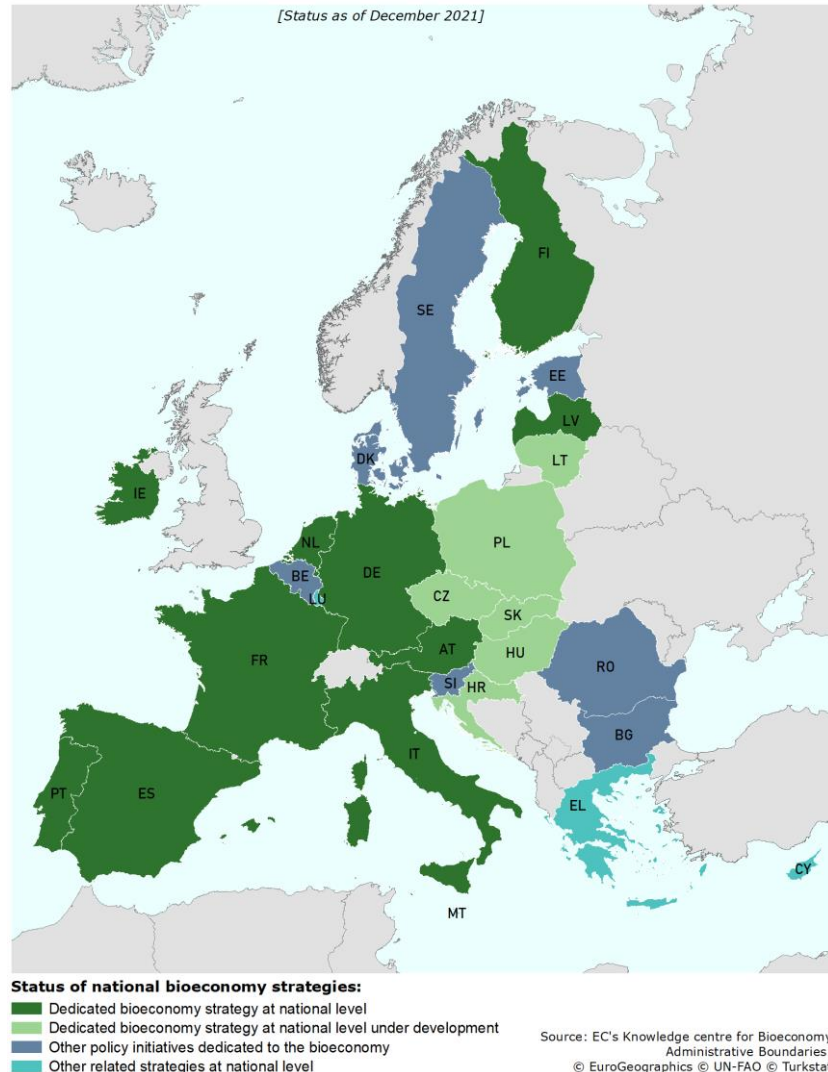
- 3. General trends in the development of the bioeconomy in Europe**

- 4. EU Bioeconomy Strategy objectives in the context of the European Green Deal**

- 5. Progress of bioeconomy activities under the EU Bioeconomy Strategy Action Plan**

6. Unlocking the opportunities of the bioeconomy

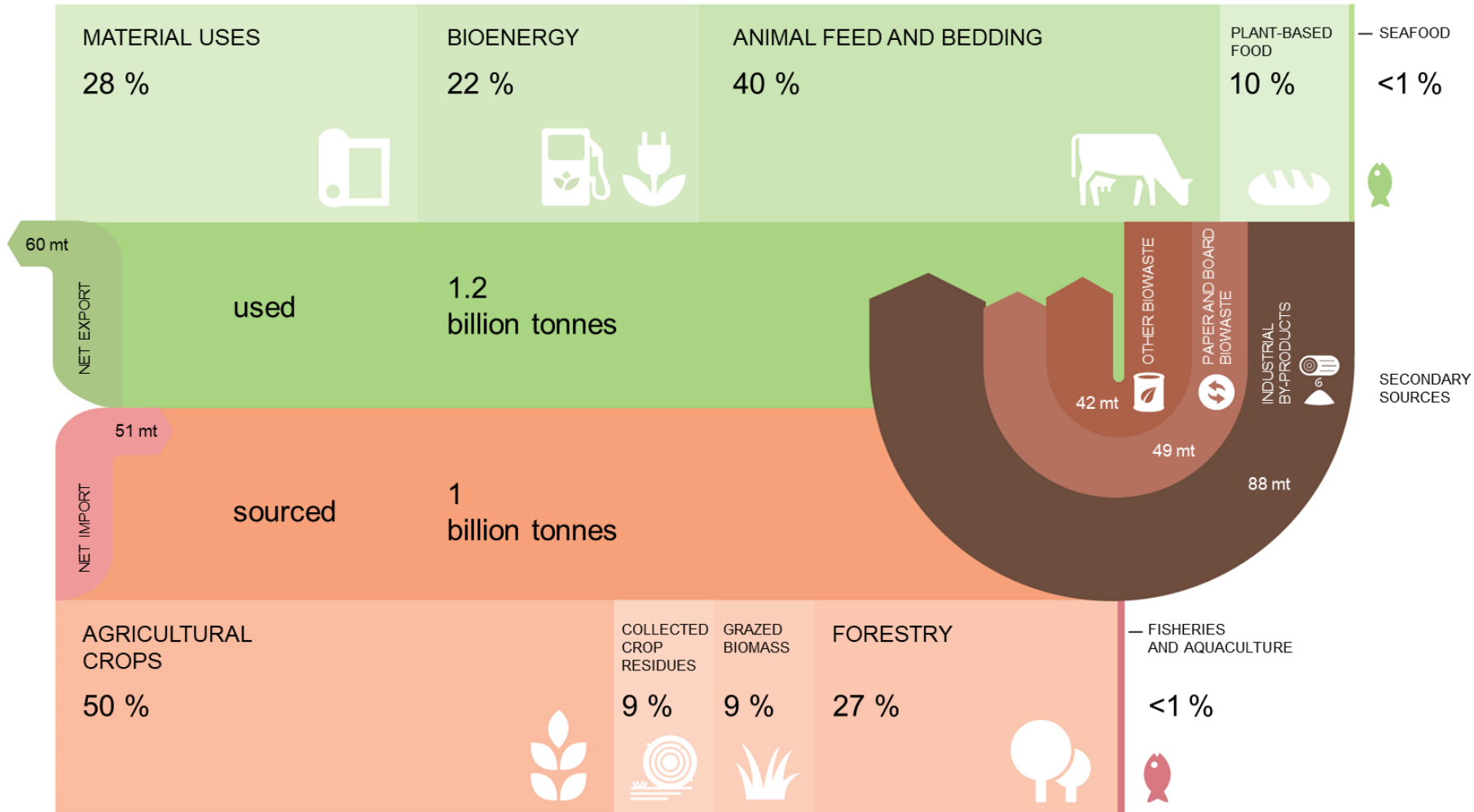
National bioeconomy strategies are becoming more numerous throughout Europe



Status of the national bioeconomy policies in the EU-27

- **10 Member states** with dedicated bioeconomy strategies at national level (AT, DE, ES, FI, FR, IE, IT, LV, NL, PT)
- **6 MS** in the process of developing their respective dedicated national strategies (CZ, HR, HU, LT, PL, SK)
- **7 MS** are involved in other macro-regional (BG, DK, EE, RO, SI, SE) or sub-national (BE) policy initiatives dedicated to the bioeconomy.
- **4 MS** have bioeconomy related strategies (CY, EL, LU, MT)

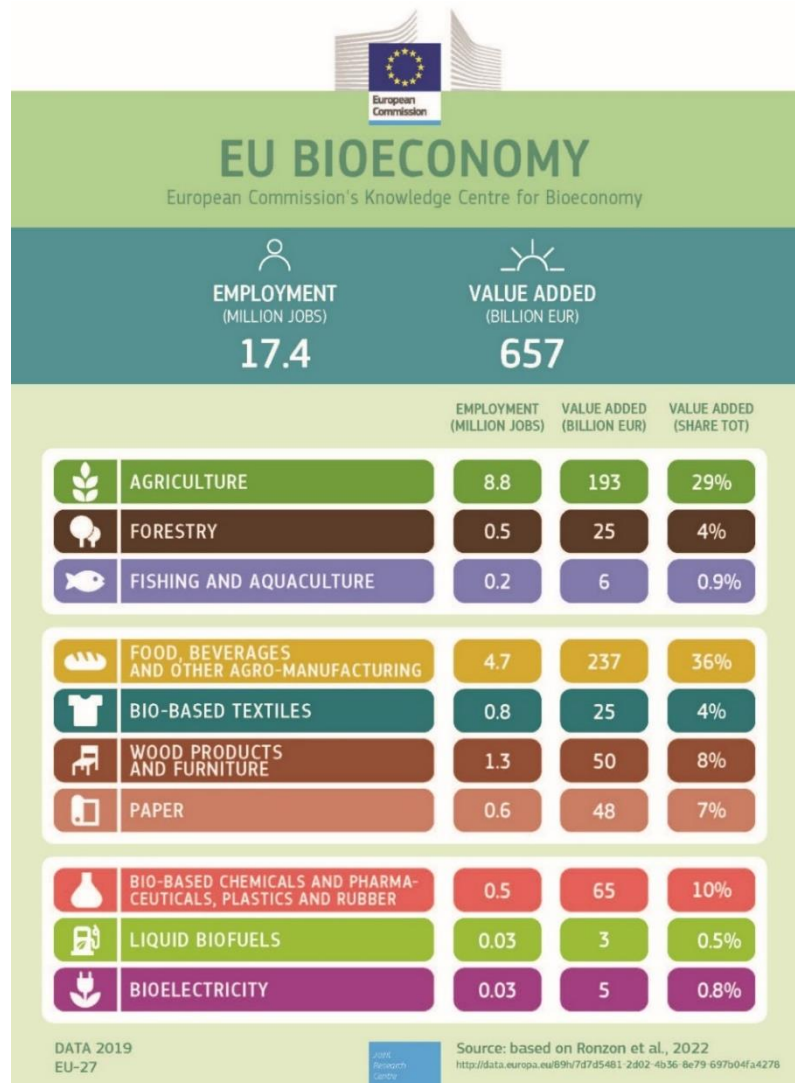
The main use of biomass is for food and feed; woody biomass is increasingly used.



Source: European Commission, Knowledge Centre on Bioeconomy, 2022

2017 data dry matter

Important innovations in food and other bio-based industries show the potential of the bioeconomy

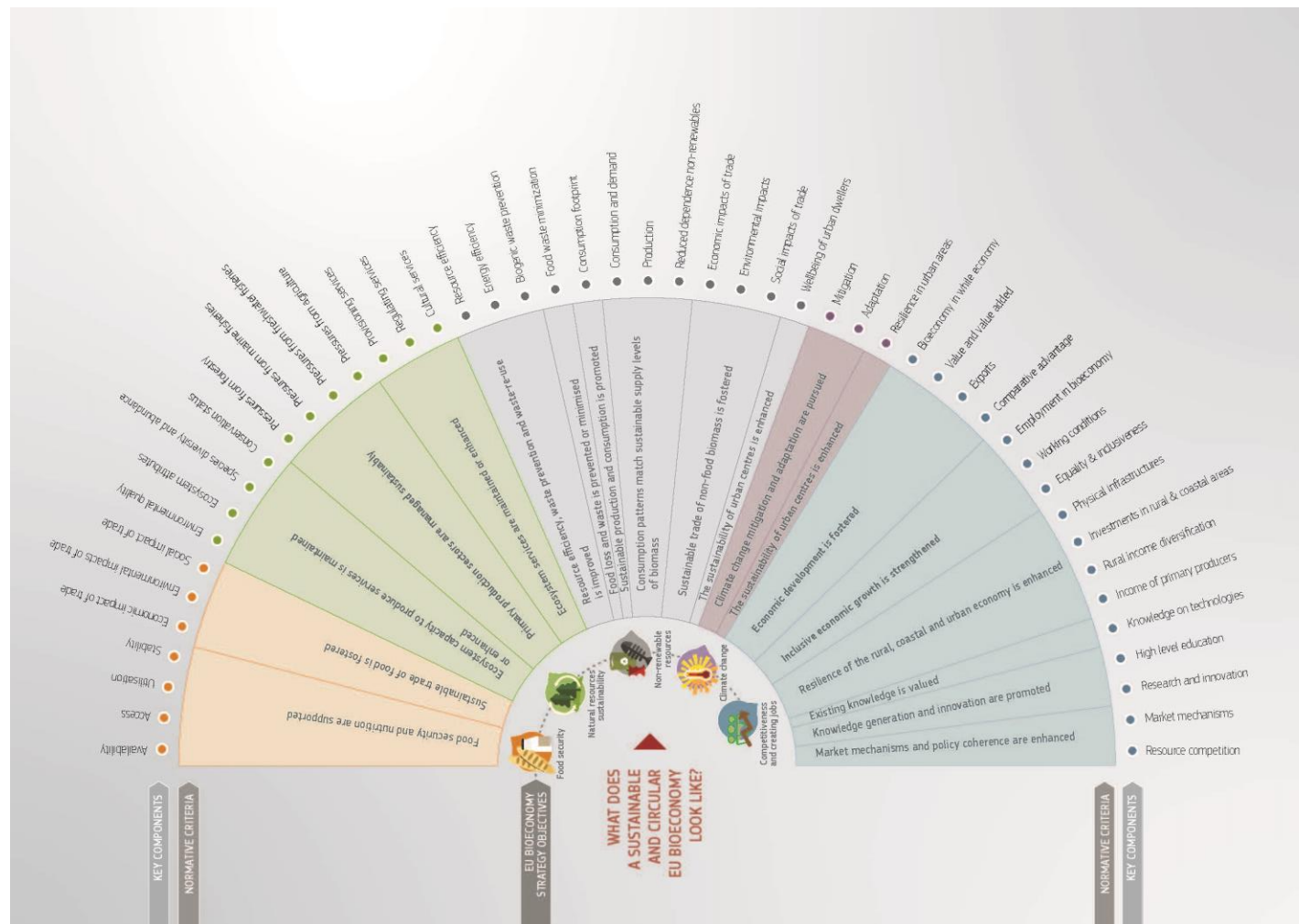


Bioeconomy as key sectors of the EU's economy

- **~8.3%** of the EU's workforce
- **~65%** employed in agriculture, food and drink industry
- **4.7%** of GDP
- High job creation potential in emerging bioeconomy sectors
- Potential for deployment of comprehensive bio-based solutions in rural, coastal and urban areas

Europe is generally moving towards the objectives of the EU Bioeconomy Strategy but environmental challenges persist

The Bioeconomy Monitoring Framework



<https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC119056>

- > Need more policy coordination to address the multiple pressures on land and material demand
- > Need to transform and re-skill the work force

EU Green Deal Initiatives and the BE Strategy

		Ensuring Food and Nutrition Security	Managing Natural Resources Sustainably	Reducing dependence on non-renewable unsustainable resources, whether sourced domestically or from abroad	Mitigating and adapting to climate change	Strengthening European competitiveness and creating jobs	
Circular Economy	[1]						In focus
Industry Strategy	[2]						
Biodiversity Strategy	[3]						Contribution
Farm to Fork Strategy	[4]						
Renovation Wave	[5]						Requires attention
European Climate Law	[6]						
Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability	[7]						
Adaptation Strategy	[8]						
Sustainable Financing	[9]						
Zero Pollution Action Plan	[10]						
LULUCF	[11]						
Renewable Energy	[12]						
Forest Strategy	[13]						
Sustainable Carbon Cycles	[14]						

Overall implementation of the EU Bioeconomy Action Plan is well on track

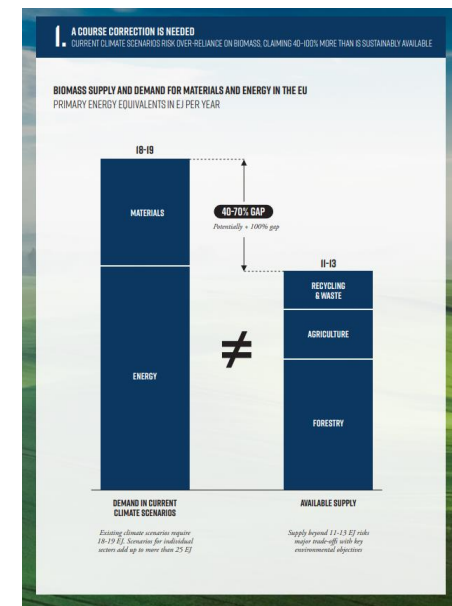
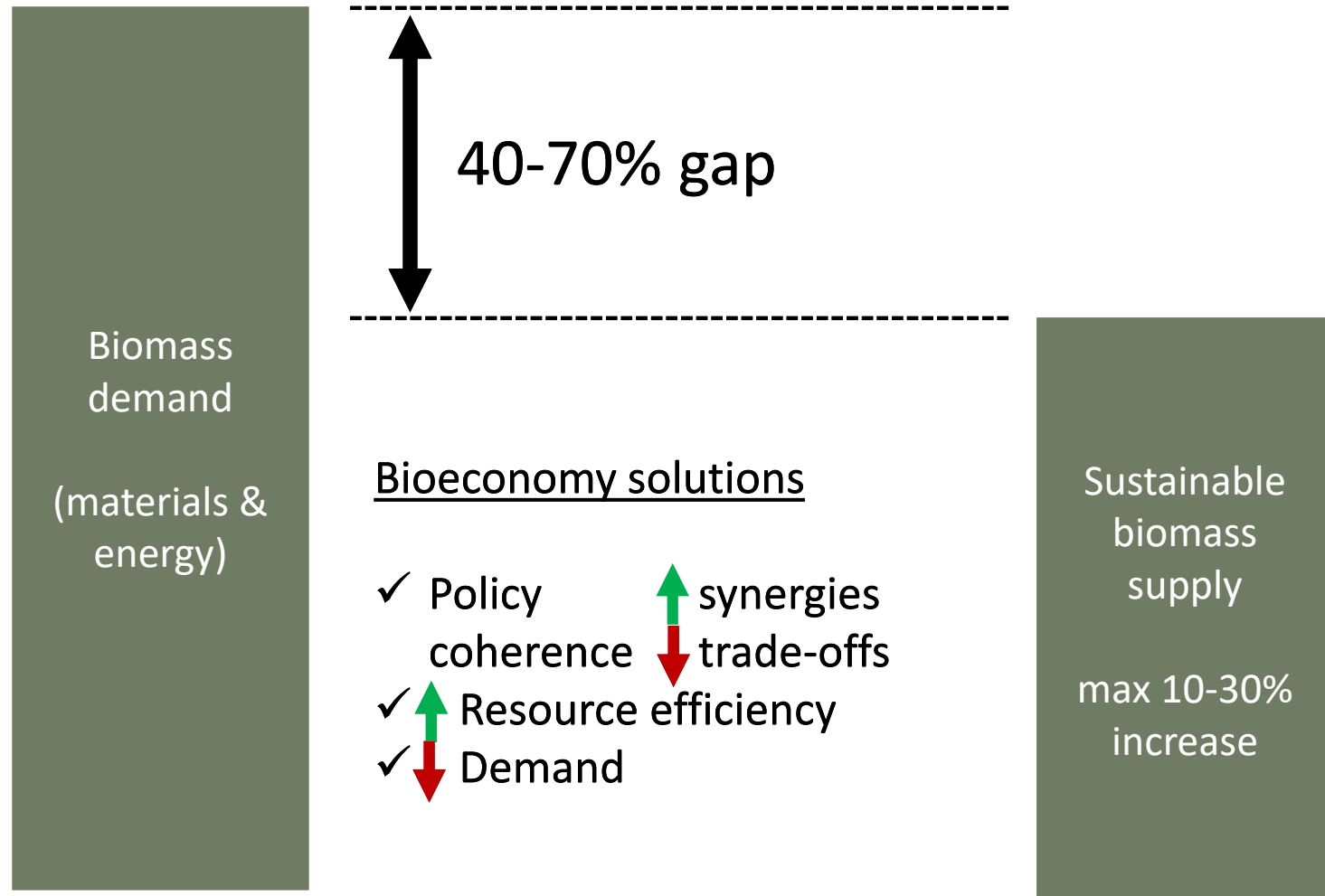
- Strong progress on developing bio-based solutions through R&I and increasing public and private investments
- Improved cooperation with MS
- Better understanding of ecological limits, but remaining gaps

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Next steps

Supply, transformation and use of biomass



Material Economics. "EU Biomass Use in a Net-Zero Economy. A Course Correction for EU Biomass," 2021.

<https://materialeconomics.com/latest-updates/eu-biomass-use>.

Additional focus needed



Biosphere stewardship strategy

Focus on resolving multiple pressures on land and sea

Integrated bioeconomy land use assessment

Territorial biomass strategies

Conceptual framework to resolve trade-offs



Consumption-based framework

Focus on the overall consumption of biological resources

Monitoring consumption footprint

Demand driven shift to sustainable consumption choices

Sustainable and inclusive business models

Conclusions

Strengthen successful activities

Focus on implementation of the EU Action Plan

Biosphere stewardship strategy


Consumption-based framework

- **Bioeconomy continues to be a crucial policy** for the European Commission
 - Contributes to the European Green Deal objectives
 - Enables sustainable and just transition pathways to a climate-neutral & nature-positive Europe 2050.
- **Bioeconomy policy ever more important** in the context of the current food and energy price volatility
 - Transition to resilient and sustainable food systems & clean energy within the ecosystem boundaries
 - Managing potential trade-offs from a holistic perspective
- **Additional efforts are required** to fully exploit the potential of the bioeconomy and address the issue of increasing pressure on the limited biological resources.

EU Bioeconomy Conference

The Bioeconomy - Enabling the European Green Deal in Challenging Times'

- 6-7th October, Brussels (hybrid)
- Over 1600 registered participants
- 9 thematic sessions + HL Openings and Closing
- Present the findings of the EU Bioeconomy Strategy Progress Report
- 5 side-events: incl. Building the bioeconomy with nature-based materials and solutions within the New European Bauhaus



“A truly circular and sustainable bioeconomy policy is a critical tool to support the objectives of the green transition. We need to make sure that we reach our objectives in a fair and balanced way. That is the future we need for bioeconomy. I trust that you help us shape it!” – Executive Vice-President Timmermans

EU Bioeconomy youth Ambassadors



“Empower our generation,
give us an opportunity to
change the world before its
too late – act now, act right
and be part of a solution not
a problem!”

The Youth Ambassadors

Thank you



on 2020

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Additional focus needed

Key actions to support industrial capture, use and storage of CO₂

In order to upscale industrial solutions for the capture, use and storage of CO₂, the Commission will undertake the following actions:

- Further develop a standard, robust and transparent methodology to quantify the climate benefit of sustainably-produced wood construction products and other building materials with carbon storage potential;
- develop methodologies and carry out an integrated EU bioeconomy land-use assessment, with the aim of ensuring consistency of aggregated national and EU policies and targets, and provide technical assistance to Member States to carry out national assessments in support of their bioeconomy policies.
- better support industrial carbon removals with the Innovation Fund;
- Horizon Europe calls will continue supporting industrial CO₂ capture, transport, use, and storage in its next work program (2023/24);
- launch a study on the development of the CO₂ transport network;
- update the guidance documents for the CCS Directive, covering risk management, monitoring, and financing;
- organise an annual CCUS forum.

← **Integrated bioeconomy land use assessment**