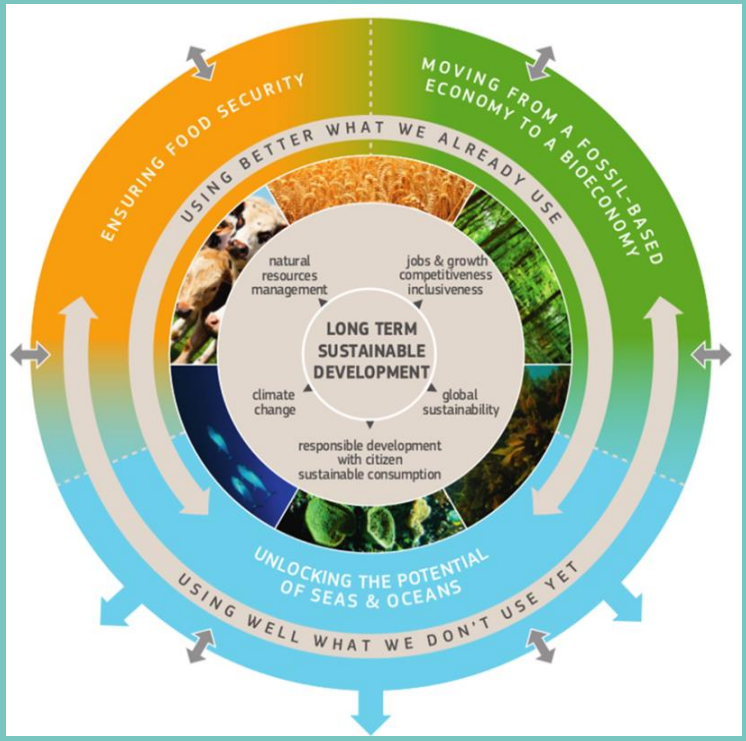

The European Bioeconomy Strategy

CONTEXT

- **Communication on Bioeconomy – 2012**

Food security, sustainable management of natural resources, climate change, reduced fossil-dependence, jobs creation and EU competitveness

- **Review of Bioeconomy Strategy – 2017**

good delivery, objectives still relevant, increasing importance, more focussed actions for evolved context (SDGs, circular economy, …)

- **Communication on updated Bioeconomy – 2018**
  - **Major initiative under the Commission's 2018 workplan**
  - **Co-ordination by the Secretariat General and DG Research together with departments for agriculture, environment, marine, industry, energy and others (DGs AGRI, ENV, MARE, GROW, JRC, ENER…)**
  - **Adoption foreseen for Q III 2018**
  - **Presidency Conferences : 22 Oct 2018, under AT Presidency**
    9 July 2019, under FI Presidency

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What is the EU's understanding of the Bioeconomy…..

All sectors & systems that use / produce / process / are driven by biological resources

- Ecosystems on land and sea
- Primary production systems - agriculture, forestry, aquaculture / fisheries – **incl. waste/side streams**
- Food. feed. fibres. bio-based industry, fuels and bio-energy

….and what is the focus of the new EU Bioeconomy Strategy

- Society – driven, socio-economic-environmental balance
- Sustainable, circular and local
- Cutting across sectors and policies, federating

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2017 Bioeconomy Strategy Review – main findings

- BE R&I investment doubled from FP7 to Horizon 2020
- Bio-based-industries partnership developing transformative technologies for circular BE
- Bioeconomy policies taken up in MS, regions, cities
- Bioeconomy Manifesto established
- Further mobilisation of investment needed
- Better address policy coherence

- Current policy context (CE, SDGs, Paris,..) calls for a sustainable, circular bioeconomy
- Better monitoring and assessment frameworks needed (indicators; biomass supply & demand; …)

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Manifesto: Guiding principles

Addressing Societal and Environmental Challenges:

- Resource use within the limits of the planet
- Mitigating Climate Change
- Producing for people
- Sustainable management of resources

Facilitating Innovation and Business Opportunities:

- The Bioeconomy needs a stable and predictable legal framework
- Cooperation between sectors and along value chains creates synergies and critical mass
- Long-term research and innovation agenda
- Importance of regional strategies and rural renaissance

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WHAT does the new Bioeconomy strategy aim to achieve….

- **Link the sustainable use of renewable biological resources for food, feed, bio-based products and bioenergy, with the protection and restoration of biodiversity, ecosystems and natural capital across land and water.**

- **Step up action to ensure that the Bioeconomy provides a long-term balance of social, environmental and economic gains.**

…. and HOW

- **A SYSTEM-wide approach,**
- **expanding beyond research and innovation,**
- **delivering on policies across sectors, addressing trade-offs**
- **strengthening CIRCULARITY and SUSTAINABILITY**
- **delivering for the citizens - on jobs, sustainable growth, well being - and on planetary health**
- **in LOCAL contexts, valorising local resources and adapted to local needs**

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ACTION LINES PROPOSED (Roadmap):

- Strategic **research and innovation** to support this transition
- **Education and training** for a skilled workforce
- Strengthen the **bio-based sectors**
- Mobilising **investments**
- Creation of **new markets** and value chains
- **Monitoring progress**
- Exploiting the **opportunities** at **local** level
- Protecting and restoring **natural resources**

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LESSONS LEARNT/NEW DEVELOPMENTS:

- SUSTAINABILITY is transforming our (bio-)economies
- Functioning ecosystems are an integral part of the bioeconomy
- Our food systems are facing a major transition – R&I is needed to face the challenges and exploit the opportunities
- The main bioeconomy sectors – agri/food; forestry/paper&wood; marine/fish (&biowaste) – are becoming more and more interlinked
- Bio-based products are not only substituting fossils, but the technologies are key for turning waste into value and achieving circularity
- Bioeconomy is closely interlinked with other policy areas and objectives – identifying trade-offs and achieving policy coherence is a challenge

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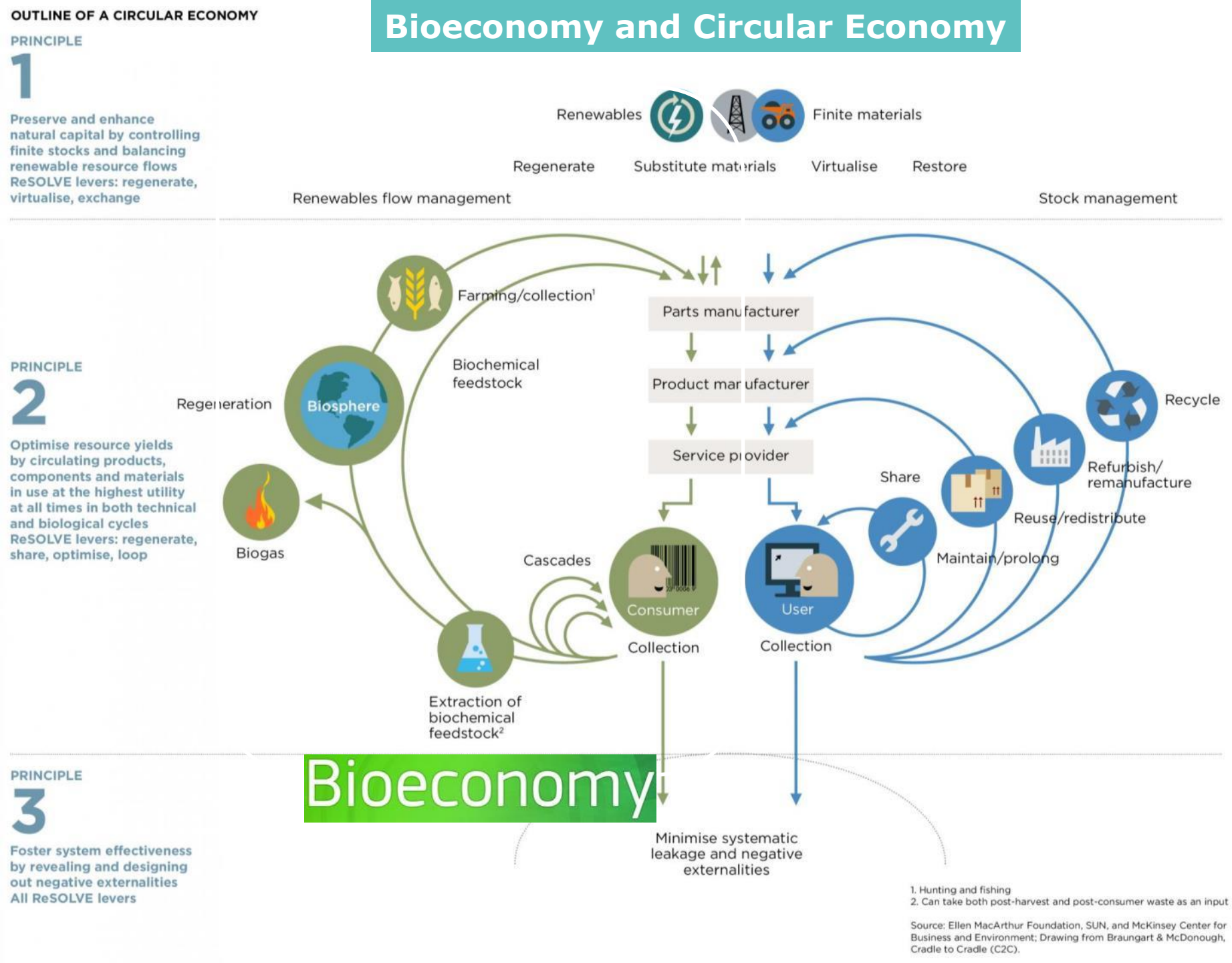
Bioeconomy and Circular Economy



OPPORTUNITIES: Creation of new value chains

Primary sector

Waste

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A 24 story "plyscraper"

Copyright: Rüdiger Lainer

A tomato farm in the desert

Source: Sundrop Farms

Energy, crops and fish in one farm?

Source: Smart Floating Farms

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THANK YOU

For more info please contact

visit

http://ec.europa.eu/research/bioeconomy

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