



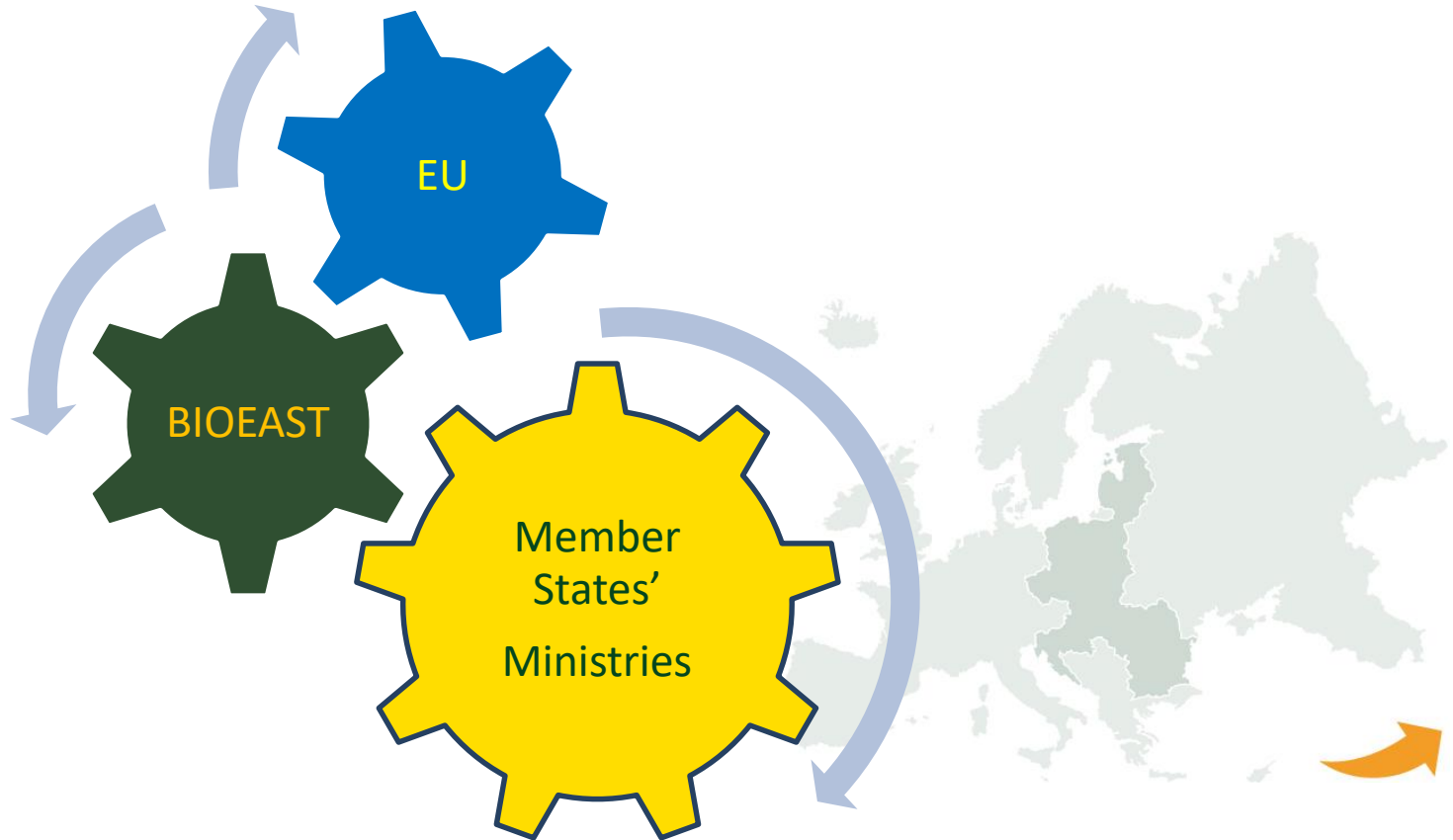
The role of the BIOEAST Initiative tackling challenges for biomass valorisation in Central and Eastern Europe

Barna KOVÁCS PhD
Secretary General BIOEAST Initiative

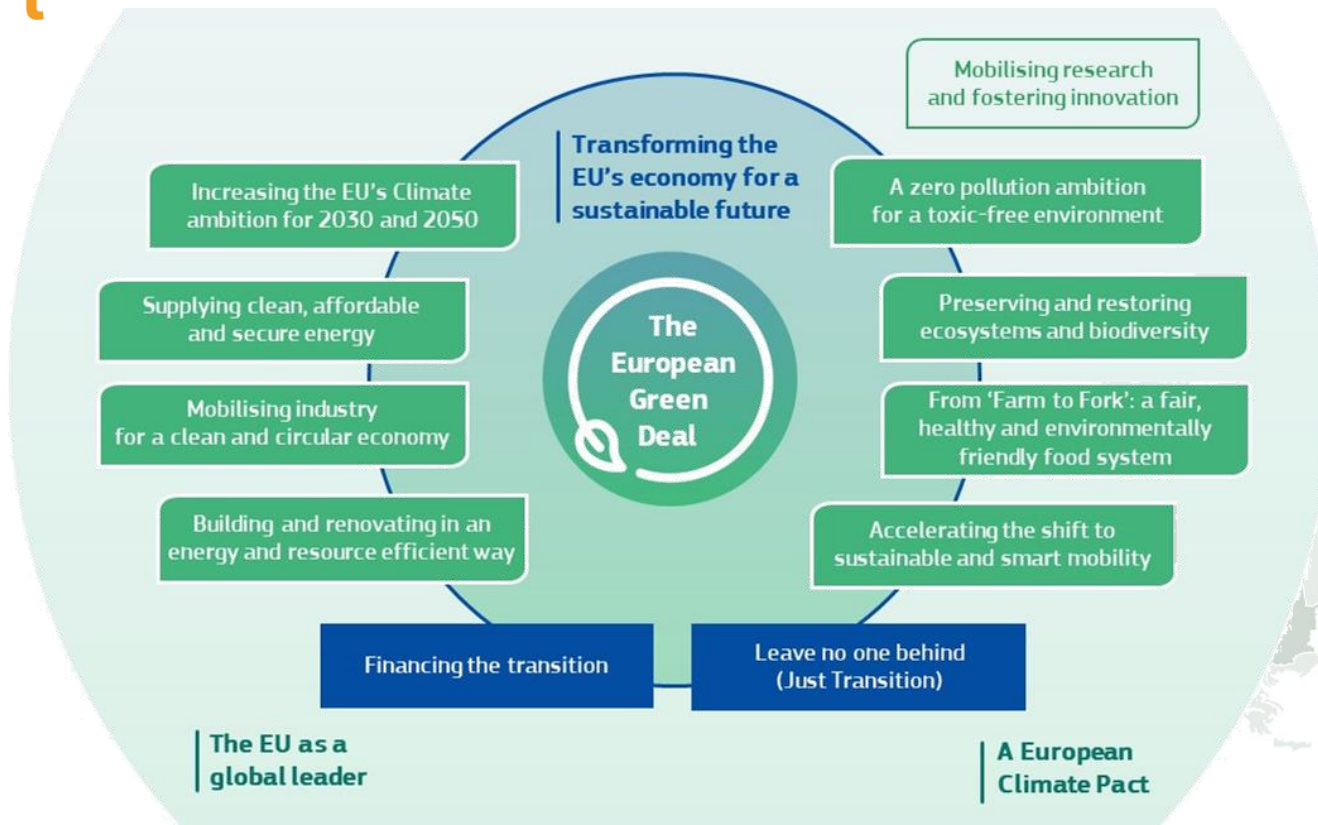
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WHAT ARE THE COMMON GOALS AND PRIORITIES?



PRIORITIES WITH BIOECONOMY



HOW THE PRIORITIES ARE GOING TO BE SET?



1. The characteristics of the BIOEAST countries' bioeconomies
2. The investments aspects
3. The society is influencing the priorities
4. The politics is influencing the policy priorities



THE CHARACTERISTICS OF BIOECONOMIES

BIOEAST vs EU27 in a nutshell

Number of people employed in the bioeconomy

7.41M

Value added of the bioeconomy (Billion €)

€85

Value added per person employed in the bioeconomy

11 k€ vs **35 k€**
EU27



Source: Ronzon et al. (2020 forthcoming), Joint Research Centre, <https://datam.jrc.ec.europa.eu/datam>

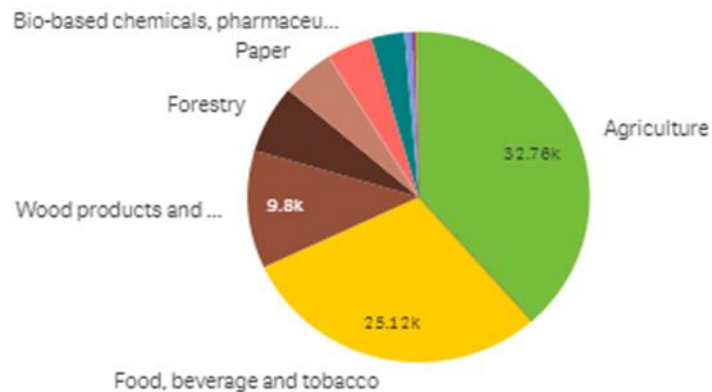




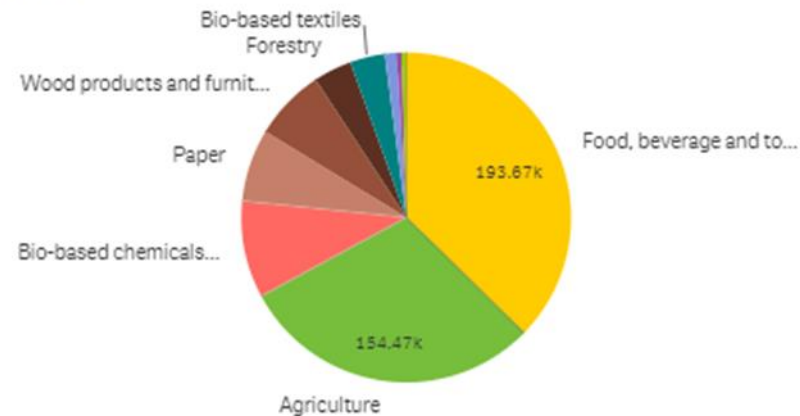
THE CHARACTERISTICS OF BIOECONOMIES

Value added in the 11 BioEAST countries (aggregate): 85 billion € compared with an EU27 total of 604 billion € (BIOEAST11 and rest of the EU countries)

Value added in the bioeconomy by sectors in selected countries (2017)
(million €)



Value added in the bioeconomy by sectors in selected countries (2017)
(million €)

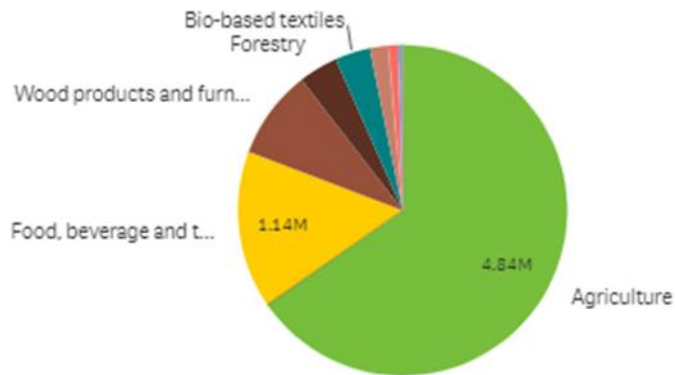




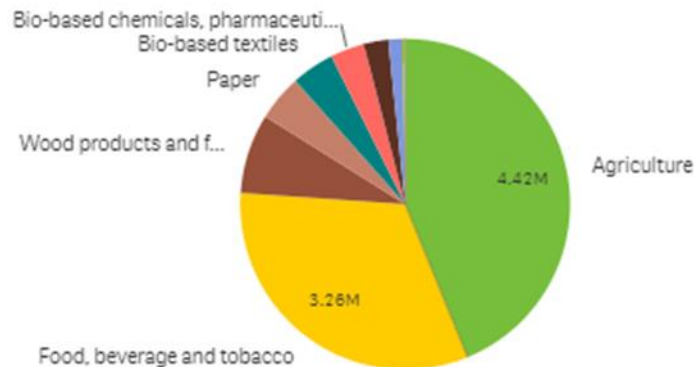
THE CHARACTERISTICS OF BIOECONOMIES

Employment in the 11 BioEAST countries (aggregate): 7,41 million compared with an EU27 total of 17,5 million (BIOEAST11 and rest of the EU countries)

Employment in the bioeconomy by sectors in selected countries (2017)
(number of people employed)



Employment in the bioeconomy by sectors in selected countries (2017)
(number of people employed)

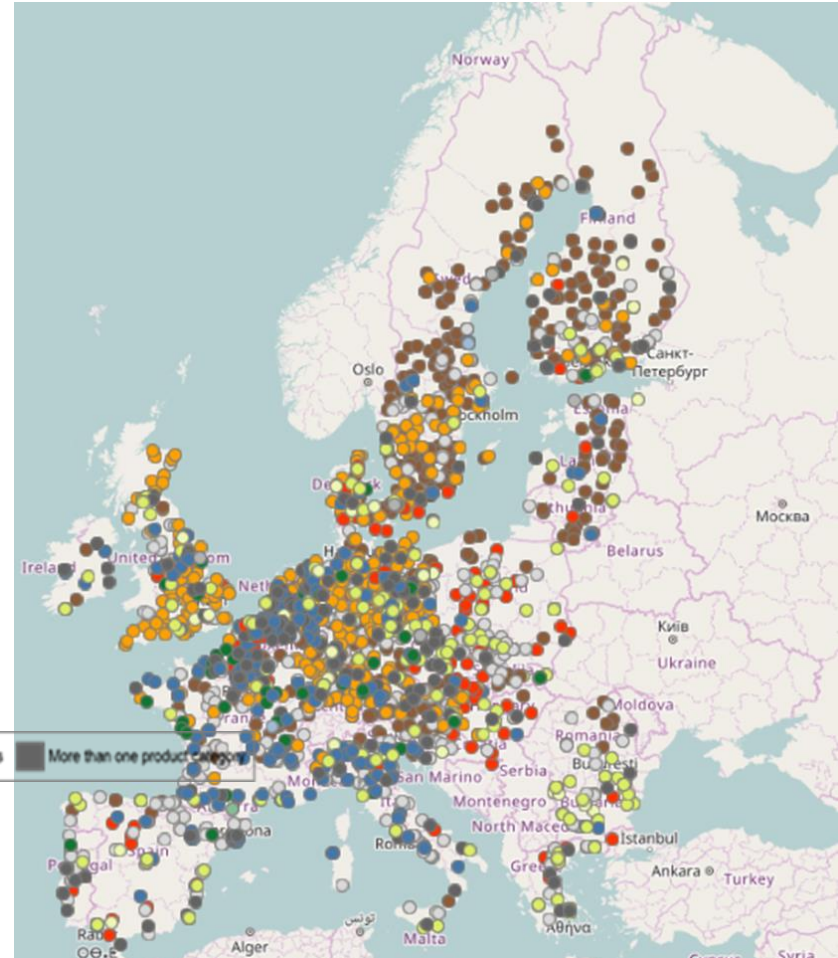


THE INVESTMENTS ASPECTS

1. Missing Investments

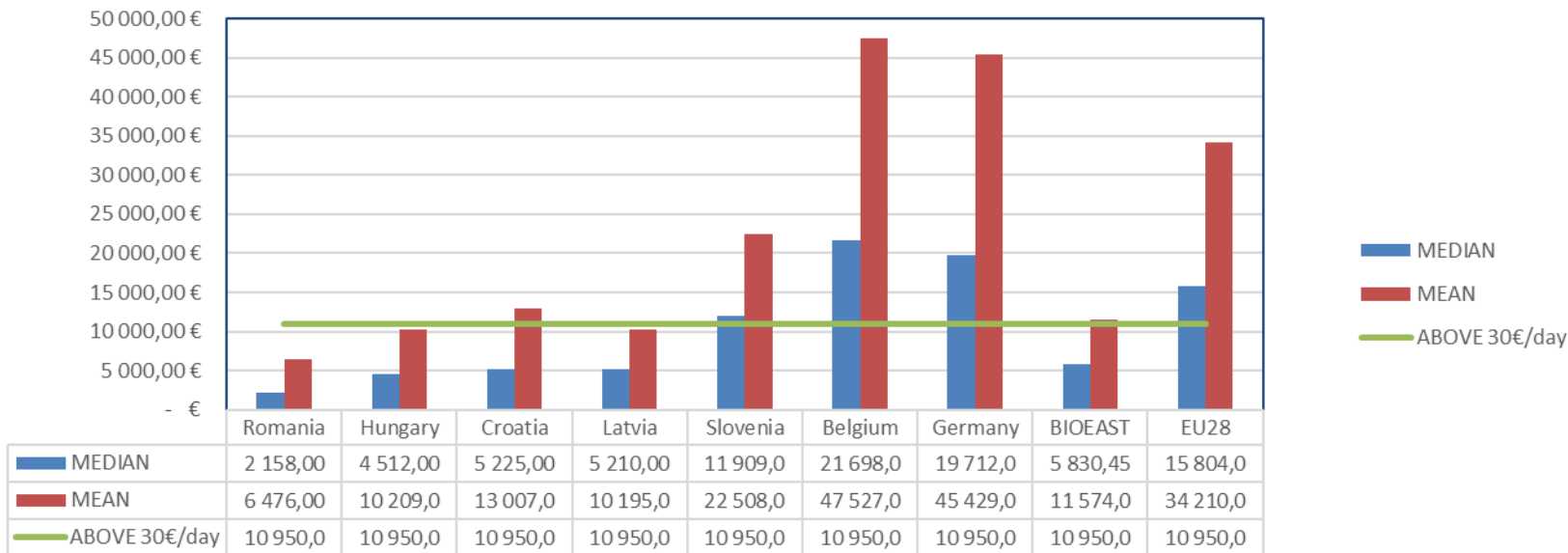
2. De-risking finances:

Biorefinery in the EU (database of 2,528 facilities in total), illustrated in a map and including the seven categories of bio-based products reported



THE SOCIETY IS INFLUENCING THE PRIORITIES

Median and Mean Annual Earnings in 2014



PRIORITIES FOR POLITICS AND POLICIES

Arctic region

- Temperature rise much larger than global average
- Decrease in Arctic sea ice coverage
- Decrease in Greenland ice sheet
- Decrease in permafrost areas
- Increasing risk of biodiversity loss
- Some new opportunities for the exploitation of natural resources and for sea transportation
- Risks to the livelihoods of indigenous peoples

Atlantic region

- Increase in heavy precipitation events
- Increase in river flow
- Increasing risk of river and coastal flooding
- Increasing damage risk from winter storms
- Decrease in energy demand for heating
- Increase in multiple climatic hazards

Mountain regions

- Temperature rise larger than European average
- Decrease in glacier extent and volume
- Upward shift of plant and animal species
- High risk of species extinctions
- Increasing risk of forest pests
- Increasing risk from rock falls and landslides
- Changes in hydropower potential
- Decrease in ski tourism

Coastal zones and regional seas

- Sea level rise
- Increase in sea surface temperatures
- Increase in ocean acidity
- Northward migration of marine species
- Risks and some opportunities for fisheries
- Changes in phytoplankton communities
- Increasing number of marine dead zones
- Increasing risk of water-borne diseases

Boreal region

- Increase in heavy precipitation events
- Decrease in snow, lake and river ice cover
- Increase in precipitation and river flows
- Increasing potential for forest growth and increasing risk of forest pests
- Increasing damage risk from winter storms
- Increase in crop yields
- Decrease in energy demand for heating
- Increase in hydropower potential
- Increase in summer tourism

Continental region

- Increase in heat extremes
- Decrease in summer precipitation
- Increasing risk of river floods
- Increasing risk of forest fires
- Decrease in economic value of forests
- Increase in energy demand for cooling

Mediterranean region

- Large increase in heat extremes
- Decrease in precipitation and river flow
- Increasing risk of droughts
- Increasing risk of biodiversity loss
- Increasing risk of forest fires
- Increased competition between different water users
- Increasing water demand for agriculture
- Decrease in crop yields
- Increasing risks for livestock production
- Increase in mortality from heat waves
- Expansion of habitats for southern disease vectors
- Decreasing potential for energy production
- Increase in energy demand for cooling
- Decrease in summer tourism and potential increase in other seasons
- Increase in multiple climatic hazards
- Most economic sectors negatively affected
- High vulnerability to spillover effects of climate change from outside Europe

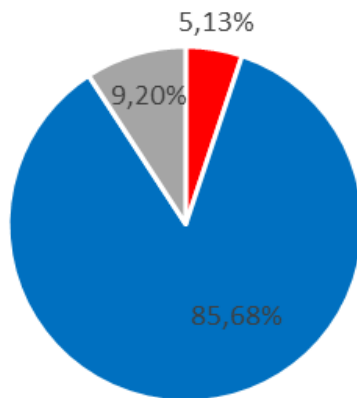


The climate change and sustainability issues do require specific approach in each climatic region.

PRIORITIES FOR POLITICS AND POLICIES

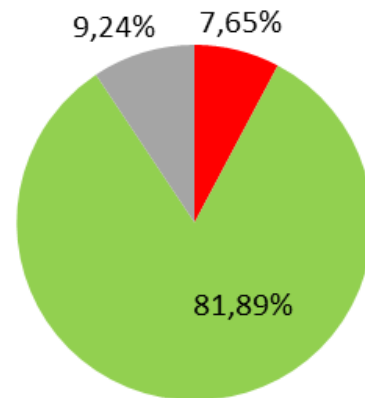
The role of excellence based science for policy making

2014-2019 H2020 funds distribution



■ EU-13 ■ EU-15 ■ OTHER

2014-2019 H2020 SC2 funds distribution



■ EU-13 ■ EU-15 ■ OTHER

UNDERSTANDING POLITICS AND BUILDING POLICY PRIORITIES



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2016 Declaration: on stronger inclusion into H2020

2017 Declaration: on broadening the remit of the BIOEAST initiative beyond H2020

2018 Declaration: on the Vision for BIOEAST

2019 Declaration: on the role of BIOEAST in the context of Horizon Europe (signed by 22 ministries)



Vision 2030



Through the governmental initiative, the Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries set the vision for 2030:

to develop knowledge and cooperation based circular bioeconomies, which helps to enhance their inclusive growth and to create new value-added jobs especially in rural areas, maintaining or even strengthening environmental sustainability.

MISSION:

to assist Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries to operationalize their Vision for 2030 drawing on their potential and offering opportunities for:

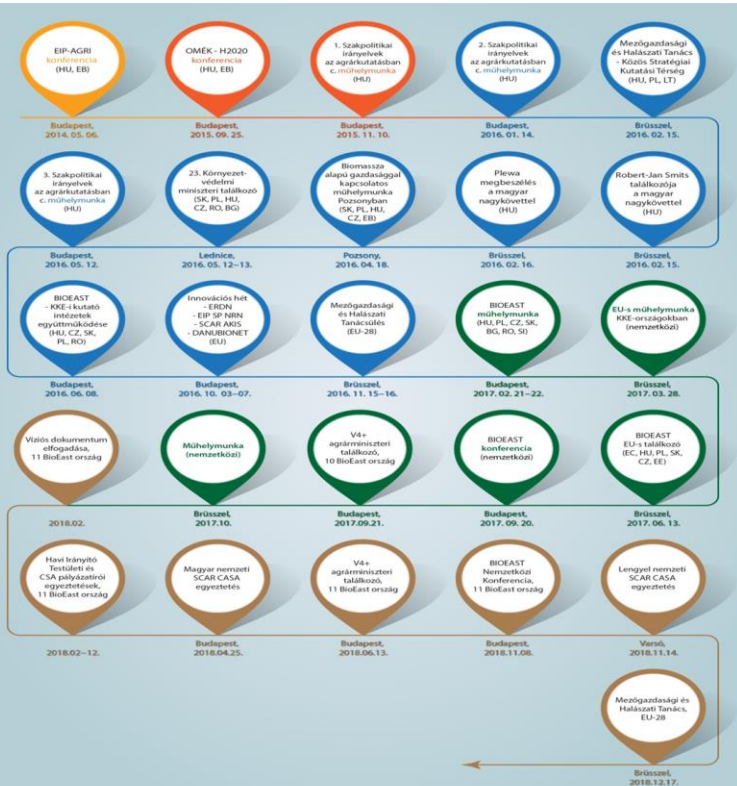
- Sustainable increase of biomass production;
- Circular ("zero waste") processing of the available biomass;
- Viable rural areas;





WHAT DID WE ACHIEVE UNTIL NOW?

- 11 CEE countries/ministries join the initiative
- Serbia asked for accession
- 4 political declarations, last signed by 22 ministries!
- Set-up of Governance:
 - Secretariat and Secretary
 - More than 20 Board meetings
 - National Contact Points
- Vision for 2030
- 5 international conferences
- 2018 EU Bioeconomy Strategy reference
- 2019 European Council Conclusion reference
- H2020 CSAs: BIOEASTsUP and Power4BIO
- 5 thematic working groups
- Several national events
- Topics and Projects developments (Horizon)





BIOEASTsUP THE SUPPORT ACTION

1. To support the bioeconomy strategic thinking:
 - Guidance on National Bioeconomy Strategy Development
 - Macro-regional Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA)
2. To establish the stakeholders engagement at national level
3. To support the thematic working groups for SRIA development at macro regional level (organizational arrangements and studies)
4. To set-up and to run the Advisory Council for the Initiative
 - Subtask: helping in the development of the Foresight Exercise feeding into the SRIA
5. To rectify the visual identity for the BIOEAST initiative



BIO EAST SUP

21 PARTNERS

- 11 BIOEAST Countries + DE and FI
- 4 Ministries
- 14 Research Institutes
- 3 SMEs



H2020 Project: 01. 10. 2019.- 30. 09. 2022.

Aim:

The project should help the Initiative to achieve its objectives and implementation of the VISION 2030.



NEXT STEPS AT NATIONAL LEVEL

1. Guidance on **National Bioeconomy Strategy** Development
2. **Policy Support** Facility for national bioeconomy strategies with the help of the European Commission
3. Establishing **National BIOEAST HUBs** for the stakeholders engagement at national level



NEXT STEPS AT MACRO REGIONAL LEVEL

1. Macro-regional **Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA)**
2. **Foresight exercise** for defining the potential future scenarios and priorities
3. **Five Thematic Working Groups** for SRIA development and participation in European Partnerships:
 - Forestry (coordinated by SK)
 - Sustainable yields and agro-ecological intensification (HU)
 - Bioenergy and new value-added products (HR)
 - Food Systems (PL)
 - Fresh water based bioeconomy (CZ)
 - Education (? Coordination?)





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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



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LINKING THE PRIORITIES

*THE WESTERN PEOPLE USUALLY ASK FIRST WHAT IS THE PURPOSE,
WHAT WILL BE USED FOR,
THE EASTERN PEOPLE APPRECIATE THE SETUP, SPENDING TIME TO
UNDERSTAND THE PHILOSOPHY BEHIND, RATHER THEN THE PURPOSE.*