

# BIOEAST Forestry Working Group

- introduction / overview

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**BFWG meeting organized within BIOEAST Conference**

*Brussels, February 21, 2020*

## BIOEAST Forestry Working Group (BFWG)

- **First thematic working group** in BIOEAST, active since 2018, a number of activities in 2018, 2019 and planned schedule for 2020
- **Successfully established thematic working group** with relevant communication channels, with approved Terms of Reference (ToR), nominated members of all 11 BIOEAST countries, organized already 3 BFWG meetings based on own initiative
- **Inspirative thematic working group** with interlinks to Forest Technology Platform, SCAR, FOREST EUROPE, relevant international organizations, processes, initiatives, competitive Excellence projects
- **Active thematic working group** with mapped BFWG potential based on Excellence Flagship projects in BFWG countries focusing on BFWG competitiveness
- **First thematic working group** with proposed SRIA Forestry pillars and structure to be discussed during BFWG afternoon session within the context and expected deliverables of BIOEAST's UP project, based on experience with Strategic Research Agenda creation process (Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda 2030 of the European Forest-based sector)

# **BFWG background overview**

## *Strategic level:*

- ☐ **BIOEAST initiative – background**
- ☐ **BIOEAST current policy base**
- ☐ **BIOEAST and forest-based sector**

## *Operational Level:*

- ☐ **BFWG portfolio of past activities**
- ☐ **BFWG overview of running and upcoming activities**



# **BIOEAST – Central and Eastern European initiative for knowledge-based agriculture, aquaculture and forestry in the bioeconomy.**



<http://www.bioeast.eu/>

An open initiative started by the Visegrad Group Countries: Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, and joined by Bulgaria, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Republic of Estonia, Romania, Slovenia and Serbia (extended after Stará Lesná meeting, 9.5.2019)

## BIOEAST relevant documents and information

<http://www.bioeast.eu/documents>

- [Joint\\_Declaration\\_V4\\_and\\_BG\\_HR\\_RO\\_SI\\_EE\\_LT\\_LV\\_StaráLlesná\\_9052019](#)
- [Conference\\_8November2018\\_Presentations](#)
- [Joint\\_Declaration\\_V4\\_and\\_BG\\_HR\\_RO\\_SI\\_EE\\_LT\\_LV\\_Babolna\\_13062018](#)
- [Position\\_Paper\\_H2020\\_SC2\\_WP\\_18-20\\_topic\\_RUR-09](#)
- [Roadmap\\_2017-2018](#)
- [Vision\\_Paper\\_23022018](#)
- [Joint\\_Declaration\\_V4\\_and\\_BG\\_HR\\_RO\\_SI\\_Budapest\\_21092017](#)
- [Joint\\_Declaration\\_V4\\_and\\_BG\\_RO\\_SI\\_Warsaw\\_26102016](#)

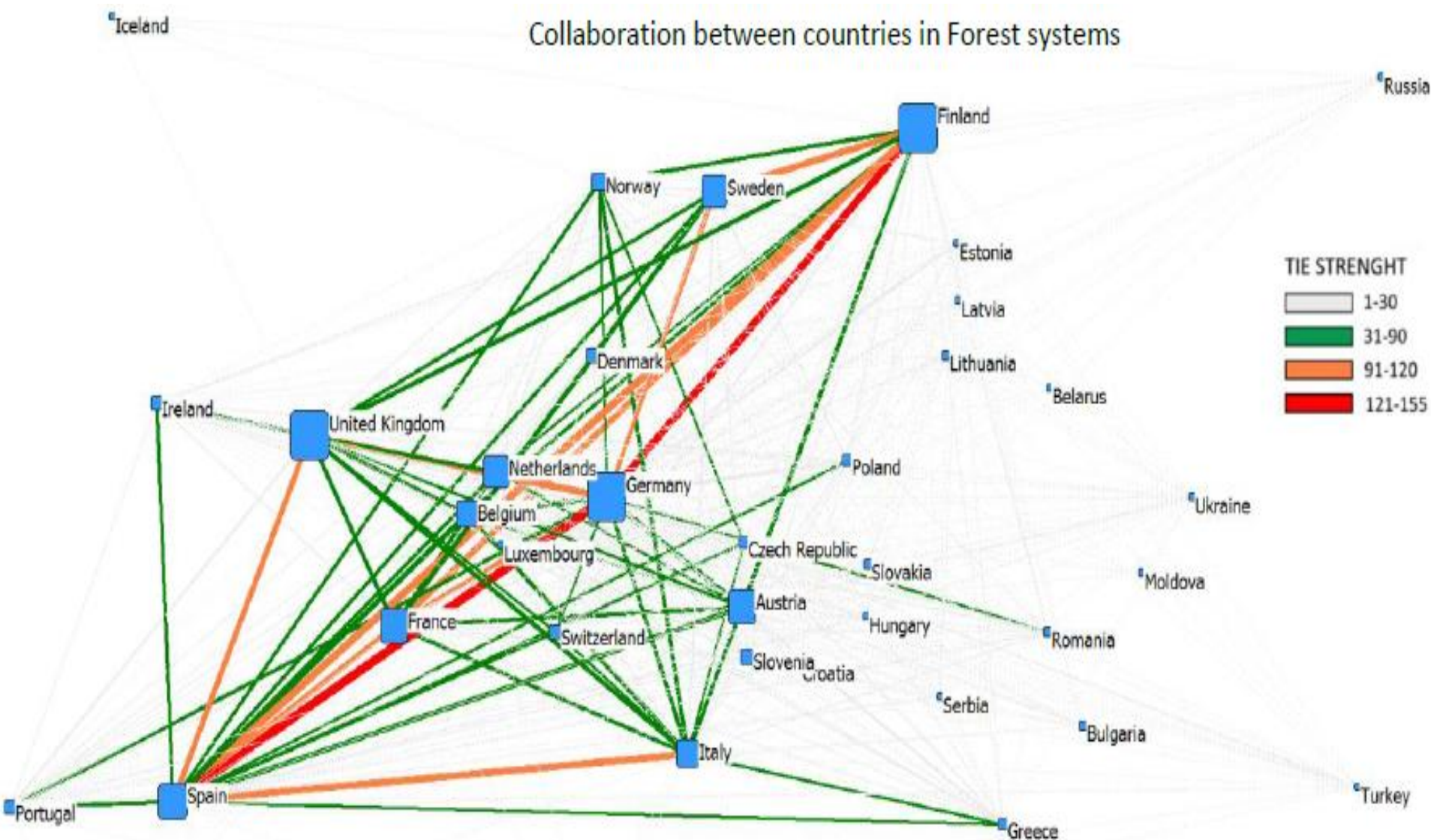
# BIOEAST countries in the EU-28 bioeconomy :



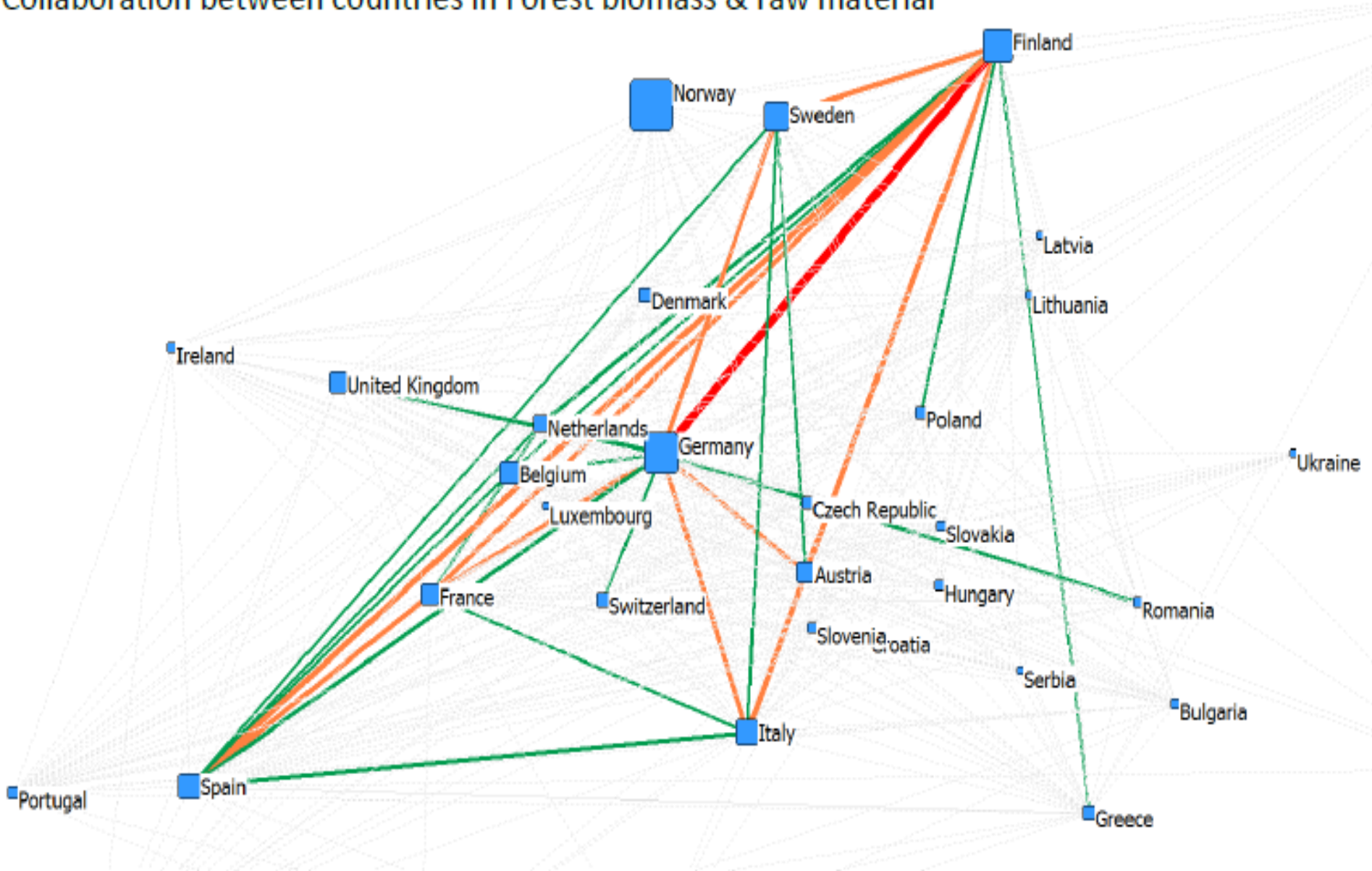
- ☐ Low shares of turnover in the total EU-28 bioeconomy
- ☐ High shares in employment (*mainly in the primary sectors*)
- ☐ Biomass-rich region with traditionally high importance of primary sectors agriculture, **forestry** and fishery
- ☐ Unused and underutilised biomass potentials
- ☐ Insufficient infrastructure, missing links between industries



# Setting the scene – collaboration between countries in Europe

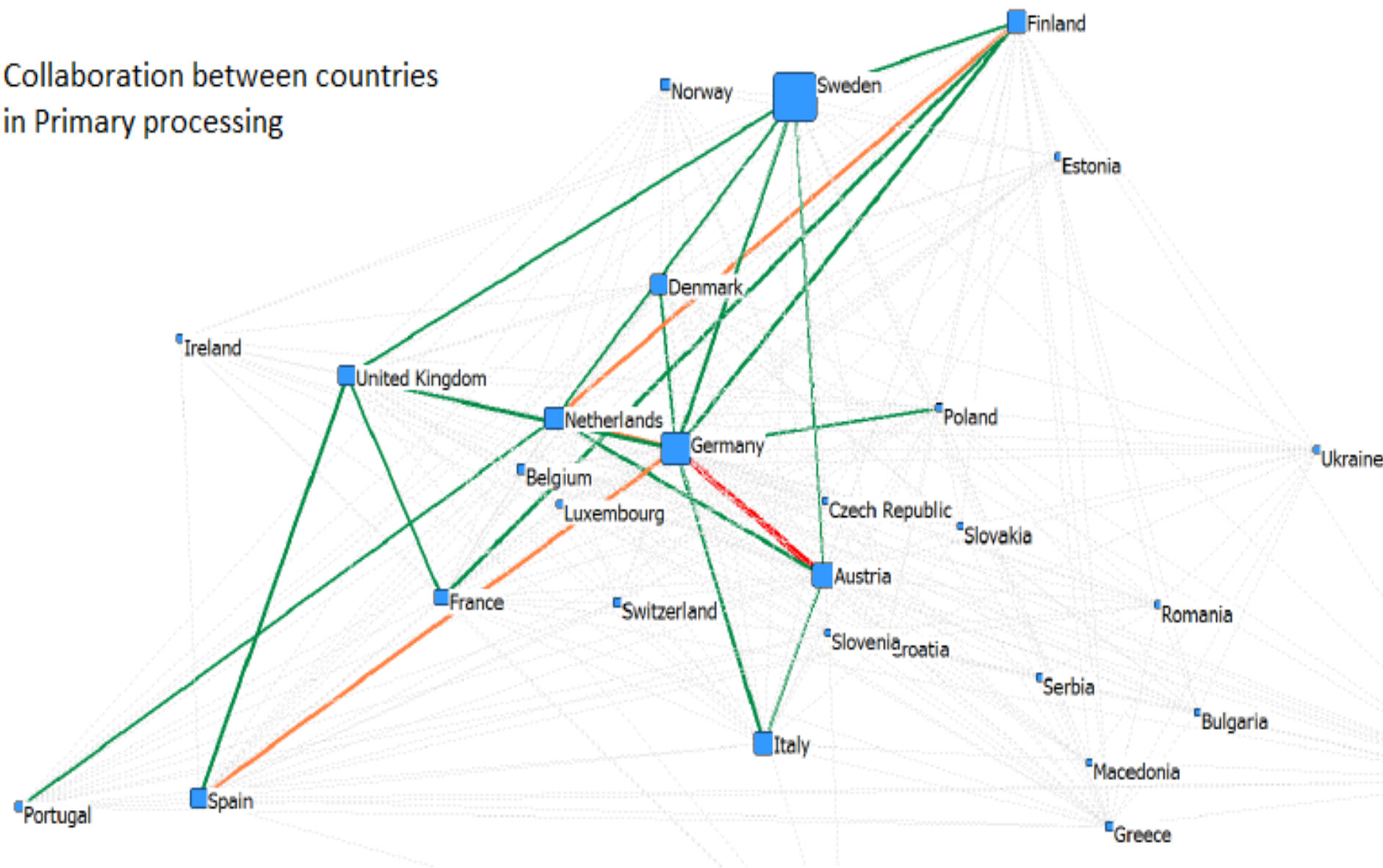


# Collaboration between countries in Forest biomass & raw material

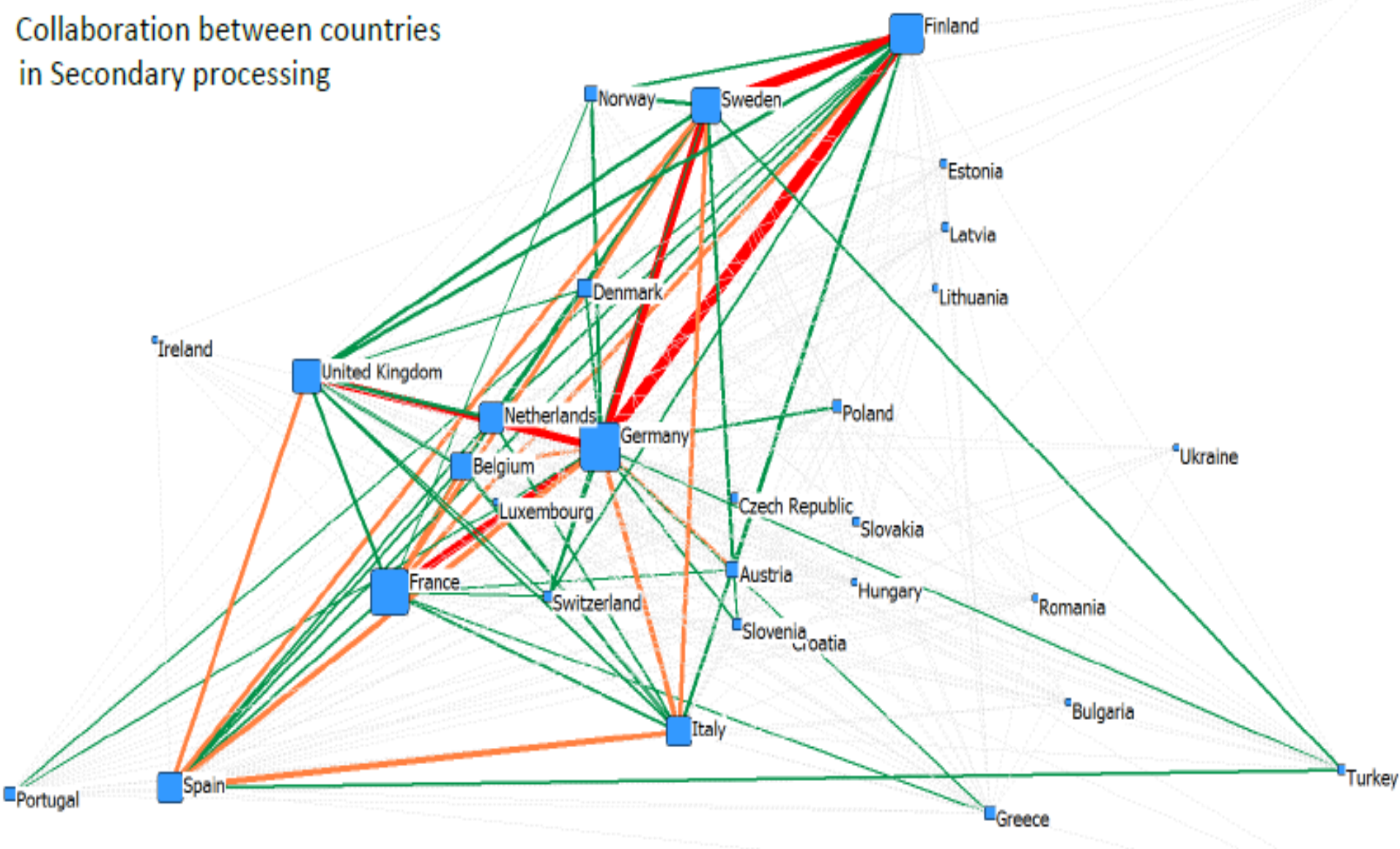




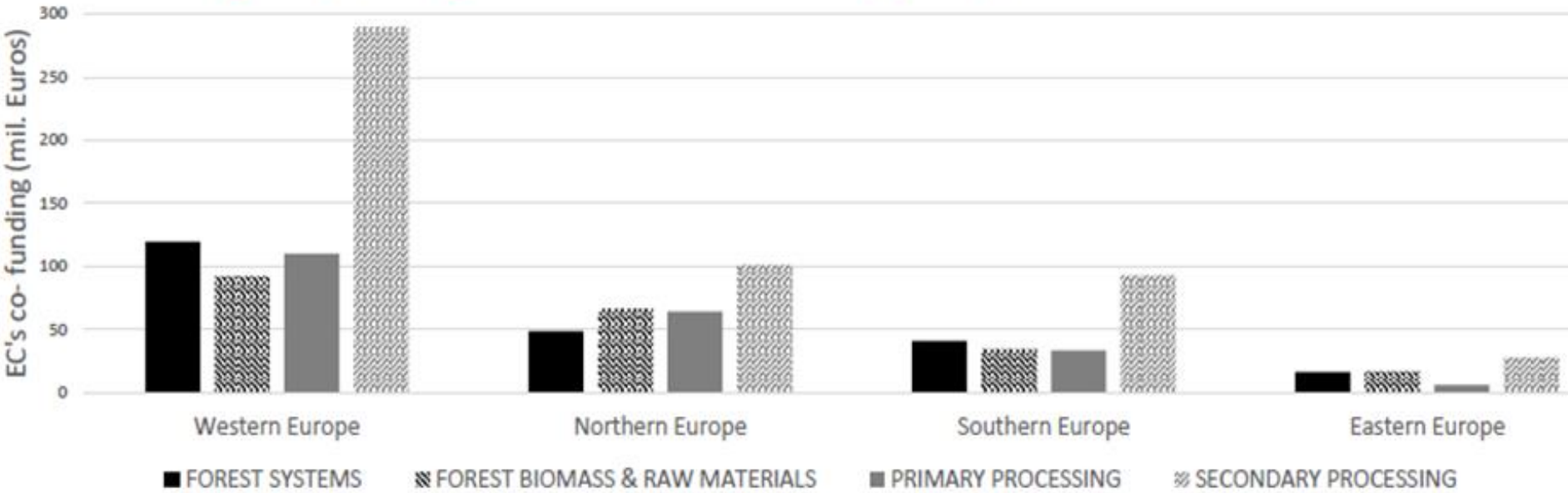
Collaboration between countries  
in Primary processing



Collaboration between countries  
in Secondary processing



# Funding by region and category



23 May 2019 | News

## East European ministers to push EU for more bioeconomy support

*EU Council meeting expected to see joint declaration by eastern agriculture and research ministers - a rare effort at coordinated east European lobbying over research in Brussels*

By [Richard L. Hudson](#)

„Political frustration has been mounting in the east over the fact that, so far in the Horizon 2020 R&D programme, the region has received only 4.8 per cent of the funding, despite having 17 per cent of the EU’s researchers.

West Europeans argue that’s because the east isn’t investing enough in its own universities and academies to compete well in Horizon 2020, which should remain focused on funding only the best research groups (regardless of where they come from).

This east-west dispute [became a major sticking point](#) in the past year of negotiations over the next programme, the €94.1 billion Horizon Europe.“

# Viewpoint: Critical mass of skills is the key to plugging Europe's research gap

*Money for research and infrastructure helps, but really, the east of Europe needs to attract and retain talent*

By [Markus Dettenhofer](#)

Europe's peripheral regions was not as successful as EU-13 members in competing for grant awards under the European Commission's framework programmes.

But the current debate over whether to address this by supporting existing tracks for Eastern Europe, or even creating new programmes, has lost sight of what should be the core objective - **of raising standards in these regions.**

Research infrastructure and financial sources are critical **BUT** boosting investment in regions that lack the expertise to put the funding to work **is misguided.**

Understanding the **institutional settings** that create the conditions for fostering a critical mass of skills needs to be addressed for the gap in European research to close.



# BIOEAST forest-based sector challenges:

- Sector is well linked with the concept of sustainability, but needs to further open towards a **cross-sectoral, value-chain approach** to be a proactive player in the bioeconomy
- A shift from purely national, monodisciplinary research funding towards **inter- and transdisciplinary research** programmes is a big change for the CEE macro-region
- BIOEAST challenges require **policy coordination** to apply coherent and specific approach within CEE macro-region

## OPERATIONAL LEVEL - BFWG activities:

- ☐ **BFWG Kick-off meeting, BFWG ToR draft, nomination procedures**  
*(Brussels, October 2, 2018)*
- ☐ **BFWG presentation during BIOEAST conference „Bioeconomy in the forefront of national policies, BFWG final ToR**  
*(Budapest, November 8, 2018)*
- ☐ **BFWG presentation during FOREST EUROPE expert level meeting**  
*(Bratislava, December 6, 2018)*
- ☐ **BFWG participation to SCAR workshops on "Transnational cooperation in research and innovation for the future European forest-based sector" and FTP meetings**  
*(Brussels, February 5, 2019, December, 12 2019)*
- ☐ **BFWG face-to-face meetings**  
*(Prague, April 5, 2019, Šopron October 9-10, 2019, Brussels, February 21, 2020)*

# Forest-based sector in BIOEAST

## Classification of forest bio-economy

CATEGORY	TOPIC
1.FOREST SYSTEMS	1.1.Forest inventory and economics
	1.2.Sustainability assessment
	1.3.Forest ecosystem services
	1.4.Non-wood forest products
2. FOREST BIOMASS & RAW MATERIALS	2.1.Forest management
	2.2.Tree breeding and forest biotechnology
	2.3.Wood properties
	2.4.Wood supply chain
	2.5.Recycled wood and fibres
3. PRIMARY PROCESSING	3.1.Wood processing
	3.2.Pretreatment technologies
	3.3.Pulping
	3.4.Bioenergy
4. SECONDARY PROCESSING	4.1.Construction and final wood products
	4.2.Chemical conversion
	4.3.Bioprocessing and biotechnology
	4.4.Biopolymer processing
	4.5.Fiber technologies
	4.6.Other bio-based final / high value products
	4.7.Biorefinery

## BFWG focus

- ☐ BFWG discussions focused on strategic cooperation and SRIA Forestry proposal
- ☐ BFWG mapping crucial Excellence projects (Flagship projects)

**Flagship projects – backbone of SRIA as behind them is a critical mass of scientists, infrastructures, financial sources, support staff, etc., using Forest-based Bioeconomy classification:**

Slovenia – **CoE InnoRenew** (Topic: 2.3-2.5; 3.1-3.4; 4.1-4.4)

**BRIDGE2BIO** (1.1, 2.4, 2.5, 4.2, 4.7)

Hungary - **AGRO-CLIMATE 2** (1.1-1.3; 2.1-2.2)

Czech republic – **EXTEMIT-K , EVA4.0** (1.1 – 1.3; 2.1-2.5; 3.1)

Slovakia – **CoE LignoSilva** (1.1; 2.1-2.5; 3.1-3.4)

Lithuania – fragmented (**BenchValue** 4.1)

Other BFWG countries – other projects

## **BFWG running and upcoming activities:**

- ☐ **Development of synergies within BFWG providing a platform for sharing experience across borders and regions, interlinks to FTP, SCAR**  
*(continuously)*
- ☐ **Contributions to research and innovation policies**  
*(Horizon Europe, European Partnerships, etc.)*  
*(continuously)*
- ☐ **BFWG synchronization with relevant WPs implementation of CSA project (H2020 RUR-18-2019) Support to the BIOEAST initiative: boosting knowledge and innovation-based bioeconomies**  
*(from October 2019)*
- ☐ **BFWG interlinks with other thematic working groups (BIOEAST Bioenergy working group, already organized joint workshop: 10th October 2019, Sopron, Hungary)**



## **BFWG running and upcoming activities:**

- ☐ **BFWG Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda - Forestry**  
first structure to be intensively discussed during today afternoon session

*The proposal of the structure and content of BFWG SRIA Forestry was elaborated on the basis of mapped excellence potential in BFWG countries, on the basis of available knowledge and preferred directions of R&D and innovation activities*

- ☐ **BFWG SRIA Forestry pillars:**

Forest resources and sustainable wood production

Biomass and bioenergy

Paper-pulp technologies

Recycling and cascading system of wood and wood products use

Regional development

- ☐ **BFWG Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda - Forestry document**  
(2020)





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Thank you for attention