

## GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE OF BIOEAST

Political Level Endorsement  
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THEMATIC WORKING GROUPS



NATIONAL LEVEL - BIOEAST HUBS



We are looking forward to welcoming you on board.  
If you want to join us, please get in touch!

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# BIOEAST

## THEMATIC WORKING GROUPS

### BIOEAST TWG ON BIOECONOMY EDUCATION



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The macro-regional **BIOEAST** Thematic Working Group Bioeconomy Education (TWG BE EDU) was established in 2020 based on the principles of the New Bioeconomy Strategy for Sustainable Europe, the Bioeconomy Action Plan of the EC, the Stakeholders Manifesto, the European Green Deal and the **BIOEAST** Foresight Exercise.

Bioeconomy Education has been a key issue on the European Strategy for Bioeconomy from the very beginning, the **BIOEAST** Foresight Report highlighted the structure problems in the **BIOEAST** macro-region, the lack of human resources in higher education and research is one of the main bottlenecks to accomplishing the goals of the European Green Deal.

The **BIOEAST** macro-region is lagging in the practice of lifelong learning. The high schools are still not sufficiently addressing the needs of the Bioeconomy and the topics related to Bioeconomy are only addressed in the scope of the “general” subjects, such as biology. A low number of educational agencies with programs in Bioeconomy was depicted as another key issue. Moreover, unlike the network of Bioeconomy University established in the Western, Southern and Northern part of Europe, there is no such network in the macro-region. In order to efficiently support the expansion of the sustainable circular Bioeconomy educational and vocational training programmes that fit the quickly evolving skill demands are required. In addition to technical skills, strong interdisciplinary competences, systems thinking and the ability to understand the subject matter of all stakeholders in the value chains are of increasing importance.

These principles above enabled the idea and the need of the creation TWG BE EDU dealing with these topics and adapting their implementation to the regional needs, exploring the regional capacities.

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



**BIOEAST** TWG BE EDU has participated in several EU events, EBU – Scientific Forum (Session Education), **BIOEAST** Foresight Conference (September 2021), IFIB-2021 (Panel Discussion on BE), Bioeconomy Education Seminar (ICA-Community of Practice); TWG Leaders are involved in the study Promoting Education, Training and Skills across the Bioeconomy Deloitte, Empirica and Fondazione Giacomo Brodolini (FGB) are developing for the EU Commission.

TWG Leaders are involved in several projects focus on education: **BIOBec** BBI-JU, **BioGov.net** Horizon EUROPE, CASCADE Erasmus+, the outcomes of which are shared among TWG members.

The Thematic Study for the TWG BE EDU developed by independent, international experts within the **BIOEASTsUP** project states that however the **BIOEAST** macro-region is rich in biomass resources availability to ensure a knowledge-based transformation towards a bio-based economy, new transdisciplinary curricula should be developed, and existing ones should be adjusted to existing needs of the agricultural practice, industry, and policy makers, as well as the foreseen needs for the upcoming decades.

**BIOEAST** TWG BE EDU aims to reflect upon the above-mentioned issues and set the following activities to support the enhancement of the Bioeconomy education in the **BIOEAST** macro region, the creation of tailored curricula to address the appropriate demand of each **BIOEAST** country. Its main goal is to maximize the efforts in increasing knowledge sharing, networking, mutual learning, development of joint activities and events, enhance capacity and knowledge building, and mobilise stakeholders from public sector and industry to get involved.

### THE TWG BE EDU IS PRIMARILY:

- 1 serving as a platform for open discussion between key persons in the field of Bioeconomy Education, build knowledge and capacity, discuss good practice developed in the EU projects;
- 2 providing input in any planned and/or ongoing **BIOEAST** initiative related to Bioeconomy Education and briefly to support all **BIOEAST** actions;
- 3 informing, inspiring, motivating and engaging regional and local actors in the field of Bioeconomy education, closely cooperate with key players on the EU level and supporting them to get engaged in the international project cooperation;
- 4 fostering the knowledge exchange and learning to develop the education frame of Bioeconomy education with the support of the EU projects;
- 5 promoting the concept of circular and Bioeconomy and influence social habits and attitudes towards.