

BIOECONOMY CONCEPT PAPER

ROMANIA



Mission

To develop a preliminary impact assessment and to set the framework for a national bioeconomy strategy and action plan development, aiming to generate a deeper discussion in Romania on the necessity of paradigm shift in economic thinking regarding the sustainable valorisation of biomass as renewable natural resources.



Strengths in bioeconomy

- Romania has a great potential in developing the value chains for organic products given the limited chemicalization of primary sector, especially in small farms.
- High potential for biofuels and biogas production given the variety of existing natural resources and significant quantities of under-used forestry and agriculture organic residues.
- Increased demand for RDI in light of technological changes regarding smart capitalization of biore-sources.



Opportunities foreseen in bioeconomy

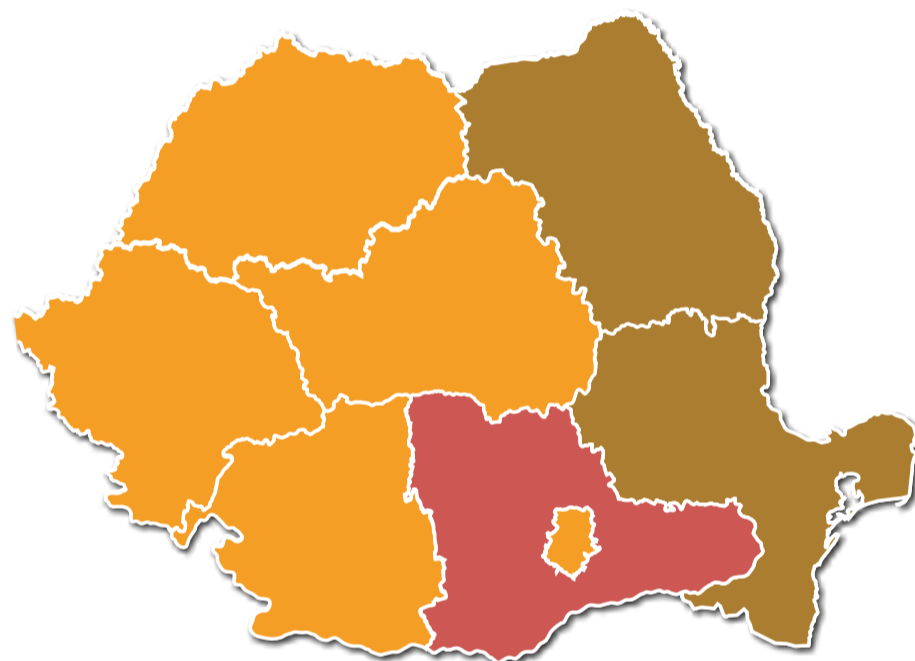
- Bioeconomy as a priority of sustainable development in the EU.
- Recent global crises that require rapid bio-based solutions to ensure food and energy security and safety.
- Strong 'conventional' bioeconomy-related industries plays an important role in building and supporting the development of regional bioeconomy clusters.



Strategic directions

- Policy commitment and availability of public funding for supporting the bioeconomy-oriented projects represent one of the most relevant and important triggering factor in Romania. Set up a Romanian Bioeconomy interministerial body will have the role of facilitating the vertical and horizontal integration of related bioeconomy policies and funding programs.
- Development and deployment of technologically advanced biobased solutions mostly in the 'novel' processing sectors and the other sectors related to the bioeconomy will significantly contribute to

Regional Strategies



- Strategy fully dedicated to Bioeconomy
- Bioeconomy is one of the key elements
- Strategy with minimum Bioeconomy content

the transformation of bioeconomy in a knowledge-based sustainable system.

- Increasing awareness regarding the producers' and consumers' practices in order to be more engaged in ecosystem valorisation and to add more value to sustainable products.
- Increasing the integration of the Romanian Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (AKIS) in the European research and knowledge transfer networks will contribute to closing the gaps in the field of bioeconomy. The BIOEAST Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda plays an important role in supporting this strategic direction for Romania.

Endorsement

The BIOEAST Initiative aims to build knowledge-based agriculture, forestry and aquaculture in the bioeconomy. For this reason, the BIOEASTsUP Horizon 2020 EU project was launched under the auspice of the macro-regional governmental initiative to support eleven countries in building up their own bioeconomy strategies and action plans.

