

Bioeconomy Mutual Learning Exercise

Topics:



1. Improving understanding of bioeconomy



2. Inter-ministerial cooperation



3. Challenges with the strategy/action plan implementation



4. Engaging stakeholders and awareness raising

Format:

- December: Opening of MLE (virtual meeting)
- February/March: 1st country visits in the Member States from CEE
- April: 2nd country visits in the Member States from CEE
- June Final meeting
- July: Dissemination workshop

Thank you to everyone for the excellent participation, guidance, feedback & cooperation.

Executive Summary

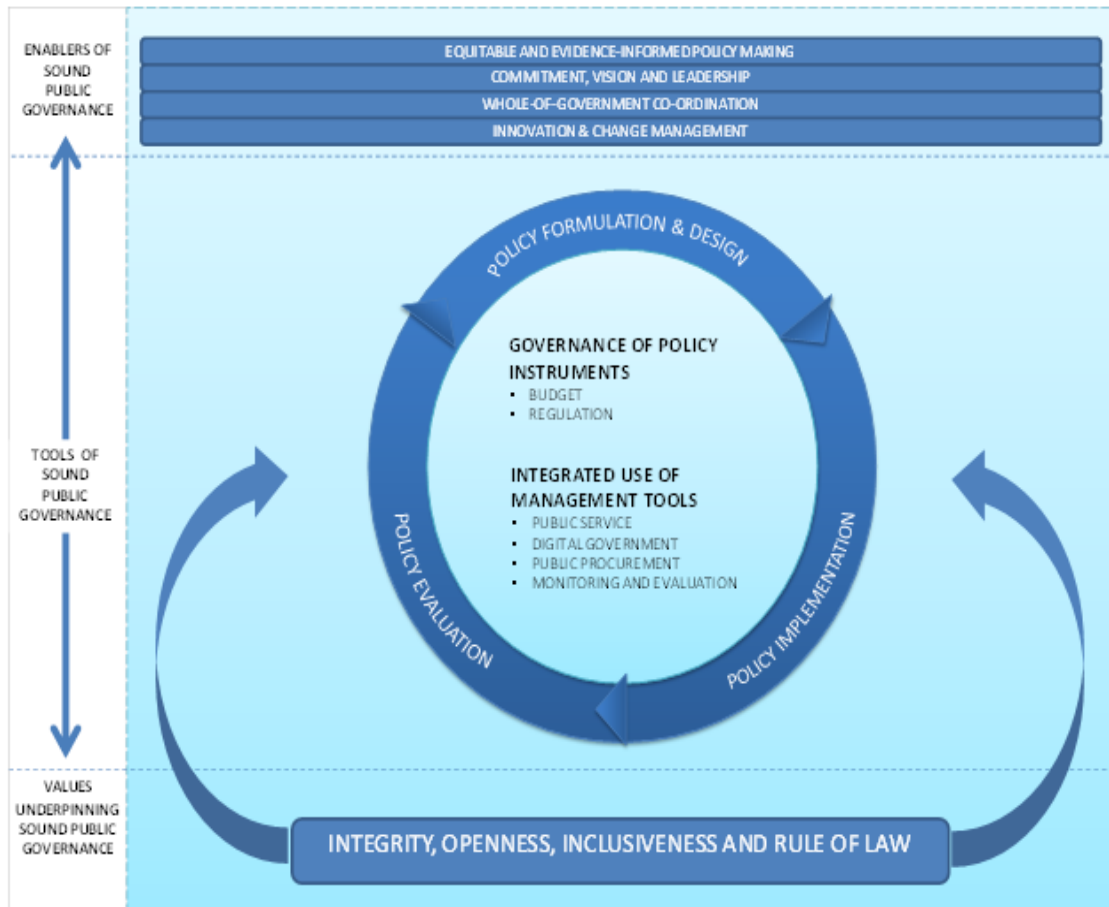
- Introduction – The Bioeconomy
 - catalyst for sustainable systemic change and transition for EU & its MS
 - support interactions among multiple actors
 - based on searching, experimenting, reflecting and learning
 - align with national challenges and missions and aiming at enabling innovation, experimentation, diffusion and networking
- Key Actions – Bioeconomy strategy & action plan
 - needs political support, policy coordination and directionality – getting started
 - requires public engagement to foster consultation and reflection – building coalitions
 - adaptive governance – steering the process
- 10 Key Policy Messages – based on feedback from MS experts, good practice examples, EU developments, supportive approaches

Introduction

- **Bioeconomy Deployment to address MS Strategic Objectives & Challenges**
 - Why? turnover, jobs, welfare, prosperity, access to eco-innovation and labour productivity
 - Why? Correlation between addressing strategic objectives and policy support
 - Why? Circular economy is not complete without the bioeconomy and vice versa
- **Structuring, mobilising & progressing bioeconomy development**
 - increasingly understood role-sustainable solutions-bioeconomy, bio-based industry & innovation
 - integration of sustainable activities developed, tested in real-life environments, landscapes
 - alignment EU bio-based R&I framework approach and national strategic developments
- **Bioeconomy & the European Green Deal**
 - new demands, targets and challenges that need to be addressed by EU MS
 - connecting and implementing transformative policies is a strong catalyst and enabler
 - clear rationale for MS to undertake National Bioeconomy Strategy Development, and its implementation, including continuous updates to the Strategy and Action plans
 - inform national responses to EGD, RRF and National Programmes for Government

Bioeconomy Policy Framework – Reference & Guidance Tool

Sound Public Governance



Systems Transition

- System-wide changes necessary to make economies sustainable.
- Achieving this goal requires changes in underlying economic, technological and social systems.
- At the core a shift in governance structures that not only allows change to occur but also directs and orchestrates some of the changes.

Getting Started

- 1 Ensuring stronger recognition of the importance of bioeconomy policy by decision-makers and stakeholders
- 2 Moving from a bioeconomy concept to developing a vision
- 3 Creating spaces for building collective bioeconomy awareness and leadership

Building Transformative Coalitions

- 4 Coordinating across government to support bioeconomy strategy design and development
- 5 Identification of existing bioeconomy initiatives for building a coherent action plan
- 6 Establishing collaborative bioeconomy partnerships for co-investment

Steering the Process

- 7 Developing linkages and pathways between bioeconomy policy, funding and national and EU strategic research, innovation and investment agendas and rural and regional development
- 8 Addressing the concerns and resistance of incumbent industries and patterns of behaviour of citizens and consumers
- 9 Encouraging diffusion of biobased knowledge, innovation & technological advances to support rural and regional development
- 10 Evaluating and gauging progress to help steer development of sustainable, circular bioeconomies

Getting Started

- Key role of senior civil servants as **'institutional catalysts'** to guide and link top down and bottom-up policy developments.
- 2 dedicated bioeconomy policy officers, from different key ministries, can **effectively lead** bioeconomy strategy development
- Stakeholder input is essential to **build trust & bridge the gap** from policy actions to effective implementation and needs to be an **appropriately resourced ongoing effort**
- Many **perspectives need to be gauged** to develop a shared bioeconomy **understanding and vision**
- Many bioeconomy possibilities may initially be considered possible & **engagement activities** and **spaces to hold such discussions** are needed
- Clarity is required on the mainstreaming of bioeconomy **at EU level**

Building Transformative Coalitions

- Good practice examples of **coordination across government** which are stable over time and that reflect national situations
- Good practice examples of taking a **phased strategic development approach**
- Stakeholder engagement and awareness raising is **complex, challenging and demands resources** and allows for outreach.
- Engagement with stakeholders in bioeconomy initiatives allows for the identification of key **activities, issues, barriers, lead innovators**
- **Bringing together multiple sectors**, who are often unused to working together, in order to make **complementary investments** raises particular challenges /provides opportunities

Steering the Process

- Positive developments on bioeconomy education and research infrastructure and in **mainstreaming the bioeconomy** in the implementation of national instruments and the available European programmes
- Challenges in the development and of **piloting & demonstration** and **interlinking rural** (primary producers, rural entrepreneurs) and **regional** (SME, large industry, academia) **actors**.
- As bioeconomy is mainstreamed, **important concerns will be raised** and it will be necessary to address concerns inclusively and transparently
- New approaches to **sharing of available knowledge can accelerate responsible use of the biological resources**; creating societal, environmental and business value at the same time.
- Evaluation will need to measure the **challenge of implementing a mix of policies that enable bio-based innovation** to break through to the market place
- Bioeconomy needs to be considered alongside other innovative '**green economy**' developments on e.g. circular economy, renewable energy, nature based solutions

Conclusion

- Drive to develop sustainable, circular bioeconomies reflects the need, for more integrated policy approaches that are long-term in character.
- Seeks to address multi-dimensional objectives such as jobs, competitiveness, sustainability and rural and regional development
- Diversity of the bioeconomy development amongst MS
- Unevenness of bioeconomy strategy development - challenge & opportunity
- Bioeconomy needed to effectively address and deliver on the implementation of the EGD and on the post-Covid 19 recovery.
- 10 key policy messages to guide strategy development
- Disseminate widely & seek implementation

