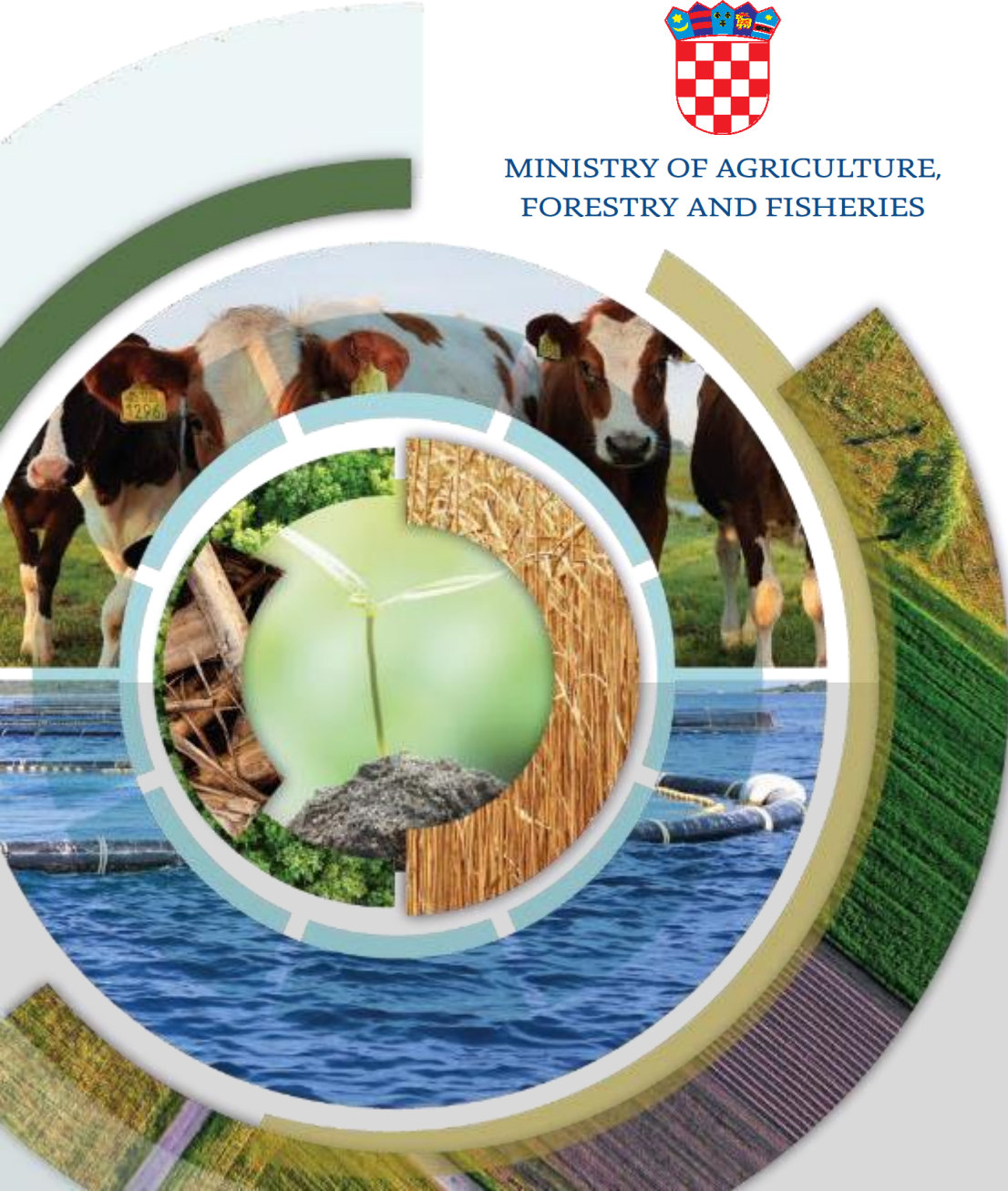




MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE,
FORESTRY AND FISHERIES



BIOECONOMY STRATEGY 2035

BIOEAST BIOECONOMY CONFERENCE
From Strategy to Impact:
Inclusive Decision-Making in National Bioeconomy Action Plans

Zadar, April 22, 2026

WHY BIOECONOMY STRATEGY?



BIOECONOMY

Bioeconomy covers **all sectors and systems** which are leaning to **biological resources** (animals, plants, microorganisms and derived biomass including organic waste), their functions and principles.

It includes and interconnects land and marine ecosystems and the services they provide, all **primary production sectors** that use and produce biological resources, i.e. **agriculture, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture**; and **all economic and industrial sectors** that use biological resources and processes to produce food, feed, bio-based products, energy and services.



BIOECONOMY SECTORS

Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries	A01 - Agriculture A02 - Forestry A03 - Fisheries
Processing industry	C10 – Manufacture of food C.11 – Manufacture of beverages C12 – Manufacture of tobacco products C13* - Manufacture of bio-based textiles C14* - Manufacture of bio-based wearing apparel C15* - Manufacture of leather C16* - Manufacture of wood and wood products and cork, except furniture; manufacture of straw and wicker materials C.17* - Manufacture of paper and paper products C.20* - Manufacture of bio-based chemicals and chemical products C.21* - Manufacture of bio-based pharmaceuticals C.22* - Manufacture of bio-based plastics and rubber C.31* - Manufacture of furniture
Bioenergy	D35* - Electrical energy supply, gas, steam and air conditioning (D35.11* - Production of bioelectricity)



*relates to portion of products based on biological raw materials

DRAFTING OF THE BIOECONOMY STRATEGY UNTIL 2035



Competent authorities
MAFF , ME, MRDEUF, MPEGT, MSEY

CROATIAN BIOECONOMY STATISTICS (Joint Research Center, 2023)

value added of biomass producing and converting sectors - 6 billion EUR

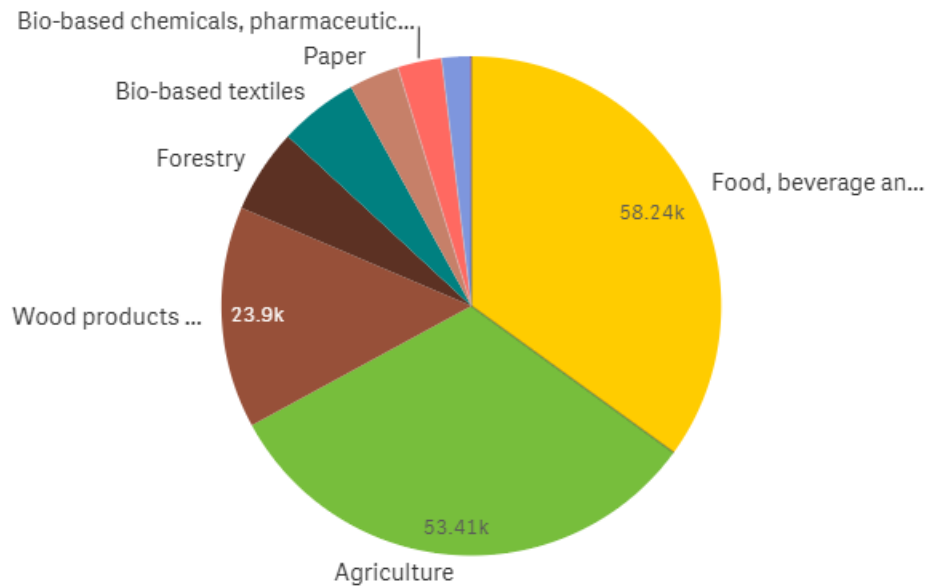
number of people employed in biomass producing and converting sectors - 166 thousand workers

value added per person employed in biomass producing and converting sectors - 33.000 EUR per employee

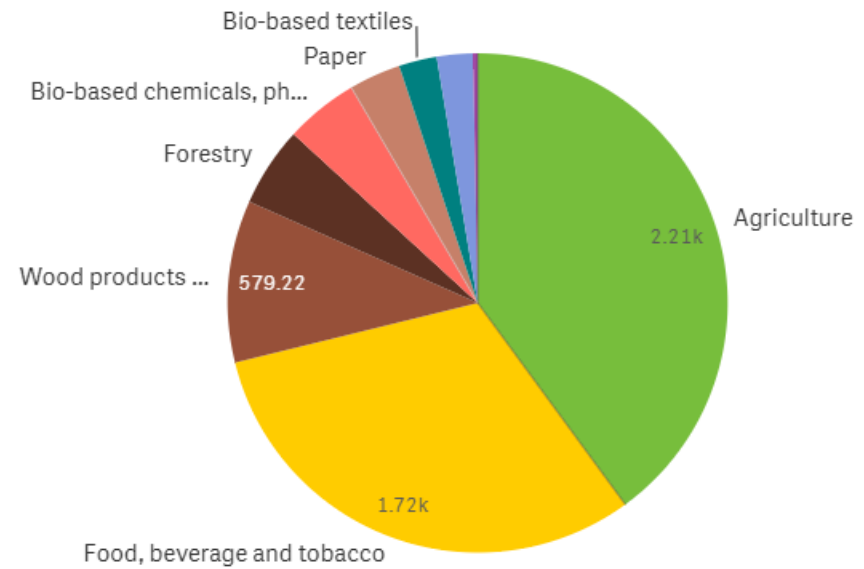


BIOECONOMY IN CROATIA

Employment by sector in Croatia (2023)
(number of people employed)



Value added by sector in Croatia (2023)
(million €)



BIOECONOMY SECTORS - FOOD AND BEVERAGES



FOOD SECURITY – NATIONAL PRIORITY

- growth of production value and labour productivity in agriculture since EU membership
- manufacture of food and beverages is the largest segment of the processing industry in Croatia per GDP share, import and employment
- significant investments in innovation (such as food additives, functional food)

BIOECONOMY SECTORS - BIOBASED PRODUCTS

- intensive research activity
- financing through Horizon Europe and Competitiveness and Cohesion programme
- study programmes or subjects on several Croatian faculties



SWOT ANALYSIS OF CROATIAN BIOECONOMY

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

- +**
- bioeconomy is included in several national strategic documents
- bioeconomy fits well in different EU policies
- Croatian experts participate in the work of EU bodies dealing with bioeconomy
-
- activities and financing sources are fragmented and unharmonized



BIOMASS AVAILABILITY

- +**
- different sources and quantities of available biomass
- possibilities of cultivation on abandoned land
- increase in separate collection of biowaste
-
- aerial dispersion of agricultural biomass
- high costs of biomass collection
- biomass market not sufficiently developed



BIOMASS USAGE

- +**
- developed „conventional industries“
- expressed interest for energy production
- importance in the context of energy independency
- possibility of manufacturing of wider biobased products palette
-
- higher costs of investment in innovation technologies
- long-term licensing procedures
- technologies still in experimental stage for many biobased products
- high percentage of biomass is still used for heating



RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

- +**
- high number of projects in bioeconomy sectors
- involvement in international consortia
- possibility to obtain financing from EU sources
-
- still very low investment level in research and innovation
- insufficient cooperation of scientific community and industry
- low investments in innovation within business sector



VISION OF BIOECONOMY DEVELOPMENT

Bioeconomy aims to rapidly develop as dynamic and diversified activity, which significantly contributes to overall economic activities in Croatia and their sustainability, being especially significant for rural areas along with the decrease of Croatia's dependence on non-renewable raw material sources.



DEVELOPMENT NEEDS

1. to map availability and demand for biomass
2. to manage sustainably natural resources
3. to additionally foster scientific and research activities and innovation as well as their usage in bioeconomy
4. to identify and foster selected bioeconomy value chains
5. to foster consumption of domestic bioeconomy products



IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISMS

1. establishment and work of the coordinating body for bioeconomy issues
2. development of digital platforms for networking and data exchange
3. planning and construction of distribution centres for biomass
4. regulating the usage of waste sludge
5. supporting the construction and modernization of capacities in bioeconomy sectors
6. supporting the production of recycled packaging materials, bio-based and biodegradable plastics
7. implementing the green public procurement in the function of bioeconomy development
8. implementation of bioeconomy related research and innovation



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. development of a sustainable production and raw material market in bioeconomy
2. increase of an added value in bioeconomy





FINANCING POSSIBILITIES

- 
- Strategic Plan of the Common Agricultural Policy of the Republic of Croatia 2023-2027
 - Competitiveness and Cohesion Programme 2021-2027
 - Integrated Territorial Programme 2021-2027
 - Modernisation Fund
 - The Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund
 - State budget of the Republic of Croatia
 - Budgets of Local and Regional Administration
 - [Multiannual Financial Framework 2028-2034](#)

EXAMPLES OF STRATEGIC PROJECTS



Treatment of grape and olive pomace



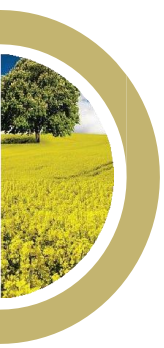
R&I BioPark for livestock production and biotechnology



Center of Excellence in Biotechnology and Food Engineering



Facilities for the treatment of biowaste and sludge from wastewater treatment plants



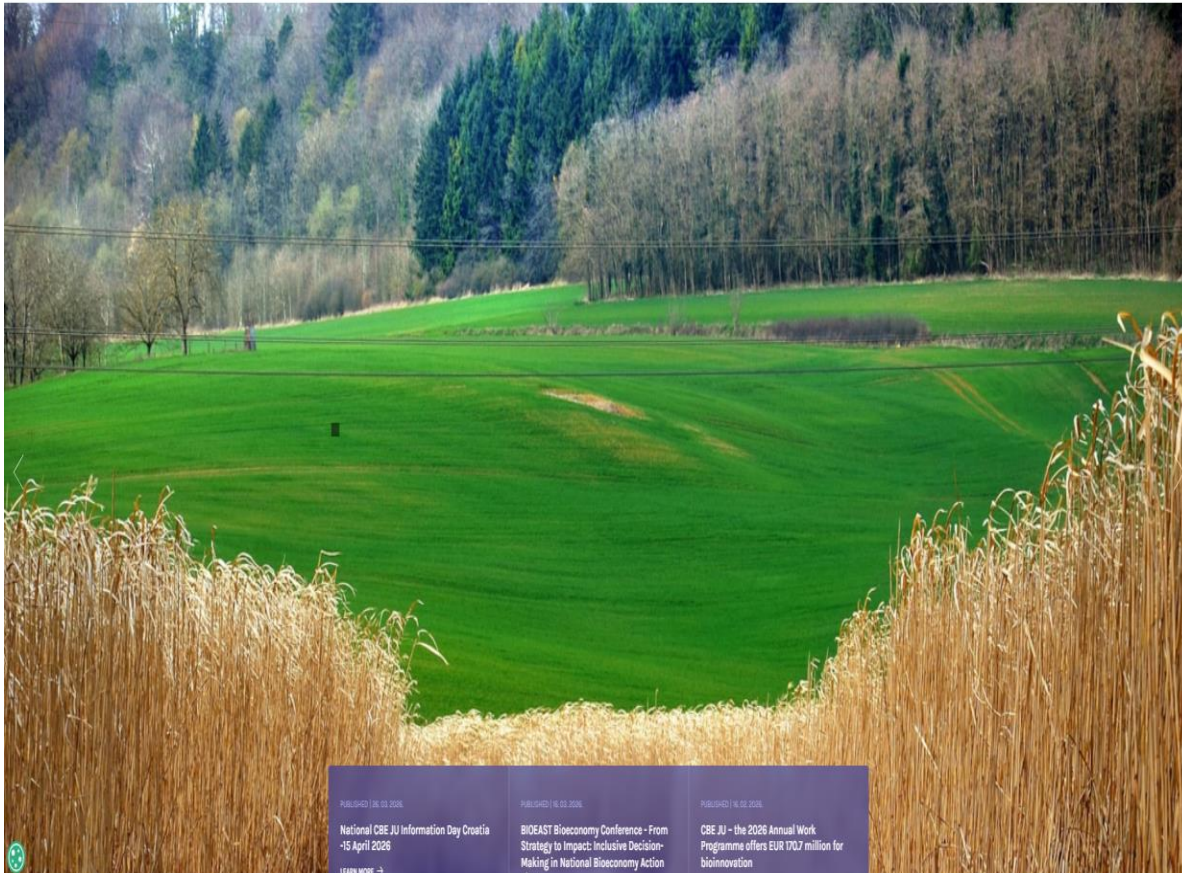
NEXT STEPS



NATIONAL ACTION PLAN

→ during 2026

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bioeconomy

