CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE BIOECONOMY IN EUROPE: A POLICY PERSPECTIVE

BIOECONOMY STAKEHOLDER CONFERENCE –
Lund University, 15 May 2017

Agnes Borg,
European Bioeconomy Alliance
Outline

- European Bioeconomy Alliance
- The Bioeconomy and bio-based products
- The Bioeconomy and links to EU policy objectives
The EUBA
Bioeconomy – why and how?
Bioeconomy around-the-clock

- Luggage
- Newspaper
- Diapers
- Clothes
- Cosmetics
- Biofuels
- Packaging
- Food
- Detergents
- Toys
- Bags
- Paint
Why bio-based?

Jobs & growth

Product functionality

Energy saving

Resource efficiency

CO2 reduction
What is the bioeconomy worth?

**Turnover in the EU bioeconomy (EU-28, 2013)**
Total: 2.1 trillion Euro

- Agriculture: 19%
- Forestry: 2%
- Food products: 2%
- Beverages: 8%
- Tobacco products: 8%
- Biofuels: 4%
- Bioenergy: 0.6%
- Textiles and textile products: 6%
- Forest-based industry: 2%
- Paper and paper products: 1%
- Chemicals and plastics: 3%
- Pharmaceuticals: 4%

**Employment in the EU bioeconomy (EU-28, 2013)**
Total: 18.3 million

- Agriculture: 54%
- Forestry: 1%
- Fishery: 1%
- Food products: 8%
- Beverages: 8%
- Tobacco products: 3%
- Biofuels: 4%
- Bioenergy: 1%
- Textiles and textile products: 1%
- Forest-based industry: 22%
- Paper and paper products: 3%
- Chemicals and plastics: 1%
- Pharmaceuticals: 1%

*Source: « European Bioeconomy in figures », March 2016
Data source: Eurostat (2013)
Global dimension of the bioeconomy: Although R&D, innovation and sound industrial base are here, investments take place outside Europe:

- Lack of level playing field with other geographic regions
- EU strategy exists, but need for support beyond Research and Development
- Unpredictable regulatory framework
- Need for policy coherence as the bioeconomy spans across many policy areas including agricultural, forestry, marine, industrial, climate, environment, energy, research and innovation, and regional development
Bioeconomy links with EU policy objectives
A crowded policy space

- Juncker 10 priorities
- Global & European climate framework
- Investment Plan for Europe
- Circular Economy Package
- SDGs
- Energy Union
- And more...
How does the bioeconomy fit in?

- Jobs & Growth agenda
- Energy Union
- 2030 Climate and Energy Package
- Circular Economy Package
- The Juncker Investment Plan
- EU Framework Programme for Research & Innovation - Horizon 2020
- Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)

Need for a coherent, holistic, supportive policy framework for the bioeconomy and bio-based industries along the value-chain.
EUBA calls for concrete actions

- Bioeconomy & Circular Economy
- Innovation & development of technology
- Availability of biomass
- European and international standards
- Public procurement in all EU Member States
Review of the Bioeconomy Strategy

- Need for continued emphasis on the bioeconomy
- Need to integrate the bioeconomy throughout policy areas and ensure coherence and ownership across DGs
- Need for continuation of Public-Private Partnerships
- And more...
Some recommendations

- Improve opportunities for **feedstock producers** within the bioeconomy.

- Investigate the scope for using **novel biomass**.

- Develop a **workforce** which can maintain Europe’s competitiveness in the bioeconomy sphere.

- Introduce a long-term, stable and transparent **policy and incentive framework** to promote the bioeconomy.

- Improve **public perception** of the bioeconomy and bio-based products.

- Identify, leverage and build upon EU capabilities for **pilot and demonstration facilities**.

- Promote the use of **co-products from processing**.

- Improve **bioconversion and downstream processing** steps.

- Improve **access to financing** for large-scale biorefinery projects.

- Develop **stronger relationships** between conventional and non-conventional players.

*From EuropaBio based on the BIO-TIC project*
Thank you for your attention!

http://www.bioeconomyalliance.eu/

hello@bioeconomyalliance.eu

@EUBioeconomy