EU delivering the Bioeconomy to rural areas

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Bioeconomy sector in the EU:
(2 trillion euro turnover, Employs more than 18M people)

Turnover in the EU-28 by the Bioeconomy sector
In percentage of value (2015)

- Agriculture
- Forestry
- Fisheries & aquaculture
- Food, beverage & tobacco industry
- Bio-based textiles
- Manufacturing of wood & wood furniture
- Manufacturing of paper & paper products
- Bio-based chemicals, pharmaceuticals & plastics
- Biofuels
- Bio-based electricity

Based on DataM – Bioeconomics, database elaborated by the EC, JRC IPTS & Nova Institut
“A Better Life in Rural Areas”

Convinced:

"of the value of rural resources capable of delivering sustainable solutions to current and future societal challenges that concern all citizens of the Union such as assuring a safe and sustainable provision of quality food, developing the circular economy, broadening the bio-economy, fostering resource efficiency, combating climate change and reducing the reliance on fossil fuels."
Importance of the Bioeconomy for the CAP post-2020 recognised by policy makers:

- Revised EU Bioeconomy Strategy and Action Plan;

- Commission Communication "The Future of Food and Farming";

- Commission CAP post-2020 proposals - the Bioeconomy is in one of the 9 specific objectives, namely “Promote employment, growth, social inclusion and local development in rural areas, including bio-economy and sustainable forestry”.
Opportunities to support the Bioeconomy under CAP post-2020

- **Bioeconomy in the New CAP objectives**
  - Need to link future CAP Strategic plans and National Bioeconomy Strategies;
  - VCS for industrial crops important for the Bioeconomy.

- **New CAP delivery model**:
  - More flexibility and discretion for MSs to design and implement interventions in the New CAP Strategic Plans;
Key drivers for successful mainstreaming the BE (I)

• Create a dynamic enabling governance framework, integrating the sectoral (vertical integration) and territorial dimension (national/regional) of the Bioeconomy- BE Clusters, BE Manifesto, etc.

• Promote business models at small, medium and large scale that most effectively integrate the primary producers and local actors in rural areas.
Key drivers for successful mainstreaming the BE (II)

- Increase awareness among primary producers about existing opportunities for sustainable, inclusive and circular Bioeconomy production.

- The central role of cooperation models of primary producers: enablers in creating economies of scale and acting as facilitators/advisors to individual primary producers about best options for integrating into the Bioeconomy value chains.
Key drivers for successful mainstreaming the BE (III)

- A National BE Strategy (NBES) as a comprehensive and coherent framework for a cross-sectoral, strategic approach for developing the Bioeconomy;

- Link between future CAP Strategic plans and the NBES.
Advantages of business models and biorefineries at small scale

More efficient production close to the biomass location (e.g. no losses of biomass) and higher added value for primary producers;

Produced by-products can still be further transformed in small or big-scale bio refineries;

Production of valuable protein feed as a by-product;

Fewer costs due to the use of the biological fertilisers directly back to the land (instead of creating supply chains from a centralised production back to the farmers);

No GHG emissions due to on-site first transformation of the biomass, (little or no transportation).
**BE Related measures from current RDPs (2014-20)**

- **Investments in physical assets** to improve the overall performance and sustainability of agricultural holdings: *bio-digestors and any other type of on farm energy-producing facilities using crop residues for own consumption.*

- **Business development:** investment and setting-up support for the creation of non-agricultural activities in rural areas, including those related to the bioeconomy (*e.g.*, *biocosmetics, bioplastics, etc.*).

- **Knowledge transfer and advisory services** for farmers, foresters and rural SMEs: vocational training and skills acquisition (including training courses, workshops and coaching), demonstration activities, information actions provision of training, farm and forest exchanges, provision of advice to improve the economic and environmental performance of the holding/enterprise. These type of services can cover also all bioeconomy - related issues.
BE Related measures from current RDPs (2014-20)

• **LEADER**: can support the setting-up and the development of any type of business in rural areas, including those related to the Bioeconomy, provided that these projects contribute to the objectives of a local development strategy.

• **Co-operation**: allows financing Operational Groups under the European innovation partnership for agricultural productivity and sustainability (EIP-AGRI).

• **Basic services** opportunities to promote integrated Bioeconomy projects with the participation of large number of local stakeholder, including rural municipalities.

• **Producer groups**: opportunities to promote cooperation for the purposes of deploying integrated Bioeconomy value chains

• **Investments in forests**: opportunities to increase the forest biomass potential.

• **Quality schemes**: opportunities to promote standards for market uptake of bio-based products.
Opportunities for supporting the Bioeconomy in the CAP post-2020 proposals

- Interventions in rural development remaining relevant for the Bioeconomy:
  - Investments;
  - Cooperation;
  - Exchange of knowledge and information;
  - New businesses and young farmers.
Opportunities for supporting the Bioeconomy in the CAP Strategic Plans

Based on the SWOT analysis:

- Assess the biomass potential using all available data/information;

- Identify strengths, needs and respective opportunities for supporting Bioeconomy types of interventions (integrating the regional dimension).
Opportunities for supporting the Bioeconomy in the CAP Strategic Plans

Intervention logic in the CAP Strategic plans:

- Identify priorities, taking into account global National Bioeconomy support framework (NBES);
- Cover important cross-cutting aspects (i.e. raising awareness and mobilising stakeholders at all levels, promoting BE governance structures).
Opportunities for supporting the Bioeconomy in the CAP Strategic Plans

Intervention logic in the CAP Strategic plans:

- Role of cooperatives/ cooperation structures of primary producer in mainstreaming the BE and integrating them into the BE value chains.

- Promote circular and sustainable BE solutions;

- Identify an adequate mix of funding options under CAP, other ESIFs, including FIs;
Opportunities for supporting the Bioeconomy in the CAP Strategic Plans

Intervention logic in the CAP Strategic plans:

- Ensure effective motoring of the impact of CAP interventions on the BE sector and rural areas.

- Use the potential of Technical assistance for cross-cutting actions on raisings awareness and building capacity among all stakeholders.
Thank you for your attention!