

Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies

BIOECONOMY DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES IN LATVIA

ECONOMIC SCIENCE FOR AGRIBUSINESS AND RURAL ECONOMY

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Why Bioeconomy development?

- New global economic tendencies require to bring different policies together
- **Review** of the 2012 EU Bioeconomy Strategy
- Bioeconomy is very important in Latvia
- Latvia has the Bioeconomy strategy 2030
- Bioeconomy challenges in Latvia



New global economic tendencies

 The United Nations estimated the world population will reach 8.1 billion in 2025, and a further increase to 9.6 billion in 2050



- Demand will also rise many more people will have higher incomes and eating habits are changing
- It will likely double the demand for food, increasing the use of cropland for biofuels, competition between land usage will increase
- New, rapidly changing technologies in many different fields
- Global climate change etc.



New global economic tendencies



Latvia has increasing potential of resources (from agriculture, forestry, biodegradable waste) for promoting **Bioeconomy**

Source: World Bank (2010a).



Policy coherence and integration





EU Bioeconomy Strategy 2012



It is structured around three pillars:

- Investments in research, innovation and skills
- Reinforced policy interaction and stakeholder engagement;
 Enhancement of markets and

competitiveness



Review of the 2012 EU Bioeconomy Strategy

1. Support strategic research and innovation trough the EU, focusing national and regional investments and private funds

2. Strengthen support for education and training of a skilled workforce

3. Strengthen and upscale the bio-based sectors to sustainably convert resources supporting industrial transformation

4. Mobilise investments, including trough the developments of new financial instruments to scale up and roll out existing and new technologies



Review of the 2012 EU Bioeconomy Strategy

5. **Support the creation of markets** for novel, innovative and more sustainable and circular bioeconomy products and processes

6. Develop better performance monitoring and assessment framework with SMART indicators

7. Encourage the adoption, update and coherence of national and regional Bioeconomy Strategies

8. Strengthen the understanding and resilience of land and see ecosystems, with a view to increasing resource efficiency, minimising harmful impacts and maximising co-benefits



Exports of goods bioeconomy in Latvia



The conventional bioeconomy industries:

accounted for 57% of the value added of the goods sector
employed 15% of the total labour force in Latvia



Latvia Bioeconomy strategy 2030

Adopted by the Government in December 19, 2017

Developed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies

The bioeconomy includes:

- 1) primary production of bioresources
- 2) processing of bioresources
- 3) bioresource-based services

The narrowest definition of a bioeconomy encompasses agriculture, forestry, fisheries, as well as food production, and manufacture of wood and of products of wood or conventional bioeconomy industries (NACE: A01, A02, A03, C10-12, C16, C17, C31-32)



VISION

Bioeconomy sectors of Latvia are innovation leaders in the Baltic States in preserving natural capital, increasing its value and in efficiently and sustainably exploiting it.

Latvia Bioeconomy strategy 2030

STRATEGIC GOALS 1) Advancement and retention of employment in the bioeconomy sectors of 128 thousand people.



STRATEGIC GOALS 2) Increasing the value added of bioeconomy products to at least EUR 3.8 billion in 2030.





STRATEGIC GOALS 3) Increasing the value of bioeconomy production exports to at least EUR 9 billion in 2030.





STRATEGIC GOALS

Horizontal excellence in research and effective transfer of knowledge.

> Latvia Bioeconomy strategy 2030

Achieving the goals involves 5 key integrated and complementary groups of measures:

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1. Attractive business environment for the entrepreneurship in bioeconomy

2. Result-oriented, efficient and sustainable resource management

3. Knowledge and innovation development in bioeconomy 4. Promotion of production in bioeconomy

5. Socially responsible and sustainable development



Bioeconomy challenges in Latvia – agriculture case

In Latvia in 2017:

 \checkmark 279 thou.ha (or 12,4%) are uncultivated agricultural area

✓ The lowest production volume level in EU countries





Bioeconomy challenges in Latvia – agriculture case





GHG emissions in Latvia in non-ETS sectors



The main challenges is - how to use the opportunities to increase agricultural production with GHG emissions reduction?



Strengthening research and innovation



2017 EUROPEAN INNOVATION SCOREBOARD

EU MEMBER STATES' INNOVATION PERFORMANCE







Life Sciences Universities

Will be as partners for the developing Bioeconomy to provide:

- 1. Education for a skilled workforce for the Bioeconomy fields
- 2. Support the **development of the research and innovations** for the Bioeconomy
- 3. Engagement in the Public-Private partnerships to support links with industry for knowledge and innovation transfer
- 4. Engagement in the **Policy development**

