

The future is bright, the future is the European bioeconomy? Exploring sustainability, policy issues and engagement

Stakeholder Workshop in the context of the 4th BioEconomy Stakeholders' Conference (BioEconomy Utrecht 2016)

Timing: Thursday, 14 April 2016 (09:00 – 16:00)

Venue: [Hotel NH Utrecht](http://www.nh-hotels.nl), Jaarbeursplein, 24, 3521AR Utrecht, The Netherlands

Aim: The aim of this workshop is to identify and discuss challenges, opportunities and policy gaps surrounding the development and strengthening of bioeconomy strategies across Europe. The workshop will be complemented by two workshops at regional level, which [BioSTEP](http://www.bio-step.eu) will organise in the course of 2016. The outcome of this process will be a list of targeted policy recommendations for the (further) development of balanced and informed bioeconomy strategies at the regional, national and European levels. These recommendations will be presented and discussed at a stakeholder conference in early 2017.

Please register at <http://bio-step.eu/registration/events.html>

Agenda:

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| 08.30 - 09.00 | Reception / Coffee |
| 09.00 - 09.10 | Welcome & Presentation of the aim of the workshop – <i>Holger Gerdes and Zoritz Kiresiewa, Ecologic Institute</i> |
| 09.10 - 09.15 | Links to ongoing processes at European level – <i>Lino Paula, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission</i> |
| 09.15 - 10.00 | Thematic Discussion I: Engagement in the Bioeconomy – Opportunities and Challenges – <i>facilitated by Kate Millar and Barbara Ribeiro, Centre for Applied Bioethics, School of Biosciences and Veterinary Medicine and Science, University of Nottingham.</i> In this session, we will discuss the role of public and stakeholder engagement in current bioeconomy strategies, specifically reflecting on current approaches and what opportunities and challenges arise. |
| 10.00 - 11.00 | Thematic Discussion II: Sustainable Resource Management – <i>facilitated by Martin Junginger, Chair Bio-Based Economy, Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development, Utrecht University</i> In this session, we will discuss measures that could be applied to address potential negative environmental and social impacts of the bioeconomy caused by direct and indirect land-use changes (e.g. changes in water & soil quality, biodiversity abundance, ecosystem service provision, food security, land tenure) and what role wider engagement can play in defining measures. |
| 11.00 - 11.15 | Coffee Break |
| 11.15 - 12.15 | Thematic Discussion III: Public Acceptance – <i>facilitated by Volkert Beekman, Agricultural Economics Institute (LEI), Wageningen University and Research Centre</i> In this session, we will discuss measures that address issues related to the public |

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| | <p>acceptance of the bioeconomy, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the problems associated with biorefinery plants in people's backyards, • employment, income levels and distribution, • the engagement of NGOs and CSOs in regional biocluster development, • mainstreaming bioeconomy at regional level, <p>...and what role wider engagement can play in identifying public acceptance factors.</p> |
| 12.15 - 13.15 | <p>Thematic Discussion IV: Sustainability Assurance – <i>facilitated by Sébastien Haye, Sector Leader Sustainability & Resources, E4tech</i></p> <p>In this session, we will discuss policy measures that could be applied to assure the sustainability of bio-based products and processes, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • voluntary and mandatory sustainability certification of bio-based feedstock, • limitations (cap) on production volumes, • monitoring of sustainability performance, • incentives to improve sustainability performance, <p>...and what role wider engagement can play in defining policy measures.</p> |
| 13.15 - 14.00 | Lunch |
| 14.00 - 15.45 | <p>In-depth discussion with members of the Energy & Resources Research Group, Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development, Utrecht University – <i>facilitated by Rainer Janssen, WIP Renewable Energies</i></p> <p>Introductory presentations (14.00 - 14.45)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vassilis Daioglou and Birka Wicke: The role of biomass for global climate change mitigation and the impacts of using biomass for different energetic and material purposes • Ric Hoefnagels: The role of biomass for energy production and novel material purposes at EU and national level <p>Moderated discussion (Martin Junginger, Rainer Janssen) (14.45 - 15.45)</p> <p>An informal discussion will shed light on competing uses of biomass for energy and material purposes, taking into account perspectives from different spatial and temporal scales and outlining implications for stakeholder engagement and policy making.</p> |
| 15.45 - 16.00 | <p>Wrap-up & Closure of the workshop – <i>Holger Gerdes and Zoritz Kiresiewa, Ecologic Institute</i></p> |

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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 652682.