

BioSTEP Conference

Effective stakeholder and public engagement in the bioeconomy: Good practices, lessons learned and recommendations for future research

Timing: Thursday, 22 February 2018 (12.30 – 18.00)

Venue: European Commission, CDMA SDR 1 and 2, Rue du Champ de Mars 21, B-1050 Brussels

Over the last three years, BioSTEP has designed and implemented a wide range of participatory tools to engage citizens and various stakeholder groups in discussions about the future development of Europe's bioeconomy. These tools covered different modes of participation, ranging from education and information activities to intensive stakeholder dialogues and the co-creation of regional bioeconomy roadmaps.

The **objectives** of this conference are:

- To present and discuss practical lessons learned from the application of BioSTEP's participatory tools.
- To discuss how the lessons learned from BioSTEP can inform ongoing and future activities of the EU Bioeconomy Stakeholders Panel and the update of the EU Bioeconomy Strategy and its Action Plan.
- To present and discuss recommendations for future research that emerged from the application of BioSTEP's participatory tools.

Agenda:

12.30 - 13.30	Registration & Buffet Lunch
13.30 - 13.40	Welcome & Conference introduction – <i>Holger Gerdes & Zoritz Kiresiewa, Ecologic Institute</i>
13.40 - 13.50	After the review: What's next for the EU Bioeconomy Strategy? – <i>Waldemar Kütt, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission</i>
13.50 - 14.00	Stakeholder and public engagement in the bioeconomy: Messages from the European Bioeconomy Stakeholders Manifesto – <i>Joanna Dupont-Inglis, EuropaBio, Chair of the EU Bioeconomy Stakeholders Panel</i>
14.00 - 15.30	<p>Effective stakeholder and public engagement in the bioeconomy: Lessons learned from BioSTEP – <i>moderated by Kate Millar, Centre for Applied Bioethics, University of Nottingham</i></p> <p>1) <i>Education & Information:</i> How popular were BioSTEP's communication and dissemination activities? BioSTEP communicated its activities and results through a website and social media channels, designed a virtual exhibition of bio-based products, and showed its exhibition "Bioeconomy in Everyday Life" in three European countries to raise awareness of the bioeconomy.</p> <p>- Followed by a Q&A session</p> <p>2) <i>Stakeholder dialogue:</i> How effective were BioSTEP's stakeholder dialogues in terms of stakeholder representation, outreach and impact? BioSTEP carried out</p>

	<p>an EU-wide online stakeholder consultation to identify existing policy gaps and potential measures to address them, interviewed national and regional stakeholders to develop good practice guidelines for the participatory development of bioeconomy strategies, and organised a series of workshops to develop stakeholder-based policy recommendations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Followed by a Q&A session <p>3) <i>Co-production of knowledge</i>: Who participated in BioSTEP's living labs (and who did not) and how relevant were their outputs for the development of regional bioeconomy strategies? BioSTEP designed and implemented two regional living labs to elaborate roadmaps for the future development of the bioeconomy in the Veneto region of Italy and the Stara Zagora region of Bulgaria.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Followed by a Q&A session
15.30 - 15.50	Coffee Break
15.50 - 16.00	The future research & innovation agenda: Priorities of the EU Bioeconomy Stakeholders Panel – <i>Christine Bunthof, Wageningen UR, Member of the EU Bioeconomy Stakeholders Panel</i>
16.00 - 17.00	<p>Effective stakeholder and public engagement in the bioeconomy: BioSTEP's recommendations for future research – <i>moderated by Rainer Janssen, WIP Renewable Energies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation 1: <i>Integrating priorities of civil society into bioeconomy research agendas</i> • Recommendation 2: <i>Developing and testing models for co-creation in the bioeconomy</i> • Recommendation 3: <i>Communicating complex topics of the bioeconomy to the general public</i> • Recommendation 4: <i>Analysing the regional transition to the bioeconomy</i> • Recommendation 5: <i>Ensuring responsible research & inclusive innovation in the bioeconomy</i> <p>– Followed by an open plenary discussion</p>
17.00 - 17.15	<p>Closing remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Joanna Dupont-Inglis, EuropaBio, Chair of the EU Bioeconomy Stakeholders Panel</i> – <i>Waldemar Kütt, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission</i> – <i>Holger Gerdes & Zoritz Kiresiewa, Ecologic Institute</i>
17.15 - 18.00	Conference Reception

18.30 – Conference Dinner at Restaurant Il Nobile, Place Fernand Cocq 24, B-1050 Brussels
(at participants' own expense)

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