



6<sup>th</sup> CASEE Conference Latest Trends in Bioeconomy in Danube Region 24-26 May 2015, Nitra, SK

# Current Trends in the Development of Regional Bioeconomy Strategies – Do Universities Play a Role?

### Josef Glössl

Vice Rector for Research and International Research Collaboration University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria www.boku.ac.at





























### **Overview**

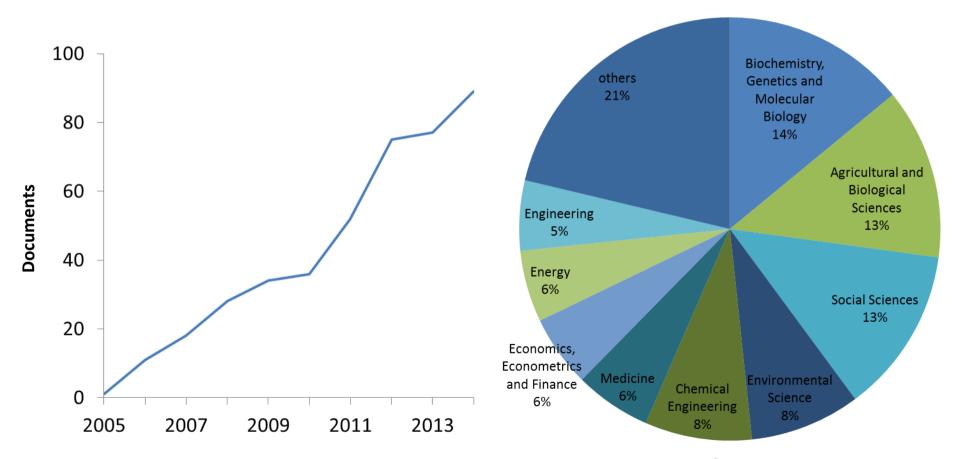


- Introduction
- Definitions of Bioeconomy
- The Bioeconomy in the EU
- National Bioeconomy Strategies
  - Europe and worldwide (Examples, Comparisons)
- The Role of Universities
  - Education in Bioeconomy
  - Research and Technology Transfer
  - Engagement in Policy Development

## Trend in using the term "Bioeconomy" or "Bio-economy"



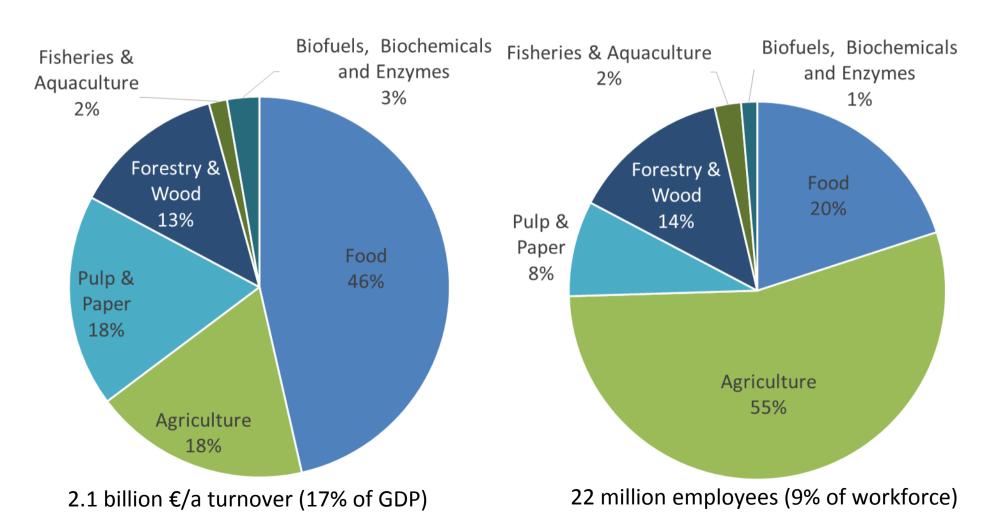
Documents containing the term "bioeconomy" or "bio-economy" in title, keywords or abstract



Source: www.scopus.com

## The Bioeconomy in the EU – turnover and employment





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### The bioeconomy in the EU – **Definition and sectors**



**University of Natural Resources** and Life Sciences, Vienna

2005: KBBE - Knowledge Based Bio-Economy 2012: Bioeconomy Strategy and Action Plan

### **Leading Body**

Directorate-General for Science, Research and Innovation

### **Contributions**

- DG Agriculture and Rural Development
- DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
- **DG** Fnvironment
- DG Enterprise and Industry

The **bioeconomy** encompasses the production of renewable biological resources and their conversion into food, feed, bio-based products and bioenergy. It includes: • pulp and paper industries

- agriculture,
- forestry,
- fisheries,
- food,

- parts of chemical, biotechnological and energy industries



### ACTION PLAN

## **EU Bioeconomy Strategy and Action Plan- Innovating for Sustainable Growth (2012)**



University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna

Contributes to objectives of Europe 2020 flagship initiatives e.g. "Innovation Union" and "A Resource Efficient Europe"

### **Tackling societal challenges**

- Ensuring food security
- Managing natural resources sustainably
- Reducing dependence on non-renewable resources
- Mitigating and adapting to climate change
- Creating jobs and maintaining European competitiveness

### **Developing a coherent bioeconomy**

- Investment in knowledge, innovation and skills
- Participative governance and informed dialogue with society
- New infrastructures and instruments



- Reinforced policy interaction and stakeholder engagement
- Enhancement of markets and competitiveness in bioeconomy

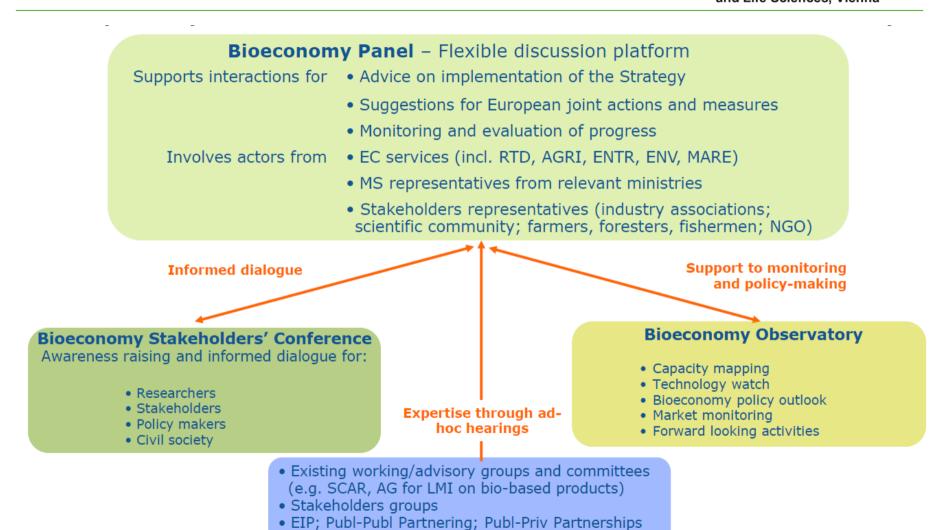






## The Bioeconomy in the EU – Policy interactions





## The Bioeconomy in the EU – Bioeconomy Panel



"Create a Bioeconomy Panel that will contribute to enhancing synergies and coherence between policies, initiatives and economic sectors related to the bioeconomy at EU level, linking with existing mechanisms (by 2012).." Bioeconomy Action Plan, 2012

### **Bioeconomy Panel**

- support the interactions between different policy areas and sectors
- 30 members from business and producers, policymakers and public administrations, scientists and researchers, and civil society organisations
- advice on implementation of the strategy
- 2 issues papers, one on biomass supply and one on market-making in the bioeconomy published in the report "Where next for the European bioeconomy?"



## The Bioeconomy in the EU – Bioeconomy Observatory



"Establish a Bioeconomy Observatory in close collaboration with existing information systems that allows the Commission to regularly assess the progress and impact of the bioeconomy and develop forward-looking and modelling tools (by 2012). Review progress and update the Strategy at midterm." Bioeconomy Action Plan, 2012

### **3 PILLARS: RESEARCH, POLICY AND MARKTETS**

Research
Research Statistics
517 FP7-KBBE
Projects

- Quantitative data on R&I public and private investments in the bioeconomy, at EU and at national level (Eurostat STI data)
- Qualitative information on development of research related to the bioeconomy (CORDIS database)

Policy
Policy Mapping
EU Bioeconomy
Strategy

- Qualitative policy information will be collected on policy initiatives related to the bioeconomy ("policy watch")
  - -> information from member states welcome

Markets
Economic Data
Biomass
Supply/demand

- Data, indicators, models and forward-looking analyses will represent the "core business" of the Bioeconomy Observatory
- reliable quantitative data on biomass used (input) and biobased products (output)

### **EU – Stakeholder conferences**



Stakeholder conferences are foreseen within the Action Plan to engage with civil society and promote informed public debates on the development of an EU bioeconomy, associated research and innovation activities and the societal implications.

#### **CONFERENCES**

- 2012 Copenhagen: Bioeconomy in Action
  - Framework conditions required to implement the EC bioeconomy strategy and how best to create partnerships across Europe.
- 2013 Dublin: "Bioeconomy in the EU: achievements and directions for the future".

  Report on achievements at EU, national, regional and local levels with respect to the Action Plan and debate future prospects and opportunities for the EU Bioeconomy
- 2014 Torino: "From sectors to system, from concept to reality"

  How to integrate the concept of the Bioeconomy into European policies, fostering stronger policy coordination in a top-down approach at national, regional and local level

12/05/2015

# Selected key messages from the BioEconomy Stakeholders Conference 2014 in Torino



- Title "From sectors to system, from concept to reality"
  - Summary conclusions from session "Human capital: getting the right people with the right skills for the rights jobs":
    - Bioeconomy implementation requires education to
      - Provide educated society able to discuss new developments on a basis of knowledge
      - Valorize knowledge from disciplinary excellence
      - Integrate knowledge and form networks for a joint target (= implementing a sustainable Bioeconomy)
      - attract and generate entrepreneurship to make Bioeconomy real

## **EXPO 2015 – The role of research in global food and nutrition security**

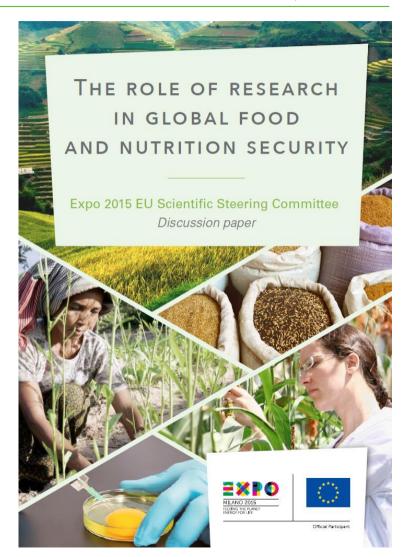


University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna

### **RESEARCH CHALLENGES**

- Improve public health through nutrition healthy and sustainable consumption
- Increase food safety and quality
- Reduce losses and waste more efficient food chain
- Manage the land for all ecosystem services sustainable rural development
- Increase agricultural outputs sustainably sustainable intensification
- Understand food markets in an increasingly globalised food system
- Increase equity in the food system

The consultation will remain open for contributions until the 1<sup>st</sup> Sept. 2015



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### **Germany**



#### **DOCUMENTS**

2010

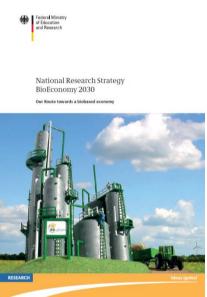
National Research Strategy BioEconomy 2030 **2014** 

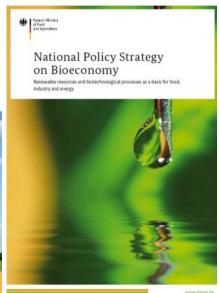
National Policy Strategy on

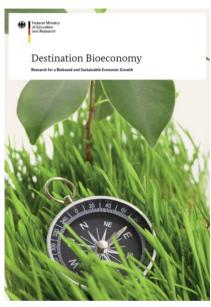
Bioeconomy

2014

**Destination Bioeconomy** 







### **AUTHOR**

Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) in collaboration with the Federal Ministry for Food and Agriculture (BMEL), of Economics and Energy (BMWi), for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMUB), of the Interior (BMI) and the Foreign Office (AA)

### **Germany**



#### **DEFINITION**

"Bioeconomy is the knowledge-based production and use of biological resources to provide products, processes and services in all economic sectors within the frame of a sustainable economic system." German Bioeconomy Council

#### **SECTORS**

agriculture, forestry, horticulture, fisheries and aquaculture, plant and animal breeding, the food and beverage industries, as well as the wood, paper, leather, textile, chemicals and pharmaceutical industries, and aspects of the energy sector

#### STRATEGIC GOALS

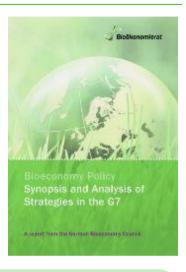
- become a dynamic research and innovation centre for bio based products, energy, processes and services.
- meet the responsibilities for global nutrition, was well for the protection of the climate, resources, and the environment

### **German Bioeconomy Council**



University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna

- established in 2009 as independent advisory body to the German Federal Government
- 17 members representing the economy, science and society
- 4 working groups on
  - Communication/Public Relations
  - Competition
  - Nutrition and Health
  - Resources, Environment and Nature



### Bioeconomy Policy - Synopsis and Analysis of Strategies in the G7 (15.1.2015)

#### **Bioeconomy Council Recommendations**

- Combine disciplines, improve parameters, seek out international partnership
- Priorities in Bioeconomic Research
- Sustainable Use of Bioenergy
- Future Development of Mechanisms for the Support of public and private Research
- Internationalisation of Bioeconomy Research in Germany
- Requirements for a Bioinformatics Infrastructure in Germany for future Research

The Future of the Food, Nutrition, and Health Sector

## The Finnish bioeconomy strategy – Sustainable growth from bioeconomy



#### **DEFINITION**

"Bioeconomy refers to an economy that relies on renewable natural resources to produce food, energy, products and services. The bioeconomy will reduce our dependence on fossil natural resources, prevent biodiversity loss and create new economic growth and jobs in line with the principles of sustainable development."

### **AUTHORS**

- Ministries: Prime Minister's Office, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Education and Culture, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, the Ministry of Finance
- Research institutions: VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland and the Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra
- **Stakeholder integration:** five consultation workshops, three regional bioeconomy forums and sectoral consultations

Sustainable growth from bioeconomy
THE FINNISH
BIOECONOMY STRATEGY





## The Finnish bioeconomy strategy – sectors and strategic goals



## SECTORS

### Primary production and refining sectors and end product markets:

- food, bioeconomy products, renewable energy,
   water treatment and distribution, bioeconomy services
- COMPETITIVE OPERATING ENVIRONMENT FOR BIOECONOMY A competitive operating environment will be created for bioeconomy growth
- NEW BUSINESS FROM BIOECONOMY
   New business will be generated in bioeconomy by means of risk financing, bold experiments and crossing of sectoral boundaries
- 3. A STRONG BIOECONOMY COMPETENCE BASE

  The bioeconomy competence base will be upgraded by developing education, training and research
- ACCESSIBILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY OF BIOMASSES
   Availability of biomasses, well-functioning raw material markets and sustainability of the use of biomass will be secured

Implementation and monitoring

Sustainable bioeconomy solutions are the foundation of well-being and competitiveness in Finland

## The global context (I) – International bioeconomy strategies



University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna



### **Bioeconomy strategies**



EU	EU Bioeconomy Strategy and Action Plan-Innovating for Sustainable Growth (2012)	
OECD	The bioeconomy to 2030 – Designing a policy agenda (2009)	
Brazil	Brazil's National Biodiesel Program (2004), Biotechnology Development Policy (2007)	
Canada	Blueprint beyond Moose and Mountains (2011), Growing Forward 2 (2013)	
China	Development Plan for the Bio-Industry	
Denmark	Agreement on Green Growth (2009)	
Finland	Finnish Bioeconomy Strategy – Sustainable Growth from Bioeconomy (2014)	
Germany	National Research Strategy BioEconomy 2030 (2011),	
	National Policy Strategy on Bioeconomy (2014), Destination Bioeconomy (2014)	
Great Britain	UK Bioenergy Strategy (2011),	
	A UK Strategy for Agricultural Technologies (2014)	
India	National Biotechnology Development Strategy (2014)	
Japan	Biomass Industrialization Strategy (2013), Biomass Utilization Plan (2009)	
Malaysia	Bioeconomy Initiative and National Biomass Strategy 2020 (2011)	
Russia	Bioindustry and Bioresources – BioTech 2030 (2012)	
South Africa	South Africa – the Bioeconomy Strategy (2013)	
Sweden	Research and Innovation Strategy for Bio-based Economy (2011)	
USA	National Bioeconomy Blueprint (2012)	

## USA National bioeconomy Blueprint (2012) Definition and sectors



#### **DEFINITION**

The bioeconomy stands for "economic activity that is fueled by research and innovation in the biological sciences".

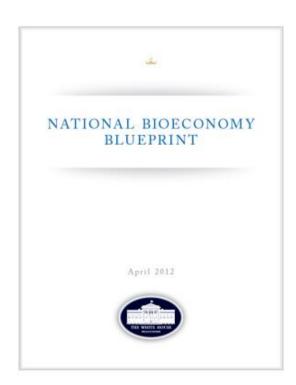
#### **AUTHORS**

### **Leading Body**

White House

### **Contributions**

- Department for Agriculture
- State research agencies under the Departments for Agriculture, Economic Affairs, Defense, Energy, National Security, the Interior, Environmental Protection and Health



## USA National bioeconomy Blueprint (2012) technologies and strategic goals



#### **SECTORS & TECHNOLOGIES**

- sectors
  - biomedical sector, agricultural sector (agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting), biotechnology (health, agriculture, and industrial)
- foundational technologies
   genetic engineering, DNA sequencing, and automated high-throughput
   manipulations of biomolecules
- emerging technologies
   synthetic biology, proteomics and bioinformatics

#### STRATEGIC GOALS

- Support R&D investments
- Facilitate the transition of bioinventions from research lab to market
- Develop and reform regulations to reduce barriers
- Update training programs and align academic institution incentives with student training for national workforce needs

Identify and support opportunities for the development of public-private

### South Africa – The Bio-economy Strategy (2013)



### **National Biotechnology Strategy (2001)**

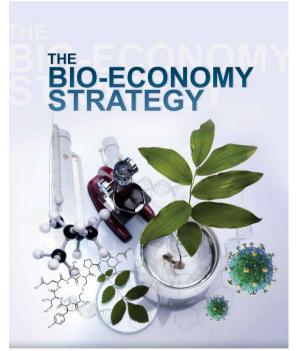
- commercialisation of technologies that were closer to the market **Bio-economy Strategy (2013)**
- include disciplines such as information technology, social sciences and engineering
- link biotechnology with agriculture, health and industry sectors

### **DEFINITION**

"Bio-economy refers to activities that make use of bioinnovations, based on biological sources, materials and processes to generate sustainable economic, social and environmental development."

### **AUTHORS**

**Department of Science and Technology** with contributions of Departments of Trade and Industry, Health, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, and Environmental Affairs





### South Africa – The Bio-economy Strategy (2013)



### **STRATEGIC GOALS**

Agricultural sector	Health sector	Industrial and environmental sector
<ul> <li>strengthen agricultural biosciences innovation to ensure food security, enhance nutrition and improve health</li> <li>create jobs through the expansion and intensification of sustainable</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>strengthen research,         development and         innovation capabilities to         manufacture active         pharmaceutical         ingredients, vaccines,         biopharmaceuticals,</li> <li>reduce child mortality,</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>support research,         development and         innovation in biological         processes for the production         of goods and services</li> <li>enhance water and waste-         management practices to         support a green economy</li> </ul>
agricultural production and processing	improve maternal health and reduce the burden of HIV, malaria and other diseases.	

### Differences in bioeconomy strategies



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### **AIMS**

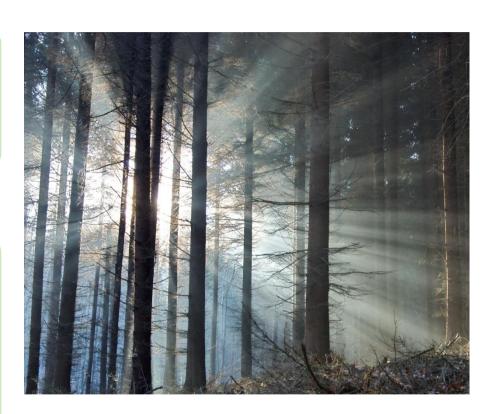
- sustainable raw materials supply
- innovation and economic growth
- ecological transformation of the economy

### **PERSPECTIVES**

### Sectoral approach

- Biomass and bioenergy (Brazil, India, Indonesia, Japan, ...)
- Biotechnology (USA, Russia, OECD, ...)
   Health biotechnology is included in
   the USA, Russia, South Africa) and
   excluded in the EU

Holistic bioeconomy strategies (EU, Germany, Finland, South Africa, ...)



### INITIATIVE

#### Government

(EU, USA, Germany, Japan, South Africa)
Industry (Canada, Italy, France)

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## Initiatives in Austria towards an Austrian Bioeconomy Strategy (I)



### February 2013

Dr. Christian Patermann highlights the importance of formulating national bioeconomy strategies at the public event "Science meets Business" (organized by BOKU)

#### November 2013

BIOS Science Austria and ÖVAF present their Bioeconomy Policy Paper

#### November 2013

The Austrian governement acknowledges the importance of bioeconomy in its working programme

### September 2014

Cooperation of BIOS/ÖVAF/ÖSF with interministerial RTI-Working Group 2 to work an a bioeconomy position paper for the RTI-Task Force

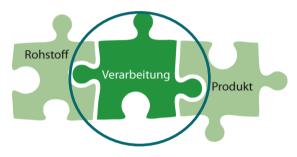
#### October 2014

Austrian Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology (BMVIT) presents its RTI-Strategy for Bio-based Industries (Ganglberger et Sturm 2014)

### Initiatives in Austria towards an Austrian Bioeconomy Strategy (II) – RTI Strategy for biobased industries in Austria



- Development paths for
  - Feedstock
  - Processes
  - Products



- Recommendations
  - Integrated concepts
  - Economic and ecological assessments
  - Networking and cooperation
  - Targeted research support measures
  - Demand-side management



### Initiatives in Austria towards an Austrian Bioeconomy Strategy (III) – Coordination with existing national policies



2010 - April	Austrian Energy Strategy
2010 - June	Austrian Strategy for Sustainable Development
2011 - March	Strategy of the Austrian Federal Government for Research, Technology and Innovation (RTI Strategy) - "Becoming an Innovation Leader"
2011 - July	Eco-Electricity Act 2012
2011 - November	Climate Protection Law
2012 - January	Action Plan for Increasing the Efficiency of Resources
2012 - May	Austrian Strategy on Climate Change Adaptation
2012	Austrian Mineral Resources Plan
2014 - July	Energy Efficiency Act → Reduce energy consumption by 20% up to 2020

## Initiatives in Austria towards an Austrian Bioeconomy Strategy (IV) – The way forward ...



Goal: Development of a national bioeconomy strategy

The way forward .....

- Designing and "streamling" the stakeholder process
- Utilization of Austrian key competences
- Networking across sectors and value chains
- Embedding in the European context

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### **University of Hohenheim, Germany:**

- Master's programme Bioeconomy
  - The students examine the entire value chain of biobased products. This includes:
    - the production of raw materials for biobased products in agricultural economic systems in various climate regions and social contexts;
    - the properties and procurement logistics of biological resources;
    - the biotechnological and industrial processes used to convert these resources into (new) biobased products; and
    - the marketing and consumption of these products.

### **Dedicated "Bioeconomy" Curricula**



### The University of Edinburgh - Graduate School of Social and Political Science:

- Masters in Management of Bioeconomy, Innovation and Governance (MSc BIG)
  - The MSc BIG programme responds to the central challenges of the bioeconomy:
    - Developing sustainable innovation in a responsible manner
    - Identifying and exploiting value throughout innovation ecosystems
    - Bringing new technologies to existing and emerging markets
  - Objective is to enable graduates to excel in strategic and critical thinking that brings globally contextualised solutions to practical problems relating to:
    - innovation and firm strategy;
    - policy and regulation;
    - collaborative R&D models
    - governance and intellectual property

### **BOKU University – Themes & Competences**

Interlinking Natural Sciences, Technology & Socio-Economics ("Three-Pillars Concept")



Universität für Bodenkultur Wien University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna

Water -Soil and Atmosphere terrestrial **Environment** Living space and ecosystems landscape Management **Development of** of Natural the Living Space Resources Renewable raw Resources and materials, resources societal **Securing Nutrition** oriented technologies dynamics and Health Nanosciences & Food – nutrition - technology health **Biotechnology** 

### **BOKU Bachelor Programs**

- BOKU
- Universität für Bodenkultur Wien University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna

- Forestry
- Wood and Fibre Technology
- Environment and Bio Resources Management
- Environmental Engineering
- Food Sciences and Biotechnology
- Agricultural Sciences
- Landscape Architecture and Planning
- Equine Sciences

Further information: www.boku4you.at : www.boku4you.at

## **BOKU Master Programs**

Agricultural and Food Economics (H 457)

Alpine Natural Hazards / Watershed Regulation (477)

Biotechnology (H 418)

Crop Sciences (455)

Environment and Bio-Resources Management (H 427)

Environmental Engineering (H 431)

Food Science and Technology (H 417)

Forestry Science (H 425)

Landscape Architecture and Planning (H 419)

Livestock Sciences (456)

Organic Agricultural Systems and Agroecology (H500)

Phytomedicine (H 422)

Wildlife Ecology and Wildlife Management (H 423)

Wood Technology and Management (H 426)

Further information: www.boku4you.at



Universität für Bodenkultur Wien University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna

## **BOKU Master Programs - International**



Universität für Bodenkultur Wien University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences. Vienna

- Animal Breeding and Genetics
- Applied Limnology Wetland Management
- Environmental Sciences Soil, Water and Biodiversity
- European Forestry
- Horticultural Sciences
- Material and thermal utilization of renewable raw materials
- Mountain Forestry
- Natural Resources Management and Ecological Engineering
- Organic Agricultural Systems and Agroecology
- Safety in the Food Chain
- Sustainability in Agriculture, Food Production and Food Technology in the Danube Region
- Viticulture, Oenology and Wine Economy
- Water Management and Environmental Engineering

Further information: www.boku4you.at

### www.ica-casee.eu

## International Joint Degree Programme Danube AgriFood Master

Sustainability in Agriculture Food Production and Food Technology in the Danube Region





















## Why ICA-CASEE Joint Master Program?



- Enormous challenges for university development at present
  - Bologna process
  - Excellence in research, education and university management (increasing competition between higher education institutions!)
- Specific challenges for life science universities to develop the basis for the future development of mankind
  - Food and water security, environmental protection
  - Sustainable use of natural resources (soil, bioresources, water,..)
  - Development of high-end technological methods in biotechnology (biorefinery, renewable energy,....)
  - Landscape development; town- and country planning
  - And many more.....

Barbara Hinterstoisser EUSDR, 27th June 2014





## ICA Edu Colloquium at BOKU Vienna: "Educating Life Science Graduates Fit for Europe" 15/16 April 2015

Chair: Barbara Hinterstoisser, BOKU

Discussion of specific challenges in preparing our life science graduates for careers in Europe and internationally:

Impulse Panel "Challenges of the Bio-economy for Graduates"

#### Workshops:

- (1) challenges of the intercultural classroom
- (2) tools for enhancing the learning experience,
- (3) bridging education and practice,
- (4) innovation in curriculum development and delivery

General Goal: To contribute to the development of the European HE Area

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  - Research and Technology Transfer: Examples from BOKU

Engagement in Policy Development

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# Research at BOKU: Biorefineries for a resource efficient, low-carbon bioeconomy



#### Techno-economic assessment using spatially explicit optimization models

- optimal locations considering the competition for biomass with other sectors
- the economic feasibility of green biorefinery concepts

#### **Key findings**

- <u>cascade</u> utilization in biorefineries allows for the economic utilization of grassland biomass
- feedstock costs, product prices and yields are the main uncertainties for the economic feasiblity
- current policy support schemes in Austria (and the EU) target primarily the energetic utilization of biomass (e.g. feed-in tariffs)

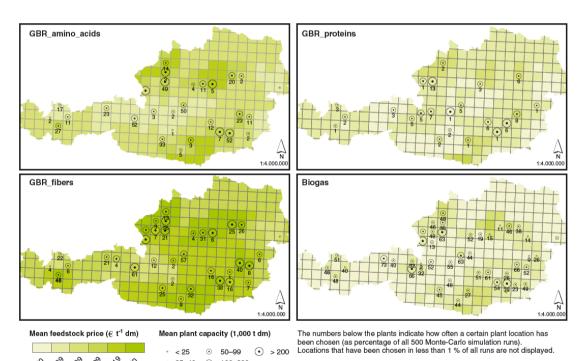


Figure: Selected locations, capacities and the effect on regional feedstock prices of different green biorefinery concepts







### **Research at BOKU:**

Christian-Doppler Research Laboratory for Innovative Bran Biorefinery (CEREVAL)

Wolfgang Kneifel, BOKU

Christian Doppler Research Laboratory for Innovative Bran Biorefinery

Department of Food Science and Technology
University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna





## **The Christian Doppler**



## Research Association...

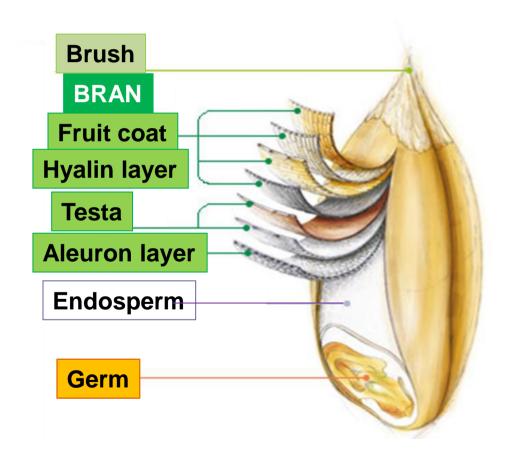
"...promotes the cooperation between science and business. Specifically, this takes place in specially established research units with fixed terms, in which application-oriented basic research is pursued.

"...Under the direction of highly qualified scientists, research groups work in close contact with the commercial partners on innovative responses to business-related research issues."

industrial partnership + international evaluation + 7 years concept + continuous assessment of output + 50:50 percentage funding + 'responsible science'

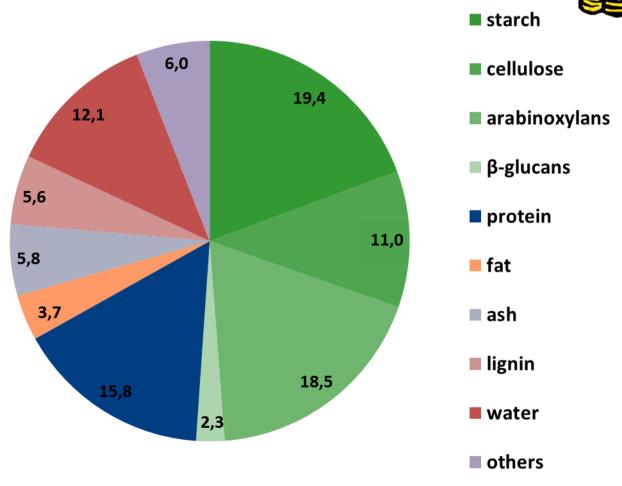
## What is Wheat Bran?

- comprises about 20% of the milled wheat kernel
- is composed of different cellular layers (seed coat, fruit coat, hyalin layer, aleuron layer).



## The Value of Wheat Bran

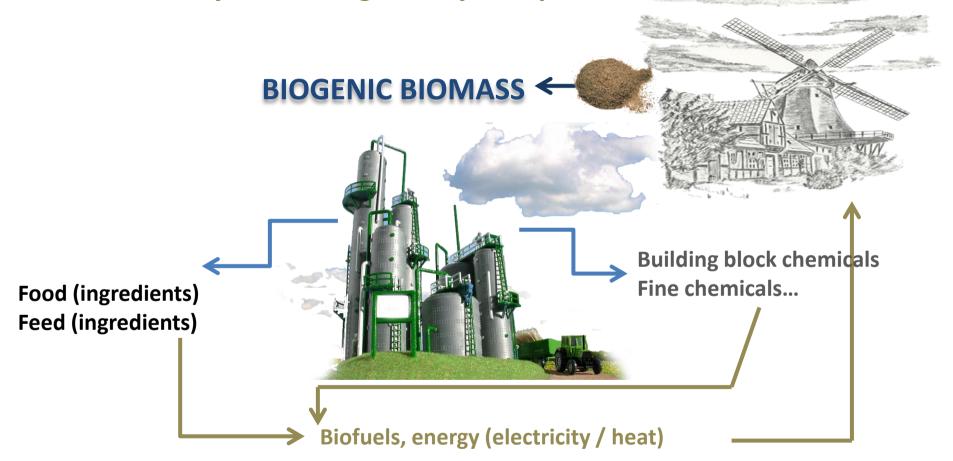






## **Biorefinery: General Aims**

... substantially and energetically complete utilization of biomass



(BIO)CHEMISTRY + BIOTECHNOLOGY + PROCESS ENGINEERING + AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE + NUTRITION SCIENCE + MICROBIOLOGY + FOOD & FEED SAFETY + MARKET RESEARCH ...

## **The Cascade Principle**







THERMAL PRETREATMENT

(Hydrothermal, Steam explosion,

Organosolv...)



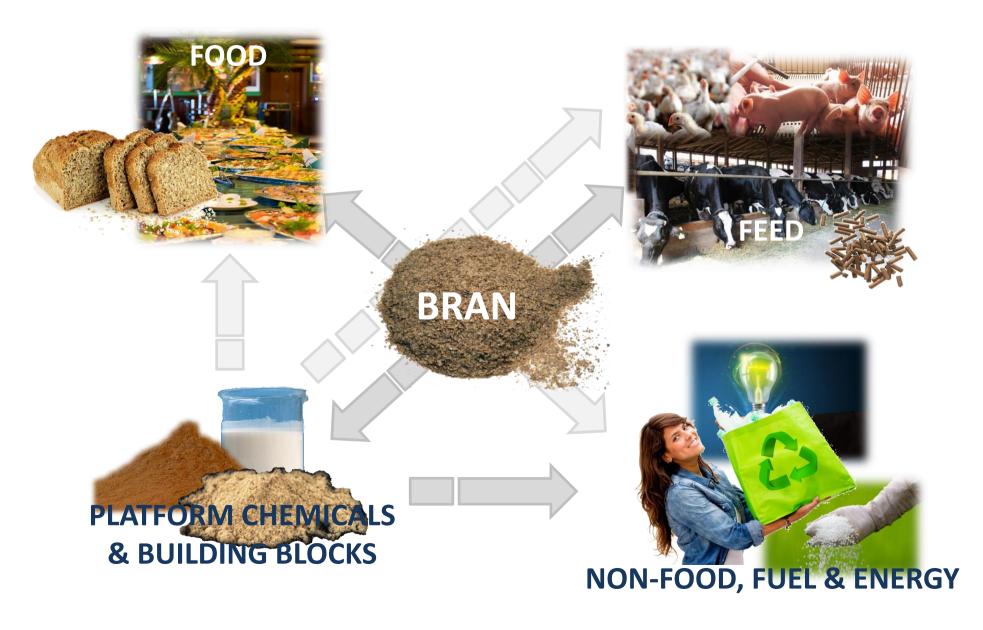
**SEPARATION PROCESSES** 







## Wheat Bran - Avenues of Utilization





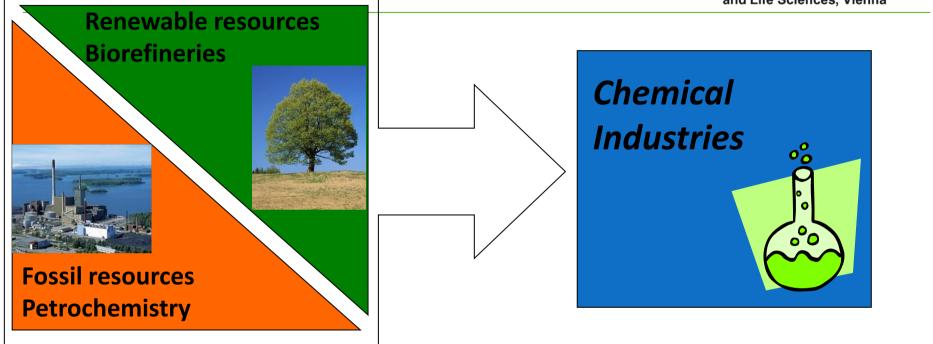
The chemical basis of "bioeconomies"

By courtesy of Prof. Thomas Rosenau, BOKU

## Looking into the (far) future

The basis of the chemical industries, present and future







In (far) future, fossil resources WILL be used up.

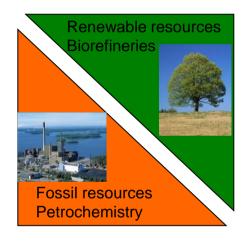
If mankind is not to fall back into a rudimental, pre-industrial state, the whole production and all flows of the chemical industries will have to be changed from a *petrochemical basis* to a *renewable basis*. This requires long-term efforts and fundamental research.

## Energetic vs. chemical utilization

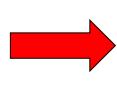




We need "CARBON" to produce materials and chemicals.
We don't necessarily need "CARBON" for energy production (there are other and better alternatives)!









## How green can must & will chemistry get?

In evitable general future developments



University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna



Material / chemical utilization



Energetic utilization





Food / feed if possible

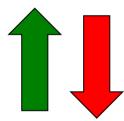


Energy / chemicals from food-/feedstock



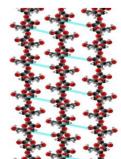


Cascade utilization



Direct (one-step) utilization





Better use of nature's ingenuity in synthesis and material production



Extensive breakdown of renewables "green-to-oil"

 $CO, H_2, CH_4, C_2H_5OH$ 







## The Global Challenges University Alliance

Initiated by Prof. Johan Schnürer,
Pro Vice-Chancellor external research collaboration, Swedish
University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)

#### **Goal:**

Research and Education of the Future Leaders of a Sustainable Bioeconomy







### **The Global Challenges University Alliance**

Co-operation with 4-5 selected leading universities per continent (cultural and climate zone diversity)

Highest Quality
Asia, Oceania, North America, South America, Africa, Europe

#### **Stepwise development of network to Alliance through:**

- Thematic Workshops (research) with 6-12 participating universities
- Meetings with university leaders (11 universities so far)
- Global Challenges Summer Schools (PhD students/MSc students)



#### **Global Challenges University Alliance Workshops**

**Biofuels and Biorefineries**, September 26-28, 2012 (Cornell University, University of Tokyo, China Agricultural University, National University of Singapore, University of Pretoria, Makerere University, SLU)



#### The Future of Food – Security, Quality and Safety, May 22-24, 2013

(Cornell University, University of Tokyo, China Agricultural University, University of Sao Paolo, University of Ougaddogou, Addis Ababa University, Makerere University, Chulalongkorn University, Bogor Agricultural University, University of Queensland, University of British Colombia, Wageningen University, and SLU)

**Environmental Monitoring of Invasive Species**, September 3-5, 2013 (Cornell, Tokyo, Chulalongkorn, Wageningen, Pretoria, Nicaragua, SLU)

Green and Sustainable Cities – The Role of Landscape Architecture, March 12-14, 2014 (Melbourne, Guelph, Tokyo, Putra Malaysia, Lincoln NZ, UNA, St Petersburg, Chulalongkorn, Makerere, Cornell)

#### Forestry for the Future, June 25-27, 2014

(Tokyo, Melbourne, Murdoch(Australia), BOKU(Austria), Florence, University of British Colombia, Putra Malaysia, Makerere, SLU)

#### Aquaculture – Providing Food for the Future, October 22-24, 2014

BOKU, Lilongwe (Malawi), Makerere University, Queensland, Putra Malaysia, Sao Paolo, Stirling (UK), Wageningen, SLU

#### Why Wildlife - Global Opportunities and Challenges, April 2015

Melbourne, BOKU, Sao Paolo, Bolognas, Putra Malaysia, Wageningen, Lincoln, Porto, Pretoria, Sokoine Makarere, UC Davis, SLU

Agriculture without Antibiotics, December 2015?







Universität für Bodenkultur Wien University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna

### **Some Expected Benefits**

#### **University Management:**

#### Strategic support and funding

- Institutional benchmarking
- Enhanced internationalization
- Global network for large research programs
- Collective Dialogue EU, UN, ASEAN, OECD, etc

#### **Researchers:**

#### **Scientific expertise**

- New projects (bilateral multilateral–global)
- New interdisciplinary insights

#### Students (PhD/MSc):

#### **Curiosity/Creativity:**

- Enhanced awareness of global challenges
- Lifelong global network of colleagues early in careers in academia, business, government,....

## The Global Challenges University Alliance 2016?





The 25 Global Challenges Universities

(Both committed, interested and possible universities indicated)

#### **Some Conclusions**



## Multiple roles of Universities in the development of European Bioeconomies!

- → requires new science policies and important new skills, fostering:
  - ➤ Integrated approaches of research, education and co-operation Academia Industry and across sectors → innovation processes
  - Complementary partnerships between universities, research centres, ...
    - > joint curricula
    - > Inter- and multidsiciplinary approaches
    - **>** .....
  - Knowledge and technology transfer
- > Development of sustainability as a big chance for economic development:
- ➤ Multidisciplinary integration of traditional approaches with highend (bio)technologies is a key issue in the development of a European Bioeconomy
- Public awareness, communication science society





## 6<sup>th</sup> CASEE Conference Latest Trends in Bioeconomy in Danube Region 24-26 May 2015, Nitra, SK

### THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

#### Josef Glössl

Vice Rector for Research and International Research Collaboration University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria

josef.gloessl@boku.ac.at, www.boku.ac.at































