

BIO2REG Connect

February 3rd

2026

Brussels

Unlocking Regional Pathways for the Bioeconomy



Representation of the State of
North Rhine-Westphalia
Rue Montoyer 47
1000 Brussels



bio2reg.eu/bio2reg-connect



© aminul788 - stock.adobe.com



Programme

08:30 Registration

09:00 Opening remarks

09:10 SETTING THE SCENE: REGIONAL PATHWAYS FOR A FAIR BIOECONOMY TRANSITION

Opening remarks

Evdokia Achilleos, Head of Sector, European Research Executive Agency

"The Bioeconomy: a strategic opportunity for Europe and its regions"

Sam Hout Ledo, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission

"Bioeconomy Innovation Regions – From global targets to regional transformation"

Ulrich Schurr, BioökonomieREVIER, Forschungszentrum Jülich

09:45 FROM STRATEGY TO ACTION: REGIONAL PATHWAYS AND SUPPORT FOR BIOECONOMY TRANSITION

09:45 "Smart Specialisation for Scaling Circular and Bio-based Innovation"

Jan-Philipp Kramer, Partner Prognos, S3 Community of Practice

10:00 What is BIO2REG and how do we support regions in their bioeconomy journey?

Denise Gider, Ulrich Schurr, Forschungszentrum Jülich

10:15 Panel discussion with all keynote speakers

10:45 Coffee Break

11:15 REGION'S PITCHES AND SUPPORT SERVICES FOR THE BIOECONOMY

Regional pitches

Rhenish mining region: Denise Gider, BioökonomieREVIER at Forschungszentrum Jülich

Swedish regions: Mattias Drotz, RISE

Icelandic regions: Katrín Hulda Gunnarsdóttir, Matís

Eastern European Regions: George Sakellaris, BIOEAST HUB CZ

Basque country: Gorka Altuna, HAZI Foundation

External services to support regions' bioeconomy transition

- › Bioregions Facility, European Forest Institute: Siebe Briers
- › PNO INNOVATION Spain, ToBeReal project: Lara Valentin
- › EuropaBio, PRIMED project: Marcos Jimenez Sanchez

12:30 Lunch

13:30 COLLABORATIVE WORKSHOP: MAPPING REGIONAL NEEDS AND PATHWAYS

Floor moderation to co-create key needs and action pathways

14:30 Coffee Break

Breakout groups: Deepen and exchange key regional needs and action pathways

Group highlights and takeaways

15:50 BIOECONOMY SPEED-DATING SESSION

Exchange with regions and experts

16:20 Closing Remarks

16:30-17:30 Reception



Funded by
the European Union

Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Research Executive Agency (REA). Neither the European Union nor REA can be held responsible for them.