BIO2REG

Enabling transition towards circular and systemic BIOeconomy model regions by a Regions-to-Regions approach

1st Annual Meeting and its minutes

Deliverable 6.4

March 2025

Denise Gider, Forschungszentrum Jülich
Uta Mommert, BIOCOM
Panagiotis Kalimeris, Panteion University
Gabriela Munares and Aran Blanco, Kveloce

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BIO2REG in a nutshell

A sustainable, circular bioeconomy is essential for achieving the goals of the Green Deal. However, implementing a regional bioeconomy comes with various challenges. Bioeconomy model regions offer a systemic approach to transitioning to sustainable development. The EU-funded BIO2REG project aims to help greenhouse gas-intensive economies unlock their circular bioeconomy potential by moving towards bioeconomy model regions.

The project will encourage networking of regions, interregional exchange and cooperation, providing regional stakeholders with a conceptual framework for regionalisation in bioeconomy model regions. This involves mapping best practices in a circular and sustainable bioeconomy, assessing bioeconomy potential, offering mentoring and training, forming transition alliances, and making policy recommendations. The project adopts a multi-actor approach by collaboratively creating tools and guides with regional stakeholders and engaging with regions through guided on-site exchanges.

Find out more:

Website: https://bio2reg.eu

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/bio2reg

X/Twitter: https://twitter.com/BIO2REGeu

Contact Denise Gider (Project coordinator): d.gider@fz-juelich.de

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1 Background

The first BIO2REG Annual Meeting took place on 20-21 January 2025 in Jülich, Germany. The meeting gathered consortium partners and one Advisory Board member to discuss the first-year progress, address challenges and plan upcoming activities. Key topics included:

- Work Package (WP) progress, challenges, and next steps
- Workshop: Multi-Criteria Assessment (MCA) to identify bioeconomy potential in regions
- Workshop: BIO2REG network concept
- Workshop: Regional network events in 2025
- Workshop: Impact assessment in engaged regions by BIO2REG activities

The host and coordinator of BIO2REG, BioökonomieREVIER at Forschungszentrum Jülich, leveraged the presence of partners to highlight activities of key stakeholders in the Rhenish mining region involved in the regional bioeconomy transitions through an excursion and expert impulses on Day 1. The Executive Committee Meeting on Day 2 focused on project management and administrative issues. A detailed summary of discussions and key takeaways follows in the next chapters. The agenda and attendance list are enclosed in the Annex (Chapter 5) of this document.

2 Day 1 – 20 January 2025

2.1 Introductory speeches

WELCOME ADDRESS AND OVERVIEW ON DAY 1

Presented by Denise Gider and Ulrich Schurr, BioökonomieREVIER, Forschungszentrum Jülich, coordination team BIO2REG

The meeting began with a welcome address by coordination team Denise Gider and Ulrich Schurr from BioökonomieREVIER, Forschungszentrum Jülich (FZJ), providing an overview of the objectives and structure of the Annual Meeting.

A recap of the first project year followed, highlighting key achievements across Work Packages, including the establishment of the initial Multi-Criteria Assessment, the successful execution of five expert workshops addressing key prerequisites for bioeconomy transitions—covering funding, social sustainability, climate-neutral bio-based value chains, research infrastructure and living labs, and education—and the finalization of the regionalization concept for circular bioeconomy model regions. Additionally, the successful setup of communication, dissemination, and engagement activities ensured broad outreach and stakeholder involvement. The BIO2REG timeline was reviewed, emphasizing successful deliverable submissions and progress, upcoming Deliverables and milestones, and next steps.

An interactive session using Mentimeter gathered participants' insights on key project themes. Results highlighted diverse perspectives on regional bioeconomy needs, stakeholder engagement priorities, and expectations for BIO2REG's impact. Responses underscored the importance of practical implementation tools, strengthened collaboration networks, and continuous knowledge exchange among regions (Figures 1-5).

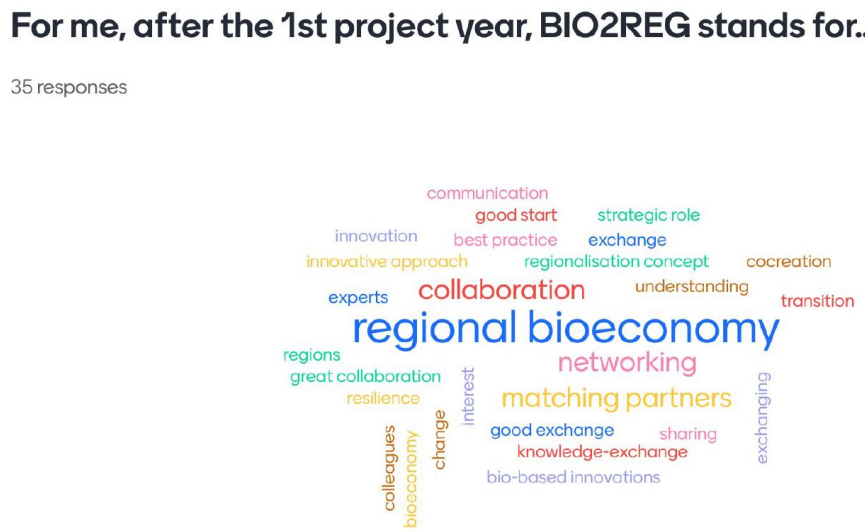

Figure 1: Mentimeter survey on BIO2REG project scope

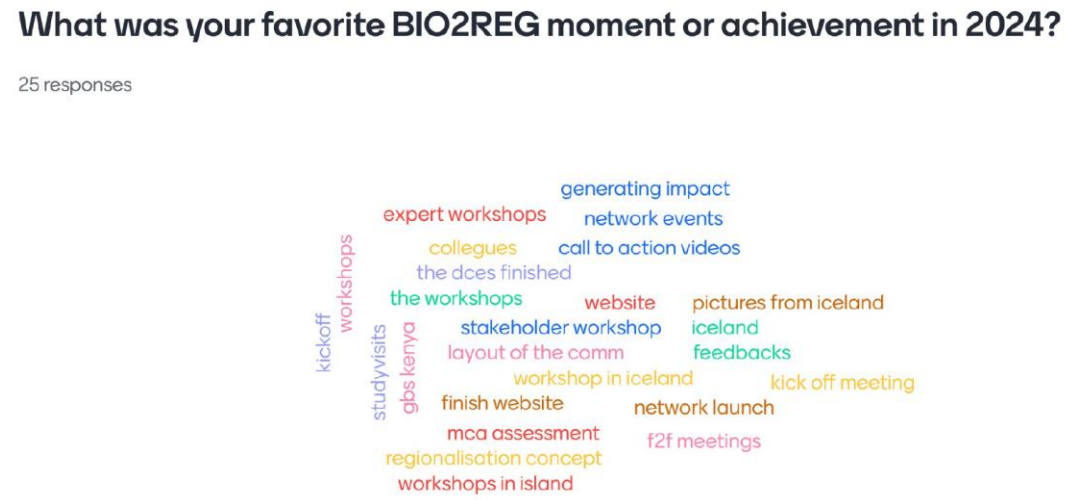

Figure 2: Mentimeter survey on favourite BIO2REG moment in 2024

Figure 3: Mentimeter survey on key BIO2REG activities in 2025

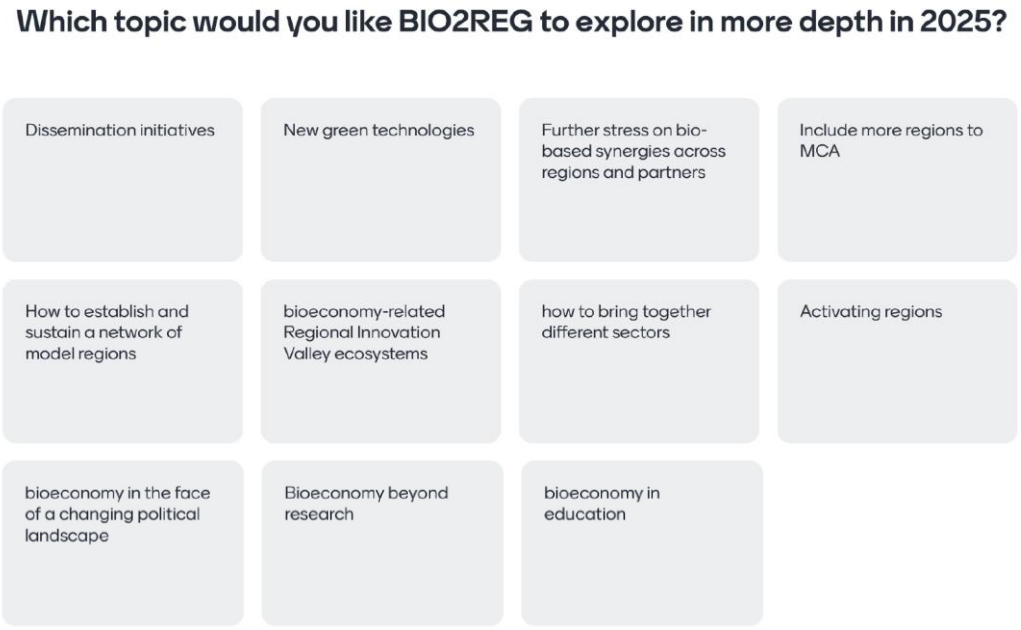

Figure 4: Mentimeter survey on priority topics for BIO2REG exploration in 2025

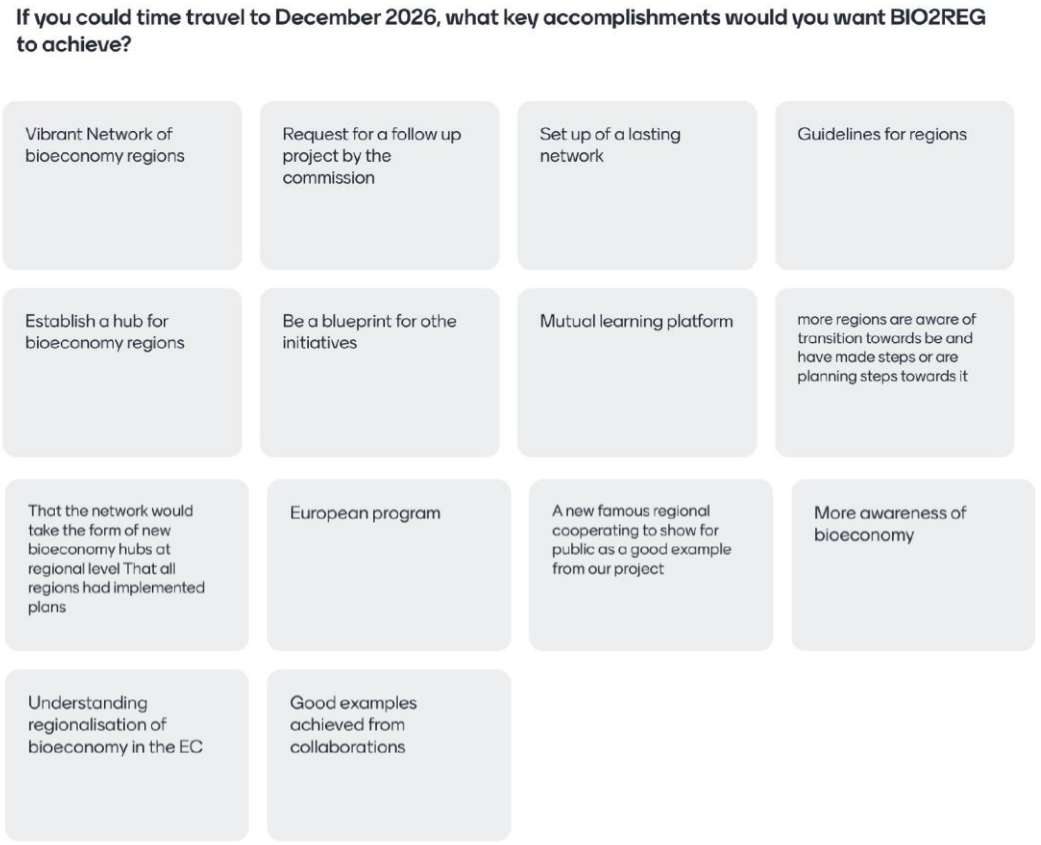

Figure 5: Mentimeter survey on desired key accomplishments for BIO2REG by 2026

An overview on Advisory Board feedback reflected on lessons learned and best practices, emphasizing the importance of integrating all relevant production sectors, engaging smallholder stakeholders, and supporting regional bioeconomy transitions through education and policy frameworks in the BIO2REG activities. The Advisory Board feedback session included insights from Andreea-Raluca Leru, who emphasized the need to clarify the role of Regional Development Agencies (RDAs) in the consortium, integrate coastal areas into bioeconomy applications, and strengthen collaboration between academia and industry. She also highlighted the importance of linking education and capacity building, leveraging synergies from past projects, and ensuring policy strategies incorporate best practices and funding considerations for bioeconomy investments.

Finally, a presentation on Forschungszentrum Jülich (FZJ), a key institution within the Helmholtz Association, highlighted its strategic research focus areas: energy and climate, information, and bioeconomy. Participants gained insights into FZJ's role, with a particular emphasis on the IBG-2 Plant Sciences Institute, to which BioökonomieREVIER, as the coordinator of BIO2REG, is affiliated. The presentation explored IBG-2's core research priorities, including optimizing primary production and utilization, enhancing secondary use and conversion, achieving sustainability and ecological targets, fostering societal innovation, and integrating bioeconomy within regional development. IBG-2 research units specialize in deep-phenotyping technologies, the convergence of sensor development, robotics, and plant sciences, and the advancement of large-scale infrastructure for biomass production, conversion, and separation.

2.2 WP1: Assessing regional potential towards circular and systemic bioeconomy model region transition

Presented by Panagiotis Kalimeris, Institute of Urban Environment and Human Resources, Panteion University (PU)

WP1 focuses on assessing the regional potential for circular and systemic bioeconomy transitions. Key activities include developing the regionalization concept (Task 1.1), designing and validating a Multi-Criteria Assessment (MCA) framework (Tasks 1.2 & 1.3), and mapping best practices in bioeconomy model regions (Task 1.4). The presentation highlighted progress, challenges, and upcoming milestones, emphasizing stakeholder engagement to refine assessment tools and ensure practical applicability. Key achievements also included the completion of Deliverables D1.1 *BIO2REG regionalisation concept for circular and systemic bioeconomy model regions* and D1.2 *Report on initial EU-wide MCA framework assessment*. Deliverable D1.2, the Initial MCA framework, has been in time achieved in July 2024, though the process was challenging due to its extensive scope and data limitations in some regions. Despite these difficulties, the framework and the later available stakeholder guides on the MCA (available in June 2025) will enable regional comparisons, even where data gaps exist, by providing a structured approach for assessing bioeconomy potential. The need was emphasized that the stakeholder guides needs to be hands-on and comprehensible for the stakeholders, less academic compared to Deliverable 1.2. It was afterwards discussed how to tackle the challenge of developing MCA guides that are more domain-specific, ensuring they effectively address different sectors in regions. The key question was how to structure the guides so that regions can easily access relevant sections based on their dominant industries, such as agriculture, forestry, or bio-based manufacturing. Additionally, the discussion highlighted the need for a socioeconomic approach, considering what regions require when transitioning to a bioeconomy. It was also noted that clarifying expectations for the MCA is essential, ensuring it clearly defines its objectives and what it aims to address. Lastly, the importance of a sectorial approach, along with the role of traditional and cultural aspects, was emphasized as crucial factors in shaping effective bioeconomy strategies and transition paths. Furthermore, the successful implementation of the expert workshop series in Task 1.4 was presented, consisting of five workshops covering education, social sustainability, funding, climate-neutral bio-based value chains, and research infrastructure and living labs in bioeconomy model regions.

PU also promoted the ERSA congress S53 Special Session, where PU applied for a dedicated BIO2REG session 'Promoting Circular Bioeconomy at the Regional Level: Potentials and Challenges' was accepted. The deadline for abstract submission is 25 February 2025. A possible contribution to the Special Session for BIO2REG were discussed which included FZJ's regionalization concept, and KVC's conceptualization of the BIO2REG network.

With regard to the upcoming Deliverables in Work Package 1, FZJ emphasized that further postponements are not possible beyond June 2025, as the reporting period ends in June 2025. All Deliverables due in June must be submitted on time; otherwise, the Work Package cannot be completed as promised, potentially putting the next payments for this lump sum project at risk.

Presented by Denise Gider, BioökonomieREVIER, Forschungszentrum Jülich

Forschungszentrum Jülich presented the finalized regionalization concept (Task 1.1, Deliverable 1.1) and the ongoing activities on mapping best practices (Task 1.4) within WP1 as well as the timeline for upcoming steps. The regionalization concept establishes a practical framework for circular bioeconomy transitions, emphasizing innovation, sustainability, stakeholder engagement, and local adaptation. Additionally, the session outlined key achievements, including expert workshops and upcoming deliverables (D1.4 and D1.5 on stakeholder guides on transition measures in bioeconomy model regions, due in June 2025) to facilitate knowledge transfer for regional bioeconomy initiatives.

2.3 WP2: Establishment of an interregional network structure on circular and systemic bioeconomy model region transition

Presented by Gabriela Munares, Kveloce (KVC)

WP2 focuses on establishing an interregional network for circular and systemic bioeconomy model regions, with key tasks including designing the BIO2REG network concept (Task 2.1), assessing user-friendly interaction tools (Task 2.2), and organizing five regional network events (Task 2.3) in Spain, Greece, Germany, the Czech Republic, and Sweden. A key challenge is the technical implementation of the network hub on the project website, defining the tools to be analyzed, and ensuring stakeholder engagement despite digital gaps. The database of Task 2.2 will provide a list of tools, while the regional events, which must be completed by May 2025, will validate the network concept and establish a functional knowledge-sharing structure.

Discussions during the Q&A explored the possible relocation of the Murcia event due to staff changes and the need for better coordination among partners to meet project deadlines. FZJ emphasized the urgent need for a joint timeline to ensure that event organizers and BIOC, as the partner responsible for communication, are aligned on key critical points. Additionally, FZJ requested KVC to organize a separate meeting regarding the location decision in Murcia to assess whether an exchange with REA is necessary, as Murcia has been previously communicated and set as one of BIO2REG's target region. Panos Kalimeris pointed out that for the Greek regional event, Athens would be a more efficient location instead of the Western Macedonia region to maximize participation and impact. Additionally, regarding existing tools for stakeholders, FZJ emphasized the needed support of the entire consortium. Once KVC establishes a clear concept in Task 2.2 defining the relevant types of IT tools, the collective knowledge of the consortium—which is familiar with various tools—should be leveraged to effectively support this effort.

On Day 2 of the Annual Meeting, two separate workshops were organized which will be reported in Chapter 3: one focusing on the regional network events and the other on the concept of the BIO2REG network.

2.4 WP3: Boosting the development of circular bioeconomy model regions by an interregional exchange

Presented by Denise Gider, BioökonomieREVIER, Forschungszentrum Jülich

The session on WP3 focused on the design and implementation of an interregional exchange instrument to facilitate knowledge transfer and capacity-building among bioeconomy model regions. The work package builds on the BIO2REG network (WP2) and integrates insights from the MCA framework and best practices stakeholder guides (WP1) to ensure structured and impactful exchanges. Key activities include designing the exchange instrument (Task 3.1), defining the selection process for participating regions (Task 3.2), organizing mentoring services (T3.3), and ensuring the dissemination of experiences. WP3, which started in January 2024, will now focus on developing the exchange instrument design, including validation in regional network events (WP2) between April and May and launching the call for participation around October 2025. The evaluation and selection process will take place in January and February 2026, with the actual exchanges scheduled for Q2 2026.

During the meeting, a question was raised about whether regions outside the network could participate in the interregional exchange. It was clarified that all interested regions will have the opportunity to apply, and they will become network members once they participate in the exchanges. Additionally, it was confirmed that maximum ten regions can participate in the exchange.

2.5 WP4/5: Communication, dissemination and exploitation

Presented by Uta Mommert, BIOCOM (BIOC) and Denise Gider, BioökonomieREVIER, Forschungszentrum Jülich

BIOC's WP4/5 session focused on communication, dissemination, and exploitation strategies to maximize the project's impact. Key achievements in 2024 included the development of a Communication, Dissemination, and Exploitation Strategy (CDES, Deliverable 4.1), the launch of BIO2REG's website and social media presence, the social media toolkit and the production of branding materials (flyers, posters, rollups, PowerPoint templates). Looking ahead, WP5 will focus on finalizing the Call-to-Action videos (Deliverable 4.3 in January 2025), activating the BIO2REG network, documenting project activities, and developing policy recommendations. Planned activities for 2025 include expanding stakeholder engagement, refining dissemination efforts, and ensuring the sustainable exploitation of project results.

FZJ provided an overview of the next steps for a policy brief on governance structures in regional bioeconomy transition. Following the meeting, they will reach out to partners in February to request support for the brief, ensuring it is ready in time for the review phase in March 2025, which will be shared with the consortium and optionally the Advisory Board members.

A discussion took place during the Q&A session about the relevance of investing time in X (Twitter), Mastodon, and Bluesky for dissemination purposes, as more and more institutions exit X. Participants emphasized that LinkedIn remains a reliable platform for sharing results effectively, particularly with the strategic use of hashtags. A follow-up exchange on extending to another social media platform was agreed on between BIOC and FZJ.

2.6 WP6/7: Project management

Presented by Denise Gider, BioökonomieREVIER, Forschungszentrum Jülich

WP6/7 session focused on strategic coordination (T6.1, 7.1), administrative project management (T6.2, T7.2), technical/logistical support for BioFairNet (T6.3, T7.3) and the work on the impact assessment (T6.4, 7.4). The governance structure was successfully established, with the Executive Committee, General Assembly, and Advisory Board ensuring structured decision-making and progress monitoring. The deliverable review process was implemented, following a structured timeline with quality checks starting at least four weeks before submission. Financial disbursements have been achievement-oriented, aligning payments with WP progress and regular internal periodic reporting, with the second pre-financing round to be completed in early 2025.

Looking ahead, WP6/7 will continue coordinating strategic project implementation, with key Deliverables including the report on strategic coordination (D6.6, due June 2025). Collaboration with the BioFairNet project will be established with the first Jour Fixe meeting planned for February 2025, integrating mentoring activities, capacity-building sessions, and knowledge exchange. Forschungszentrum Jülich emphasized the tight schedule in summer, with eight deliverables due on June 30, marking the end of the first reporting period, meaning no postponements will be possible. Additionally, midterm reporting is scheduled for July and August, and FZJ urged WP leaders to allocate sufficient time for the drafting phase, considering the vacation period.

BIOEAST Hub CZ informed the consortium about the upcoming Polish EU Presidency's intention to organize a major bioeconomy event, which presents a valuable opportunity for disseminating BIO2REG and increasing its visibility.

Presented by Gabriela Munares, Kveloce (KVC)

BIO2REG Task 6.4 focuses on setting up the impact evaluation framework (methodology, evaluation tools, and indicators) and establishing a baseline for assessment. Progress includes the first draft of the framework, while challenges remain in adapting the methodology alongside project developments and ensuring alignment with key deliverables, particularly D6.5 *Baseline impact evaluation report* and the five regional network events implemented until May 2025. The next steps

involve refining the evaluation approach and integrating synergies with other Tasks and Work Packages to ensure a comprehensive assessment of BIO2REG's impact. A workshop of day 2 of the Annual meeting was also dedicated to the set-up of the impact assessment, reported in Chapter 3.

2.7 Road tour through the bioeconomy model region

As part of the Annual Meeting agenda, participants took part in an excursion and expert sessions showcasing regional bioeconomy transition activities in the Rhenish mining region, Germany. The tour highlighted key initiatives, best practices, and the diverse actors driving the shift toward a regional circular bioeconomy. Participants gained insights into regional strategies, industry-led innovations, and collaborative governance efforts that support the transition and foster sustainable regional bioeconomy development.

BioökonomieREVIER at Forschungszentrum Jülich introduced how bioeconomy is a central innovation narrative for the Rhenish mining region, also contributing to the development of a state-level bioeconomy strategy in North Rhine-Westphalia. The session additionally highlighted industry-driven initiatives, including Modellfabrik Papier, which explores innovative solutions for sustainable paper production, and the FaserInnovationsZentrum Zerkall, focused on developing plant-based fibers for industrial applications. Additionally, Neuland Hambach presented its role as a regional development association supporting municipalities affected by the coal phase-out, with exemplary projects related to future lake planning at former mining sites, photovoltaic projects, and landscape visitor centers. This was followed by a stop at the Elsdorf viewpoint, offering a panoramic view of the Hambach open-cast mine. Participants then visited the Startup Village Jülich to explore initiatives fostering technology transfer and greentech entrepreneurship. The Zukunftsagentur Rheinisches Revier concluded the session by presenting its role in managing structural change in the Rhenish mining area, outlining key milestones, governance structures, funding mechanisms, and strategic initiatives supporting the regional bioeconomy transition.

Figure 6: Sub team photo Day 1 (Source: Uta Mommert, BIOCOM Interrelations)

Figure 7: Panoramic viewpoint Hambach open-cast mine (Source: Uta Mommert, BIOCOM Interrelations)

3 Day 2 – 21 January 2025

3.1 Workshop Multi-Criteria Assessment (MCA)

Moderated by Panagiotis Kalimeris, Institute of Urban Environment and Human Resources, Panteion University (PU)

The MCA (WP1) aims to evaluate regional bioeconomy potential by using existing quantifiable bioeconomy indicators. PU developed an initial blueprint for an EU-wide regional MCA in Deliverable 1.2 (July 2024). However, a key challenge emerged: the lack of EU-wide regional data for many crucial indicators. As a result, several indicators essential for describing regional bioeconomy potential had to be excluded, limiting the depth of analysis. This data gap compromises a more comprehensive understanding of bioeconomy potential and could lead to insufficiently planned and weakly implemented policies and strategies. To address this issue, PU organized a workshop focusing on the prioritization of indicators based on data availability and relevance for describing regional bioeconomy. The Annual Meeting participants evaluated an indicator list categorized by (1) available data, and (2) partially available data (not covering all European regions). Each participant ranked a set of over 260 indicators on a scale from 1 to 3, enabling PU to identify the most relevant indicators despite data limitations at the EU level, while highlighting those that can be obtained at the regional level through targeted data collection and expert consultations. The insights from this exercise will support the refinement of the MCA approach, ensuring a more robust assessment of regional bioeconomy potential.

3.2 Preparatory workshop: Network and regional network events

Moderated by Gabriela Munares and Aran Blanco, Kveloce

Part 1: BIO2REG Network concept

Based on an interactive Mentimeter query, KVC collected input from the BIO2REG consortium on the network's vision, objectives, and services to refine its concept as part of Task 2.1 on designing the BIO2REG network concept. Participants highlighted key goals, such as connecting stakeholders, fostering knowledge exchange, sharing best practices, and supporting regional bioeconomy activation. The discussion also identified local development agents, public sector representatives, companies, and entrepreneurs as key target groups.

Consortium members prioritized early access to resources and tools, a member directory, and forums as core benefits, while additional services such as matchmaking, workshops, and webinars on funding opportunities were suggested. It was agreed that registration should be required to access resources, and communication should be facilitated primarily via mailings and social media. The feedback collected will guide KVC in shaping the first draft of the BIO2REG network concept, ensuring it reflects consortium expectations and is feasible for implementation. This concept will be validated during the five regional network events between April and May 2025 and will also be shared for review as Deliverable 2.1 with the Advisory Board.

Part 2: Regional network events

The workshop on regional network events began with an overview of the key aspects of Task 2.3 outlined in the DoA, including the five planned events scheduled between April and May 2025, their host countries (Spain, Greece, Germany, Czech Republic, Sweden), the responsible organizers, and the target participant numbers (70-100 per event). Following a discussion on target audiences, it was agreed that this information should be explicitly included in the workshop details.

Participants shared recommendations on event dissemination, venue selection, necessary resources, and logistical aspects. A brief discussion also addressed technical requirements, particularly the potential need to purchase licenses for applications like Mentimeter.

The session then focused on collaboratively shaping the concept and activities of the regional events. While the "Speed Dating" networking format was positively received, participants expressed concerns about organizational challenges, including structuring interactions effectively. Regarding validation activities, it was suggested that these could run in parallel, with participants divided into groups, to optimize event time.

To support the five event organizers, Kveloce will draft a Roadmap document, detailing a step-by-step guide, timeline, and content recommendations to ensure consistency across all regional events. Additionally, FZJ emphasized the importance of clear messaging to attract stakeholders, while KVC proposed that each organizer develop targeted messages for their stakeholder groups. These messages will be used for dissemination campaigns, with BIOC creating teaser materials for all partners to use.

FZJ emphasized that each regional event concept should be tailored to the interests and needs of the regional target audience rather than following a uniform content structure across all regions. The whole entirety of the regional innovation ecosystem should be targeted. The focus should shift away from BIO2REG itself and instead highlight broader topics related to bioeconomy transition, ensuring greater relevance and engagement of stakeholders. One consortium member specifically pointed out skilled labour shortages as an urgent topic that should be addressed within the events, or crucial value chains that impact the region.

3.3 Impact assessment workshop: Impact evaluation in engaged regions

Moderated by Gabriela Munares and Aran Blanco, Kveloce

The workshop on the impact assessment framework for Tasks 6.4 and 7.4 was moderated by KVC and began with an overview of its goals and timeline. The general baseline questionnaire, which will be completed by representatives from the five project regions, was introduced. It was suggested that other regions should also be invited to provide input. Additionally, it was proposed that

all participants of the regional network events be encouraged to fill out the baseline evaluation but should be framed as invitation as this is not a must to participate at the network event. Concerns were raised regarding the potential overlap of multiple stakeholders from the same region but different organizations.

A majority of participants agreed with the format of the questionnaire, and additional input was collected on missing questions. A suggestion was made to define the concept of "region" in the baseline evaluation and provide a definition. Participants also discussed strategies to incentivize responses, such as gamification or a lottery system to increase participation.

Regarding the survey format, the majority preferred an online format, while some suggested offering a low-tech alternative to ensure accessibility. It was noted that participation in the exchange should be required for network membership. The session also introduced briefly the baseline questionnaires for the interregional exchange instrument (WP3) and the support of BioFairNet (Task 6.3 and 7.3) emphasizing that only the coordinator is required to complete the questionnaire for its pilot region, with participation being optional for others.

4 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Moderated by Denise Gider, BioökonomieREVIER, Forschungszentrum Jülich

The Executive Committee (ExCom) meeting provided key project updates, including results from the latest internal reporting on WP1, WP4/5, and WP6/7, which covered work completed between August and December 2024. The discussion focused on assessing Work Package achievements, serving as the basis for the next round of payments in early 2025. The WP progress was confirmed for all running Work Packages. Regarding WP4 progress, it was agreed that due to the one-month postponement of Deliverable 4.2 *Call-to-Action videos* to January 2025, the WP4 leader will receive half of the agreed payment upfront. The remaining payment will be disbursed upon completion of WP4, following confirmation by the WP leader. Following the meeting, FZJ as the project coordinator, will notify their finance department to proceed with the disbursement of the second payments as agreed.

The ExCom agreed to set the next internal reporting phase from January to March 2025, with the internal report is to be submitted in early April 2025 by WP leader.

The timeline for periodic reporting in summer was outlined, with the first reporting phase concluding on June 30, 2025, and all documents due by August 29, 2025 (deadline t.b.c.). Discussions on Advisory Board involvement highlighted the need to increase engagement through a more appealing agenda and alignment with larger events.

Collaboration with other projects and initiatives was addressed, with several contacts to be established, particularly in relation to regional bioeconomy initiatives. The ExCom agreed to maintain monthly ExCom meetings for close monitoring of progress, with a total of 15 deliverables and periodic reporting due in 2025.

Figure 8: Team photo Day 2 (Source: Uta Mommert, BIOCOM Interrelations)

5 Annex

5.1 Agenda

1st Annual Meeting

Large Seminar Room, Building 06.2
Institute of Plant Sciences (IBG-2), Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH
Wilhelm-Johnen-Straße, 52428 Jülich, Germany

BIO2REG

AGENDA MONDAY 20/01/2025

08:30	**ARRIVAL AND WELCOME COFFEE**
09:00	**WELCOME ADDRESS AND OVERVIEW ON DAY 1** *BioökonomieREVIER, Forschungszentrum Jülich*
09:15	**RECAP 1ST YEAR PROGRESS** *BioökonomieREVIER, Forschungszentrum Jülich*
09:30	**ADVISORY BOARD FEEDBACK: IMPULSES FOR REGIONAL BIOECONOMY TRANSITION**
WP1 ASSESSING REGIONAL POTENTIAL TOWARDS CIRCULAR AND SYSTEMIC BIOECONOMY MODEL REGION TRANSITION	
09:55	**WP1: PROGRESS, CHALLENGES, OVERLAPS AND NEXT STEPS** *Institute of Urban Environment and Human Resources, Panteion University*
10:10	**REGIONALIZATION CONCEPT (TASK 1.1) AND MAPPING BEST PRACTICES (TASK 4.1)** *BioökonomieREVIER, Forschungszentrum Jülich*
10:20	**Q&A WP1**
WP2 ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERREGIONAL NETWORK STRUCTURE ON CIRCULAR AND SYSTEMIC BIOECONOMY MODEL REGION TRANSITION	
10:30	**WP2 PROGRESS, CHALLENGES, OVERLAPS AND NEXT STEPS** *Kveloce*
10:45	**Q&A WP2**
10:55	**COFFEE**
WP3 BOOSTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF CIRCULAR BIOECONOMY MODEL REGIONS BY AN INTERREGIONAL EXCHANGE	
11:10	**WP3 PROGRESS, CHALLENGES, OVERLAPS AND NEXT STEPS** *BioökonomieREVIER, Forschungszentrum Jülich*
11:20	**Q&A WP3**
WP4/5 COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION AND EXPLOITATION	
11:30	**WP4/5: PROGRESS, CHALLENGES, OVERLAPS AND NEXT STEPS** BIOCOM
11:50	**Q&A WP4/5**
WP6/7 PROJECT MANAGEMENT INCL. IMPACT ASSESSMENT	
12:00	**WP6/7: PROGRESS, CHALLENGES, OVERLAPS AND NEXT STEPS** *BioökonomieREVIER, Forschungszentrum Jülich*
12:10	**IMPACT EVALUATION FRAMEWORK (Task 6.4/7.4)** *Kveloce*
12:20	**Q&A WP6/7**
12:30	**LUNCH**
13:30	**ROAD TOUR THROUGH THE BIOECONOMY MODEL REGION** *Uli Schurr: BioökonomieREVIER, Forschungszentrum Jülich – Bioeconomy as a central innovation narrative in the transition and development of a federal state bioeconomy strategy* *Dominic Laaf: Best practice Modellfabrik Papier – Paper industry initiative exploring innovative solutions for the sustainable paper production* *Holger Klose: Best practice FaserInnovationsZentrum Zerkall – Industry driven initiative to develop sustainable, plant-based fibers for industrial applications*

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1st Annual Meeting

Large Seminar Room, Building 06.2
Institute of Plant Sciences (IBG-2), Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH
Wilhelm-Johnen-Straße, 52428 Jülich, Germany

BIO2REG

	Matti Wirth: Neuland Hambach Regional development association of neighbouring municipalities affected by the coal phase-out shaping the general transition process *Departure to Elsdorf: Viewpoint of the open-cast lignite mine and group photo* *Johanna Ramächers: Visit to Startup Village Jülich Promoting start-ups and technology transfer with a focus on greentech and impact-driven entrepreneurship* *Stephan Piotrowski: Zukunftsagentur Rheinisches Revier*
Ca. 18:00	Arrival in Düren
Ca. 19:00	SOCIAL EVENT, JOINT DINNER, Dorint Hotel Düren, Moltkestraße 35, 52351 Düren

AGENDA TUESDAY 21/01/2025

08:30	**ARRIVAL AND WELCOME COFFEE**
09:00	**RECAP DAY 1 AND OVERVIEW DAY 2** *BioökonomieREVIER, Forschungszentrum Jülich*
WORKSHOP MULTI-CRITERIA ASSESSMENT (MCA)	
09:15	**PRIORITIZING KEY INDICATORS FOR STAKEHOLDER GUIDES** Moderated by *Institute of Urban Environment and Human Resources, Panteion University*
10:15	**COFFEE**
PREPARATORY WORKSHOP: NETWORK AND REGIONAL NETWORK EVENTS	
10:30	**NETWORK CONCEPT AND REGIONAL NETWORK EVENTS: CONCEPT, FORMAT AND ROADMAP** Moderated by Kveloce
IMPACT ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP: IMPACT EVALUATION IN ENGAGED REGIONS	
11:30	**WORKSHOP IMPACT ASSESSMENT** Moderated by Kveloce
CLOSING REMARKS	
12:30	**CLOSING REMARKS DAY 2 AND NEXT STEPS** *BioökonomieREVIER, Forschungszentrum Jülich*
12:40	**LUNCH**
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING	
13:30 - 15:00	**Moderated by BioökonomieREVIER, Forschungszentrum Jülich**

BIO2REG project: https://bio2reg.eu/
Contact details: Denise Gider, BIO2REG coordinator, Forschungszentrum Jülich
BioökonomieREVIER, d.gider@fz-juelich.de

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5.2 Participants

Onsite participants and speaker

Name	Affiliation
Sophia De Smet	Bio-based Industries Consortium, Belgium
Ola Pettersson	RISE Research Institutes of Sweden
Andreas Nikolaus Kleinschmit von Lengefeld	Homo Silvestris Europae, France
Uta Mommert	BIOCOM Interrelations, Germany
Aran Blanco	Senior Europa (Kveloce), Spain
Gabriela Munares	Senior Europa (Kveloce), Spain
Panagiotis Kalimeris	Panteion University Athens, Research Institute of Urban Environment & Human Resources, Greece
George Sakellaris	BIOEAST HUB CR, Czech Republic
Valentina Galantari	BIOEAST HUB CR, Czech Republic
Jónas Baldursson	Matis, Iceland
Denise Gider	BioökonomieREVIER, Forschungszentrum Jülich, Germany
Christian Klar	BioökonomieREVIER, Forschungszentrum Jülich, Germany
Ulrich Schurr	BioökonomieREVIER, Forschungszentrum Jülich, Germany
Dominic Laaf	Modellfabrik Papier, Germany
Holger Klose	Forschungszentrum Jülich, IBG-2, FaserInnovationsZentrum Zerkall, Germany
Matti Wirth	Neuland Hambach, Germany
Roland Pieruschka	Forschungszentrum Jülich, IBG-2, Germany
Johanna Ramächers	Startup Village Jülich, Brainergy Park Jülich, Germany
Stephan Piotrowski	Zukunftsagentur Rheinisches Revier, Germany

Online participants

Name	Affiliation
Katrín Hulda Gunnarsdóttir	Matis, Iceland
Tolga Kabdullayeva	BIOCOM Interrelations, Germany
Mattias Drotz	RISE Research Institutes of Sweden
Andreea-Raluca Leru	North-East Regional Development Agency, EURADA, Brussels