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Newsletter no 3 February 2025

## TIME TO PRESENT THE PROJECT RESULTS

**In this third newsletter from the BIOMODEL4REGIONS project, you will get an overview of the results of the project. It provides a summary of the project and describes the work that formed the basis for conclusions.**

**The BIOMODEL4REGIONS project aims to** support the establishment of the innovative governance models at local/regional level to achieve better informed decision-making processes, social engagement and innovation to support and strengthen EU and international science-policy interfaces to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

**The methodology is based on** the set-up of a governance structure among bioeconomy clusters that will leverage on previous successful projects, initiatives and best practices to capitalise on work performed through several years of research and studies in the field of bioeconomy. These results will be demonstrated within the project to support 6 pilot regions chosen in clusters' network.



## BIOBASED ECONOMY STRATEGY BLUEPRINTS

To foster the continuation of BIOMODEL4REGIONS approach to set-up of a governance structure among bioeconomy clusters beyond the project timeline, BIOMODEL4REGIONS pilot regions developed six Regional Bio-Based Economy Strategy Blueprints. They are customized to align with the distinct characteristics of the regions. This is done thanks to a methodology based on the set-up of a governance structure demonstrated in six pilot regions: **Delta Region** (Netherlands), **Nitra Region** (Slovakia), **Normandy Region** (France), **Northern Sweden** (Sweden), **Tuscany Region** (Italy), **and Western Macedonia Region** (Greece).

All six regions focus on a circular economy, to minimize waste, optimize resource use, reduce climate impact, and transition to fossil-free alternatives. Emphasis is on developing and implementing new technologies using the triple helix model. The differences between the regions are connected to their geographical strengths: forestry, agri-food, aquatic biomass and organic fraction of municipal solid waste.

The maturity of the strategies varies from ongoing evaluation to implementation and different time horizons. Regional bio-based economy strategy blueprints can act as a strategic intellectual and practical guide for the region practitioners for development of the bio-based economy strategies further according to the regional characteristics, needs, and capacities.

**Do you want to access these regional bioeconomy strategies?** [Register on our B4R Management Tool here.](#)

It is also vital that the innovative governance models of BIOMODEL4REGIONS are replicated in other regions across Europe and further afield. Coordinated by ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, the Bio-Based Economy Regions and Clusters Replication Group was launched in February 2023. This replication group brings together three regions via bio-based clusters to learn from the project findings and exchange and foster knowledge, all towards developing the governance of the bio-based economy in their region.

In exchange, the replication potential of the project's recommendations and tools are validated by their perspectives as local practitioners. Group members are **Green Synergies** (Bulgarian National Cluster), **Southern Waste Region** (representing 10 municipalities in Southern Ireland) **and Circular Bioeconomy Cluster South-West, and Zielona Chemia** (Western Pomeranian Region Poland).



**The final months of the project will focus on disseminating the results.** First, conferences will be organised in each pilot region in the local language to present the regional strategies. In April, all six strategies will be presented online in English. To connect the dots, BioModel4Regions will be working with many other European projects to increase shared learning across Europe.



## BIO-BASED BUSINESS MODELS

A supportive business model framework has been developed during the project. Interviews with biobased businesses as well as workshops and interviews with intended consumers from all six regions has been carried out. The results include the internal strengths and weaknesses of bio-based business models, as well as highlight common external drivers and barriers. The business model framework aims to strengthen the position of the companies achieving their strategic goals and ensuring sustainability and profitability.

**A MultiCriteria Decision-Making (MCDM) tool** has been developed during the project. The tool helps evaluate and prioritize alternatives by assessing six key criteria factors simultaneously, allowing for more balanced and informed decision-making in complex scenarios. To showcase the strengths of MCDM, the tool has been applied to a case study of building a biorefinery in North Sweden, in the county of Västernorrland, for production of market competitive end-products from forest residues.



## EXPANDING NETWORKS TO ACCELERATE THE BIOECONOMY

The project has supported the development of the bioeconomy by strengthening collaboration and knowledge exchange with other European organisations, through active mapping and joining initiatives and alliances.



**BioModel4Regions** joined early on [Rural Bioeconomy Alliance \(RBA\)](#), a cluster of 14 EU-funded projects, aimed to accelerating and supporting the development of circular Bioeconomy initiatives. **The project has been well represented at several significant European fairs, public events and conferences**, as [IFIB](#) (International Forum on Industrial Biotechnology and Bioeconomy) and [Ecomondo](#) where the project has been presented during poster sessions.

## MUTUAL LEARNING AND DISSEMINATION AMONG PROJECTS

Dissemination of the project results has taken place through EU meetings, collaboration with other projects and initiatives, regional and local stakeholder meetings online and on site, and through [LinkedIn](#).



"Bioeconomy Marketplace Workshop" in Bologna.

In connection with IFIB, we co-hosted a workshop called "[Bioeconomy Marketplace Workshop](#)" together with RuralBioUp. During this event, the initial work on the blueprints was presented in a poster session, highlighting best practices and lessons learned related to bioeconomy efforts in the six different pilot regions. Another example is that we have been part of [ROBIN's Mutual Learning Workshop](#), where we discussed the tools that are designed to support regional bioeconomy governance, including governance analysis, monitoring, and development planning tools.

BioModel4Regions will participate on [ROBIN's Mutual Learning Workshop "BioFUTURE"](#) February 19, 2025, with a focus on knowledge sharing for unlocking the potential of bioeconomy in Europe from the regional policy perspective. Do you also want to participate in BioFUTURE? [Sign up here.](#)

## THE PROJECT IS APPROACHING ITS END

We are now looking forward to sharing our results by organising several final presentation conferences in collaboration with a number of sister projects. The final event will be a joint on-site event in Brussels in May together with several other projects, for example [RuralBioUp](#), [BioRural](#), [SCALE-UP](#) and [MainstreamBIO](#).



## CONTACT THE PROJECT!

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BIOMODEL4REGIONS is a 3-year Horizon Europe project within the area of Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal. The project budgets are €2,5 million and the consortium consists of 12 partners from 8 different countries.



The project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation program under Grant Agreement N°101060476.