



Overview of the Finnish bioeconomy strategy

Sustainably towards
higher value added

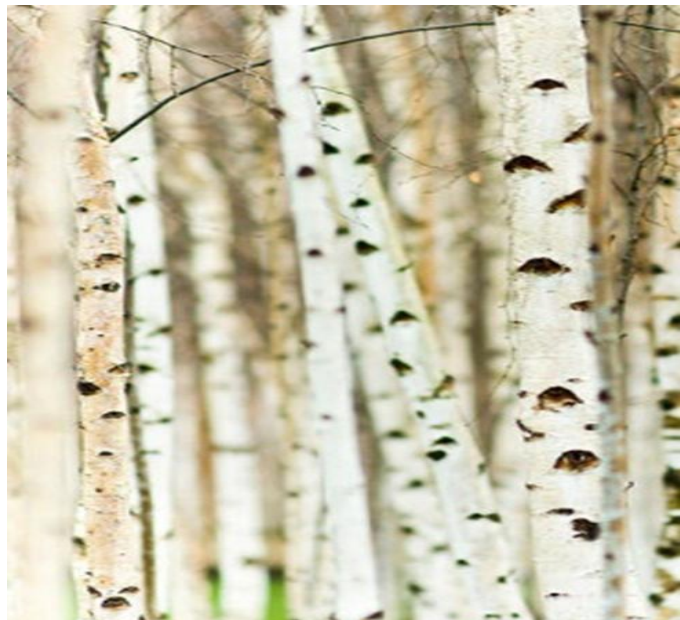
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Starting points for the strategy update

- Changes in the operating environment since 2014
- Circular economy and the utilisation of renewable natural resources
- Update of the EU Bioeconomy Strategy 2018 and Council conclusions on Bioeconomy 2019
- Prime Minister Marin's Government Program entries on a fair transition towards a carbon-neutral society and inclusiveness of citizens
- Steering group and a coordination secretariat with representatives from 8 ministries
- National stakeholders' bioeconomy panel as an advisory board



Bioeconomy secretariat

- Coordinated by Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment
- Representatives from Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of Education and Culture
- The task of the Bioeconomy Secretariat is to implement the national bioeconomy strategy.
- The main focus of the Secretariat's work is on influencing the European Union and participating in the preparation and implementation of various initiatives.
- The Secretariat coordinates discussions between different ministries and prepares background papers related to the handling of issues.



If the answer is bioeconomy, what is the question?

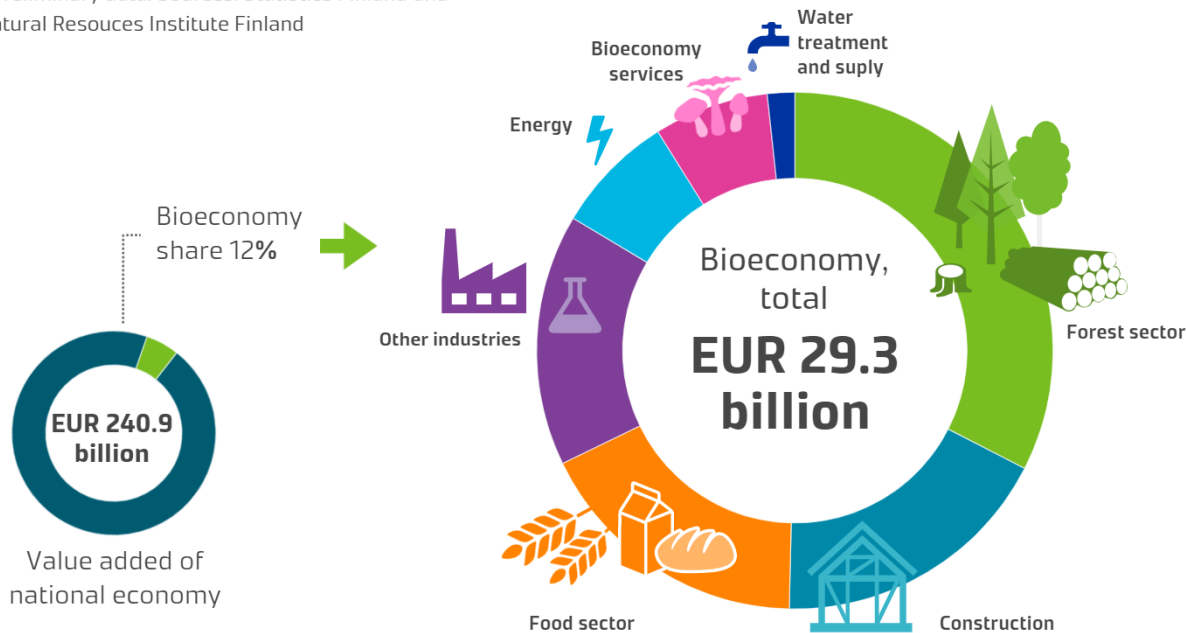
Bioeconomy is connected with particularly wide range of strategies/policies



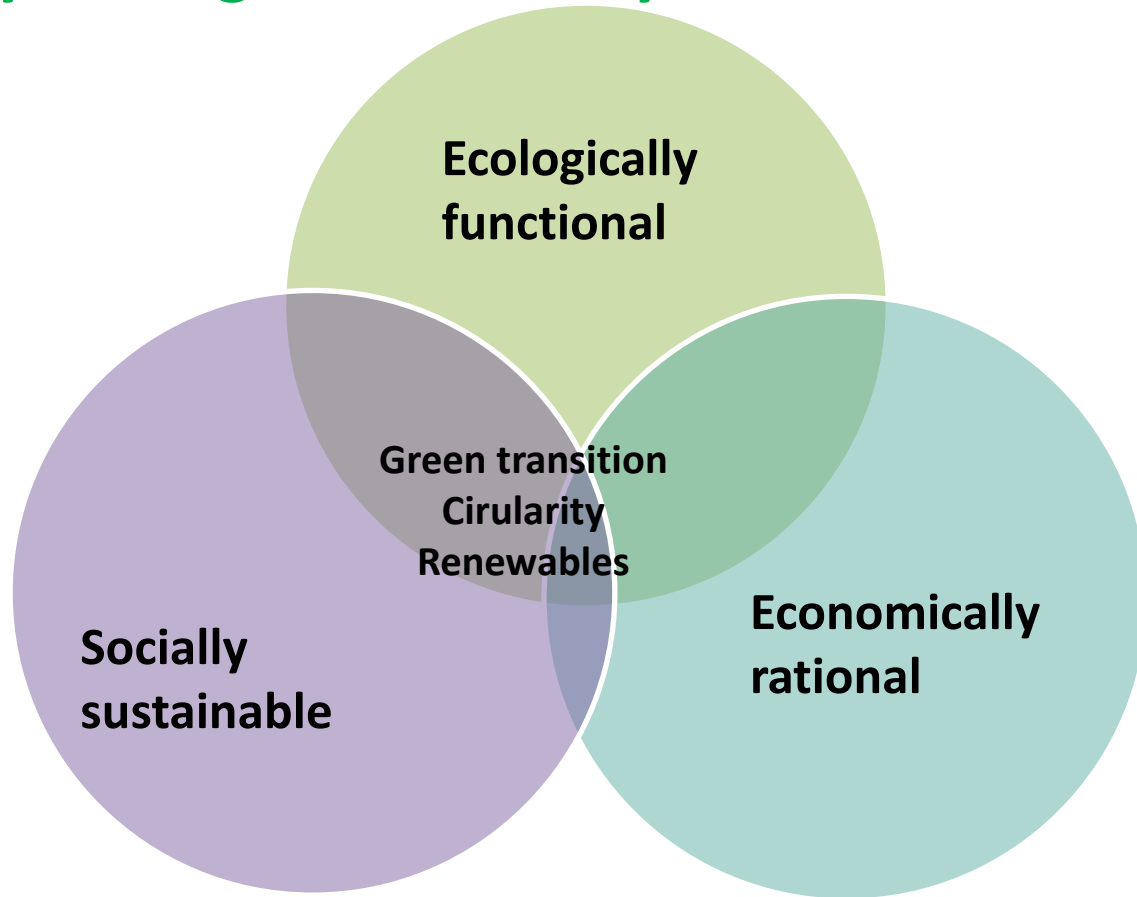
Bioeconomy in Finland

Value added of bioeconomy 2023*

* Preliminary data. Sources: Statistics Finland and Natural Resources Institute Finland



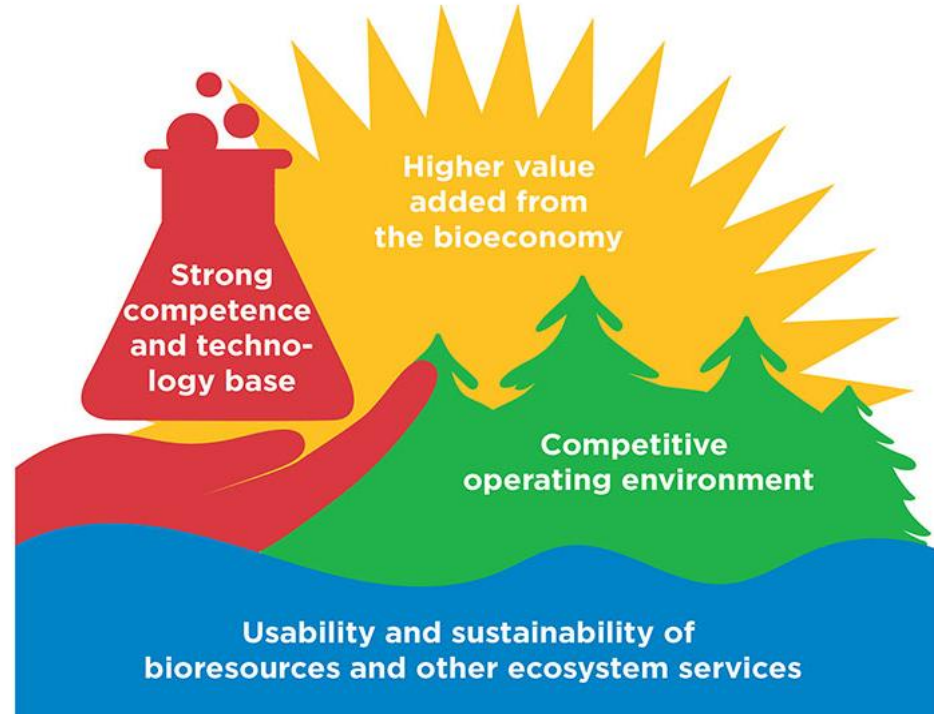
Sustainability driving bioeconomy and bioeconomy driving sustainability



Sustainably towards higher value added

Finland's bioeconomy strategy 2022-2035

Finland's
bioeconomy sectors'
value added
to reach
EUR 50 billion in 2035,
2x of 2021



Measures

Higher value added from the bioeconomy

- RDI programme
- Pilot and demonstration plants
- Climate change and biodiversity actions
- Regional bioeconomy plans

Strong competence and technology base

- Research and education
- Development of technologies
- Digitalisation

Competitive operating environment

- Ecosystem services commercialization
- Streamlined permit processes for investments
- Innovative sustainable public funding models
- Cross-border cooperation

Usability and sustainability of bioresources and other ecosystem services

- Demand and availability of biomass and side streams
- Increasing the value added in ecosystem service industries

Increasing value added in different sectors

forest • food • energy • water and water biomass • bioeconomy services
textiles and clothing industry • chemical industry

Bioeconomy - FINLAND'S PRIORITIES

Enhancing Competitiveness

- Simplifying regulation
- Market access
- Sustainability
- Availability of biomass

Increasing Value Added

- Resource efficiency
- More with less
- Circular economy
- Extending value chains
- New products and services

From Lab to Fab

- Scalability
- Investments
- Commercialization

Challenges and lessons learnt

Key challenges:

- Ecological constraints, global competition, innovation and scale-up bottlenecks, workforce and skills, policy complexity, volatile electricity markets

Lessons learnt

- Sustainable growth requires moving from volume-based strategies to innovation and high-value product creation.
- Digital tools and technologies are essential for advancing bioeconomy and improving efficiency.
- Ensuring social fairness and preparing the workforce are critical for inclusive bioeconomy benefits.
- Ongoing investment in research, commercialization, and biodiversity conservation ensures resilience and competitiveness.



Finland and the EU

- Bioeconomy should be recognized horizontally as an elementary part of the EU's industrial policy and its instruments.
- The EU needs investments to renew its industry.
- Predictable and coherent EU regulation and communications should support and enable the development and investments in bioeconomy.
- Competitiveness and growth in the core of bioeconomy
- Non-papers 2022, 03/2024 (EE, FI, IT, LT, ES, SE) and 11/2024 (DE, EE, FI, FR, LT, LV, PT, ES, SE)



Bioeconomy and the EU

- EU's new bioeconomy strategy
- EU Biotech Act
- Life sciences strategy
- IPCEI on biotechnologies
- Competitiveness Compass
- Clean Industrial Deal
- Vision for Agriculture and Food
- Circular Economy Action Plan



Conclusions

- In this moment of global uncertainty, bioeconomy offers Finland a compass—a way to grow our economy, strengthen our resilience, and lead the world by example.
- Finland has the potential to lead the global bioeconomy and circular economy transformation.
- Strategic investments in R&D and innovation are crucial for maintaining economic resilience.
- Cross-sectoral collaboration is essential to harness the full potential of bio-based and circular solutions.
- Finland must leverage its strengths in renewable resources and sustainable technologies to drive growth.
- Active participation in shaping EU policies will ensure alignment with national priorities and access to funding.
- Building strong international partnerships will enhance market access and global competitiveness





Thank you!



Ministry of Economic Affairs
and Employment of Finland

www.bioeconomy.fi