



G20 OECD-BNCT WORKSHOP
Bioeconomy in the OECD countries
Presidency of council of Ministers
July 16, 2021

Panel 1:
Bioeconomy strategies in the different
OECD countries: comparison of their
objectives, priorities, governance and
implementation guidelines



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United States Bioeconomy Strategy

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Question 1: Which sectors comprise your national bioeconomy?

The sectors that comprise the U.S. Bioeconomy are defined in the “Safeguarding the Bioeconomy” report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine available [here](#) in Table 2-1.

- Sectors wholly included: pharmaceuticals, biotechnology R&D, medical diagnostics
- Sectors partially included: crop production, electricity generation, processed food, chemicals, plastics and rubber, and other physical engineering and life sciences R&D.
- Emerging sectors: Livestock production, fisheries/aquaculture, forestry, mining, and textiles.

Question 2: How is the strategy on bioeconomy in your country implemented?

- The U.S. is in the process of evolving our bioeconomy strategy.
- In addition, the following [Bioeconomy Initiative: Implementation Framework](#) has been implemented and is available.
- Specific to the Bioeconomy Strategy definition, the Biomass R&D Board has authority over the Bioeconomy Initiative in terms of strategy, direction, and governance. By statute, the Secretaries of Energy and Agriculture designate points of contact for DOE and USDA, with the consent of the U.S. Senate. The point of contacts from DOE and USDA serve as Co-chairs of the Board and have oversight of Board activities. The Board consists of senior officers of DoD, DOI, DOT, EPA, NSF, and OSTP, each of whom has a rank that is equivalent to the rank of the Co-chairs.

Question 3: What are the missing policies, current needs and opportunities for your national bioeconomy?

- Proposed new legislation entitled the “Bioeconomy Research and Development Act of 2020” suggests several additional opportunities for the US bioeconomy. These include a variety of funding mechanisms recognizing the need to *“expand[...] the number of researchers, educators, and students and a retooled workforce with engineering biology training, including from traditionally underrepresented and underserved populations;”*
- Several stakeholder engagement discussions including the National Laboratory hosted InnovationXlab: Biomanufacturing Summit in 2020 identified the need to expand fermentation and downstream processing scale up infrastructure in the United States to enable rapid commercialization of biomanufacturing technologies.
- Additionally, there is a need to iteratively evaluate the sustainability, safety, and security of our bioeconomy practices, in ways that do not inhibit innovation and transparency.