



**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**



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

# **Austrian Bioeconomy-Strategy**

**Gottfried Lamers**

Austrian Federal Ministry for Climate Action  
(E-mail: [Gottfried.lamers@bmk.gv.at](mailto:Gottfried.lamers@bmk.gv.at))



**1. Which sectors comprise your national bioeconomy?** (i.e., agriculture, livestock, aquaculture, fisheries, forestry, food industry, industrial biotechnology and biorefineries – plus the use of products in the pharmaceutical, cosmetic, chemical, textile, energy industries, municipal biowaste and wastewater valorisation, composing, etc.) and the **reasons for their selection;**

# Austrian Bioeconomy-Strategy

- The Austrian bioeconomy strategy starts with guidelines based on the **SDGs** to address the synergies and **possible conflicts** with the bioeconomy.
- Consequently we also raise the question about **consumption patterns, material reduction and efficiency** in all production steps
- Based on these guidelines we focus on the potentials of **agriculture and forestry**.
- As these resources are limited and efficiency is a priority in Austria, we see the future main source for additional biomass potentials in the sector of **waste and residues**.
- Therefore the **circular economy** has an important role in the Austrian strategy.
- The most important industrial sectors in Austria are wood processing, pulp and paper and bio-energy.



2. How is the strategy on bioeconomy in your country implemented? (Please provide details on the coordination and cooperation across your ministers, national governance of the bioeconomy strategy and national investments allocated to sustain it). Did your country develop an Implementation Action Plan following the Bioeconomy Strategy definition?

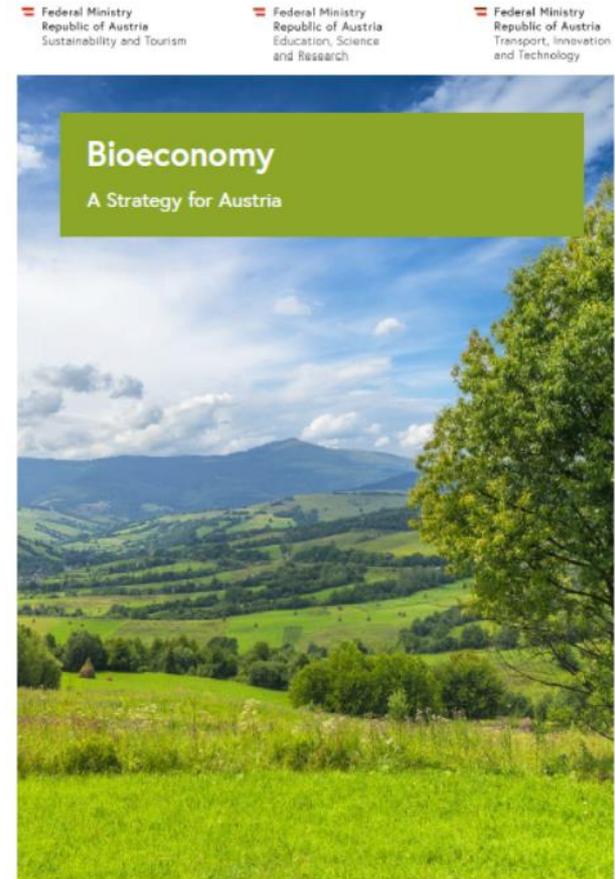


# Stakeholder

- The Austrian strategy was a follow up of the **integrated climate and energy strategy** of Austria and was adopted in 2019.
- The strategy defines fields of action that will contribute to the further development of the bioeconomy in Austria. Building on this, the process of creating the **Bioeconomy Action Plan** was started.
- For both, the Strategy and the Action Plan, **3 federal Ministries**: the Federal Ministry for **Climate** Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology, the Federal Ministry of **Agriculture**, Regions and Tourism and the Federal Ministry of Education, **Science** and Research are working closely together to address all areas of the bioeconomy .
- Additionally an **expert group**, so-called “bioeconomy platform”, was implemented to act as a **sounding board** to the three involved ministries. This platform includes scientists, enterprises and environmental NGOs.

# Results

- Approval by government 13. 3. 2019
- <https://www.bmk.gv.at/en/topics/climate-environment/climate-protection/bioeconomy-strategy.html>
- Further tasks
  - Bioeconomy flagship projects
  - Bioeconomy action plan
  - Creation of a bioeconomy centre at the university of life science
  - Monitoring of the implementation





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

Please provide below the web links to the most relevant documents associated to your national strategy.

# Missing policies

- In the course of the proposed **European guidelines on state aid** for climate, environmental protection and energy 2022, not all elements of the European Green Deal are addressed.
- Above all, the pillars of the transformation of the economic system, respectively the **reduction of CO2 emissions**, are only **partially** taken into account.
- While the switch from fossil to renewable (and biogenic) energy sources is well and sufficiently taken into account in the guidelines, the **replacement of fossil resources with renewable raw materials** - in the sense of the bioeconomy - is not mentioned.
- Past experience has shown that the switch to bioeconomy-relevant technologies can result in high investment costs, and so there is a need for state aid.