



**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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# **Bioeconomy strategy in Finland**

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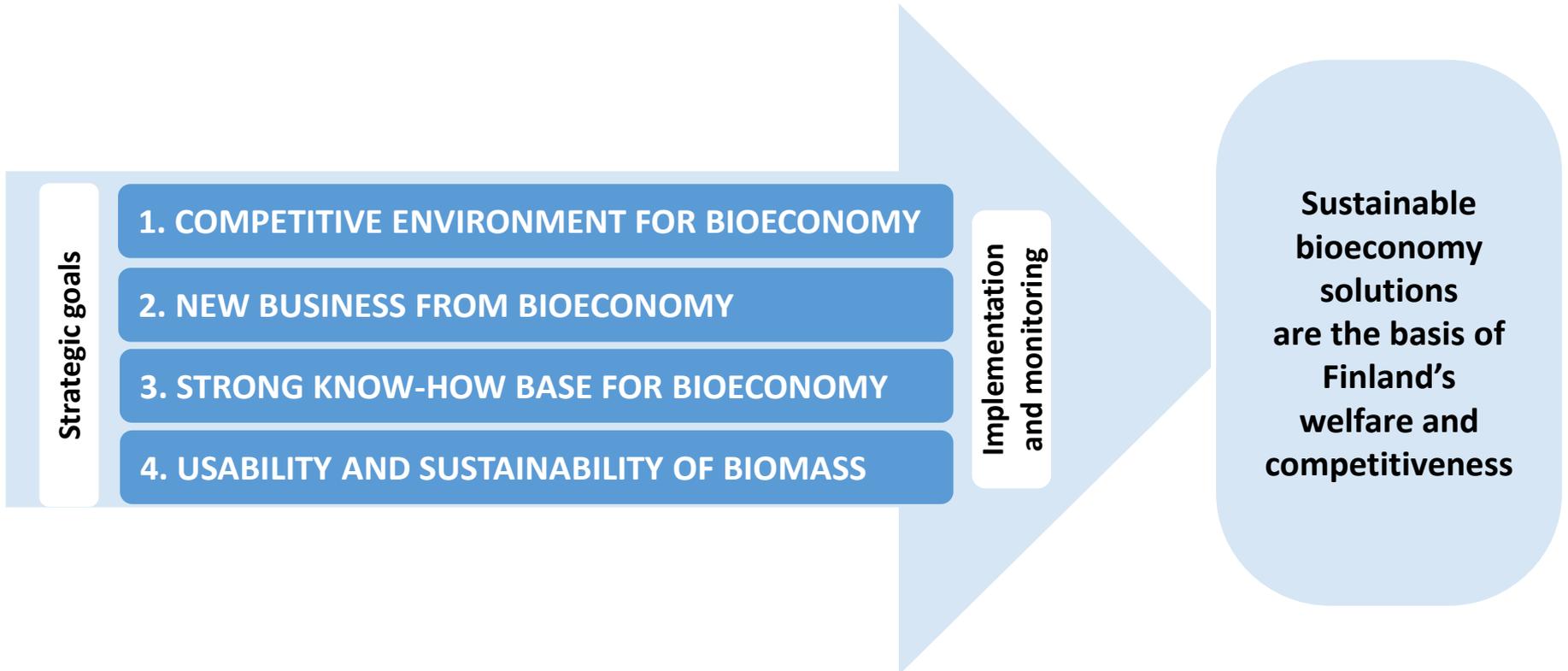
# Definition of bioeconomy

## 1. Which sectors comprise your national bioeconomy? and the reasons for their selection;

- The Finnish bioeconomy strategy 2014 did not pick up any specific sectors. The focus was on utilizing biomaterials and technologies.
- Bioeconomy refers to an economy that relies on renewable natural resources **to produce food, energy, products and services**. The bioeconomy strives to reduce our dependence on fossil natural resources, to prevent biodiversity loss and to create new economic growth and jobs in line with the principles of sustainable development. The most important renewable resources in Finland are the biomass, or organic matter, in the forests, soil, fields, water bodies and the sea, and fresh water. Ecosystem services are the services offered by the environment, including binding CO<sub>2</sub> and opportunities for recreation. Another key aspect of the bioeconomy is not wasting natural resources but using and recycling them efficiently.
- We have separate strategies for forest management, agriculture, food production, environmental regulations, carbon neutrality programs...
- **The strategy update process is ongoing, finalized autumn 2021.**

# Finland's bioeconomy strategy

(adopted by Government on May 8, 2014)



[www.bioeconomy.fi](http://www.bioeconomy.fi)

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?

- The Finnish bioeconomy strategy includes both, strategy and action plan proposal. The first strategy 2014 was adopted **as a governmental guideline**.
- 2015 the new government adopted many of the strategy actions and thus resources were allocated to these selected tasks. Actually bioeconomy was one of the five **strategic main themes of the program**.
- **The coordination of the strategy** and governmental program implementation was combined.
- **The secretariat was formed from the public servants** of three ministries (economy, environment, agriculture), **reporting to undersecretaries** of these ministries.
- Officials reported and requested political selection criterias **from the ministerial bioeconomy working group** (2 ministers/ party in the gov.).
- **The National Bioeconomy Panel included over 40 stakeholders** (the new one over 60), and ministers of economy and agriculture share the chairmanship in the Panel.
- The National panel was renominated among the first actions to renew the strategy, and we have had very fruitful workshops - even virtually.
- Secretariat is expanded to ministries of transport, health & safety and education.

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

- Missing links are more or less related to the specific needs of bioeconomy, EU regulations and industrial policy. The main theme for the new strategy is **added value**. How to grow and make it economically, ecologically and socially sustainable are the main themes in our new strategy.
- Circular economy, digitalization, environmental and social aspects stronger included

#### Some links:

- Welcome to the [Bioeconomy.fi](https://www.bioeconomy.fi) webpage, where you can find information, articles and news about Finnish bioeconomy. Funded by ministries, the official bioeconomy strategy communication platform.
- Bioeconomy in numbers is the web page by Natural resources institute Finland (Luke) that follows the bioeconomy together with Statistics Finland. They provide also many other interesting research and statistical conclusions. [www.luke.fi/en](https://www.luke.fi/en)
- <https://www.businessfinland.fi/en/do-business-with-finland/invest-in-finland/business-opportunities/bioeconomy>
- The publication was prepared as a background document for Finland's bioeconomy strategy, which is currently being updated. [https://www.vttresearch.com/sites/default/files/2021-02/Bioeconomy-products-2035-whitepaper-VTT-Luke\\_1.pdf](https://www.vttresearch.com/sites/default/files/2021-02/Bioeconomy-products-2035-whitepaper-VTT-Luke_1.pdf)
- Raw materials from Finnish agricultural and forestry have potential to provide the global bioeconomy product market with products of significantly higher value, superior quality and serving new emerging needs. A joint white paper compiled by VTT and Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke) describes the kind of bioeconomy products and services that can be produced in Finland for the domestic market and export during the next 15 years.
- <https://www.vttresearch.com/en/news-and-ideas/finnish-bioeconomy-changing-world-market>