

“partnering for the bioeconomy in European Regions”

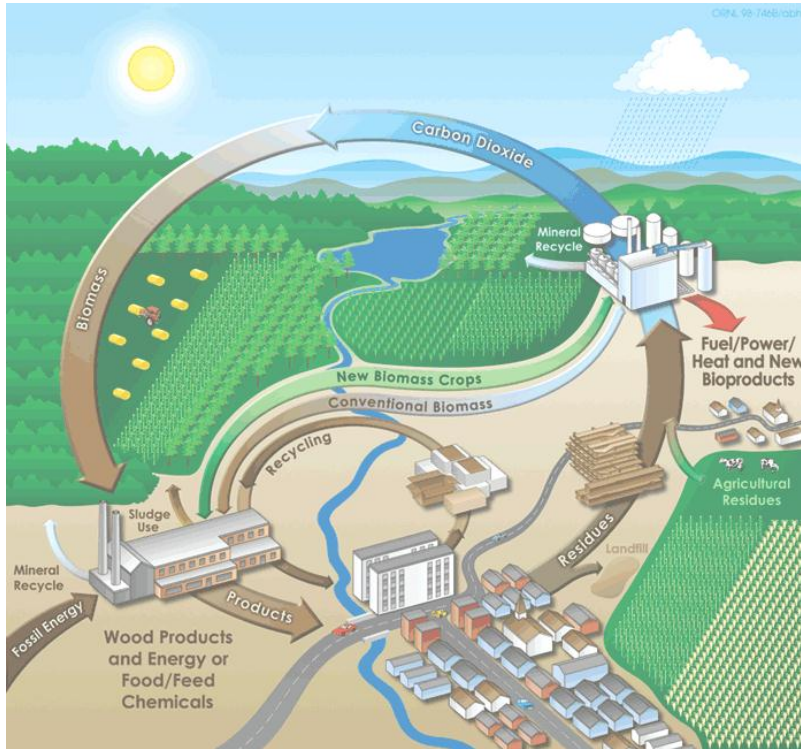
12 October 2012

Rogier van der Sande

Rapporteur Committee of the Regions

Member of the Executive Board of the Province of Zuid-Holland

What is the bio-economy....?



The bio-economy processes renewable raw materials into value added products in the **food, bio-based and energy industries.**

.... and what is the importance for the Europe of tomorrow?

- ▶ 2 billion euro annual turnover
- ▶ 22 million employees
- ▶ key element in Europe's green and sustainable growth
- ▶ high potential for people , planet and profit

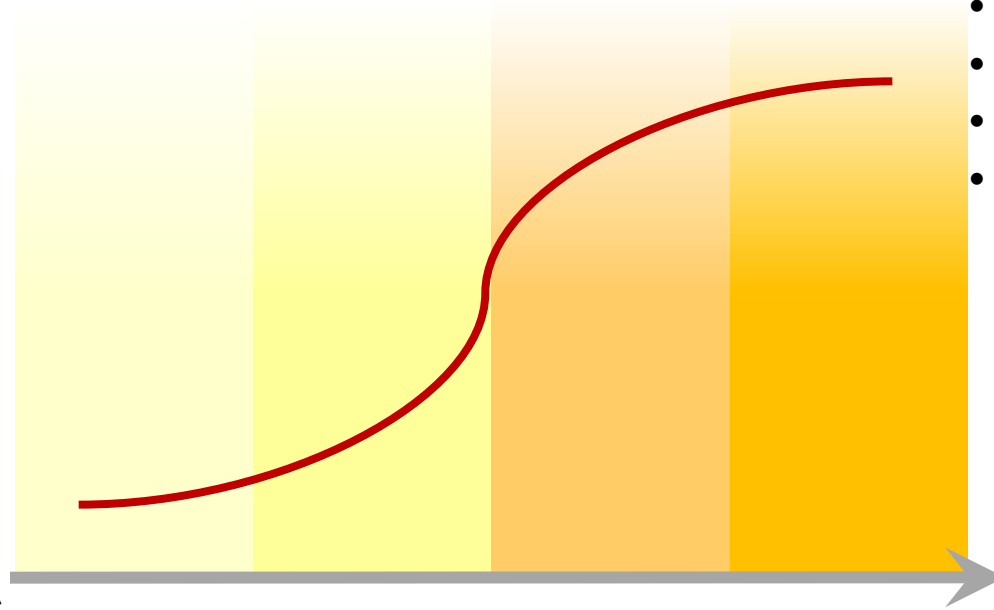


Transition: the only way is bio

to:

renewable feedstock

- world market prices
- inexhaustible
- many producers
- changes for each region
- environmentally friendly



25 years

from:

fossil feedstock

- price rises
- stocks run out
- few producers
- unstable regions
- environmental problems



Primary message



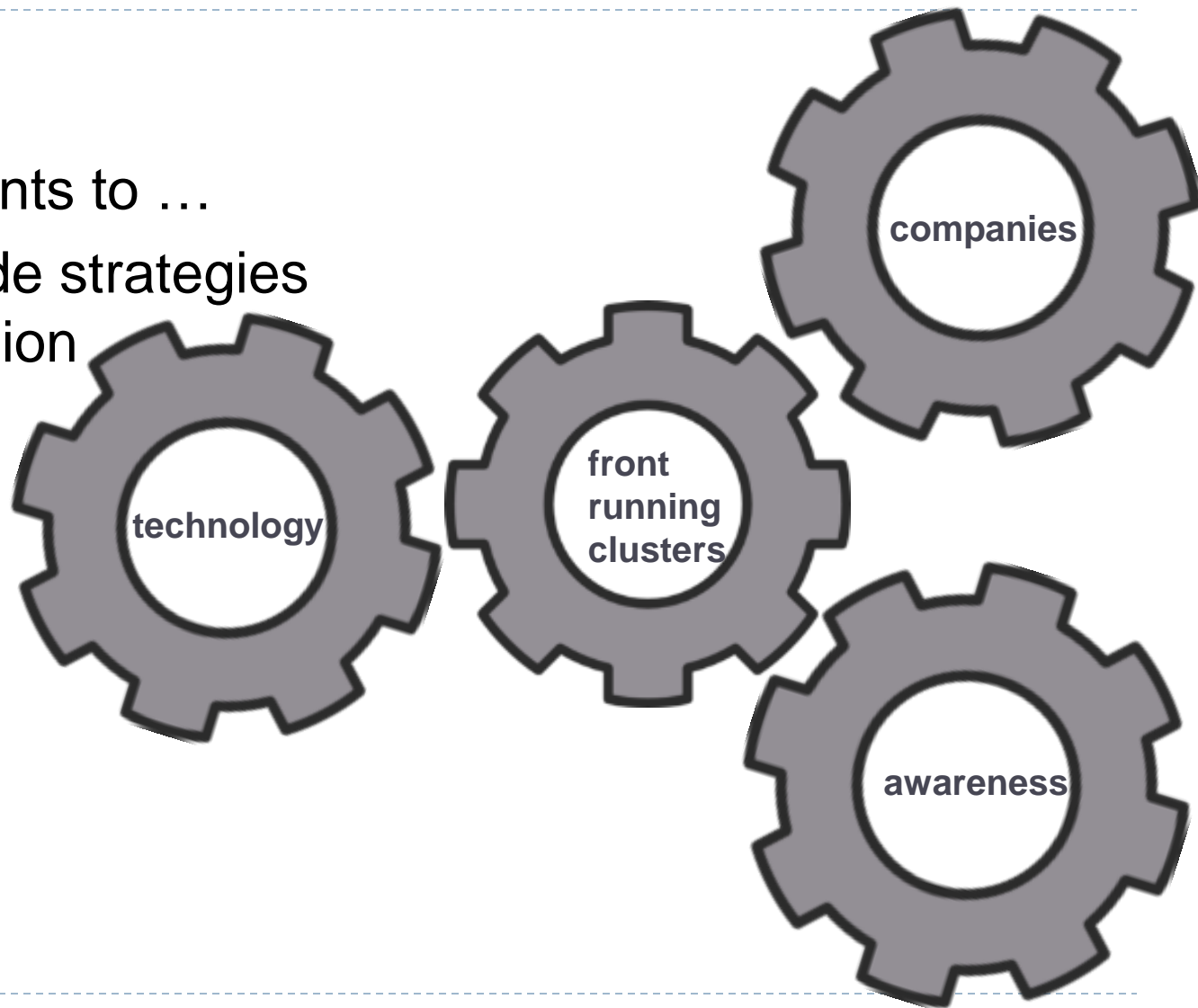
- ▶ Europe needs to speed up the development of the bio-economy
- ▶ Innovation is necessary to stay competitive
- ▶ Bring European strategy to practice



Let's get this motor running....

Needed:

- measurements to ...
- custom-made strategies for each region
- European roadmap and action plan
- ...

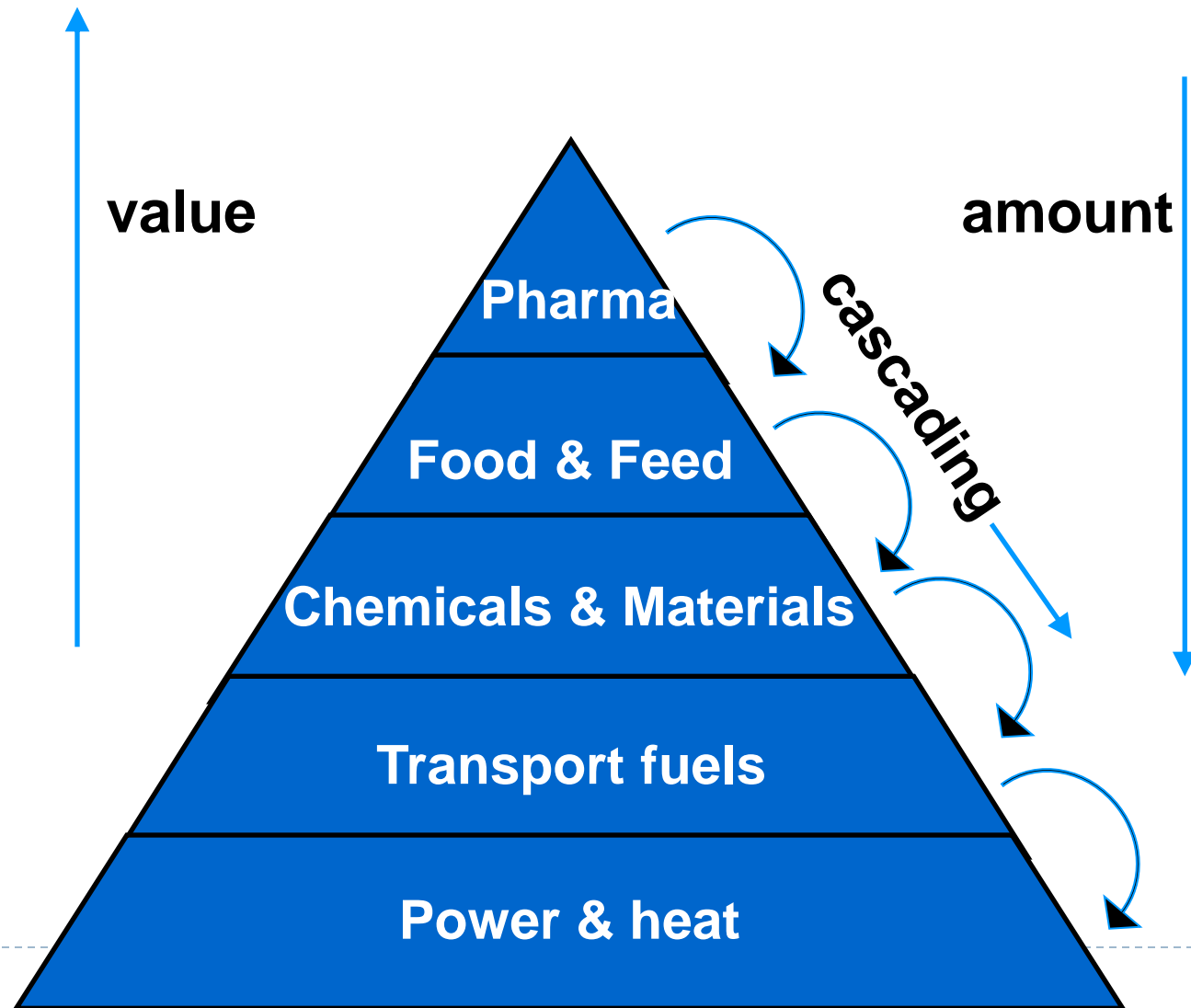


10 building blocks

for a succesful European
bio-economy: 10 main
points:



1. Bio-economy is a cross-sectoral theme



2. Transition will take time

- ▶ Long term investments in R&D are necessary.
- ▶ Develop strategies beyond 2020
- ▶ Work together in the value chain



3. Make it sustainable!

- ▶ High value strategy
- ▶ Develop sustainability criteria
- ▶ Accelerated use of 2nd and 3rd generation of biomass



4. Coordination is key

- ▶ Practical implementation at regional/local level
- ▶ Multi-fund approach
- ▶ Align policy themes



5. Develop a road map



Biobased Delta Europe: supercluster



Examples of regional front-runners in the bioeconomy



6. Specify the bio-economy panel

- ▶ Make the objectives and function of the panel explicit
- ▶ multistakeholder forum for discussing solutions
- ▶ what are the competences of the national, regional and local panels?



7. Involve all stakeholders

- ▶ Engage civil society
- ▶ Triple helix: form relationships between science, policy and society
- ▶ Well educated employees are necessary



8. SME's and PPP's in the core

- ▶ Easier access to finance for SME's.
- ▶ Advisory SME panel



9. Create a level playing field

- ▶ Lift trade boundaries to stimulate development
- ▶ Prevent negative consequences



10. Learn from best practices

- ▶ Bottom-up initiatives
- ▶ Demand-driven approach
- ▶ Front-running regions
- ▶ Smart impulses
- ▶ Stairway to excellence



In conclusion

CoR asks the European Commission to:

- ▶ Develop a concrete strategy and roadmap: high-value driven and triple-helix, sustainable and linking chains.
- ▶ Use an integrated approach based on multi-funding.
- ▶ Base the approach on non-conflicting measurements with enough flexibility for regions.

LRA's have the following to offer:

- ▶ Analysis and upscaling of best practices.
 - ▶ Building triple-helix structures and regional panels.
 - ▶ Enlargement of public awareness.
 - ▶ Contribution to 'stairway to excellence' via interregional cooperation.
-



Thank you for your attention!

