



POWER4BIO
REGIONS FOR
BIOECONOMY



Cross visit Czech Republic 30.11-1.12. 2020

Miroslav Hájek, Bioeconomy Platform of the Czech Republic

This project has received funding from the European
Union's
Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme
under grant agreement No 818351





BIOECONOMY PLATFORM of the Czech Republic



Establishment of the platform

In 2018, the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague and University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice initiated the establishment of the **Bioeconomy Platform of the Czech Republic** (Platform) with the objective:

- to deepen the knowledge in the respective fields of bioeconomy by means of research and education and to promote their use in practice at the level of enterprises and public administration while respecting principles of sustainable development

The impulses to start

- The Czech Republic did not respond to all challenges formulated in the **Bioeconomy Strategy of the European Commission** adopted in 2012 and the systematic building of bioeconomy in the Czech Republic did not occur even after its update in 2018.
- The Czech Republic does not have its own bioeconomy strategy, which has been adopted by 42 countries of the world, of which 15 in Europe.
- The Czech government representatives from ministries that should be involved in bioeconomy, such as Ministry of Industry and Trade, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Regional Development do not take part in the bioeconomy initiatives of the EC.
- The EC 2018 Bioeconomy Strategy was formally assigned (within the national database of strategies) to the Ministry of Agriculture, which is the most active in bioeconomy, however, can deal with the issue only within its competence.
- Green Deal for Europe

Members

- The platform now has 25 members mostly universities, R&D institutes, associations, also individual persons including several institutes of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic and the National Cluster Association.
- We also have domestic and foreign partners. For example we cooperate with the Center for Bioeconomy BOKU Vienna. It is similar to our Platform. Both organizationally and in terms of breadth of focus.



Universität für Bodenkultur Wien
University of Natural Resources
and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna

Among the members of the Platform, there are also the Czech partners in the European bioeconomy - focused projects:

- National Cluster Association: **DanuBioValNet** DTP (1/2017-6/2019)
- University of South Bohemia: **Power4Bio** H2020 (10/2018-3/2021)
- CEITEC Brno: **CELEBio** H2020 BBI JU (6/2019-5/2020)



Sections

In order to facilitate more detailed discussions we are gradually establishing sections:

- Education
- Economic
- Forest Bioeconomy
- Waste management
- Water and aquaculture
-

Current activities

- Building the **Czech bioeconomy network** of the Platform members fostering their involvement in the existing European bioeconomy projects, commenting on the related national documents etc.
- **Development of joint research and innovative projects** on sustainable and circular bioeconomy topics
- **Transfer of new information and good practice** to the Czech Republic through participation in European projects focused on the development of bioeconomy
- **Dissemination of relevant international and national information and documents** to the Platform members and promotion of their bioeconomy focused activities
- Attraction of experts and institutions falling within the scope of bioeconomy but not yet participating, such as green chemistry, bioenergy and biofuels.

Current activities

Launch of series of the **bioeconomy thematic awareness workshops** (national and international)



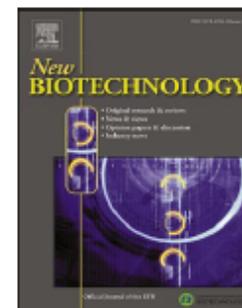


ELSEVIER

Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com)

New BIOTECHNOLOGY

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/nbt



Review article

Current state and future directions of bioeconomy in the Czech Republic

Miroslav Hájek^a, Michaela Holecová^b, Helena Smolová^a, Ladislav Jeřábek^c, Ivo Frébort^{b,*}

^a Department of Forestry Technologies and Constructions, Faculty of Forestry and Wood Sciences, Czech University of Life Sciences Prague, Kamýcká 129, 165 00 Prague 6 – Suchbát, Czech Republic

^b Centre of the Region Haná for Biotechnological and Agricultural Research, Palacký University Olomouc, Šlechtitelů 27, Olomouc, 783 71 Czech Republic

^c Bioeconomy Platform of the Czech Republic, Kamýcká 129, 165 00 Prague 6 – Suchbát, Czech Republic

ARTICLE INFO

Keywords:

Bioeconomy
Czech Republic
Genome editing
Innovation strategy
Knowledge base

ABSTRACT

This article presents the current status of the development of bioeconomy in the Czech Republic. Although the country has no unified strategy on bioeconomy, there are ambitious governmental innovation strategies and focused strategies for each region. Traditionally, the country has had a strong research performance in chemistry and biology, which together with developed agriculture, forestry and food industries, provides a good foundation for the development of locally based circular systems. Moreover, the government supports research on tools and applications of new plant breeding technologies, including genome editing, and there is a strong initiative from the research community calling to update EU regulatory policy in this area.

Initiative within the Platform - Raising awareness of the bioeconomy in all members' organizational units



Bioeconomy team

- the team leader is the vice-rector
- members are representatives of all faculties
- Goals - a common approach to the development of the bioeconomy at the university, establishing a project database, to promote the awareness of all university staff about the bioeconomy

Plans and tasks

- Continuation in the preparation of **joint applied research projects** in topics important for the development and implementation of bioeconomy in the Czech Republic and incorporation of **bioeconomy studies** in the university curricula
- Initiation of the **Inter-ministerial working group for bioeconomy** in the Czech Republic that would facilitate and coordinate the cooperation of the individual sectors in a holistic way to prepare and adopt the **Czech Bioeconomy Strategy** for maximising the Czech bioeconomy potential;
- Incorporation of the **dimension of bioeconomy into thematic axes of the EU Structural Funds programmes 2021-2027** – Incentives for higher and smarter renewable biology resources production and development of innovative processing & production technologies for goods replacing the use of non-renewable/fossil resources that harm the climate.

Plans and tasks

- Continuously promote a **comprehensive concept of bioeconomy**
- The annual organisation of the Czech Bioeconomy Forum presenting the achievements of the Czech Republic in bioeconomy and **promoting the most successful bioeconomy actors**
- We want to continue **to support various forms of education** in bioeconomy (summer schools, study programs, student activities, etc.)
- We would like to write articles not only scientific but also for the general public.
- **Developing cooperation with regions**, such as the South Bohemian Association for Bioeconomics
- Deepening cooperation with foreign partners

Visit our website: www.bioeconomy.czu.cz/en



About us

Research and Publications

Documents

Members

Contacts



Bioeconomy Platform of the Czech Republic

Conferences >

World Bioeconomy >

Thank you for your attention

Miroslav Hájek

Bioeconomy Platform
of the Czech Republic



POWER4BIO
REGIONS FOR BIOECONOMY

This project has received funding from the European
Union's
Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme
under grant agreement No 818351

