

***Mobilization and Mutual Learning (MML) Workshop:*****Boosting circular bio-based economy in cities****Lessons learnt from EU funded projects and local stakeholders**

Brussels, 22 May 2018

9 :00 - 13:00

APRE Office (Rue du Throne, 98, 1050 Brussels/Belgium)

How to achieve a more sustainable circular bioeconomy in cities?

The MML event, organized by the BIOVOICES project, will facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogue in the bioeconomy, by bringing together 20 representatives from city governments, bio-based industries, research institutions, consumer organisations, the European Commission, and other relevant European funded projects, to share ideas and experiences in working towards a sustainable circular bioeconomy.

Urbanisation is increasing rapidly. Since around the year 2008, the global urban- exceeds the rural population by half a billion and the trend is continuing. Cities are a major contributor to environmental pressures such as climate change, water- and air pollution and environmental degradation – however, they also must be part of the solution. Urban living- and consumption patterns need to be revisited to capitalize on its unique features. The idea of a circular consumption, based on biomass products and renewable energy is most appealing and promises to decrease both virgin resource consumption and GHG emissions. In this context, the workshop will focus on identifying the actual and perceived barriers together with potential solutions to achieving circular bioeconomies in cities. Using a mutual learning and co-creation method, strategies will be explored to help overcome policy- and practical, as well as communication and interaction barriers among stakeholders working across the bioeconomy (research, businesses, policy and civil society). The output will be the development of recommendations concerning the implementation of the revised EU Bioeconomy Strategy appropriate for all stakeholders, with a particular focus on the initiatives and roadmaps to maximise the potential positive impact of bioeconomy in cities.

The following overarching questions will be used to guide and stimulate the discussion:

- What specific challenges and opportunities does the city impose compared to its 'Hinterland'? How do we deal with system boundaries?
- Which implications can be derived from the specific socio-economic context of cities? How important are country differences?





- What are specific sectors of the bioeconomy which are relevant on the city level?
- Which policies can we set on the municipal level, and which need to be set in different policy contexts? (e.g. regional and national)

Workshop agenda

9:00 – 9:15	Registration & Welcome Coffee
9:15 – 9:25	Objectives and preliminary findings of the BIOVOICES project <i>Chiara Pocaterra – project coordinator, APRE</i>
9:25 – 09:35	Scope of the workshop & introduction: bioeconomy and cities <i>Nikolai Jacobi – ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability)</i>
09:35-09:50	FVA Game on bioeconomy <i>Louis Ferrini – FVA new media research</i>
09:50-10:10	Circular bioeconomy in cities: best practices from EU funded projects <i>Input presentations</i>
Parallel quadruple helix focus groups: academia/business/policy makers/civil society	
10:10-10:30	Focus group #1: Bioeconomy in cities: Elements of a common vision?
10:30-10:40	Presentation of results from focus group #1 <i>Four table facilitators will present the main insights from the parallel focus groups</i>
10:40 – 10:50	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:50 – 11:30	Focus group #2: Contributions of 4-helix actors to transforming waste into resources: challenges and opportunities
11:30 – 12:00	Focus group #3: Lessons for 4-helix cooperation: solving transformative challenges to increase the role of biomass products in the circular economy
Plenary Discussion:	
12:00 – 12:30	Integration of results from the parallel focus groups <i>The 4 facilitators will present the main insights from the parallel focus groups followed by discussion</i> Transforming waste into resources: challenges and opportunities (e.g. urban bio-waste and wastewater, urban green, pruning) Innovative bio-based products and solutions for urban sustainable lifestyle (i.e. construction processes, buildings and maintenance, urban mobility, energy management, bioremediation and bio-based solutions to combat pollution, etc.) Lessons for 4-helix cooperation: solving transformative challenges to increase the role of biomass products in the circular economy Initiatives and roadmaps to maximise the potential positive impact of bioeconomy in cities
12:30 – 12:45	Final plenary discussion on possible policy recommendations <i>Susanna Albertini, FVA new media research</i>
12:45-13:00	Conclusions of the day – next steps <i>Chiara Pocaterra – project coordinator, APRE</i>
13:00	End of the workshop