



1.

More links
between regional
strategies and
the Danube
Transnational
Programme (DTP)



2.

Incentivise regional
programme owners
to align with macro-
regional strategies
and cross-border
and cross-sectoral
cooperation



3.

Skill development
on a policy level
on cross-border
cooperation that is
easier to implement
and emulates best
practices



Recommendations in order to align regional strategies among the Danube macro-region

4.

Supported
uptake of new
technologies
and promoting
RDI development




























5.

Stimulated
vertical
and horizontal
development





Regions with a circular (bio)economy strategy

Country/Region	Circular bioeconomy strategy/policy currently in place	Circular (bio) economy strategy/policy currently in planning stage	No Circular (bio) economy strategy/policy but topic-related policies
 Austria			
 Baden-Württemberg (DE)			
 Bavaria (DE)			
 Bosnia Herzegovina			
 Bulgaria			
 Croatia			
 Czech Republic			
 Hungary			
 Moldova			
 Montenegro			
 Romania			
 Serbia			
 Slovakia			
 Slovenia			
 Ukraine			

Circular bioeconomy in the Danube regional context



AUSTRIA



Austria's Council of Ministers passed the "Bioeconomy – A Strategy for Austria" in March 2019. In the federal state of Upper Austria, that is part of the GoDanuBio project, the economic and research strategy #upperVISION2030, was commissioned by the Department of Economy and Research of Upper Austria.

BULGARIA



Bulgaria has a policy in the planning stage named the "Draft Strategy for Transition to the Circular Economy of the Republic of Bulgaria for the period 2021–2027". Besides, there is a "Strategy for digitalisation of agriculture and rural areas of the Republic of Bulgaria", pending from the same Ministry. The updated "National strategy for demographic policy in Bulgaria" (2012–2030) sets the strategic goal, priorities and directions of the demographic policy.

CROATIA



Relevant policies related to regional economic development are the Croatian Smart Specialisation Strategy (S3) (2016–2020) and the National Development Strategy of the Republic of Croatia until 2030. The S3 Strategy for the new period is currently under preparation.

CZECH REPUBLIC



The bioeconomy-dedicated policy document of the Czech Bioeconomy "Concept in the Czech Republic from the Perspective of the Ministry of Agriculture (2019–2024)" aims to move the concept of bioeconomy at the national level, use international cooperation to strengthen the country's bioeconomy and strengthen technological development and innovation.

GERMANY



Germany is a federal republic, with different Bundesländer (Federal states), each with a degree of autonomy from the German national government. At the Länder level, Baden-Württemberg's bioeconomy strategy aims to be an example for a sustainable and closed loop-oriented economic system since 2019. Bavaria published in 2021 its own circular bioeconomy strategy. The Bavarian strategy aims to foster a sustainable circular bioeconomy encompassing all industrial and commercial sectors that produce, process, and use biogenic resources.

HUNGARY



A circular economy strategic framework is currently under preparation by the Hungarian Ministry of Innovation and Technology. There is also a Hungarian Smart Specialisation Strategy (S3), in which the agri-food and bioeconomy-related sectors are also mentioned.

ROMANIA



Romania has the policy "National Strategic Plan on Common Agricultural Policy in Romania" (2021–2027). This plan points out that there is a need to finance integrated projects, regardless of the size of enterprises in the agricultural sector, forestry, and food industry. The circular (bio) economy is considered to be a central driver for the sustainable development of rural areas, in correlation with the development of farms which are acting in an organized production system.

SERBIA



Serbia has a "Circular Economy Programme" with an action plan for the period 2022–2024. The goal of this document is to create a stimulating environment for the development of the circular economy in order to support the green transition. The Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy (2014–2024) strives to improve the quality of life in rural areas and reduce poverty.

SLOVAKIA



The Slovak Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development has responsibility for the development and implementation of agriculture, food, forestry, wood processing, hunting and aquaculture policy. The national Bioeconomy Cluster aims to promote cooperation, networking, innovation and mutual exchange between cluster members and other stakeholders in the agri-food and bio-based sectors.

SLOVENIA



Slovenia has a "Roadmap towards a Circular Economy" since 2018. The need to facilitate the transition to a circular economy is mentioned in the "Slovenian Development Strategy 2030", but the term "bioeconomy" is not explicitly defined. The strategy is in line with the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular Slovenia's development goals related to the circular (bio)economy.



Best practice example

The Baden-Württemberg government's sustainable bioeconomy strategy



The strategy has 4 key objectives:

1.

To use innovative biological concepts to identify renewable or recyclable raw material sources. This aims to reduce the use of fossil resources and permanently minimise dependence on energy and raw material imports



2.

To achieve a reduction in Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions in Baden-Württemberg to protect natural resources and contribute to conserving regional biodiversity



3.

Baden-Württemberg will turn into a role model for the transformation towards sustainable economic organisation based on a circular economy



4.

To strengthen rural areas in Baden-Württemberg by increasing regional added value based on innovative bioeconomy solutions and the creation of attractive, future oriented jobs



Call for actions

- 1. More Links Between Government and Society**
- 2. Maintain Policies That Work**
- 3. Foster Cross-Sectoral and Cross Border Cooperation**
- 4. Share and Emulate Best Practices and Stimulate Vertical and Horizontal Development**



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