

D T.2.1.1 Missing Links for Regional Circular Bioeconomies

Czech Republic

ERDF PP9 National Cluster Association

2021



Project Information

Project Title: GoDanuBio - 'Participative Ecosystems for fostering the revitalization of rural-urban cooperation through governing Danube Circular Bioeconomy'

Project code: DTP3-471-4.1

Lead partner: BIOPRO Baden-Württemberg GmbH

Start of the project: 01/07/2020

Duration: 30 months

<http://www.interreg-danube.eu/approved-projects/godanubio>

Deliverable Information

Author/-s: ERDF PP9 National Cluster Association

Deliverable nr.: D.T2.1.1

Submission date: 10/2021

Dissemination level: Public

Version	Date	Content	Elaborated by	Reviewed by
1	31.08.21	Missing links (Common excel file)		
2	31.10.21	D.T2.1.1. Deliverable	NCA, Czech Republic	
3				

Contents

1. Introduction.....	4
2. Methodology	4
3. Missing Actors	7
4. Good Practice Examples	8

Disclaimer:

The information and perspectives set out in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official opinion of the European Commission. Neither the European Commission institutions and bodies nor any person acting on their behalf may be held responsible for the use that may be made of the information contained therein.

1. Introduction

Results of the first output from the GoDanuBio project (“Analysis of Circular Bioeconomy Framework Conditions (WP T1)”) provide an overview of current strategies and governance structures in the Danube macro-region and offer a hint on the existing gaps of circular bioeconomy, in terms of concentration (critical mass of relevant actors), capacity (skills), conditions (rules, legislation procedures) and culture (social acceptance and impact of circular-bioeconomy approaches). The outputs from WP T1 should serve as a basis for the identification of actors that are currently neglected in the bioeconomisation of the respective regions.

2. Methodology

The aim of this report is to create an overview of actors that are neglected in the circular bioeconomy so far but are needed to co-create sustainable development models. To also serve as inspiration source, good practice examples (projects/initiatives/business models) that already exist in individual regions of GoDanuBio or outside the consortium area were collected.

The methodology encompassed the following steps:

Step 1. Analysis of the regional reports T.1.2.1 Development of regional stakeholder reports

Each region has identified the existing actors involved in the bioeconomisation process. They have been divided into 4 categories:

- Industry (chambers of commerce, clusters, cluster organisations, enterprises, professional associations)
- Academia & Research (universities, research institutes, competence centres)
- Public (state agencies, local government, regional/central government, regional development agencies)
- Society (NGOs, informal civil organisations)

These represent the maximal typology of actors to be considered in the elaboration of the Integration Plan for prospective actors for developing a sustainable and holistic circular economy (T2.1).

Some categories of actors are currently involved in the bioeconomisation process in all regions (e.g., universities), others are not and hence the regional gaps occur.

The current situation and the pre-identified gaps are shown in a google drive shared document (Annex 1)

Step 2. Identification of good practice examples

When adding a missing actor in the list, the partners have relied on the shared experience from other partners that have identified that specific missing actor.

The following table shows the shared experience for Czech Republic.

Type of stakeholder	Pre-identified actors	Examples/Type of cooperation
Industry		
Chamber of commerce		
	Agrarian Chamber of the South Bohemian Region	Co-founder of the South Bohemian Association for Bioeconomy
Clusters	Pellets, Hemp, Plastics, Agriculture, Furniture,	International and national projects, R&D

	Wood Processing, Mechatronics;	
Cluster organisations	National Cluster Association	-Dissemination, internationalisation, services, events, awareness building; Projects: DanuBioValNet, GoDanuBio (DTP), PL-CZ GREEN CLUSTER (Interreg V-A Czech Republic- Poland Programme)
Enterprises	Lenzing Biocel Paskov Nafigate Corporation	-Wood-based biorefinery – subsidiary of the Austrian company of Lenzing Aktiengesellschaft Biopolymers for biomedicine, agriculture, cosmetics, packaging; Lifecycle Assessment
Professional associations	Biomass, Composting, Technology platforms	Networking, joint projects
Universities	General, Life Sciences, Chemistry and Technology, Agriculture; Forestry, Civil Engineering	-Technology Centre of the Czech Academy of Sciences - the pioneer of bioeconomy in Czechia; - Faculty of Economics, South Bohemian University - organiser of the Bioeconomy Courses (2017-2019) for students, co-founder of the Bioeconomy Platform of the Czech Republic and founder of the South Bohemian Association for Bioeconomy within the POWER4BIO project; -Faculty of Technology, Tomas Bata University in Zlin - the SEALIVE project partner.
Research institutes	Chemistry, Veterinary, Food, Fodder Crops, Academy of Science, Agriculture	-projects: CELEBio and BIOEASTsUP
Competence centres	-	-
Public		
State Agencies	-	-
Local Government	Union of Municipalities of Blatensko - South Bohemian Region	Co-founder of the South Bohemian Association for Bioeconomy
Regional/Central Government	Ministries for: Agriculture, Environment, Regional Development, Industry and Trade;	- BIOEAST initiative - Circular Czechia 2040 national strategy

	South Bohemian Regional Authority	- the RIS3 of the South Bohemian Region includes the bioeconomy within its regional smart specialisation domains;
Regional Development Agencies	South Bohemian Agency for Support to Innovative Enterprising (JAIP)	Co-founder of the South Bohemian Association for Bioeconomy
Society		
NGOs	INCIEN (Institute of Circular Economy); Business Council for Sustainable Development; National network of Healthy cities; South Bohemian Association for Bioeconomy	-events, synergies and cooperation within the Bioeconomy Platform of the Czech Republic -GoDanuBio associated partner -RIS3 Regional Innovation Platform
Informal civil organizations	Bioeconomy Platform of the Czech Republic	-bioeconomy awareness building, events and lobbying towards the national bioeconomy strategy

Step 3 Identification of the potential stakeholders

In the Czech Republic, the pre-identified gaps are: chamber of commerce, competence centres and state agency as shown in Annex 1 (google drive shared document).

The potential stakeholders are fill in Annex 2 (google drive shared document).

Step 4 Identification of good practices

The identified good practices are listed in Chapter 4 and will be further described in a dedicated template which will be integrated into the Best Practice Brochure (D.T2.1.2).

3. Missing Actors

Stakeholder group	Industry
Stakeholder subgroup	Czech Chamber of commerce/Agrarian Chamber of the Czech Republic (and its regional representatives)
Position in the network	The leading associations for business and agriculture in the Czech Republic with regional branch offices.
Importance for GoDanuBio	Supportive bodies for the preparation and adoption of the bioeconomy strategy in the Czech Republic and implementing bioeconomy in practise.

Stakeholder group	Academia & Research
Stakeholder subgroup	Competence centres
Position in the network	N/A - bioeconomy expertise, training and technology transfer
Importance for GoDanuBio	Potential support for the bioeconomy development.

Stakeholder group	Public
Stakeholder subgroup	State agency
Position in the network	CzechInvest as the top policy institution implementing bioeconomy strategy and bioeconomy support programmes.
Importance for GoDanuBio	The integration of bioeconomy in the CzechInvest State Agency's competencies would fulfil the GoDanuBio project goals.

Stakeholder group	Society
Stakeholder subgroup	-
Position in the network	-
Importance for GoDanuBio	-

4. Good Practice Examples

4.1. South Bohemian Association for Bioeconomy

The SBAB was established in 2020 as an institutional outcome of the POWER4BIO project (the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice being the Czech partner) with the support of regional and local institutions and stakeholders. It is the first bioeconomy-focused body within the Czech regions. Its mission is to become a regional platform for bioeconomy and the circular economy in the region of South Bohemia as regards creation of strategy and implementing bioeconomy in practice. The aim is to build on local traditional resources and sectors and connect them with new technologies with high added value ensuring the sustainability of the region's development. The South Bohemian Regional Authority included the smart specialisation domain of bioeconomy in its RIS3 and entrusted SBAB with the function of the Regional Innovation Platform for Bioeconomy. The SBAB is the best-practice example of the participative governance implemented in bioeconomy on the regional and local levels.

4.2. Bioeconomy Platform of the Czech Republic

The Bioeconomy Platform of the Czech Republic was founded in 2018 as a bottom-up initiative of two universities - Czech University of Life Sciences Prague and the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice with the aim of embedding the bioeconomy industry in the national and regional policy structures. The internal structure of the Platform includes six sections where the members can develop and share the bioeconomy knowledge, i.e. education, economy, forest bioeconomy, waste management, water and aquaculture, and alternative fuels. With 25 corporate and 6 individual members and number of activities and events, the Platform became an important actor in raising the civil society awareness and systemic application of bioeconomic approach in the Czech Republic.

4.3. INCIEN

INCIEN - The Institute of Circular Economy was established in 2015 with the aim of raising awareness of the concept of circular economy and demonstrating it in practice.

The first goal of the Institute therefore became popularisation and enlightenment, then INCIEN helped to apply circular principles in practice in cooperation with the public, private and academic spheres. INCIEN currently oversees the activities of approximately dozens of working groups in the relevant ministries. It is thus part of the creation of new legislation. Approximately 25% of the outputs in the Czech media concerning the circular economy are related to activities with INCIEN.

They work as a think-tank, whose activities move on the border of state administration, academia and business. They provide information and data on the current handling of materials in the Czech Republic and propose recommendations to the government, regions, cities or other players. They supply the necessary expertise, educate, process professional studies, and are also engaged in research. INCIEN develops the majority of its activities within the framework of long-term thematic programmes, which are implemented in cooperation with partners. Among the key activities of INCIEN there is the Circular bioeconomy programme led by a dedicated manager.

4.4. NAFIGATE Corporation a.s.

NAFIGATE Corporation a.s. is one of the Czech leading innovative SMEs. It was founded in 2011, now having 35 employees. It focuses on biotechnology and nanotechnology. Its flagship is the Hydral biotechnology, which uses various types of oil waste to produce biopolymers (a technology based on

microorganisms and the ability of their metabolism to convert a feedstock into a product). NAFIGATE Corporation has also been involved in the concept of circular economy/bioeconomy for a long time. The company is known mainly for the first technology in the world, namely a biopolymer from a used cooking oil. The biopolymer can be used in cosmetics, sustainable packaging, biomedicine as a biocompatible and fully biodegradable circular material. They can utilize waste streams to produce novel materials with new benefits.