



**BE-Rural Final Conference**  
***Inspiring regional agendas for inclusive bioeconomies***

11 – 14 July 2022

[Narusa Leśna Przystań](#) | Elbląska 42 | 14-530 Frombork (PL)

**Programme**

**Arrival – Sunday, 10 July 2022**

~20:30 Dinner at Narusa Leśna Przystań (\*)

**Day 1 – Monday, 11 July 2022**

<b>09:00</b>	<b>Start of the Conference</b>
09:00 – 09:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Welcome &amp; introduction to the conference</li></ul>
09:30 – 10:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>State-of-play on EU bioeconomy including within Horizon Europe: Insights from DG R&amp;I</li></ul>
10:00 – 11:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Project highlights: Selected outputs and activities</li></ul>
<b>11:00 – 11:15</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
11:15 – 12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Pitches of regional strategy and roadmap documents</li><li>Panel discussion: Lessons learned from the strategy and roadmap development processes</li></ul>
<b>12:30 – 13:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
13:30 – 16:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>World Café: Co-development of the BE-Rural Policy Paper “Promoting Effective Co-creation Spaces in the Bioeconomy” with a focus on four targeted policy recommendations:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>Increase support for innovative formats to encourage citizen dialogue and better capture feedback on regional bioeconomy issues</li><li>Create new or promote existing frameworks at regional level that support bioeconomy stakeholders in implementing capacity building activities</li><li>Enable regional multi-actor partnerships to formulate inclusive bioeconomy strategies and roadmaps</li><li>Upskill entrepreneurs to design their bioeconomy products and business models based on a) real market needs and b) ecological limits</li></ol></li></ul>
<b>16:00 – 16:15</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
16:15 – 16:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Key take-aways from the World Café</li></ul>
<b>17:00</b>	<b>Frombork walking tour and visit to <a href="#">Cathedral Museum</a> (*)</b>
<b>19:30</b>	<b>Dinner at Narusa Leśna Przystań with presentation of local bioproducts including from low-value fish species (*)</b>

## Day 2 – Tuesday, 12 July 2022

<b>09:00</b>	<b>Start of the Conference</b>
09:00 – 10:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BE-Rural Sustainability Screening: Results and practical experiences from two case studies in Bulgaria and Latvia</li> </ul>
<b>10:30 – 10:45</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
10:45 – 12:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating and maintaining a pan-European Network of Knowledge: Exchange between regional stakeholders</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Policy stakeholders: translating bioeconomy strategies and roadmaps into policy and public funding streams</li> <li>2. Research stakeholders: integrating the bioeconomy in educational systems and collaboration with the private sector</li> <li>3. Business stakeholders: regional business opportunities and funding for the bioeconomy</li> </ol>
12:15 – 12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Closing of the conference &amp; introduction to the field trips</li> </ul>
<b>12:30 – 13:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
13:30 – 17:00	For BE-Rural Consortium only: BE-Rural project meeting Free time for conference participants
<b>18:00</b>	<b>Dinner at Narusa Leśna Przystań (*)</b>
<b>22:00</b>	<b>Night sky observation moderated by <a href="#">Copernicus Observatory</a> (*)</b>

## Day 3 – Wednesday, 13 July 2022

<b>09:00</b>	<b>Field Trip I</b>
09:00 – 18:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Nowa Pasłęka</b> – Meeting with local fishermen, demonstration of fishing for low-value fish species</li> <li>• <b>Boat trip to Piaski / Krynica Morska</b> – Harbour visit, meeting with local fishermen, visit to traditional fish smokery</li> <li>• Lunch at <a href="#">Restaurant Smaki Morza</a></li> <li>• <b>Nowa Pasłęka</b> – Company visit: family-owned manufacture</li> </ul>
<b>18:00</b>	<b>Dinner at <a href="#">Restaurant Smażalnia Nad Zalewem</a> in Nowa Pasłęka (*)</b>

## Day 4 – Thursday, 14 July 2022

<b>09:00</b>	<b>Field Trip II</b>
09:00 – 18:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Gdańsk</b> – Company visit: <a href="#">VEGEVEK</a> – small manufacturer of vegetarian dishes with special attention to circularity of production wastes</li> <li>• Lunch at <a href="#">Restaurant Brovarni</a></li> <li>• <b>Gdańsk</b> – Guided tour through Old Town and Main Town</li> </ul>
<b>19:00</b>	<b>Dinner at Narusa Leśna Przystań (*)</b>

(\*) At participants' own cost

## Departure – Friday, 15 July 2022



## **Guiding questions for the group discussions**

World Café: Co-development of the BE-Rural Policy Paper “Promoting Effective Co-creation Spaces in the Bioeconomy” with a focus on four targeted policy recommendations

- 1. Recommendation #1: Increase support for innovative formats to encourage citizen dialogue and better capture feedback on regional bioeconomy issues**
  - What challenges arose in incorporating citizen feedback into regional strategic documents?
  - How could citizen engagement activities be improved to better capture this feedback?
  - What policy instruments provide the best enabling framework for such citizen engagement activities?
- 2. Recommendation #2: Create new or promote existing frameworks at regional level that support bioeconomy stakeholders in implementing capacity building activities**
  - Is insufficient knowledge of the bioeconomy amongst many stakeholders preventing the use of more interactive tools? How can the use of practical tools or techniques that allow for active exchange be encouraged?
  - Do you know of existing frameworks where support for capacity building could be integrated?
  - How can the interest of stakeholders in capacity building and knowledge exchange events not only be increased, but also sustained over time?
- 3. Recommendation #3: Enable regional multi-actor partnerships to formulate inclusive bioeconomy strategies and roadmaps**
  - What are the requirements for Local Action Groups to contribute to the development of regional bioeconomy strategies and roadmaps (e.g. awareness of the bioeconomy, policy framework, engagement tools, organisational aspects)?
  - How to build on and strengthen existing networks (e.g. regional clusters, local action groups) while, at the same time, going beyond them by involving new actors, thereby ensuring inclusiveness of the activities and outputs?
  - By which means could synergies with parallel initiatives be created (e.g. joint working groups, seminars etc.) to maximize the (political) relevance of bottom-up activities and outputs?
- 4. Recommendation #4: Upskill entrepreneurs to design their bioeconomy products and business models the basis of a) real market needs and b) serious consideration of ecological limits**
  - What are the main challenges faced by our regions and which of these are of highest priority for their communities? Can the concept of sustainable bioeconomy become a means to generate real solutions to these priority challenges? If so, how?
  - Sustainable bioeconomy as an economic development model cannot assume unlimited growth. How does this affect its attractiveness against other alternatives for our regions? How capable are entrepreneurs and economic planners today to take serious stock of the capacities of the regional environment to absorb additional pressures from economic development?

Creating and maintaining a pan-European Network of Knowledge: Exchange between regional stakeholders

- 1. Policy group: translating bioeconomy strategies and roadmaps into policy and public funding streams**
  - How can you integrate your region’s bioeconomy activities into existing policy frameworks and link it to current strategies?
  - How can the involvement of stakeholders be ensured in the implementation of your bioeconomy strategy or roadmap?
  - What are support frameworks that should be provided by policy-makers to facilitate the implementation of your bioeconomy strategy or roadmap?

## **2. Research group: integrating the bioeconomy in educational systems and collaboration with the private sector**

- Is there interest from educational/science institutions to integrate the bioeconomy in educational & research systems in your region or are there steps being made in this direction? What programmes need to be developed in educational/science institutions in order to provide the skills for the emerging bio-based sector?
- What kind of support is needed in order to adapt current educational curricula at regional and local level – from the perspective of policy, funding, capacity building, etc.?
- How could the gap between R&D and industry be closed (i.e. collaboration between companies and research/science institutes and universities)? What are the experiences from your region – who are the actors involved; what funding is available; what are the challenges?

## **3. Business group: regional business opportunities and funding for the bioeconomy**

- What is the bioeconomy business potential in the region in terms of availability of biomass, technological applications, bio-based products produced, business developments?
- In what kind of (cross-border) cooperation in the field of bioeconomy are businesses in the region involved?
- In which funding sources/programmes available for the bioeconomy are you interested in or have used in the past? What are the activities you have funded / you are interested to fund / you are interested to cooperate on (incl. internationally)? Are there funding gaps you have identified?
- Could the existing policy frameworks be improved to support regional businesses (e.g. related to regulations, market uptake, public procurement, etc.)?

## **Practical and logistical information**

### **Target audience:**

The conference welcomes bioeconomy stakeholders who are associated to [BE-Rural's Open Innovation Platforms](#). Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, participation is limited to invited stakeholders, the BE-Rural consortium, and the Commission services.

### **Main contact local organising committee:**

Marcin Rakowski, [mrakowski@mir.gdynia.pl](mailto:mrakowski@mir.gdynia.pl), mobile +48 508 712 522 (reachable 10-15 July).

### **Bus transfers Gdańsk ↔ Frombork:**

For participants arriving by plane or train to Gdańsk, bus transfers to/from the venue will be organised according to participants' individual arrival/departure times.

On 10 July, participants will be picked up at the airport at ~18:15 and at the train station (Gdańsk Główny) at ~19:00 (look out for the person with the "BE-Rural" sign). In case of delays, please get in touch with Marcin Rakowski (+48 508 712 522).

Details on joint and individual transfers back to Gdańsk will be provided during the conference.

### **COVID-19 regulations in Poland:**

COVID-19-related information and recommendations by the Polish government, including rules for travellers, are available at: <https://www.gov.pl/web/coronavirus>

### **Hygienic concept during the conference:**

Hygienic face masks and antigen self-test kits will be provided to conference participants (on a voluntary basis). As COVID-19 is still present, we strongly encourage that each participant takes an antigen test on each morning of the meeting. Disinfectant dispensers will be available at the venue.

### **Insect repellent:**

During this time of year, there can be many mosquitos in the area around Frombork. We will have some insect repellent on site, but would also kindly encourage all participants to bring repellent with them if possible.

## List of participants

<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Country</b>
Gerardo	Anzaldua	Ecologic Institute	Germany
Panche	Bedzovski	Municipality of Strumica	North Macedonia
Georgi	Beev	Trakia University Stara Zagora	Bulgaria
Barbara	Burczy	FLAG Brać Mierzei	Poland
Henrietta	Calancea	Association of Small and Medium Size Enterprises of Covasna County	Romania
Tomasz	Calikowski	European Commission, DG Research & Innovation	Belgium
Aleksandar	Cheboratev	MEPSO A.D.; Municipality of Strumica	North Macedonia
Daniel	Cosnita	Institute for Economic Forecasting; CLUSTERO - Romanian Cluster Association	Romania
Penka	Doneva	Municipality of Stara Zagora	Bulgaria
Neven	Duic	University of Zagreb; SDEWES Centre	Croatia
Kārlis	Dūmiņš	Latvian State Forest Research Institute	Latvia
Holger	Gerdes	Ecologic Institute	Germany
Stefan	Kah	University of Strathclyde	United Kingdom
Zoritza	Kiresiewa	Ecologic Institute	Germany
Tomasz	Kulikowski	National Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Poland
Katarzyna	Kutereba	FLAG Zalew Szczeciński	Poland
Dagnija	Lazdina	Latvian State Forest Research Institute	Latvia
Christina	Leucuta	Institute for Economic Forecasting; CLUSTERO - Romanian Cluster Association	Romania
Chuan	Ma	WIP Renewable Energies	Germany
Kristaps	Makovskis	Latvian State Forest Research Institute	Latvia
Boris	Mannhardt	BIOCOM	Germany
Michał	Marciniak	MM Consulting	Poland
Michał	Marczak	FLAG Brać Mierzei	Poland
Piotr	Margoński	National Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Poland
Natasa	Markovska	SDEWES-Skopje	North Macedonia

Enikő	Mátyus	Regional Balneological Tourism Cluster	Romania
Emilija	Mihajloska	SDEWES-Skopje	North Macedonia
Adam	Mytlewski	National Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Poland
Iliana	Pavlova	Bulgarian Industrial Association	Bulgaria
Bernadett Andrea	Raduly	Association of Small and Medium Size Enterprises of Covasna County	Romania
Marcin	Rakowski	National Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Poland
Clément	Robijn	BIOCOM	Germany
Tihamér	Sebestyen	Babeş-Bolyai University (UBB) Cluj; Green Energy Innovative Biomass Cluster	Romania
Ilze	Silamiķele	Ministry of Agriculture	Latvia
Toms	Štāls	Latvian State Forest Research Institute	Latvia
Martin	Stoyanov	Bulgarian Industrial Association	Bulgaria
Olga	Szulecka	National Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Poland
John	Tarpey	Ecologic Institute	Germany
Lily	Teitelbaum	BIOCOM	Germany
Jenny	Tröltzsch	Ecologic Institute	Germany
Andrzej	Wiśniewski	FLAG Zalew Wiślany	Poland
Sylwester	Włoch	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Poland
Austra	Zuševica	Latvian State Forest Research Institute	Latvia