

Bio-economy initiatives of interest to the Barents region



- Mapping (Swedish only)
- Provide a context
- Avoid duplication and find possible synergies
- At this time only multilateral initiatives
- National presentations possibly at a later date



The bio-economy strategy of the EU

- The goal is a more innovative and low-emissions economy
- Strategy and action plan which focuses on three key aspects:
 - developing new technologies and processes for the bio-economy (investments in research, innovation and skills);
 - developing markets and competitiveness in bio-economy sectors (sustainable production intensification, improved production, resource efficiency etc)
 - pushing policymakers and stakeholders to work more closely together (dialogue and horizontal approaches)
- Reviewed in 2017



Circumboreal cooperation

- Aims to strengthen cooperation in forestry in the Boreal region (Canada, USA, Norway, Sweden, Finland and the Russian Federation)
- Sub-group: Circumboreal Bio-economy subject expert group – preparing ministerial meeting in June in Haparanda
- Declaration is being developed
- Research-project is being discussed
- identified challenges are i.e: need for more structured organisation (less focus on products), review policy frameworks, widen the concept (not only bio-energy)



Nordic Council of Ministers

Multiple initiatives regarding bio-economy:

- Programme – rather than strategy - is being developed – input from the bio-economy panel (multi-stakeholder)
- 4-years, multi-sectoral, focus on guidelines and measures for sustainable bio economy and Agenda 2030
- Divided in the sections of financing, collaboration and marketing
- Published first half of 2018



5 principles for Nordic bio-economy

- Resource management (i.e new tech)
- Food and health (i.e alternative proteins)
- Resilient eco systems (i.e. less emissions)
- Inclusive growth (i.e more jobs)
- Sustainable consumption (i.e recycling)



Other (Nordic) platforms

Nordic Forest Research

- Policy areas: Increase use of sustainably produced wood, strengthened social values, increased utilisation as well as preservation of biodiversity
- New strategy 2018-2021 (focus: sustainable forestry in a growing bio-economy, eco-system services, adaptation to climate change)
- Tools: strengthen research (multidisciplinary) and finance cooperations, increased equality, policy advice, dissemination of research results



EUSBSR

- Focus on Bio-economy one of 13 policy areas
- Nordregio (research centre for regional development) – strategy until 2020, studies (for instance Nordic-Russian bio-economy pre-study)
- West Nordic Bio-economy panel – connected to Nordic Council of Ministers – focuses on opportunities in bio-economy, advice for businesses: Strategy – i.e blue economy, under-used resources, rural development,



EFINORD (European Forest Institute, north)

- Priorities are to:
 - increase sustainable biomass production
 - Strengthen ecosystem services in the forest sector
 - Secure more ways of using the forest in relation to economical, social and ecological values
- Initiates activities and works through networks
- Strategy for 2017-2019 – goal to develop sustainable forestry within the EIFINORD region



Of particular interest

- Nordic Council of Ministers Program (funding)
- Circumboreal cooperation (declaration)
- Nordic Forest Research (new strat – funding?)
- Nordregio (Nordic-Russian bio economy pre-study)
- EFINORD

