



European
Commission

BIOECONOMY CHANGEMAKERS FESTIVAL

Youth as driver of transformative change

High-level event

Achieving the green and fair transition through competitive sustainability



Brussels, Thon Hotel City Centre

Day 1 – 13 March 2024

Moderator: Tamsin ROSE

TIME (CET)	SESSION TITLE & SPEAKERS (draft)
8:30-9:00	Welcome & registration
9:00-10:30	HIGH-LEVEL OPENING Keynotes Iliana IVANOVA , <i>EU Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth</i> Youth representative (tbc) Joanna DRAKE , <i>Deputy Director-General, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission</i> Elisabeth WERNER , <i>Deputy Secretary-General, DG Secretariat-General, European Commission</i> "Building the Bioeconomy of Tomorrow" <i>Interactive discussion with experts and audience</i> Prof. Dr. Iris LEWANDOWSKI , <i>University of Hohenheim, Germany</i> Isabella GARCÍA CAFFARO , <i>International Advisory Council on Global Bioeconomy, Bioeconomy Youth Champion, Guatemala</i>
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break

Research and
Innovation

11:00-13:00

**THE VOICE OF YOUTH IN BIOECONOMY:
Bioeconomy Youth Vision & Youth Assembly**

EU Bioeconomy Youth Ambassadors will present their 'Bioeconomy Youth Vision' and discuss it with youth representatives from across the EU, and with stakeholders. They will also present the achievements of their Bioeconomy Youth Ambassador programme.

13:00-14:30

Buffet lunch & Networking

14:30-15:30

**SUPPORTING YOUNG CHANGEMAKERS
TO DEVELOP AND SCALE SOLUTIONS**

In this session we will hear from organisations how they support young changemakers to develop and scale innovative solutions and technologies, to improve ecosphere stewardship or to move to more sustainable consumption. Some of these young changemakers will join us to share their work.

Keynotes

Prof. Jens NIELSEN,
CEO of BioInnovation Institute, Denmark

16:00-17:15

GOING FROM NICHE TO NORM: views from industry and civil society

In this panel debate, industry and civil society representatives will reflect on the Bioeconomy Youth Vision and share what they think is essential to bring the bioeconomy from niche to norm.

17:15-17:45

CLOSING OF DAY 1

Closing speeches & outline of DAY 2

Norbert LINS,
Member of the European Parliament, Chair of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

Adrian LEIP,
Head of Sector, Unit Bioeconomy & Food Systems, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission

17:45-18:30

Cocktail reception

Day 2 – 14 March 2024

Moderator: Tamsin ROSE

TIME (CET)	SESSION TITLE & SPEAKERS (draft)
8:30-9:00	Welcome & registration
9:00-10:45	<p>HIGH-LEVEL OPENING:</p> <p>“WHAT IS NEXT FOR THE BIOECONOMY STRATEGY?”</p> <p>Welcome</p> <p><i>40 years innovation, paving the way for the bioeconomy</i></p> <p>Christian PATERMANN, <i>Bioeconomy expert and advisor; former Director at DG Research & Innovation, European Commission; first “Bioeconomy” Director</i></p> <p>“Ambitious & coherent EU policies in support of the bioeconomy” <i>High Level Panel debate</i></p> <p>Florika FINK-HOOIJER, <i>Director-General, DG Environment, European Commission</i></p> <p>Marc LEMAÎTRE, <i>Director-General, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission</i></p> <p>Michael NIEJAHR, <i>Acting Deputy Director-General, DG Agriculture & Rural development, European Commission</i></p> <p>Salla SAASTAMOINEN, <i>Deputy Director-General, Joint Research Centre, European Commission</i></p> <p>Kristin SCHREIBER, <i>Director, DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship & SMEs, European Commission</i></p> <p>Christian HOLZLEITNER, <i>Head of Unit, DG Climate Action, European Commission</i></p>
10:45-11:15	Coffee Break
11:15-12:25	<p>BREAK-OUT SESSIONS:</p> <p>PRIORITY ACTION AREAS FOR EU BIOECONOMY STRATEGY</p> <p><i>These sessions will allow a more in-depth discussion on key aspects of the EU Bioeconomy, with the help of leading experts.</i></p> <p>Session 1. Multiple pressures and biosphere stewardship <i>How to effectively deal with trade-offs? How to put cascading principle in practice?</i></p> <p>Session 2. Sustainable consumption: what will it take? <i>How sustainable is the EU consumption? What are the trends and issues? Can we do more with less? Can the biobased sector incentivize to consume differently?</i></p> <p>Session 3. Biomanufacturing & biotechnology as a driver for solutions <i>Are these critical game-changing (bio)technologies and solutions? How to scale these solutions? How to balance innovation and precaution in a world that needs change?</i></p> <p>Session 4. Deploying bioeconomy for the 'next EU' <i>What is the potential of the bioeconomy to deliver sustainable benefits and opportunities for rural, coastal, regional and urban areas across European countries and regions, especially in the light of Widening countries and the EU enlargement framework? How to stimulate research activities in countries and regions with unexploited R&I capacity in bioeconomy?</i></p>

12:35-13:15

CLOSING OF THE EVENT

Keynotes by the European Commission and the Presidencies of the EU Council

Maroš ŠEFČOVIČ,

European Commissioner for European Green Deal, Interinstitutional Relations and Foresight

Belgian presidency (name tbc)

Hungarian presidency (name tbc)

Peter WEHRHEIM,

Head of unit, DG Research & Innovation, Unit Bioeconomy & Food Systems, European Commission

13:15-...

Buffet lunch & Networking

