

WP4 Addressing Societal Challenges through action in the Bioeconomy priority of the JIRI

WP Leader and co-leader: CIRAD-MINCYT

Participants in the WP: MINCYT, CSF, CONICYT, COLCIENCIAS, MICITT, MESCYT, VTT, CIRAD, DLR, CONACYT, RCN, SENACYT, FCT, MINECO, MEC, MCTI/IBICT, ZSI GMBH

Objectives

During ALCUE NET last period, general objectives of WP4 were:

- To assess to the last information about Bioeconomy in EU and CELAC regions
- To strength the internal network in Bioeconomy
- To identify opportunities and monitoring progress regarding Bioeconomy Topics
- To optimize synergies and complementarities between CELAC and EU Bioeconomy initiatives
- To analyze follow-up needs and opportunities and disseminate experiences/lessons learnt between both regions
- To be aware of and improve the ALCUE NET activities related to the Bioeconomy SOM Working Group

And Specific objectives of WP4 were:

- Elaboration of concrete proposal for SOM discussion and recommendation
- Design of an action plan to implement project activities related to Bioeconomy
- Implementation of a CELAC observatory on Bioeconomy
- Design proposal for activities related to Raise Awareness and Capacity Building to be implemented by the CELAC Observatory
- Organization of Workshops with selected experts back-to-back EU-CELAC SOM Bioeconomy WG meetings

Progress and Achievements for each task scheduled for WP4:

- **National Forum of Bioeconomy: *Sustainable territorial innovation*.** Bogotá, 27 April 2017

This event was organized jointly with CIAT and Colciencias in order to analyze the potentials that bioeconomy offers to Colombia, as an important tool to promote territorial development, productivity and growth under criteria of economic, environmental and social sustainability.

Experts from Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Germany, Peru and Colombia presented a review of the current situation of Latin America bioeconomy and some of the initiatives of each country. It was attended by around 150 participants (mostly stakeholders and key partners) from different sectors (industrial, research, academic, and government).

During the first block, conferences and presentation of successful cases were held, concluding with a discussion panel about Public Policies that support bioeconomy for the socio-economic growth of Colombia. During the second block that took place, attendees were divided into working groups, with the aim of settling down specific proposals to define action plans towards the development of bioeconomy development. Three working tables were established according to three pathways prioritized for Colombia: Bioenergy and Biorefinery, Biotechnology and Biodiversity for Sustainable Production and Bioprocesses and Bioproducts. The conclusions of each of these working tables were published along with the memories of the event, as an input for the realization of actions to boost the bioeconomy by territories.

<http://blog.ciat.cgiar.org/es/la-bioeconomia-motor-de-desarrollo-integral-para-colombia/>

- **ALCUE Net JIRI Bioeconomy Working Group Meeting 2017**, Bogotá, 28 April 2017, As part of ALCUE-Net bioregional S&T cooperation project, in April, was held the JIRI Bioeconomy WG meeting, focused on i) Analyze the current Bioeconomy state of the art and future opportunities in LAC region, ii) Analyze ALCUENET project product value adding opportunities and formulate an Action Agenda, iii) Reflect on the integration of sustainable urbanization and the Bioeconomy framework and propose how to go forward.

In addition and as a follow-up to the JIRI SOM, where some AGRI colleague briefly outlined some of the opportunities for cooperation with CELAC in the next Horizon 2020 WPs in relation to Bioeconomy, a consultation was conducted among CELAC experts over three topics:

- Plant-soil interactions for improved resource acquisition
- Alternatives to antimicrobials in animal production
- Nutrient recovery and reuse as fertilizers (circular economy)

Participation

LAC region: CEPAL, IICA, CIAT, ALCUENET partner experts from: AR, BR, CL, PE, CO, HO, CAR, CR, UY, PA. UE region: EC, FAO, ALCUENET partner experts from: DE, FR, FI, BE, NL, ES, PT, NO, AT

These meetings have contributed to strengthen the EU-CELAC Bioeconomy network, to analyze bi-regional cooperation activities in the Bioeconomy area, knowing the current state of affairs in Latin America and the Caribbean for the development of bioeconomy strategies; discussing mechanisms of cooperation to promote the development of bioeconomy strategies in Latin America and the Caribbean and common needs, identify opportunities and monitor progress made

- **LinkedIn Bioeconomy LAC network**

From this last event a LinkedIn network was created as an exchange and communication platform for all initiatives on bioeconomy in LAC, facilitating its knowledge to the interested public and stakeholders, analyze needs and opportunities and disseminate experiences and lessons learnt, raise awareness and diffuse the ALCUE NET activities related to the Bioeconomy.

This joint activities aims, as well, to raise awareness on the LAC Bioeconomy current situation and potential, and facilitate opportunities for collaboration between LAC and EU scientists and industrialists.

This network also can be an informal database of key actors and stakeholders in the region.

Link: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/bioeconom%C3%ADa-lac-536232141/>

- **Policy note**

To add value to the developed activities, a policy note was created with the collaboration of Elizabeth Hodson, Rafael Aramendis and Eduardo Trigo. The objective of such a policy note was to call for the development of the bioeconomy in the regions by proposing a guide of actions that will take into account the required enabling elements. Furthermore, this policy note of wide diffusion,

counted with the contributions of key actors and representatives of organizations from each of the bioeconomy pathways that were specifically prioritized for Colombia.

- **Apoyo en awareness raising**, synergies with other relevant initiatives

Participation and support in the organization of events, following the purpose of raising awareness about the importance of the development of the bioeconomy in the region:

- CEPAL Event, Global bioeconomy summit, Berlin 2017

-Expert panels bioeconomy, CIAT, march 2018

- **Bioeconomy in LA, second book**

A compilation of significant bioeconomy experiences in Latin America will be published with the co-edition of Elizabeth Hodson and the Javeriana University. The book is developed in four chapters:

1. Presentation of the example cases of Costa Rica, Brazil, Mexico, Colombia and Peru
2. Cross-sectional analysis of the cases presented
3. Analysis CEPAL of 10 countries by Adrián Rodríguez
4. Lessons learned - Prospective vision (Argentine model) - Future Pathways

The book aims to present conclusions about the situation of the BE in the country and to suggest recommendations for its strengthening. It also seeks to motivate and enthuse the different audiences about the possible paths that countries can take according to their conditions, and to present clear examples of important developments in some countries.