

## MML Events -Report Template

### 1. Description of your BIOVOICES MML

<b>BIOVOICES representative</b> (name and organization)	Nikolai Jacobi - ICLEI
<b>Event venue</b>	Online
<b>Date</b>	16/09/2020
<b>Event organized in partnership with</b>	
Key organizational contact	ICLEI
Website	<a href="https://www.biovoices-platform.eu/registeredarea/events/viewEvent/8197">https://www.biovoices-platform.eu/registeredarea/events/viewEvent/8197</a>
<b>Work package</b>	WP6
<b>Task number</b>	T6.2

<b>Title</b> (original language / English)	<b>Deploying regional and local bioeconomies in Europe - strategy and implementation Mutual learning workshop for strategising and implementing regional and local bio economies: transitioning from linear to circular models locally</b>
<b>Sector/s</b>	Cleaning and hygiene, personal care and cosmetics, health and biomedical Textile products, clothing, sports and toys Food packaging, disposable table wear Biofuels and bioenergy Building, construction and restoration, paintings, decorations and furniture
<b>Stakeholders attending</b>	Researchers; Civil Society; Business/Industry; Policymakers
<b>Total number of participants, out of which</b>	22
Business	5
Policy Makers	8
Civil society	2
Research	7
<b>Countries addressed/involved</b>	Europe (and Germany in particular)
<b>Challenges Addressed</b>	E1 – Enhance local bio-economy strategies & action plans

2. **Rationale or Purpose of your MML:** you could paste here the promotional material you used to attract attendees to your MML with additional information as required



## Reminder - Deploying regional and local bioeconomies in Europe - strategy and implementation- Online Seminar

Online dissemination to the BatS mailing list and to the Biovoices mailing list; dissemination via the ICLEI and Biovoices Websites.

**BIOVOICES** is a Horizon 2020 project for the development and promotion of the **bioeconomy in Europe**. The project aims at increasing the quality, the relevance, the know-how and the social acceptability of bio-based products for a prosperous bioeconomy and a sustainable Europe.

This session will focus on the overall governance of the bioeconomy in Europe at local and regional level, both in its strategic outlook and its implementation phase. Representatives from cities and regions in Europe will present the challenges, perspectives and strategies of bioeconomies at the local level. The event is **directed towards** all the stakeholders of the bioeconomy - **local administrations' staff; researchers; interested businesses and civil society organisations**.

Here below, the agenda disseminated for the event:

09:15-09:30 **Check-in**

09:30-09:40 **Welcome & Introduction**

*ICLEI Europe*

09:40-10:40 **Impulse presentations**

**Bioeconomy, regional development and demographic change**

*Sergi Costa, BIOPRO BW, Coordinator of the INTERREG project GoDanuBio*

**Bioeconomy Strategy Baden-Wuerttemberg**

*Sebastian Awiszus, Ministry for the Environment, Climate Protection and the Energy Sector, Baden Wuerttemberg/GER*

**Waste as feedstock for the bioeconomy: challenges and perspectives**

*Consorzio Italiano Compostatori (Italian Composting and Biogas Association)*

**Circular Bioeconomy in Maribor**

*Igor Kos, WCYCLE, City of Maribor*

10:40-10:50 **Break**

10:50-11:35 **Interactive panel discussion**

*Moderated by ICLEI Europe*

11:35-11:45 **Concluding reflections**

*Ruska Kelevska, Policy Officer, European Commission, TBC*

11:45-11:50 **Conclusions & wrap-up**

### **3. Outcomes Per Challenge - Knowledge & Insights expressed/gathered at the MML**

*Please use a separate box for each of the Challenges addressed: identify the 'Phases' of Development that were considered and the sectors represented. Record the viewpoints expressed by each of the four stakeholder groups represented and any consensus points.*

<b>Challenge 1 addressed</b>	E1 – Enhance local bio-economy strategies & action plans
<b>Phase/s considered</b>	- Complexity and importance of all phases

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Framework conditions in the EU</li> <li>- Effective local levers</li> <li>- Most important issues</li> </ul>
<b>Sector/s represented</b>	
Business	yes
Civil Society	yes
Policy Makers	yes
Research	yes
<b>Any consensus points?</b> Points/advice/perspectives agreed by all stakeholders to enable progression in driving the bio-based sector forward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Market development and awareness/trust building are considered the most complex and important aspects for the development of bioeconomies</li> <li>- Participants agreed that the EU provides adequate framework conditions, but that can be improved (score: 3.1 over 5)</li> <li>- According to participants, having a clear vision and strategy for the bioeconomy is the most important lever, followed by having the right economic incentives</li> <li>- Land availability is considered the most important issue for the development of bioeconomies, followed by technological development, purity of biowaste, scaling components and supply chains</li> </ul>

#### **4. BIOVOICES partner's own perspectives & comments**

Additional to those recorded above. Free text area – please include your additional comments

##### **On the meeting overall? E.g. willingness of participants to contribute**

- Participants were able to contribute via the use of Mentimeter.
- Discussion was lively, in particular the panel discussion with speakers.
- The online format, i.e. using a mentimeter presentation to conduct the panel discussion as well as to engage the participants, have worked well. Panelists and participants could in this way both participate on each question asked and reflect on each other's perspective.

##### **On the challenges discussed? E.g. points that 'chime' with you/your organisation**

- Challenges discussed were relevant both to the Biovoices project and to the themes reported by the speakers.
- The strategic emphasis – both from regional and local representatives, were in particular insightful, as ICLEI works on strategy and action plan development with cities in several other arenas such as climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as increasingly on circular economy. Seeking interlinkages of the local bioeconomy development and deployment with other sustainability and development priorities at local level, is a key take-away for ICLEI as organization.
- To consider the aspect of land as well as land use management in bioeconomy planning, as emphasized by the Interreg GoDanubio project, was also a key take away for local, and especially

regional authorities. The connection of land use, demographics and economic opportunity was a new angle to the discussion and could be a useful take-away from the discussions.

Further take-away points are summarized below:

#### CLARITY

- Targets are there at EU level, some initiatives area also there to support e.g. Urban agenda actions on circular economy
- Legal frameworks missing, red tap, lack of coherence,
- transposition by member states
- Communication of what is bioeconomy and education - Awareness and debunk some myths for cities but also engagement of target groups like farmers (e.g. compost)
- Mandates (e.g. permitting) and role of local governments → able to facilitate the process, this should be recognized by national level

#### STREAMLINING

- Creating political momentum and instituting actions to integrate (**Spatial planning integral to success of the strategy** (boost for regeneration) → turning brown fields to redevelop and safeguard green area)
- **macro-regional approaches** → **leverage what is there coherently and streamlines**
- Bottom-up initialization of local initiatives provide opportunity for engagement

#### INTEGRATION

- breaking silos through Green Deal better integrate strategies
- Vision and strategy lever for local governments and complementarity to national efforts
- Issue of continuity

#### CONTINUITY (and effectiveness)

- Specificity per country- Issue of incentives → need for legal frameworks and policy support facility under preparation to tailor depending on specificity of country
- Bring innovation needed to market and boost innovation and research for technology advancement
- Capacity building , strengthening and setting frameworks at local and regional level and possibility to exchange
- Lead by example at the local governments (e.g. through public procurement as lever).

#### **Any consensus points? E.g. a point that BIOVOICES can drive forward such as common vocabulary**

- Awareness raising and building trusts among policymakers and actors of the bioeconomy seem to be a key challenge that BIOVOICES can bring forward
- In this crucial moment where Europe needs all hands-on deck, circular economy and particularly bioeconomy can provide key contributions to meet objectives of the green deal with the outstanding challenge of reaching carbon neutrality by 2050. It can act as link to bring together plans, strategies and agenda, but also as it encompasses several policy priorities across governance level, but also because it directly affects everyone daily-life. This is even more relevant in a moment

in which we are gearing up to roll out new recovery and resilience instruments, which will be by the striving to support Europe to implement a green recovery. Bioeconomy can bring together agendas and sectoral strategies, open a dialogue with citizens and private sector, and support the development of **placed-based actions** for green recovery. Also considering the nexus between rural and urban communities, which are facing often a combination of challenges coming both from a green recovery, but also often trying to cope with the implementation a just transition.

**Any lessons learnt for shaping/managing future MMLs? E.g. invite more people in expectation of 'no shows'**

- Using mentimeter or other interactive tools increases the quality of online meetings, bringing the audience to a more active role. On average, participants have learned in the last period how to use them and the technological barrier is less prominent than some months ago. Thus, such solutions do not affect negatively the flow of the online seminar and are strongly recommended.

## **5. Qualitative Interviews (QIs) - to improve quality of outcome data submitted** *Add additional Interview forms to match the number of interviews conducted.*

QI 1	
Sector	Bioeconomy
Country	Germany
Job title/position	Coordinator of a project on Bioeconomy
Key points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The project is located in the Danube region, trying to foster a Bioeconomy cluster</li> <li>- Bioeconomy clustering is not the only answer, but a cross-sectoral approach is the real answer → value chains are created when it takes place</li> <li>- The definition of Bioeconomy is not the same everywhere; synchronization of funding is however very needed, but difficult to achieve</li> <li>- Bioeconomy is a leverage for economic development, especially for the manufacturing sector - it shortens the value chain and create resilience to world changes in the region</li> </ul>

QI 2	
Sector	Climate Protection and the Energy Sector
Country	Germany
Job title/position	Ministry



<b>Key points</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Launched cross departmental local strategy to support the transition to circular economy</li> <li>- Objectives: achieve a climate neutral economy by focusing on innovative sustainable fields of the economy. Also, resource efficiency has to be improved</li> <li>- In rural areas: secure supply of biomass; in industry: biotech to use biowaste for chemical purposes; also, the region is starting to try biomining</li> <li>- 3rd Bioeconomy Congress - The contribution of the Bioeconomy to the Green Deal - will be next week 21-22 September</li> </ul>
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QI 3	
<b>Sector</b>	<b>Composting</b>
<b>Country</b>	<b>Italy</b>
<b>Job title/position</b>	<b>Officer</b>
<b>Key points</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bio waste is the largest component of municipal waste and was identified as a sector with high contribution to the economy</li> <li>- Policies for recycling are in place in Italy since 1999 - Landfill Directive. Non all European Countries have the same rules applied and most of them are behind in terms of recycling</li> </ul>

QI 4	
<b>Sector</b>	<b>Climate Protection and the Energy Sector</b>
<b>Country</b>	<b>Slovenia</b>
<b>Job title/position</b>	<b>Officer</b>

<p><b>Key points</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No dedicated bioeconomy strategy, but the sector is part of the Circular economy strategy</li> <li>- A timeline was set to create integrated urban development strategy; as part of it, circular economy objectives were set; an Institute called Recycle was set up to take care of that aspect in an independent way with the stakeholders. The institute is financed by city utility companies</li> <li>- How to finance the action? → European projects and calls are the answer to kickstart action (started with GREENCYCLE to develop the strategy)</li> <li>- The city is working on 20 projects as part of the circular economy strategy and action plan</li> <li>- Spatial Planning is integral part of the strategy in order to develop a good circular economic model. The strategy is currently being updated</li> <li>- A pilot project is being implemented in the field of bioeconomy via the UIA - establishment of innovative urban soil-based economy areas</li> </ul>
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## **6. Evaluation of the Meeting – feedback from participants**

Use the data provided in participants Feedback Forms completed at or after the event to analyze and record e.g. numbers attending, providing feedback, value and usefulness of meeting, what are participants planning to do next, what will BIOVOICES do next etc.

No feedback form was received. A simple feedback slide was included in this online workshop. Feedback thereafter was positive.

## **7. Impact Report - what are the top-level points to be taken from your MML to be considered for inclusion in the BIOVOICES good practice guides for driving the bio-based sector forward?**

The good practice guides (policy briefs) (D6.3) will be organised according to each of the four stakeholder groups of the quadruple helix – note that the points may be the same/similar for each group. Please endeavour to contribute at least three points from your experience of this MML.

1. Awareness raising and building trusts among policymakers and actors of the bioeconomy seem to be a key challenge that BIOVOICES can bring forward.
2. Online interactive tools do not affect negatively the flow of the online seminar and are strongly recommended.
3. Actors of the bioeconomy and local authorities should put efforts into developing a long-term strategy for the development of the bioeconomy
4. Wherever possible, local authorities should seek synergies of the bioeconomy with other local sustainability and development priorities.
5. Land use (management), demographics and bioeconomy development in a rural context, are inseparably intertwined and need to be analyzed further and discussed within the bioeconomy debate in Europe.

## **8. Attendance Form – please scan and insert your signed attendance form here**

**N.a.**