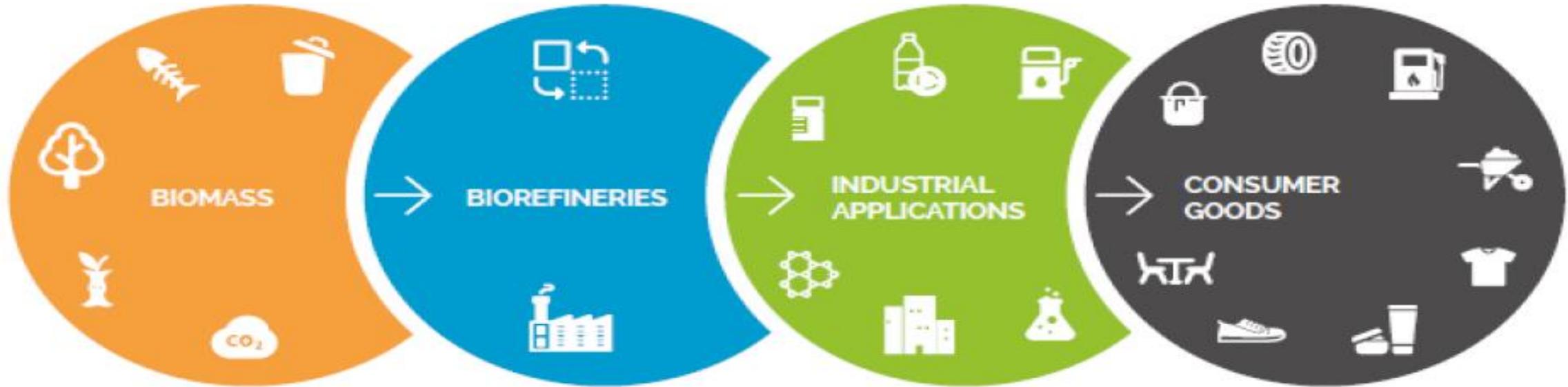


BIOEAST Initiative

Bio-hubs as keys to successful biomass supply integration for
bioenergy within the bioeconomy

Barna Kovacs PhD
BIOEAST Secretary General
Sopron, 09. October 2019.

Bio-based value chain



- Waste streams
- Municipal organic waste
- By-products & side-streams
- Forestry side-streams
- Dedicated agricultural crops and residues
- Aquatic biomass
- Food processing residues
- Process and waste water
- CO₂

- (Pre-) treatment
- Transformation

- Bioplastics
- Building blocks
- Biopolymers
- Surfactants
- Active ingredients
- Biomaterials
- Biolubricants

- Biofuels
- Textiles
- Packaging
- Solvents
- Furniture
- Personal care
- Construction materials
- Pharmaceuticals
- Clothing
- Car components

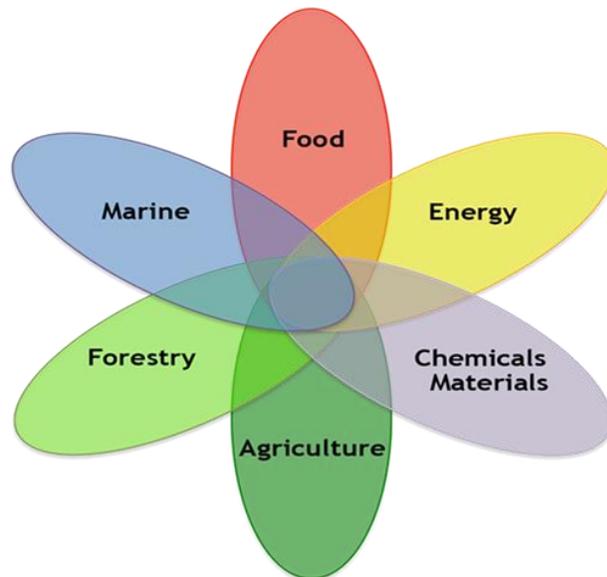
The perception of primary sectors in the CEE countries' public administration

1. Why we need research and innovation for agriculture and for primary production sectors?

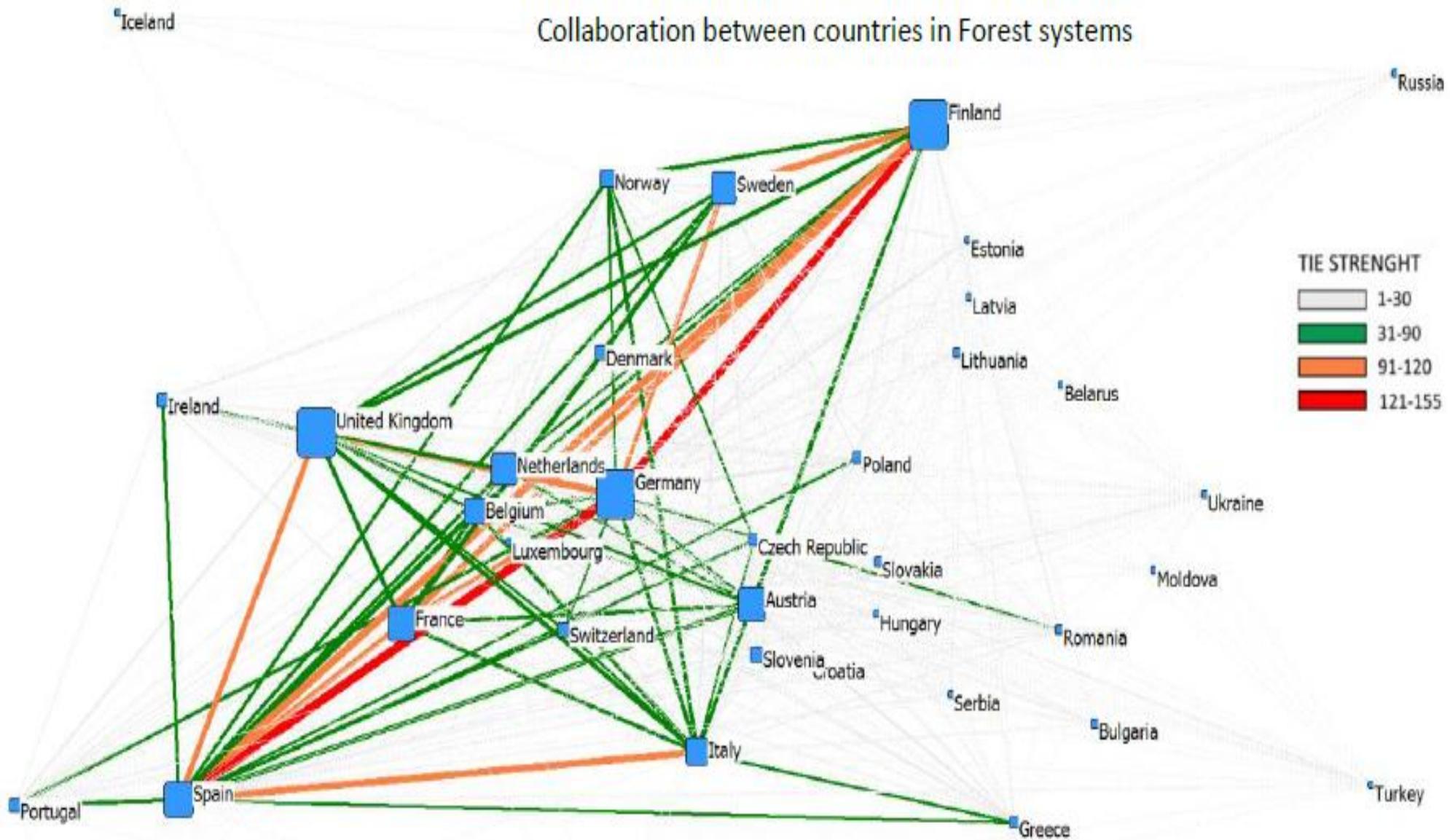
- Because that is the only way how we can gain competitiveness and solve the big challenges

2. Why is important to talk about the bioeconomy?

- The bioeconomy could provide added value to the primary production sectors, and perspective for rural development.



Lack of collaboration



It can be seen that there are very few collaboration ties with Eastern European countries; and this feature is present throughout all supply chain categories

2019 Change Readiness Index: Climate Change

The 2019 Change Readiness Index (CRI) indicates the capability of a country – its government, private and public enterprises, people and wider civil society – to anticipate, prepare for, manage, and respond to a wide range of change drivers, proactively cultivating the resulting opportunities and mitigating potential negative impacts. (KPMG)

Figure 1: Relevant change readiness indicators for climate change

Enterprise	Government	People & civil society
Transport and utilities infrastructure	Food and energy security	Safety nets
Financial sector	Government strategic planning and foresight	Human capital
Enterprise sustainability	Environment and climate change	Civil society
Economic diversification	Public administration and state business relations	Inclusiveness of growth
Economic openness	Land and property rights	Health care coverage
Technology infrastructure	Macroeconomic framework	Access to information

2019 Change Readiness Index: Climate Change

Overall rank	Country	Region	Enterprise capability	Government capability	People & civil society capability
1	Switzerland	Northern, Southern and Western Europe	1	1	3
21	Estonia	Europe and Central Asia	18	19	20
27	Czech Republic	Eastern Europe and Central Asia	28	28	29
29	Lithuania	Northern, Southern and Western Europe	30	31	34
33	Poland	Eastern Europe and Central Asia	35	38	32
37	Slovakia	Eastern Europe and Central Asia	37	40	35
48	Hungary	Eastern Europe and Central Asia	45	65	47
54	Romania	Eastern Europe and Central Asia	55	61	51
60	Bulgaria	Eastern Europe and Central Asia	53	82	61
140	Somalia	Sub-Saharan Africa	138	140	137

Why we need the BIOEAST Initiative?



BIOEAST Challenges

- C1. Research and Innovation deadlock
- C2. Stalemate in the bio-based value chains
- C3. Governance impasse
- C4. Societal indifference
- C5. Financial barriers

BIOEAST Initiative

1. Central and Eastern European (CEE) (Visegrad4+7) countries cooperation at governmental level
2. Research and innovation oriented

3. The Mission:

Is to assist Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries to operationalize their Vision for 2030 drawing on their potential and offering opportunities for:

- A **sustainable increase of biomass production**, to become competitive and leading, high quality, food and feed producers worldwide;
- A **circular (“zero waste”) processing of the available biomass**, to become key players in the development of new bio-based value chains;
- **Viable rural areas**: to develop an innovative, inclusive, climate-ready and inclusive growth model;

Focus of BIOEAST



OBJECTIVES of the macroregional BIOEAST Initiative:

1. **Initiate cooperation:** establish a multi-stakeholder network to facilitate joint actions;
2. **Provide an evidence base:** establish data-driven support for implementation of policies;
3. **Support strategies:** create the cross-sectorial approach for the development of a national circular and bioeconomy strategies;
4. **Focus on research:** map specific challenges for a Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda;
5. **Improve skills:** train a new generation of dedicated multi-stakeholder actors;
6. **Develop synergies:** promote regional, national, EU and international funding opportunities;
7. **Increase visibility:** draw attention to specific challenges of the CEE regions.

Political agreements

26. October 2016: VISEGRAD 4 Group + 3 Countries: on stronger inclusion into H2020

21. September 2017: VISEGRAD 4 Group + 4 Countries: on broadening the remit of the BIOEAST initiative beyond H2020

13. June 2018: VISEGRAD 4 Group + 7 countries: on the Vision for BIOEAST

9. May 2019: VISEGRAD 4 Group + 7 countries: on the future role of the BIOEAST Initiative in the context of Horizon Europe **(agri+research ministers!)**



Next Steps

1. BIOEAST CSA under preparation (call in HORIZON 2020 WP2019)
 - **3. Guidance on National Bioeconomy Strategy Development**
 - **4. Macro-regional Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA)**
2. Establishing **National BIOEAST HUBs** for the stakeholders engagement at national level
3. Five **Thematic Working Groups** for SRIA development at macro regional level:
 - Forestry
 - Sustainable yields and agro-ecological intensification
 - Bioenergy and new value-added products
 - Fresh water bioeconomy
 - Food Systems
4. **Policy Support Facility** for national bioeconomy strategies with the help of the European Commission



Thank you for your attention!

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