

# THE NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT ON THE BIOECONOMY

**The Bioeconomy** - *those parts of the economy that use renewable biological resources from land and sea to produce food, feed, biomaterials, chemicals, pulp and paper, energy and fuels.*



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland



Roinn an Taoisigh  
Department of the Taoiseach

# WHY A NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT? WHY IS THE BIOECONOMY IMPORTANT?

**Sustainable use of renewable biological resources**



**Decarbonisation / Changing Economic Model**



**Mitigation**



**Economic Opportunity / Rural Employment**

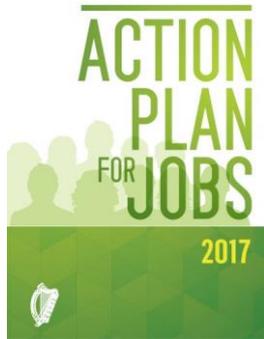


A coordinated cross-sectoral approach will be required to make the transition to a low carbon and circular economy and society.



# HOW DID WE BUILD ON EARLIER WORK ON THE BIOECONOMY? WHAT DOES THE TIMELINE LOOK LIKE?

## APJ and APRD



- Scope
- Feasibility
- Conditions
- Strategy

## Stakeholder Engagement

- BioEire research on value chains
- Joint workshop with key stakeholders (**Feb 2017**)

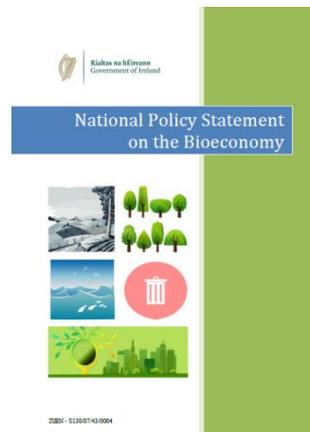


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• Inter-departmental Group (**Nov 2016**)

• Scoping exercise (**Nov 2016 – Jan 2017**)



- Discussion Document (**July 2017**)
- Submissions are analysed and fed into the preparation of the Statement. (**Sept 2017 – Nov 2017**)

• National Policy Statement (**Dec 2017**)

Formal Publication (**1 March**)

# EU COMMISSION - REVIEW OF THE EU BIOECONOMY STATEMENT (NOV 2017) – KEY EMERGING ISSUES

## Main Objectives

1. Ensuring food security
2. Managing natural resources sustainably
3. Reducing dependence on non-renewable resources
4. Mitigating and adapting to climate change
5. Creating jobs and maintaining EU competitiveness.

## Actions

1. Investment in research, innovation and skills
2. Reinforced policy interaction and stakeholder engagement
3. Enhancement of markets and competitiveness



# WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT?

- Capitalise on the potential of the bioeconomy.
- Advance greater policy coherence across sectors.
- Identify fundamental challenges to the commercial success and social development of the Bioeconomy.
- Develop a framework for implementation and ensure the engagement of key stakeholders.



# THE NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT

- Prepared by the D/Taoiseach - it is the outcome of extensive consultation
- Sets out the Strategic Policy Objectives for developing the Bioeconomy
- Identifies guiding principles to translate this vision into coordinated action
- Outlines the major challenges:
  - promoting greater coherence between the many sectors of the bioeconomy
  - strengthening the development of promising bio-based products and growing the relevant markets
  - accessing available funding and leveraging private investment



## National Policy Statement on the Bioeconomy



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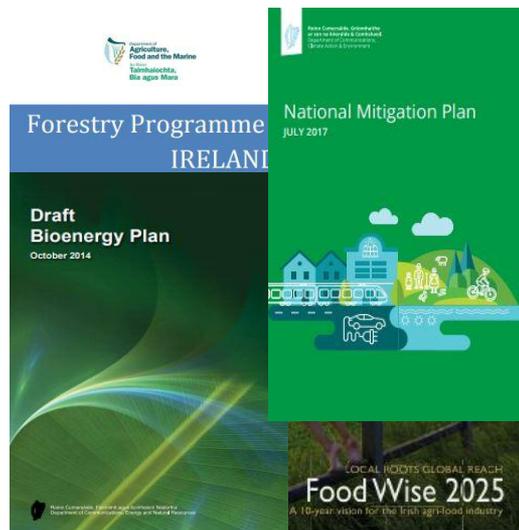
# TAKING THE BIOECONOMY FORWARD? – THE IMPLEMENTATION GROUP

- How can the commercial viability of the bioeconomy can be extended and intensified?
- The Government has decided to establish a high-level Implementation Group which would be jointly chaired by the Departments of Agriculture, Food and Marine and Communications, Climate Action and Environment.
- The group will bring forward recommendations to develop the bioeconomy further.



# Key actions for the future success of the bioeconomy in Ireland:

1) Ensure Policy Coherence



2) Establish a Network of Stakeholders



3) Translate Research to real Applications



4) Review the Definition of Waste.



5) Risk Assessment and Management Protocols.



## Key actions for the future success of the bioeconomy in Ireland:

6) Progress the leading value chain propositions identified in the Bio-Eire project.



**BioÉire**

A Bioeconomy for Ireland

7) Consider how greater primary producer, public and consumer awareness of the bioeconomy and its products can be raised.



## CONCLUSION

- The bioeconomy is consistent with Ireland's low carbon transition objective.
- The bioeconomy has the potential to grow rural and regional businesses and jobs.
- The focus of future actions needs to be based around strengthening the commercial prospects for the bioeconomy in Ireland.
- The National Policy Statement has concentrated on developing the key major pillars of the bioeconomy and ensuring that these receive the consistent attention of Government as Ireland moves towards the objective of a decarbonised economy by 2050.



