



DRAFT PROGRAMME

Visions, opportunities and challenges for the Bioeconomy in Southern Europe

28 September 2016, 9:00 – 14:00,
Kursaal Congress Centre, San Sebastian, Spain

Background

Decoupling growth from environmental degradation requires a major shift: a shift towards a low-carbon, renewable and resource-efficient society and a sustainable economy. This transformative change can be triggered by the bioeconomy, which uses science and technology to sustainably produce and transform renewable biological resources into food, feed, bio-based products and bioenergy, as well as services related to products and forests.

The bioeconomy offers southern Europe the opportunity to catalyse social, technological, and economic transformation towards inclusive, smart and sustainable growth. Furthermore, can be a key transformative instrument to address resource efficiency and security issues and tackle challenges like forest fires, unemployment, rural decline, climate change and water related issues. However, the development of the bioeconomy in southern Europe requires a solid science-policy-business dialogue which results in renew political visions, strategic actions and unprecedented investments based on the latest scientific and technological advances.

The event offers a platform to strategically reflect on the potential of the Bioeconomy development in southern Europe in the context of the revision of the EU Bioeconomy Strategy. We will discuss policies, innovative commercial uses for forest resources leading to the creation of new markets as well as visions, opportunities and challenges that southern Europe has regarding the bioeconomy.

Part I

8.30 Registration

9:00 Opening statement

- *Marc Palahi*, Director, European Forest Institute
- *Leire Salaberria*, CEO, USSE
- *Bittor Oroz*, vice-Minister of Economic development and competitiveness, Basque Government

9:30 Why does Europe need a Bioeconomy?

- *Esko Aho*, former prime minister of Finland, Special Advisor of EFI

10:15 Coffee & fruit break

10:45 Towards a forest-based bioeconomy in Europe

- *Marc Palahi*, Director, European Forest Institute (EFI)

Part II - Chair: *Andreas Kleinschmit von Lengefeld*, Director of Innovation at FCBA, France

11:00 Innovative developments in southern Europe

- Gascoigne Bois, *Tanguy Massart*, director R&D (tbc)
- Gamiz Engineered Wood, *Jesus Gamiz*, founder and Manager
- Amorim Cork, (tbc)
- LURESA Resinas SL, green chemes Group RB, *Mariana Ferreira* (tbc)

Q&A

12:15 Regional approaches in a Forest Based Bioeconomy

- North Karelia: towards a fossil-free bioeconomy region; *Risto Poutiainen*, Regional Council of North Karelia

Panel Discussion:

- *Simao Soares*, CEO SilicoLife & P-Bio Portugal
- *Stephane Grelier*, Vice-president of Xylofutur and Professor of Wood Chemistry (Tbc)
- *Javier Garcia Jaca*, Tecnalia, Basque Country
- *Oskar Azkarate*, Baskegur, director
- *Giuseppe Scarascia*, UNITUS

13:30 Concluding Remarks

- *European Commission* (tbc): Implications for the new EU Strategy
- *Piotr Borkowski*, EUSTAFOR: Take home messages for state forests

14:00 Lunch