

Finland's Bioeconomy Strategy 2022–2035 aims sustainably towards higher value added

Finland's new Bioeconomy Strategy aims to double the value added of bioeconomy in an ecologically, socially and economically sustainable manner and to make Finland climate neutral by 2035. Bioeconomy is implemented in a resource-wise manner through the circular economy. The strategy strongly supports the green transition of Finland and the EU.

Bioeconomy is based on production that makes use of renewable natural materials in a sustainable manner and develops and deploys related innovations and technologies. In Finland, services that utilise nature, such as nature tourism, are also part of the bioeconomy.

Bioeconomy operators are replacing fossil raw materials with more environmentally friendly ones and developing completely new materials. They produce food and clean water, products, services and energy, as well as industrial applications.

Raw materials are obtained especially from forests, fields and water bodies, but also from various farms and by-products of production. The regions play a key role in achieving the objectives of the strategy and they are encouraged to draw up their own bioeconomy action plans.

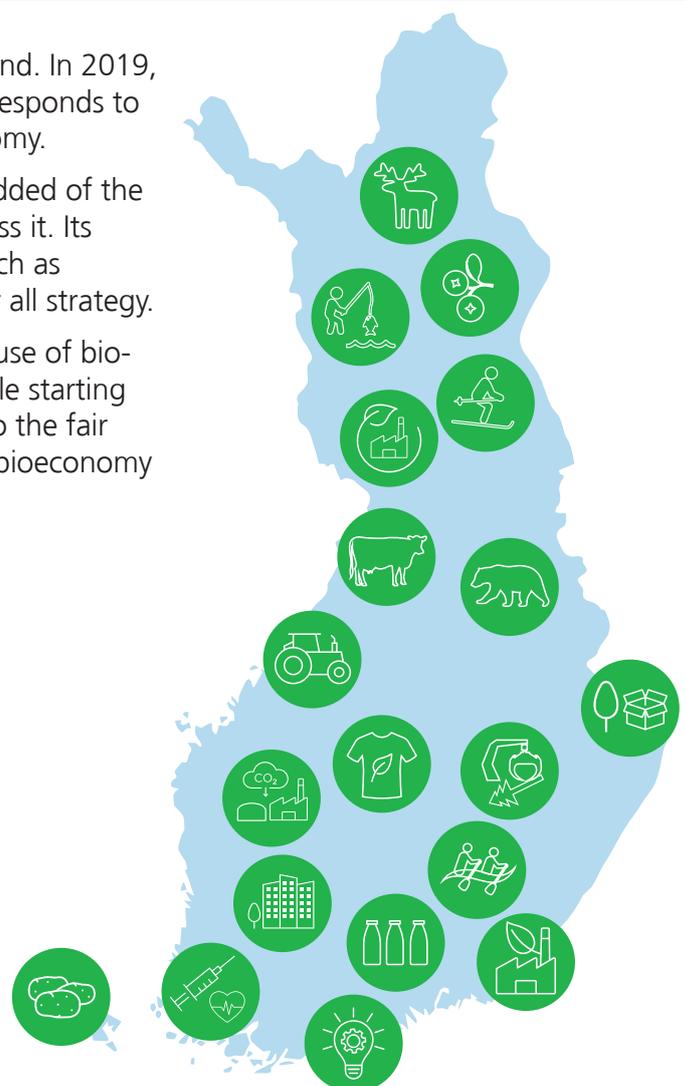
Bioeconomy is an exceptionally important sector for Finland. In 2019, it generated a value added of EUR 26 billions, which corresponds to 13% of the value added generated in the national economy.

A bioeconomy strategy is needed to increase the value added of the bioeconomy as a whole, as other strategies do not address it. Its actions meet the objectives of a number of strategies, such as Forestry strategy, Industry strategy and a Clean planet for all strategy.

The ecological, social and economic sustainability of the use of bio-resources and biodiversity are a necessary and indisputable starting point for a bioeconomy strategy. Attention will be paid to the fair distribution of the advantages and disadvantages of the bioeconomy in order to promote the well-being of society.

The objectives of the Bioeconomy Strategy by 2035 are:

- double the value added of bioeconomy
- create competitive and innovative bioeconomy solutions to global problems
- generate business that promotes renewal both to the domestic and international markets, which will bring well-being to Finland as a whole
- increase the resource-wise use and recycling of materials and utilise side streams
- reduce dependency on fossil fuels and other non-renewable raw materials
- ensure ecological sustainability, social justice as well as the capacity of renewable natural resources to renew and to broadly strengthen bioeconomy competence
- strengthen and renew technological foundations.

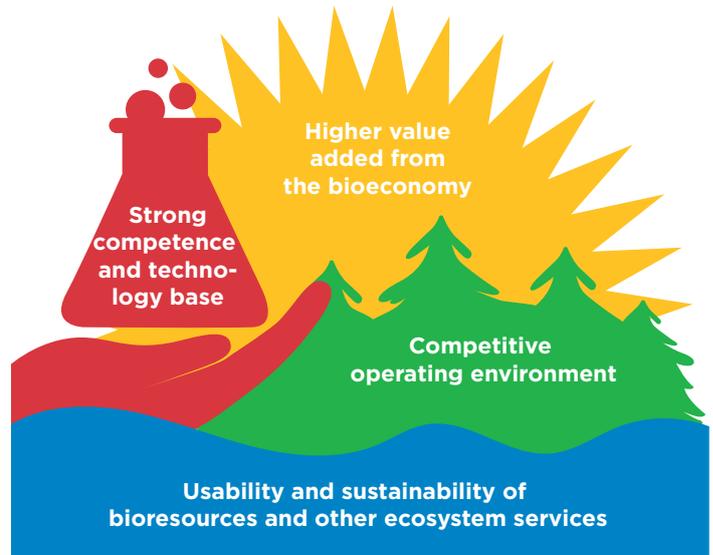


Map: Finland's regions have special strengths and ways to increase the value added of the bioeconomy in a sustainable way. Regions are encouraged to draw up bioeconomy action plans.

Strategic priorities and examples of measures

Higer value added from the bioeconomy

- Draft and implement the RDI programme for the bioeconomy's green transition to strengthen the knowledge base for the development of bioeconomy competence, new products, resource efficiency, business and services.
- Promoting Finland as the location of pilot and demonstration plants for new, innovative bio-products and the first industrial scale plants of their kind.
- Identifying the means of the bioeconomy to mitigate climate change and promote adaptation to its impacts and halting the loss of biodiversity.
- Regions are encouraged to prepare bioeconomy implementation plans on the basis of their own strengths.



Value added is also sought by industry sectors by developing new raw materials, manufacturing methods, products and services, increasing value added and resource efficiency, and utilizing by-products and circular economy operating models. Promising development is e.g. in the forestry sector, food and energy production, the pharmaceutical, chemical and textile industries, water supply, fisheries, aquaculture, tourism services and the natural products sector.

Strong competence and technology base

- Encourage more scientific research related to the bioeconomy, and increasing its impact. Encourage actors to participate in international networks and to make use of EU research and innovation funding.
- Development of technology: Support the creation of new types of networks and partnership models, optimal utilisation of digitalisation.
- Stronger research and education: developing the content and marketing of bioeconomy education and forms of continuous lifelong learning.

Competitive operating environment

- Examination of the characteristics and possible incentives of the sector related to the commercial use of ecosystem services and entrepreneurship.
- Continue the streamlining of permit processes for bioproduction plants by strengthening cooperation between authorities in order to attract investments.
- Promoting the use of public funding instruments for the different stages of the development of bioeconomy value chains.
- Encouraging cross-border cooperation.

Usability and sustainability of bioresources and other ecosystem services

- Increasing information on the demand, availability and competitive status of biomass and side streams by improving statistics and ensuring that information is available to actors. Developing digital platforms.
- Increase the value added of industries based on ecosystem services by improving the supply of ecosystem services and strengthening the natural product sector.

Finland's Bioeconomy strategy is being implemented in co-operation between ministries. Finnish regions, research, development and education organizations as well as companies also participate extensively. The implementation is financed, among other things, by the Finnish Sustainable Growth Program. The implementation, the development of the bioeconomy and inspiring examples of bioeconomy solutions can be followed at website: bioeconomy.fi.

The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment ministry in cooperation with Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of the Environment, Minister of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Education and Culture. The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, The Ministry of Finance and The Prime Minister's Office of Finland 2022.