



BE-Rural Mid-Term Conference

“Exploring the bioeconomy as a central pillar of regional recovery plans during and after COVID-19”

Timing: Tuesday, 8 September 2020, 14:00 – 17:15 CEST

Venue: Online Meeting – Registration: <https://forms.ecologic.eu/be-rural-conference>

Aim of the conference: To explore the extent to which the implementation of a bioeconomy concept can leverage the reactivation of regional economies.

Moderator: Gerardo Anzaldúa, Ecologic Institute

Preliminary agenda:

14.00 – 14.05	Welcome – Holger Gerdes & Zoritz Kiresiewa, Ecologic Institute <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aim and scope of the conference
14.05 – 14.15	The Bioeconomy in rural areas: an introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laura Jalasjoki – European Network for Rural Development (ENRD)
14.15 – 14.45	How are rural economies faring in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ian Archer – Industrial Biotechnology Innovation Centre (IBioIC): <i>“Current developments in Scotland”</i> Jens Persson – Swedish Board of Agriculture & SUBMARINER Network for Blue Growth EEIG: <i>“Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Swedish blue bioeconomy”</i> Q&A Session
14.45 – 15.20	Discussions in small groups (3-4 virtual break-out rooms) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How is the current crisis an opportunity to trigger systemic change towards co-creation, inclusiveness, and sustainability?
15.20 – 15.40	Brief reflections from the break-out groups
15.40 – 15.55	Coffee Break
15.55 – 16.25	What role can the bioeconomy concept play in the green recovery of Europe? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ana Cuadrado Galvan – Bio-Based Industries Joint Undertaking (BBI JU): <i>“New challenges and opportunities faced by primary producers”</i> Joachim Venus – Leibniz Institute for Agricultural Engineering and Bioeconomy (ATB): <i>“Process engineering challenges of producing bio-based products”</i> Q&A Session
16.25 – 16.55	Open discussion with the panelists <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Locking in the recovery: how resilient is our current notion of the EU bioeconomy, and can it help us navigate future crises?
16.55 – 17.05	Wrap-up – Holger Gerdes & Zoritz Kiresiewa, Ecologic Institute
17.05 – 17.15	Closure of the conference

