



Green ERA Hub (GEH) project-BIOEAST Initiative
Workshop

Budapest, 07-08. 10. 2024.

Hungarian EU Presidency Priority in the Context of BIOEAST
Initiative and Strong Engagement of the Western Balkans



PRIORITIES FOR HUNGARIAN PRESIDENCY

To agree on:

1. **the necessity of a large-scale pan-European but geographically focused R&I partnership**, aiming to make this partnership a priority for the new Commission;
2. **the involvement of neighbouring countries** along the BIOEAST, Western-Balkans and Eastern Partnership;
3. **the four thematic priorities** related to soil, freshwater, food system, and biomass valorisation at local level.



MILESTONES DURING THE HU EU PRESIDENCY

1. **4. July 2024: Policy forum** in Brussels including the presentation of the **10 BIOEAST** countries 20 agriculture and research ministers joint declaration on the commitment
2. **29 November 2024: Competitiveness Council Conclusions**, asking the Commission to assess the feasibility and create a strategic roadmap for a pan-European but geographically focused R&I Initiative.
3. **4-6 December 2024: High-level conference** in Budapest on thematic pathways, discussing the research needs on four thematic areas: soil health, freshwater resilience, food system security and biomanufacturing at local level.



EUROPE AT A CROSSROAD

1. Climate Change: unprecedented heatwaves, extreme weather conditions.
2. Geopolitical context: The global biomass supply chains are disrupted.

The European:

- food system security, supply chain security, and income security of producers and processors are endangered.
- natural resources are scarce, moreover: soil, freshwater and other ecosystem services are in bad conditions.
- society is scattered and confused about the future pathways.



Rethinking the role of the bioresources produced and processed in Central and Eastern Europe including Western Balkans and Eastern Partnership Countries (specifically Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia) on contributing to:

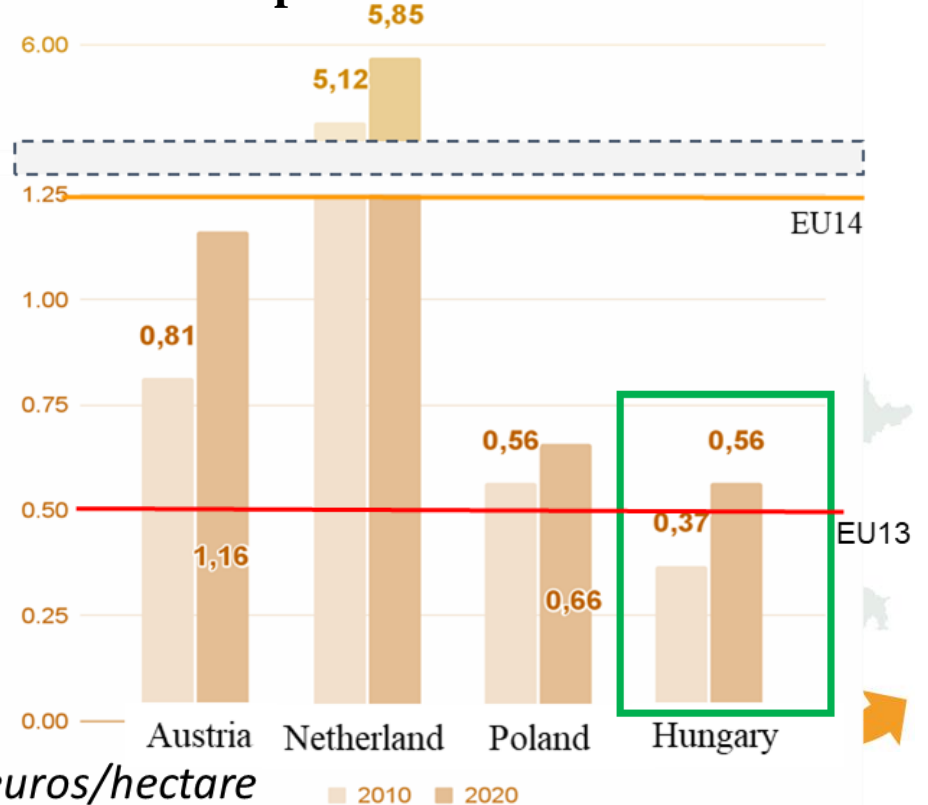
- 1.the EU Food System Security
- 2.the Strategic Autonomy of the EU (energy and industrial security)
- 3.the SDGs, EU Green Deal targets and strategies



PRODUCTIVITY GAP

The Hungarian gross value added per hectare is higher than the average in the EU13 and has increased significantly in recent years. However, it still lags behind the EU14, indicating room for expansion.

Gross value added per hectare in 2020 and 2010*



RESEARCH GAP

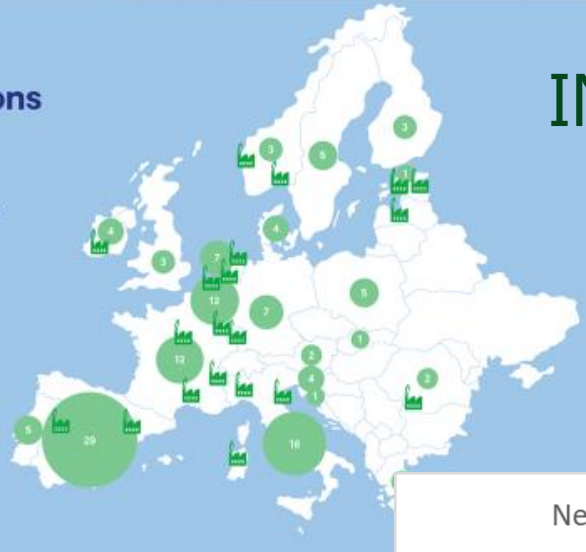
EU Research Framework Programme participation of EU 13:

- FP7 -KBBE, HORIZON2020-SC2 and HORIZON Europe-Cluster6:
still under 10% of the total budget



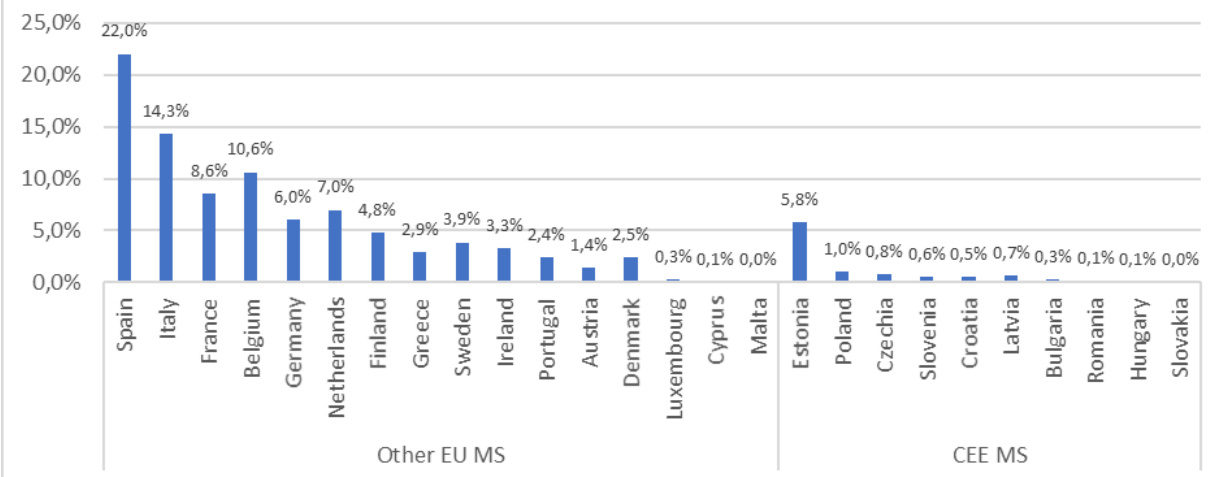
CBE JU-funded Innovation Actions

- Flagship biorefinery
- Demonstration plants



INNOVATION GAP

Net EU Contribution granted to CEE and other EU MSs in CBE JU (data retrieved from Horizon Dashboard, 02.09.2024)



BIOECONOMY FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND COMPETITIVENESS

1. WBs, UA and MD EU integration need to be facilitated.
2. The macro-region's sustainability transition should be assisted.
3. The bioeconomy deployment provides opportunity for both the EU and the macro-region.



FOR HARNESSING THE BIOMASS POTENTIAL OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

Is essential to:

- Improve conditions for innovation and knowledge creation and transfer
- Increase investment and long-term commitment in research
- Invest in more efficient research funding and management structure
- Mobilize and engage human resource



BIOEAST LEGACY COULD PROVIDE PLATFORM FOR PREPARATIONS

1. It is well known at EU level and acknowledged by the Commission
 2. The objectives are in line with the EU and the global context, including SDGs, Green Deal, etc.
 3. There is already a well-functioning coordination mechanism, structure and resources for further actions in place
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- A faint, light grey map of Europe is visible in the background on the right side of the slide. An orange arrow points from the bottom right corner of the map towards the bottom right of the slide.

1. BIOEAST macro-regional SRIA (2022) and Stakeholder Manifesto (2024)
2. Ministerial level declaration of 20 agri and research ministers from 10 BIOEAST countries. As of August the Hungarian Minister invited the 6 WB countries ministers to join and sign the BIOEAST common declaration.
3. Mobilising and building networks:
 - Policy networks: research, agri, bioeconomy
 - Research funders from each country (ministries and/or agencies)
 - Thematic expert networks: soil-freshwater-food systems-bioeconomy

THE IMPACT OF A GEOGRAPHICALLY- FOCUSED PAN-EUROPEAN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION INITIATIVE

1. Common pot of partnered countries and European Commission 50%-50%
2. Stronger links/networks in the macro-region and to the EU member states
3. Invested national funds stays in the country, and can be doubled
4. Access to a pan-European knowledge reservoir
5. Strategic priorities are set based on the macro-region's priorities
6. Countries research funders will have a strong input to future calls
7. Small consortiums and smaller sized calls helps to develop networks able to take part in the bigger Horizon Europe calls.
8. Socio-economic aspects: science diplomacy, stopping brain drain, vulnerable groups assessment and gap analyses to be performed.
9. Engagement of private sector will be facilitated.
10. Forming future national and European policy priorities can be backed by the validated excellence based research results.





SAVE THE DATE

Hungarian Presidency of the Council of the EU event

PARTNERING FOR THE FUTURE

4-6 December 2024

'BIOEAST and Beyond' high-level conference on Central and Eastern European research and innovation priorities in the context of sustainable soil and water resilience, food systems security and bioeconomy related policies

Venue: Budapest, Hungary





Thank you for your attention!

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