

Feedback on Roadmap Update of the 2012 Bioeconomy Strategy

IINAS welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback to the roadmap for the update of the 2012 Bioeconomy Strategy, and welcomes that the update will address **actions, and stakeholders**.

The roadmap as well as SWD (2017) 374 final and the Expert Group Report - Review of the EU Bioeconomy Strategy and its Action Plan all **address the SDGs** as a potential "overarching" concept and opportunity with regard to monitoring and assessment, but **fail to actually consider** the SDGs as a **governance framework** for the bioeconomy.

The roadmap and the documents mentioned before reiterate the need for horizontal "policy integration", but do not substantiate this:

- The SDG implementation on the EU level could be an important component of **horizontally aligning EU policies under the Presidency's guidance**, as e.g. in Germany where the Chancellor's Office is coordinating national SDG implementation.
- As part of such an integrative endeavor, the Bioeconomy Strategy and Action plan should **explicitly call for such an action, and make the bioeconomy a relevant part** of that.
- This would have to include agriculture (CAP reform), future (bio)energy and climate policies, as well as waste and product policies.

Furthermore, the "action" part **should not delegate responsibilities for activities** to Member States, regions, municipalities and public/private enterprises as well as civil society and European citizens – surely those actors are relevant and have their own responsibilities, but the EU should identify and acknowledge its responsibility as an "aggregator":

Not only SMART indicators and observatories are important, but bioeconomy **policies and instruments** need development together with interested Member States.

The blueprint for such action could be seen in the joint EU/MS activities towards European Armed Forces, and joint internal security.

Beyond the internal relations, the **external dimension of the bioeconomy** needs more consideration with regard to strategy and action:

- An international sustainability governance for the bioeconomy is needed to assure adequate sustainability of bio-based products in a globalized economy. Here, the role of **bi- and multilateral trade agreements** is crucial, as well as the role of bi- and multilateral financial institutions (e.g. EIB, EBRD, IBRD and IFC).
- In those, the EU should **clearly prioritize** sustainable governance of the bioeconomy, and earmark respective funding for capacity building in its external policies (e.g. DG DEVCO).
- Furthermore, EU participation in and support for multilateral platforms such as the Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP) and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) should be strengthened, with the aim to develop, discuss and implement a coherent international governance system for the bioeconomy.

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