



# BIOVOICES

CONNECTING BIO-BASED FORCES  
FOR A SUSTAINABLE WORLD

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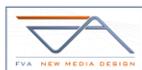


# CONNECTING BIO-BASED FORCES FOR A SUSTAINABLE WORLD



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## DELIVERABLE 6.1

# Preliminary report on European, National and Regional MML events

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## INTRODUCTION

The bioeconomy is Europe's response to the key environmental, societal and economic challenges the world is facing today. The bioeconomy is focused on reducing the dependency on limited fossil-based resources and ensuring healthy and secure food production and supply. By promoting sustainable production of renewable resources from land, fisheries and aquaculture, and their conversion into bio-based products and bio-energy the bioeconomy will drive growth in new jobs and industries.

In brief, bioeconomy is all about the three Ps: People, Planet and Profit

However, bio-based products and services can only become economically viable when they include improved and marketable features, and guarantee a sustainable performance accepted by society. Studies show that many new products are still in development and traditional bio-based products do not market themselves as such. This must change. For that, society must be involved in the development and delivery of the bioeconomy.

The bioeconomy uptake depends on the active collaboration of a broad range of stakeholders, including industry players, public authorities, researchers and civil society (consumers/users).

This is where the BIOVOICES project is active through ensuring the engagement of all these relevant stakeholder groups through (1) a multi-stakeholder Platform (<https://www.biovoices-platform.eu/login>), involving a plurality of voices with different perspectives, knowledge, and experiences whilst also animating open dialogue, co-creation and mutual learning between them and (2) MML events.

Specifically, the BIOVOICES' strategic objectives as defined in the DOA are to:

- Promote multi-actor dialogue and multi-stakeholder co-creation of research, innovation, development and political context in bio-based economy.
- Design and promote an MML (Mobilisation and Mutual Learning) platform (online and face-to-face), engaging different stakeholders at European, National and Local levels, including a plurality of perspectives, experiences, interests, aspirations and knowledge.
- Increase the quality, relevance, social acceptability and sustainability of research and innovation outcomes in the bio-based domain, thus minimizing the technology mismatches.
- Design and implement an action plan fostering the awareness of the wider public about the benefits and potential social, economic and environmental impact of the Bioeconomy and widening the diffusion of BBP (bio-based products), using BIOVOICES multi-stakeholders' platform.

To achieve these strategic objectives, BIOVOICES has and is working to:

- Define a framework for MML (WP3), by reviewing barriers and opportunities for the development of bio-based value chains, identifying stakeholders and expected benefits from mutual learning and mapping bio-based products (applications) based on stakeholders' interests.





- Launch the BIOVOICES multi-stakeholder's community (WP4), supporting and enabling discussion, workshops, mobilisation and mutual learning (MML) events (live and online), knowledge exchange and co-creation of knowledge and action plans.
- Create the BIOVOICES social platform and online mutual learning activities (WP5) to foster the BIOVOICES community activities and deliver related knowledge and contents to the different stakeholders. Design the social media strategy, infrastructure, actions and tools to increase the impact of the BIOVOICES activities and outcomes.
- Improve framework conditions for new bio-based market opportunities (WP6) including action plans and processes, by involving the stakeholders within the bio-based value chain (policy makers, researchers, the business community and the civil society) in co-creation events, at European, National and Local/Regional levels.
- Transform the experience of the BIOVOICES community into Actionable Knowledge for the different stakeholders by publishing recommendations and policy briefs to address the challenges related to development and delivery of the bioeconomy (WP6).
- Ensure BIOVOICES outcomes will have an impact on the different stakeholders, through the early impact, dissemination, communication and exploitation strategy (WP7).

In order to reach these specific objectives, BIOVOICES is based on existing approaches that have been merged and taken into account in all project activities in order to utilise an innovative methodology.

- **Quadruple Helix Model:** Where policy makers, business, research and civil society work together to co-create the future and drive structural changes far beyond the scope of what any organisation or person could do alone. This model encompasses user-oriented innovation models to take full advantage of the cross-fertilisation of ideas, leading to experimentation and prototyping in a real-world setting. This model is based on the principles of integrated collaboration, co-created shared value, cultivated innovation ecosystems, unleashed exponential technologies, and extraordinarily rapid adoption.
- **Mobilisation and Mutual Learning Approach:** This approach ensures the engagement of all relevant actors and aims to tackle research and innovation related challenges by creating partnerships with a variety of perspectives, knowledge and experience. These activities aim to promote the mobilisation and collaboration among stakeholders representing different interests. The activities are not organised as a top-down process but require a mutual commitment from all those involved in them. The MML therefore develops forms of dialogue and cooperation between several actors at different stages of the bio-based product value chain.
- **Participatory Design:** Participatory design is an approach where all stakeholders are involved in the design process. Traditional design projects typically include the paying client and professionals within similar and related industries. In participatory design, members of the wider community — from the users who are directly affected by the design, to the local business owners who may be peripheral to it — are also recognised as legitimate stakeholders with the ability to impact the project.



- **Multi-actor Approach<sup>1</sup>:** The multi-actor approach aims at more demand-driven innovation through the involvement of various actors (end-users, associations, enterprises, etc.) throughout the project, from participation in the planning of work, the execution up until the dissemination of results. This should generate innovative solutions that are more likely to be applied thanks to cross-fertilisation of ideas between actors, co-creation and generation of co-ownership for eventual results. A multi-actor project proposal needs to demonstrate how the project proposal's objectives and planning are targeted to the needs, problems and opportunities of end-users, and its compatibility with existing research and best practices.

These approaches have been used primarily in MMLs organised by BIOVOICES and reported on in this document.

## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This deliverable (D6.1) is the Preliminary Report on the European, National and Regional MML events carried out in this reporting period by BIOVOICES. This document therefore offers the 'preliminary insights' collated from and based on Mobilisation and Mutual Learning approach applied in the MML events carried out until November 2019

The structure of D6.1 has been kept open in order to support the next stage of reporting on the MMLs still to be delivered, and importantly lead towards the delivery of T6.4 and development and production of D6.2 and D6.3.

The structure of D6.1 is as follows:

- MML Events – Quantitative Review: what has been done and what events need still to be organised;
- MML events – the practical aspects: developing, managing, following-up (how to run an effective MML according to BIOVOICES):
  - Introduction – background to BIOVOICES work on these;
  - Methodology – how has BIOVOICES reported and collected data on the MMLs;
  - Lessons learnt about running an effective MML from each of the following 'kinds' of MML: European MML, National MML, Regional MML;
  - Common lessons learnt including effective involvement of all stakeholders – what worked and what did not, what was the success factor, e.g. getting civil society to attend and contribute;
- MML impact – preliminary insights gathered at events held regarding progress of BBPs and wider bioeconomy/circular economy or what has BIOVOICES discovered already:
  - Methodology – how preliminary insights been identified and collated;

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<sup>1</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/coordinators\\_day\\_maa\\_workshop.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/coordinators_day_maa_workshop.pdf)

- Preliminary insights from European MML, National MML, Regional MML events – highlighting similarities and differences due to nature of each event;
- Common preliminary insights across all MMLs, broken down into applicability to each stakeholder group.
- Discussion Points
- Appendix: containing all the reports of each MML event carried out

In order to ease identification of MML events and their cross referencing, each individual MML event has been allocated a unique number in the appropriate sections below.

## 2. MML EVENTS: QUANTITATIVE REVIEW

Forty-two MML events were organized from the beginning of the project until November 2019 as part of the BIOVOICES project. This chapter aims to provide the reader with a quantitative overview of these events. The scale of the event, the country where the event took place and the total number of events organised are presented in the chart 1 below, together with the name of the respective organisation carrying out the event.

Scale/country	Organizing partner	Total
<b>Regional (Local)</b>		<b>25</b>
Spain	ASEBIO	3
Romania	FRONTIER	2
Italy	FVA	3
Italy	APRE	1
Germany	ICLEI	1
United Kingdom	Minerva	5
Slovakia	Pedal	3
Greece	Q-Plan	1
Netherlands	WR	2
Belgium	WR	2
Estonia	Civitta	2
<b>National</b>		<b>17</b>
Romania	FRONTIER	1
Italy	FVA	2
Italy	APRE	2
Germany	ICLEI	1
Portugal	LOBA	3
Slovakia	Pedal	2
Greece	Q-Plan	1
Netherlands	WR	3
Estonia	Civitta	1
Italy	CNR	1
<b>European</b>		<b>3</b>
Belgium	ICLEI, APRE, FVA, Q-PLAN, PEDAL	2
France	Pedal	1
<b>Grand total</b>		<b>45</b>

Table 1 – Number of events organized

Audience and stakeholder numbers are provided below. Altogether 1775 participants took part in the 45 events, covering individuals interests across research, industry, civil society, public sector/policy making, investments and also in other spheres (broken down in Table 2 below).

Audience (number by type of stakeholders)						Total Audience
Research	Industry	Civil Society	Public Sector	Others	Investors	
484	481	434	176	169	31	<b>1775</b>

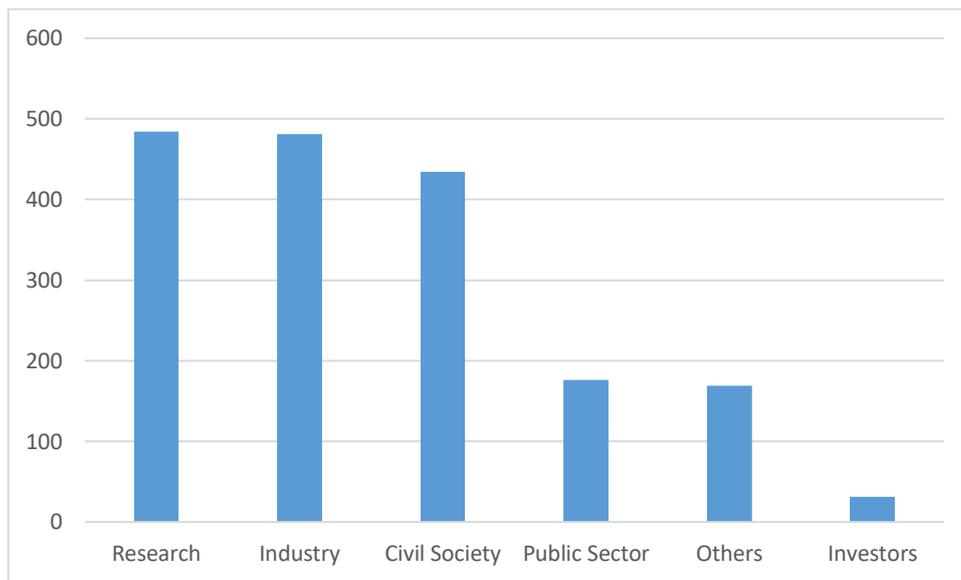


Table 2 – Audience

A chart offering an overview of the application sectors and their representation at the events held is given below (Table 3). Agrifood, agriculture and packaging application sectors were represented at 10 MMLs (22%); Building and construction at 7 MMLs (16%); Bioeconomy in general also at 9 MMLs (20%); Fertilizers and municipal waste at 4 MMLs (9%); AgriTech at 1 MML (2%); Textile at 2 MMLs (5%); Innovative products at 1 MML (2%); and all the sectors were represented at 11 MMLs altogether (24%).

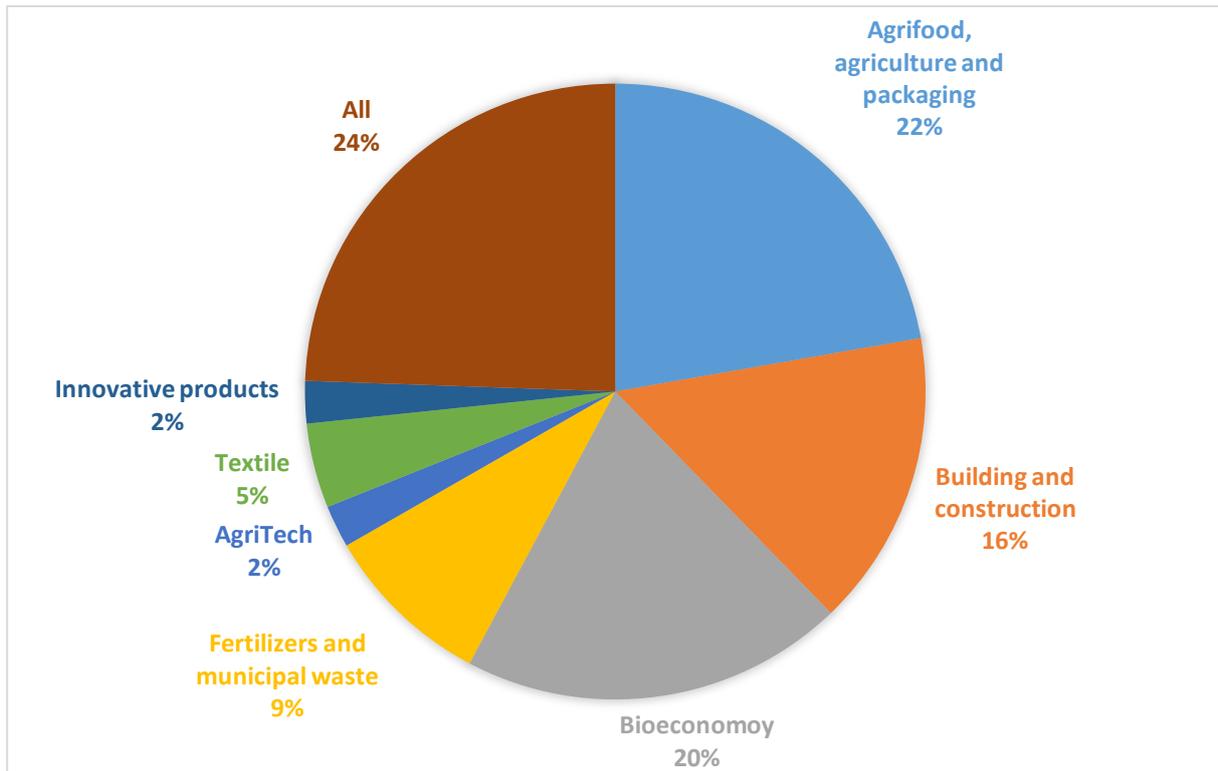


Table 3 – Application Sector

## 3. MML EVENTS: THE PRACTICAL ASPECTS

### 3.1. INTRODUCTION

PEDAL leads WP6 and oversees the organisation of MML events delivered by all partners. Further BIOVOICES MML events will be organised by the consortium between January 2019 and September 2020 bringing the total of all MML held during the funded period to circa 70.

The MMLs are not an end in themselves but are a vital step in creating the final deliverables, which will include actionable knowledge, insights and recommendations for each quadruple helix stakeholder group.

At the start of WP6, a detailed plan was presented to all partners showing what each partner needed to deliver. This has harmonised event planning and reporting, supporting effective impact monitoring and assessment of the MML events held

All partners received a practical guide defining the actions required to enable WP6 responsible partners to:

- Keep track of the events;
- Assess, analyse and collate the results and insights of the organised events;
- Detect gaps and apply corrective measures, where necessary;
- Identify and capture actionable knowledge, insights and recommendations.

The objective has been to provide clear guidelines for partners to engage in the planning and reporting of the MMLs and therefore contribute to the final outcomes of the project.

## 3.2. METHODOLOGY

### 3.2.1. Informing about planned and reporting completed MML events

The BIOVOICES Excel spreadsheet for event reporting has three separate worksheets which need to be completed – Event Calendar, MML Synopsis, Event Reporting – for each event. Partners were asked to complete each section promptly and update the information as appropriate.<sup>2</sup>

The Event Calendar worksheet summarises data on each event. As a high number of events has been planned and organised, an overview of the timing, scale, content and the context of each planned event is vital.

Partners are requested to update the Event Calendar worksheet in the Excel spreadsheet as soon as preliminary information about the event became available. When further details and information are confirmed partners update them in the specific sheet.

In order to monitor and assess the progress and impact made by the BIOVOICES project as well as to produce actionable recommendations, appropriate data and information about completed MMLs need to be finalised in a consistent and structured manner.

There are four elements required to complete the reporting of MML events:

- MML Synopsis – updated facts and figures about the event;
- Event Report – to support initial dissemination and communication;
- The MML Report – based on the blank template;
- The Publishable overview of results – a factual and visual document for the platform and dissemination.

The blank template to be used for each individual MML event by all the partners is available at G-Drive. This template provides partners with the structure designed to produce a comprehensive and meaningful account of the purpose, management and outputs from each MML. Due to the various formats in which MMLs can and have been arranged, it is not expected that every MML will provide information for every section. Partners are expected to complete as many sections appropriate for each of their events.

Project partners were asked to use the following tools and techniques at the MML events to facilitate the preparation of a useful and comprehensive MML Report:

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<sup>2</sup> Note that: D3.4 provides a detailed guide on how to organise the MML workshops.

- Feedback questionnaires – to be circulated for completion during and at end of each meeting and after the event (via email as a follow up) if appropriate. The questionnaire is available at G-Drive.
- Qualitative interview/s – each MML event should end with the section entitled: “What follow up activities are you considering taking after this event”? If this session does not deliver useful content and the actionable knowledge was not clearly identified, then ‘the most likely’ participants should be identified and ‘interviewed’ either at the event or after the event by phone or another method of direct communication (email/online survey). The basis for these interviews are the questions presented in the Feedback questionnaire (link as above).
- Evaluation Report – a summary of the completed Feedback Questionnaires received and the Interviews conducted. It provides an overview of the initial success of the MML in terms of numbers, satisfaction of attendees with the event and lessons learnt to pass on to partners.
- Impact Report – is a summary of what information has been captured from discussions/interactions at the event and on the content of feedback forms and interviews. The impact report focuses on what participants will do next in terms of connections, work/research and what BIOVOICES partners would do next in terms of the follow-up with certain participants. Importantly the report will highlight recommendations that are to be considered for inclusion in WP6 ‘Policy Briefs’ (best practice) documents for the bio-based sector as a whole, related to the relevant phases of product development and delivery, sectors and for each key stakeholder group.

Once the MML Report is completed to partners and WP6 lead satisfaction, it is uploaded to the project G-Drive.

### 3.2.2. Publishable overview of results

In addition to compiling the MML Report, a publishable overview of results should be created, setting out the actionable knowledge derived from the MML events for immediate upload to the web platform and for dissemination and communication purposes.

It has been the task of all partners to create a visually attractive one to two-page document, including photos that are meaningful and help to tell the story of each MML. This document is used by partners responsible for online and social media actions.

## 3.3. LESSONS LEARNT

Forty-five MML events organised in 11 months have provided a substantial base for collecting lessons learnt and using them for shaping and managing future MMLs. The lessons learnt provided below are clustered around specific topics and areas to provide helpful guidance.

### **Collaboration and synergies with projects and stakeholders**

- Invite other EU funded projects to present and disseminate their projects in order to increase the number of participants
- Engage more speakers –with short pitches, to stimulate discussion and offer a “buffet of ideas and best practices” for and with the stakeholders – increased number of interesting speakers attracts the participants
- Organise events in collaboration with relevant experts in the domain who can advise on content and new or forgotten angles
- Organizing together with municipalities allowing a certain number of policy makers to participate
- Involve regional development agencies in the organisation process provides a win-win approach
- Partner with organisations with a large contact list within the sector in order to ensure quality and appropriate numbers participating
- Collaborate with national and regional bioeconomy networks such as the Greek Bioeconomy Forum
- Organize as a satellite of a bigger event, ensuring effective attendance and representation of all relevant stakeholder groups
- Capture and nurture important contacts supporting future networking whilst also, making the planning of future MML workshops effective

### **Heterogeneity of viewpoints**

- Ensure presence of at least two different stakeholder groups with different points of view
- Invite more representatives from NGOs, non-formal groups involved in the bio-economy and related subjects, and consumer representatives, in order to include the whole spectrum of stakeholders involved in the co-creation of ideas and solutions

### **Relevant platforms for organizing MMLs**

- Rethink whether fairs with a lot of parallel activities going on is the right platform at which to organise an MML as the attendees tend to visit a lot of activities and cannot spend enough time at one “station”

### **Size and relevance of the audience**

- Having a small group of maximum 20 attendees gives an opportunity to keep them interested and focused through the whole event
- A smaller workshop can produce useful results if the correct mix of people attend
- events with 100 – 120 participants are complex and time consuming to organise therefore an appropriate amount of time needs to be devoted for such MMLs

- The presence of business representatives is of core importance as the representatives are able to frame the problems of bio-based marketability from different points of view: “pure business” (ie: prices and competition, especially when it comes to imported feedstock), “users’ perspective”, “regulatory frameworks”, etc.
- The participation and engagement of policy makers is a key factor, perhaps the most critical in terms of the impact and credibility of the project’s activities
- Be realistic about which of the 4-helix attends an MML, all four groups together is hard to realise
- A product design-oriented event is a good opportunity to interest the general public

### Visual aids

- Images and video clips supporting the MMLs work very well with every audience and can support their understanding of the project and awareness of the topic and their role in it
- Using Mentimeter makes a huge difference for maintaining the interest of attendees

### Messages to be communicated to drive adoption of BBPs

- Emphasise BBPs place in helping the environment, reduce pollution and supporting personal/family health
- Change the mind set of consumers and all stakeholders from “why does it (the BB product) cost more?” to “why is it (the fossil-based counterpart) so cheap?”

### Solutions needed for the existing challenges

- Price parity of BBPs and fossil-based counterparts – support needed in form of subsidy or preferential terms or mandated sourcing to counteract current higher pricing of BBPs
- Poor recognition of BBPs already on the market – sustainable sourcing and processing need to be emphasized
- Lack of credibility and preconceptions about the efficiency of BBPs
- Availability of complete value chain information on BBPs available on the market; there is more willingness to buy and use BBPs if curiosity is stimulated and the production process is transparent and traceable

### Tool supporting the flow of MML events

- The use of Mentimeter as part of the introductory session in order to get know attendees better supports the dynamics of the event
- The use of analysis of Mentimeter responses to encourages questions during the other sections of the event
- Mentimeter is particularly useful with large number of attendees at an MMLs

### Organisational and technical challenges

- Engaging civil society at this high level of debate is challenging both in terms of representation and also contribution to the debate
- Delivering the quadruple helix structure with representation across all four groups is challenging as stakeholder needs are incompatible
- A large number of speakers can attract participants, but is not easy to keep to the timeframe of the event
- Reducing the number of speakers and the duration of the event to half a day, allowing for more active participation and to maintain the attention of the participants
- Do not try to combine both an expert workshop and a large dissemination event into one event. Decide one way or another beforehand, whether to hold an expert event with a smaller group (i.e. a mutual learning) to work on content, or a larger dissemination event (i.e. a mobilisation event)
- If the MML is organised as part of an umbrella event, there should be clear agreement with the main facilitator about the exposure and timing of the MML in the programme and from the platform

### Organisational and technical support

- The venue and its “accessibility” are important to encourage maximum registrations
- In some contexts, language is a crucial factor for how many people will attend the MML
- Do not organise a meeting too early in the morning

### MML content

- If there is a call by participants for a more in-depth discussion on the relevant topics, this requires more in-depth preparation, including a pre-assessment of participants’ background, knowledge and interests in order to ensure the right people are discussing the right topics (this approach should be further tested)
- Restructuring discussions to focus directly on challenges, opportunities and success stories works well and leads to a wide-ranging discussion
- MMLs need to be tailored specifically to the reality of the situation in the respective country/region as far as bioeconomy related issues are concerned
- Some supporting information developed by BIOVOICES is very technical; moderators have found it challenging to guide the discussions in a meaningful way
- Debate continues as to whether having a topic/fixed sector for the MML is a good idea or not, i.e. a general discussion or focus on AgriTech or waste valorisation for example
- It is useful to have a single question around which all discussions are focused
- There is evident confusion regarding definitions of the bio-economy and related terms; substantial efforts should be made to increase awareness related to bioeconomy terminology

- addressing specific challenges that a local economy faces, such as the transition into the post-coal era in case of Western Macedonia, facilitates the success of future local and regional MMLs
- Defining the discussion topics and MML focus more tightly can achieve more specific answers to specific challenges

## 4. MML IMPACT: PRELIMINARY INSIGHTS

This chapter presents an impact report, made up of preliminary insights gathered at and from BIOVOICES MMLs held regarding the market progress of BBPs and the wider bioeconomy/circular economy. Additionally, top-level points have been identified from MMLs and these are being considered for inclusion in the BIOVOICES Policy Briefs and Action Plan (D6.3) or driving the bio-based sector forward, are outlined below.

The preliminary insights have been collected and identified by the respective partners who have organised the MMLs. Based on these inputs the insights were collated according to the topic/challenge/issue that they represent.

The topics collated so far are as follows:

- Communication including definitions and common language
- Purchasing BBP
- Labelling and Information on the BBPs based on agreed standards
- Public awards
- Changes in political representation, decision making, regulatory frameworks, administration
- Public procurement
- Good practice sharing
- Education and awareness raising
- Stakeholder engagement
- Human resources in BBP
- Research
- Value chains
- Ecosystems/agriculture
- Project support
- Funding

In addition to this topic related clustering, similarities and differences due to the nature of the MMLs (European MML, National MML, Regional MML) are highlighted. Common preliminary insights across all MMLs broken down into applicability to each stakeholder group are also presented.



<b>Purchasing BBP</b>		
<b>Insights</b>	<b>Type of MML</b>	<b>Applicability to stakeholder group</b>
Most people (regardless of age) are favourable to the purchase of bio-based products and believe that it is necessary that more of these reach the market. It is emphasised that the most important thing is that these products have a quality similar to fossil-based products already on the market, but understand that these bio-based products have a biological basis that makes them more sustainable. As for the price issue, consumers would not mind paying more for these bio-based products if it is proven that they are better for the environment. Many consumers confirmed that they have already changed their purchasing habits to become more sustainable for example using less plastics and recycling more.	Regional National	Civil Society
Have specific places of purchase for the first users of BBPs.	Regional National	Business
Walk away from opportunities if they do not involve the best use of resources – sometimes fossil is better or more appropriate for certain applications. BBP must pick its niches – particularly at this ‘early development’ stage.	All	All
Government support on a policy/regulation level essential for success of the bioeconomy in the UK and to develop and sustain markets. The power of multi-nationals and supermarkets is currently too great.	National	Policy makers
Online platform offering local bio-based products together with a complete logistics to-the-door provided by the operator of the platform, e.g. case of Bucharest, Romania.	Regional National	Business Civil Society
Farm tourism offers a complex package for the visitors, including not only full board but also workshops on traditional handcrafts, while the visitors are involved in agricultural cultivation and production too. In this way the area, agriculture, and the production of bio-based products are promoted and marketed, e.g. case of Ukraine.	Regional	Business Civil Society
Availability of bio-based building materials in off-line stores needs to be improved as people want to see and feel the material before buying it (on-line).	Regional Local	Business Civil Society
Companies that sell bio-based products need to focus their sales pitch on the benefits that it brings to people and to addresses concerns that people have (durability, food for insects, fire resistant, etc.). Architects, builders/installers of bio-based materials (builders) that have contacts with the clients/house owners can explain more effectively how they benefit from a nicer working and living environment.	National Regional	Business Civil Society
Advantages and unique selling points of bio-based products are not self-evident, they need to be continuously promoted via various channels and directly	All	All
<b>Communication</b>		
<b>Insights</b>	<b>Type of MML</b>	<b>Applicability to stakeholder group</b>
The media was highlighted as the best way to reach the general public. Social networks and television/radio are seen by participants from the general public category as the best way to convey the benefits of BBP.	National	All
People are motivated by what affects them directly, and so initiatives that promote economic benefits tend to be more effective.	National	Business Civil Society
There is a need for a catalogue of all bio producers, widely and publicly available.	National European	Business Policy makers



Develop appropriate standards and tools to promote resource efficiency.	National European	Business Policy makers
Target consumers with images and examples of bio-based products.	National European	All
Increase the promotion of BBP using attractive ways to promote products in particular to reach the younger generations; create campaigns and projects for schools that act as amplifiers, including information using innovative technologies (4.0).	National European	All
Develop awareness campaigns using qualified information presented through attractive communication addressed to all generations, using a terminology that everyone can understand.	National European	All
The “circular concept” works better to promote the bio-based sector to the general public.	National European	All
The bioeconomy will have limited impact unless joined up with and communicated within circular economy approaches.	National European	All
To get more acceptance by governments, a lobby network to tell one main story is needed. Currently, we have too many fragmented small stories/networks (e.g. only straw or hemp producers).	National	Business Policy Makers Civil Society
Include more bio-based issues at events attended by the public such as design events and fairs. Connect these events to communication channels known and used by civil society. The organisers of the Dutch Design Week raised awareness of bio-based building issues through a national television programme “Builders of the Future” on Channel Two. In this programme, it was discussed why we hardly build wooden houses in the Netherlands. The programme explained how this can be improved with all kinds of combined wood.	National	All
<b>Labelling and Information on the BBPs</b>		
<b>Insights</b>	<b>Type of MML</b>	<b>Applicability to stakeholder group</b>
For many sections of the public the real problem continues to be the information found on labelling. A very confusing label (with no standardised information) means that bio-based products cannot be easily differentiated from non BBPs. In addition, these products are confused with ecological products by much of civil society, due to insufficient labelling.	National European	Civil Society Business Policy makers
More standardisation is needed when labelling bio-based products. There are already bio-based products on the market but they are not well identified or labelled. There is a need for a greater standardisation and also to generate a unique and common European label, which also identifies the percentage bio-based component of the product, and if it is of sustainable origin.	National European	Business Policy makers
To easily recognize and find BBP on the market the following information should be provided: environmental impact, waste process, provenance/origin, product properties and ingredients, production process.	National European	Business Policy makers
Increasing trust through clear labelling and standards could be achieved with the involvement of policy makers to support BBP at regional and municipal level.	Regional National European	Policy makers Business Civil Society
Creating regulatory innovation sandboxes in order to create more meaningful, effective and close-to-reality standardisation and labelling.	National European	Policy makers
The labelling of Regional products to give consumers a quality guarantee that goes hand in hand with the good reputation of the brand and the region, not only in regional context but also from a tourist attraction point of view, e.g. case of Maribor, Slovenia.	Regional	Business Civil Society
<b>Public awards</b>		

Insights	Type of MML	Applicability to stakeholder group
The existence of a “Bioeconomy Awards Event“ would be a good initiative to attract the actors of the 4-helix and gather them at the same event. The attraction of important people within administration, large companies and researchers would attract the attention of the wider society and would increase the awareness and the knowledge of bio-based products. It would also be a great opportunity to bring together all the agents for debate and to generate new connections.	National	All
<b>Changes in political representation, decision making, regulatory frameworks, administration</b>		
Insights	Type of MML	Applicability to stakeholder group
Changes in (government) administration should not slow down the progress made in the bioeconomy by other administrations in the past. When a new government enters (regional or national level) it should continue to promote the advances in the promotion of bio-based products made by past administrations (even if they are of different ideologies). It is necessary to promote the standardisation of policies on bio-based products among administrations, and that changes of government do not hinder the impulse of the bioeconomy, generating very aggressive regulatory environments.	National	All
In terms of which aspects of the existing regulatory and policy framework can be further developed to support public engagement and public acceptance, it is the Regional Circular Bioeconomy Strategy (having a specific financing for the implementation).	Regional	Policy makers Civil Society
Developing cluster policy as a strategic component of industrial policy to support synergies and innovation in the circular economy.	National	All
Making laws and regulations to facilitate the sales and production of sustainable and bio-based products.	National	Policy makers Business
Underline the importance of coordination, integration and synergy in the design and implementation of policies and action plans for regional development.	Regional National	All
Bringing the political decision-maker closer to the needs of the citizen, businesses and in general to the needs of the territory.	All	All
Encouraging citizen contribution to the development of effective territorial policies with a bottom up approach to make concrete legislative proposals.	Regional	Civil Society
Facilitating the plan of periodic working tables with all the actors.	Regional	All
Better coordination among Quadruple Helix stakeholders, but also among levels of administration (regional/National/International) and policies (rural, industrial, but also tourism and culture) is needed to maximize the impact and local/regional development.	All	All
Promoting the creation of a new (participative) governance. Start a dialogue with citizens, policy makers and public administrations.	Local Regional	All
To promote regional development, an integrated strategy and action plan should be planned, involving stakeholders from different domains (primary production, port management, tourism, food and feed, industry, finance, etc.). Bioeconomy policies should be connected with other policies.	Regional	All
National governments are responsible for establishing the framework conditions necessary for bio-based innovations to thrive. This includes research and development and in terms of a strategic high level and effective bioeconomy strategy on the federal level that is part of a larger sustainability	National	Policy makers

governance framework, including links to e.g. the climate change mitigation as well adaptation, biodiversity and circular economy.		
Local governments are key actors in boosting local bioeconomies, be it through public procurement or through setting enabling framework conditions for bio-based innovations locally. To enable proper management and oversight and to steer these developments, a local bioeconomy manager (BEM) should be installed within the city administration driving the transition towards a more bio-based and circular city.	Local Regional	Policy makers
Policy/Regulation must be supportive and forward thinking to ensure the success of the bioeconomy. Support should include the formation of a defined Bioeconomy/Circular Economy Department involving members from all existing relevant government departments and the appointment of a minister as a ‘champion’ for the bioeconomy/circular economy. Government Policy requires flexibility but not to be constantly changing.	National	Policy makers
Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), about which the UK government has been consulting, might address some of issues with ‘hard to recycle’ materials by making these more expensive compared to ‘easier to recycle’ materials. Stakeholders to work with government to transform regulatory environment.	National	Policy makers Civil Society Research Business
The role of the government to stimulate bio-based insulation materials should be organised from the top-down.	National	Policy makers Business
Participants wanted the government to take a more active role in stimulating the upscaling of bio-based building in the Netherlands by: going for bio-based in their own (future) buildings, making non bio-based materials less attractive through the CO2 tax, subsidies for citizens to lower the cost of bio-based materials and subsidies for bio-based start-ups and scale-ups.	National	Policy makers Civil Society Business
The transition to a clean energy era is a matter of national importance but can only be realized by local action plans from local/regional stakeholders.	National Regional	Policy makers Civil Society Business
<b>Public procurement</b>		
<b>Insights</b>	<b>Type of MML</b>	<b>Applicability to stakeholder group</b>
The innovative public purchase/procurement is also a good way to promote the use of bio-based products due to scale-up potential	National	All
Greater leeway for public institutions pioneering new and innovative approaches to public procurement regulations and processes.	National	All
Create clear connections between procurement and development strategies, thus providing a clear framework on how procurement is linked to processes such as Agenda 2030 and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and how it should support them.	All	All
Institutionalised exchange of knowledge between purchasing departments and expert departments on technical specifications, sustainability criteria etc. via frequent round table meetings.	All	All
Promote procurement of bio-based products both by businesses and public sector. If there is a single “champion” (a business or public entity using green procurement on a wide scale), it can serve as inspiration for others.	All	All
<b>Good practice sharing</b>		
<b>Insights</b>	<b>Type of MML</b>	<b>Applicability to stakeholder group</b>
Using success stories or own BBPs in order to understand the concept of bioeconomy.	All	All

Share good practices and highlight excellence to stimulate ideas and discussions.	All	All
Valorising good practices through the exploitation of already financed instruments, such as platforms.	All	All
Sharing and highlighting good practices and excellence to inspire other initiatives, rather than highlighting only the problems and negative aspects.	All	All
Good practice example: In 2015 Wales adopted a Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act. This is a document and initiative with legal enforcement that is unique to Wales and requires all policy players working in Welsh Government and the Welsh Economy to link into the sustainability agenda with relation to health and climate change for example. There is an opportunity for other countries to follow suit.	National	All
Wales is a good example of a region of the UK with a unique identity. Bioeconomy to be promoted with regional context. Regions within regions and to regions.	National	All
Case studies and best practices can have strong motivational power. It is suggested to present examples in public spaces. such as the shopping centres, schools, fairs, public transport, etc.).	National	All
<b>Education and awareness raising</b>		
<b>Insights</b>	<b>Type of MML</b>	<b>Applicability to stakeholder group</b>
Increase participation of the Administration in promoting the bioeconomy through education and being a point of reference for the use of bio-products.	National Regional	Policy makers
More activities to educate and disseminate the concept of bioeconomy for young people (schools) and encouraging the concept of sustainability, recycling, use of bio-products.	National	Civil Society
Improve the dissemination of information regarding the opportunities and challenges of the circular economy among stakeholders at national, regional and local level.	National Regional	Civil Society Policy makers
Promote education for sustainable development at all levels of education.	All	All
Promote sustainable business models by encouraging the development of electronic waste trading platforms or other complementary resources associated with IT.	All	All
Is really important to improve the knowledge and increase BBPs adoption through informative activities such as: School activities, Advertising campaigns, Social media, Awareness and information campaigns, Dedicated spaces for the promotion of BBPs in shops, supermarkets, shopping centres.	National	All
Meetings and educational/information events on BBP shall be organized.	National	All
Increase awareness and active knowledge of bio-economy terminology, develop a common language, a universal terminology to increase the dialogue between all the stakeholders and allow everyone to understand the impact that the BBP can have on the environment in terms of functionality compared to traditional products. Use less generic communication, taking into account age groups education level, sector, etc.	All	All
Set up a communication and training plan, especially with young people. Awareness, information and knowledge are the essential elements to focus on to drive the change.	National	All
Train quadruple helix stakeholders on how to create a network for local development and valorisation of local resources.	Local Regional	All
Develop school level awareness of circular bio-based economy via National Curriculum. Young people are wanting to develop new skills relating to climate and lifestyle change.	National	All

Soft approach (education, incentives) seems to be placed well above hard approach (bans and sanctions). Nevertheless, the producers of BB products call for much clearer legislation, which does not support fossil-based solutions. Policies should be coherent and their real impact measured and re-evaluated.	All	All
Raising awareness on the socio-environmental impact should 1) encourage the change of the public mind-set and 2) push consumers to buy bio-based products. Citizens should be aware of the bioeconomy impact at social, environmental and economic level in order, for example, to accept the transformation of an old industrial venue into a bio-refinery. Consumers should buy “better”, by choosing bio-base products over others (also supported by the “labels” activity). Moreover, citizens should buy/consume “less” by pushing towards the focus of sustainable consumption.	All	All
One of the most crucial factors affecting the success of local bioeconomy business plans is the local society mindset and efforts should be focused on education and information about the business opportunities that the bioeconomy can offer.	Local	Civil Society
<b>Stakeholders engagement</b>		
<b>Insights</b>	<b>Type of MML</b>	<b>Applicability to stakeholder group</b>
Creating advisory boards where all the stakeholders are involved in order to elaborate a strategy for the bioeconomy in a specific region.	Regional	All
Successful involvement of various actors for example by inviting them to give a presentation during the MML, or doing specific activities with and for them, for example participating in events such as “Researchers Night” or using places to do the MML, where they will normally be as for example IKEA.	National	All
In order to boost local/regional development it is important to increase the involvement of local authorities in the separate collection of municipal waste.	Local Regional	Policy makers
Promote conscious consumption and environmental sustainability and a participative and proactive involvement of citizens.	All	All
Connect the actors in order to start a dialogue and build a bridge that brings academics closer to companies, consumers and politics.	All	All
Stimulating all actors to be involved. The key to success is citizen involvement.	All	All
Organizing events on the territory stimulating knowledge sharing, new ideas and collaboration among stakeholders.	Regional	All
Supporting active engagement of citizens and stimulating all actors to be involved and training young generation in order to change bad habits.	National	Civil Society
Facilitating the collaboration between sectors. Offering and promoting initiatives that support the creation of multi-level cooperation and creation of multi-stakeholder networks	All	All
It is crucial to involve citizens in testing out bio-based innovations, but also to engage users in designing projects and research questions from the beginning. Citizen-science and living labs, have proven to be an innovative way to do that, especially at the local level. Funding instruments, both European, but even more so, national ministries (economic, research and environment) should encourage such forms of public engagement and make public funding available.	European National	Civil society
Avoid fragmentation at agency level which is preventing joined up thinking and therefore real progress. For example, the lack of cross departmental working has to be avoided.	National	Policy makers
To develop a branch network of different providers to improve the lobby to central governments.	All	Policy makers
<b>Human Resources involved in and with BBP</b>		



<b>Insights</b>	<b>Type of MML</b>	<b>Applicability to stakeholder group</b>
Calibration of the human resource according to market requirements is a must.	All	Business
Focus should be made on the revitalisation of the regional economy in an ethical way and on the enhancement of social enterprises with social innovation action plans. The bioeconomy can build a new labour market and this is something of importance to offer to society.	Regional	Business Civil Society
Missing skills within the farming community.	Regional National	Business Civil Society
<b>Research</b>		
<b>Insights</b>	<b>Type of MML</b>	<b>Applicability to stakeholder group</b>
To boost local development, it is important to invest in the research and in the relative dissemination and exploitation of results by the local stakeholders.	Local Regional	Research
Support the dialogue between researchers and consumers bringing together all the actors of the quadruple helix.	All	Research
Create an accessible knowledge hub that is open source, mapping information about all university and other funded research that has taken place into the development of bio-based products, whether taken to commercialization or not. 'Information sharing can lead to enormous power.'	European	Research
<b>Value chains</b>		
<b>Insights</b>	<b>Type of MML</b>	<b>Applicability to stakeholder group</b>
There is a need for a business atmosphere where failures are allowed. Support framework is needed for start-ups/investors willing to take a risk.	National	Business
Ensure Stability and consistency of feedstock and supplies (linked to feasibility of market need of any emerging product).	National	Business
<b>Ecosystems/agriculture</b>		
<b>Insights</b>	<b>Type of MML</b>	<b>Applicability to stakeholder group</b>
Further exploration and research needed into the interconnections and effects of a scaled up bioeconomy and related agriculture towards local ecosystems (water and land) and biodiversity.	Regional	Research
Reducing the amount of resources that are being processed – wide application of re-use approach.	All	All
Mediterranean countries boast a remarkable set of feedstocks useful for bio-based applications (ranging from olives to citrus fruits, from straw to grapes and tomatoes). There is still hidden and not fully exploited potential in countries like Portugal and Greece.	National	Business
<b>Project support</b>		
<b>Insights</b>	<b>Type of MML</b>	<b>Applicability to stakeholder group</b>
Bio-based businesses and related technology are starting to get established and rapidly grow. Unfortunately, the related regulatory framework requires more time to adapt, maybe too much time projects like BIOVOICES could provide the required 'push'.	All	Civil Society
<b>Definition and common language</b>		



<b>Insights</b>	<b>Type of MML</b>	<b>Applicability to stakeholder group</b>
Defining what bioeconomy is, as it means different things to different stakeholders. Those involved in the Welsh bioeconomy need to be sure that everyone is working to the same definition (“Get the story right and be the advocates”).	National	All
A Common Language is required. This must be easily understandable by all stakeholders must be developed to describe the bioeconomy. All those involved must be sure about what they want to achieve so that all can work together towards a common goal. Without complete understanding of what exactly the bioeconomy and all that it encompasses it will continue to be challenging to develop and market bio-based products.	National	All
<b>Funding</b>		
<b>Insights</b>	<b>Type of MML</b>	<b>Applicability to stakeholder group</b>
Funders including banks and venture capitalists must become less risk averse when assessing applications from bio-based businesses for funding at scale-up phase.	National	Business
Investment in the UK recycling industry is now essential. The industry needs to move forward to be able to deal with new bio-based materials.	National	Business
Producers need financial and legal support, but often, creating clusters and alliances can have more lasting market benefits for them.	National European	Business
There are not many examples available showcasing banks considering bio-based production (BBP) a relevant or important issue. On the other hand, it is true that BBP is included as a topic in a wider discussion, e.g. on the circular economy. Based on the discussions carried out at the MML event considering finance and investment and green banking, it would be important from the BBP point of view to achieve a situation when relevant actors operating in/or towards green banking, consider CO2 foot print impact of BBP and/or of the inputs for BBO as a criterion to provide a loan; achieve a situation when the BBP and/or inputs for BBP are seen as a benefit, and a positive criterion when deciding on loan provision in scope of green banking; achieve a situation when investments in sustainable consumption will be considered from their CO2 impact point of view, before providing a loan.	National	Business

## 5. DISCUSSION POINTS

During the MMLs a variety of challenges and opportunities for the uptake of sustainable bio-based production and the bioeconomy as a whole have been identified. Ideas on how these can be tackled by all the relevant stakeholders at all levels – from local/regional to national and European – range e.g. from CO2 taxation to a more efficient and transparent citizen engagement. These challenges named during the discussion are clustered and presented in the text below and serve as a good base for further topics to be addressed and brainstormed about in scope of future events and to be developed in to the final report, policy document, etc.:

### Awareness raising and Communication

- Lack of awareness and knowledge



- Not easy to understand the contents and terminology; messages are too abstract they should be simple, concrete, applicable in real life
- Confusion about bio-based certification and Contradictory messages
- Language barriers
- Need to address societal and consumer concerns, integrating citizens' needs in industrial and policy agendas
- Build trust and acceptance
- Fake news and miscommunication
- Green washing communication
- Beyond awareness: how to change peoples' attitudes and behaviours
- Need to address not only citizens, but other stakeholders like farmers, procurers, intermediaries
- Engage all the stakeholders (policy makers and citizens are not easy to be involved)
- Difficulties in capturing industrial interest
- Difficulty in reaching less mature countries (like Eastern European ones)
- Difficulties in reaching some targets (like elderly people)
- How to increase the awareness in case of the general public
- How to engage the Media
- Who should be involved to provide solid background knowledge (research, industry, policy makers)
- Who are the multipliers to involve and how
- Communication in context of circular economy

### **Bioeconomy Education**

- Lack of awareness prevents the exploitation of opportunities (public procurement, differentiation of income for primary producers)
- Train new experts and prepared educators
- Terminology gaps and confusion
- Education should start early; need to teach bioeconomy and green education to young generations (from primary schools)
- Need to map new job opportunities and related educational needs
- Lack of Regional strategy in order to promote educational programmes tailored to specific local needs
- Matching industry needs of skilled workforce; need to boost Industry engagement with education
- Need to raise policy makers interest in bioeconomy education programmes; need to convince education ministries to implement the change: education should be a long-term investment for the governments
- Lack of Interdisciplinarity and Inter-sectoral approach in the design of educational curricula
- Bioeconomy requires transversal competences
- Bureaucracy to activate new curricula in universities



- Fragmentation, need to align educational programmes in Europe, missing Educational programs in several countries (like Eastern countries)

### **Standardisation, labelling and regulatory hurdles**

- The bioeconomy encompasses domains that are very different (Agri-food, Biotech, etc.). The complexity and wide scope of the bio-based economy makes it difficult to define the regulations and horizontal standards that could be applied to all the domains.
- How to benchmark life cycle assessment (LCA) and define thresholds for sustainability assessment? How to calculate the impact of a bio-based products compared to a fossil-based one, including externalities?
- Standards are typically made for FBP (Fossil Based Products) and the methodologies used for FBP often cannot comply with BBPs (Bio-Based Products) (e.g. Standards typically measure the performance of products that are composed of a single material, while often BBPs are composed of several materials. There are no tools to assess the impact of combined products).
- The complexity of BBPs and their different characteristics (e.g. materials, properties, biodegradability) create problems for Ecolabels that certify the global sustainability of a product.
- The bio-based economy is sometimes regulated by policies, legislation and standards from other domains (for example reach, energy directive, etc.) which have different goals and objectives sometimes creating hurdles and bottlenecks for the bio-based economy.
- There is a lack of harmonisation among different policies (overarching regulations, new policies, among countries, etc.)
- Lack of synergies and common understanding between various ministries responsible for the different policies. Need for a holistic political approach to drive the transition (e.g. legislation supporting circular economy can conflict with bio-based economy supporting instruments).
- The most urgent domains where standardisation should be better regulated, are the following: end of life management, waste, compostability of bio-based products.
- Difficulties to access to labelling and certification schemes for SMEs and start-ups
- Need for a clear, understandable and trusted labelling system for the demand chain (consumers, B2B, procurers)
- Insufficient deterrents and directives banning FBP
- Complexity of cascades; Cascading versus Circularity
- Risk of Greenwashing

### **New value chains and business models**

- True circularity
- Feedstock providers not integrated into value chain
- Supporting environment
- Biomass origin
- Social acceptance

- Adaptation to regional development strategies
- Recruiting of competent workers
- Strategic business models
- Logistics and costs
- Competitive price
- Local valorisation
- Boost the mobilisation and utilisation of unused biomass
- Increase awareness and involvement of Biomass suppliers
- How to adapt global ideas and process to complex locality and unique cultures and societies
- Promote creativity with all stakeholders
- Feedstock availability
- Life cycle assessment studies to validate new business models
- CO2 tax
- Technical and cost performance of many bio-based products
- Benefits for ALL actors in the value chain
- Policy support
- Quality and storage of feedstock
- Integrate processes for full biomass conversion into diverse bio-based products
- Increased extraction costs of raw material
- Regulations
- Acceptability of raw material use
- Standard European regulation for all Europe about end of waste and waste-into-best concept
- Intellectual property
- Commitment of partners for the investments

## 5. CONCLUSIONS

The overall aim of the presented Preliminary report on MML events, carried out in scope of BIOVOICES project, was to report on the outputs of all the 45 MMLs organized until November 2019. The report in question, being part of WP6, is referred to as D6.1 and offers the 'preliminary insights' gained thanks to the applied Mobilisation and Mutual Learning Approach. The structure of the D6.1 report was kept more open what should support the process of the next stage of reporting.

The **European, National and Regional MML events** reported were mostly targeted to engage European, national and regional communities where the Mobilisation and Mutual Learning approach was based on cross-sectorial engagement of multiple stakeholders, with a special focus on the involvement and contribution of the civil society.

Participants of the events were invited to name the challenges they have encountered and potentially offer solutions to them, and at the same time they were also encouraged to discuss specific subjects and topics in line with the application sector they came from. Preliminary insights were gathered at these events regarding the progress of BBPs and wider bioeconomy/circular economy. The common preliminary insights across all MMLs were then broken down into applicability to each stakeholder



group involved. Additionally, discussion points raised during the MML events have been collected and presented to the reader. These points are aimed to be followed-up in scope of future events. Lessons learnt during event organization are also summed up and will be taken into account in future organization actions.

## APPENDICES

The overview of all MML events carried out until December 2020 is available below.



Country	City	Start date	End date	Scale	Challenge	Event organised in collaboration with...	Which application sector/s were involved?	Title and short description of the event	Partner responsible
Spain	Madrid	15/02/2019	15/02/2019	Regional	B2/B3	la NAVE 	All	Interactive workshop with high school students where they can learn about bioeconomy, and how it is a fundamental part of biotechnology. Through practical activities they themselves will participate in what bioeconomy is, how it is present in our lives every day and how more sustainable products are created with its use (bio-based products).	ASEBIO
Spain	Madrid	13/02/2019	13/02/2019	Regional	E1/C3	Transfiere	Agriculture, Agrifood & Food	Knowledge transfer to the productive sector in the field of bio-based products to facilitate their development and marketability.	ASEBIO
Spain	Jaén	17/05/2019	17/05/2019	Regional	B2/B3	BLOOM project	Agriculture, Agrifood, Packaging	International Fair of Oil: Expoliva	ASEBIO
Romania	Cluj	14/04/2019	14/04/2019	Regional	E1, E3		Agriculture, Agrifood	Raise awareness of the importance of bioeconomy and bio-based products among farmers, specialists, managers and authorities from agriculture.	FRONTIER
Romania	Arad	24/05/2019	24/05/2019	Regional	D1, D3		<u>Packaging, building and construction.</u>	Raise awareness about the bioeconomy in the plastic, rubber and composite materials industry	FRONTIER

Italy	Rome	12/10/2018	14/10/2018	National	E1, E2		All	Improve understanding of challenges, opportunities and barriers to promote changes in purchase habits at Maker Faire Rome 2018	FVA
Italy	Rome	12/10/2018	14/10/2018	National	E1, E2		All	Increase awareness and trust on Bio-Based Products at Maker Faire Rome 2018	FVA
Italy	Biella	09/04/2019	09/04/2019	Regional	E1/E2	Chamber of Commerce of Biella and Vercelli, CNR National Research Council, the European Bioeconomy Network, Chimica Verde Bionet, Onda Verde Civica and the BIOPEN project	Bioeconomy in general	Bioeconomy as an opportunity to boost local development based on territorial resources. The workshop aimed to stimulate and facilitate the collaboration between stakeholders for the creation of shared action plans, to promote regional development, based on Piedmont territorial resources, with particular attention to the textiles industry.	FVA
Italy	Bari	19/03/2019	19/03/2019	Regional	E1/E2	Assobiotec, Biocosi, CNR, Cluster SPRING, Federchimica, FVA New Media Research, GRACE, Mistral, Power4Bio, University of Bari Aldo Moro, VALUEMAG	Bioeconomy in general	Bioeconomy as an opportunity for regional development based on territorial resources in APULIA. Main objective was to encourage the involvement and collaboration between local actors, to identify opportunities for territorial development that are able to enhance regional characteristics and existing resources	FVA

Italy	Latina	26/09/2019	26/09/2019	Regional	D1/E2	Lazio Innova, Innova camera, CNR	All	Maker Faire Academy - Blue Bioeconomy: valorisation of marine resources between environmental protection and economic and social development	FVA
Germany	Bonn	29/05/2019	29/05/2019	National	B2/C2/D3	BLOOM and BIOBRIDGE S (H2020 Projects)	All	Challenges and opportunities for bio-based products in Germany	ICLEI
Germany	Sigmaringen	03/07/2019	03/07/2019	Local	E2	The City of Sigmaringen	packaging, food	local feedstock for the bioeconomy - challenges and opportunities	ICLEI
Portugal	Lisbon	29/05/2019	29/05/2019	National	E1/ B2	Lipor; EUBCE Conference	Fertilizers/ Municipal-waste-derived products	Agricultural and forestry biomass as innovation boost for small scale farms	LOBA
Portugal	Lisbon	27/05/2019	30/05/2019	National	All	Lipor; EUBCE Conference	N/A	BIOVOICES at EUBCE (Stand-up workshop during 4 days of the faire)	LOBA
UK	Cirencester	19/03/2019	19/03/2019	Regional	All	Farm491	AgriTech	Challenges and opportunities for bio-based products/applications in UK AgriTech sector	Minerva
UK	Biovale, York	09/04/2019	09/04/2019	Regional	All	BioVale, York	Waste Valorisation	Challenges and opportunities for bio-based products/applications in UK waste valorisation sector.	Minerva
UK	BEACON, Aberystwyth, Wales, UK	19/06/2019	19/06/2019	Regional	All	BEACON, Aberystwyth, Wales, UK	Biorefining, Bioeconomy in general	UK Wales regional MML Event. BEACON project (ERDF) Aberystwyth UK.	Minerva

UK	Norwich Research Park, UK	02/07/2019	02/07/2019	Regional	All		Bioeconomy in general	UK East Anglia regional MML Event. Norwich Research Park, John Innes Centre, University of East Anglia.	Minerva
UK	Scotland	02/10/2019	02/10/2019	National	C3, D3	Chartered Institute of Wastes Management	Food packaging	UK National Event - Scotland	Minerva
Slovakia	Bratislava	27/09/2018	27/09/2018	Regional	A2, B2	Urban Summit	Construction, Packaging, Textile	MML in Slovakia (Urban Summit)	PEDAL
Slovakia	Nitra	22/10/2018	22/10/2018	National	A2	Slovak University of Agriculture	Construction, Packaging, Textile	Sustainable and circular Bioeconomy in Slovakia	PEDAL
Slovakia	Nitra	11/04/2019	11/04/2019	Regional	E1, E2	Made in Danube project	Food and food additives	Regional MML in Slovakia: Enhancing local action plans and boosting local deployment	PEDAL
Greece	Thessaloniki	10/05/2019	11/05/2019	National	D1	Greek Bioeconomy Forum	N/A	The development of bioeconomy in GreeceQ Bringing the needs of all stakeholders	Q-PLAN
Netherlands	Utrecht	08/01/2019	08/01/2019	National	A1/B2-D2	WR-research programme	Building	Social innovation for a sustainable environment with bio-based materials	WR
Netherlands	Bergen op Zoom	18/04/2019	18/04/2019	National	A1/A3/D2	NFT2019	Building/insulation	Natural insulation in transition.. Natural insulation has a low share in Europe (4%) and is even lower in the Netherlands. How to increase this share by a better cooperation among the suppliers, adjustment of quality marks and more involvement of forerunners?	WR

Belgium	Brussels	28/03/2018	28/03/2018	European				Maximizing Collaboration among EC Funded project communicating about bioeconomy	APRE, FVA, QPLAN (organiser and moderators)
Belgium	Brussels	22/05/2018	22/05/2018	European				Boosting circular bio-based economy in cities Lessons learnt from EU funded projects and local stakeholders	ICLEI
Netherlands	Eindhoven	23/10/2019	23/10/2019	Regional	A3/B3	DDW2019	Building/insulation	Natural building materials in transition. Natural building and insulation in the Netherlands. How to increase this share by more knowledge among building markets and consumers	WR
Netherlands	Breda	07/11/2019	07/11/2019	Regional	A3	BIOVOICE S event	Food packaging and disposables	How to improve biobased plastic packaging and disposables for single use and comply with the upcoming Single Use Plastics directive	WR
Greece	Kozani (Western Macedonia)	21/09/2019	21/09/2019	Regional	E1	Balkan Clean Energy Transition BCET 2019 International Conference and Fair	Agri-food sector, agriculture, textile products, chemicals	Title: "Clean energy transition through circular bioeconomy and industrial symbiosis" Scope: the role bioeconomy could play at a regional level for the clean energy transition	Q-PLAN
Belgium	Gent	19/11/2019	19/11/2019	Regional	B3	Flanders bb business day	Food packaging and disposables	How to improve the communication of biobased plastic packaging	WR

Romania	Bucharest	01/11/2019	01/11/2019	National	A3	INDAGRA International Agricultural Fare	Food packaging and disposables	Integrating organic products into the food industry	FRONTIER
Slovakia	Bratislava	07/11/2019	07/11/2019	Regional	A2, B2, B3		Packaging and construction	The event offered attendants of the biggest “urban” festival in Bratislava, which focuses on various aspects of living in a city through discussions, workshops and presentations, opportunity to discuss commercial specifics of biobased products (BBPs). There are many initiatives or even SMEs trying to market BBPs in Slovakia, but there are often missing the target due to insufficient knowledge and understanding of the existing challenges. This workshop was part of a joint-event with the project Biobridges. Also, the event was designed to offer opportunity for various stakeholders to meet and get to know each other, potentially creating networking synergies for the future.	PEDAL

Estonia	Tallinn	06/11/2019	07/11/2019	National	E1		bioeconomy	From the bioeconomy through a value chain perspective and opportunities for stakeholder engagement	Civitta
Estonia	Tartu	01/11/2018	02/11/2019	Regional		Bioinnovation Days 2019	innovative products	Biohackathon for master and doctoral students	Civitta
France	Paris	31/10/2019	31/10/2019	European	B2, B3	LIFT, EuBioNet, European Bioeconomy Workshop	all	Shaping the bio-based economy involving citizens through a participatory approach	PEDAL
Slovakia	Bratislava	22/10/2019	22/10/2019	National	D2	Fintech Summits	bioeconomy	How can banks align their "Green KPIs" in the context of the Slovak Bioeconomy Strategy which is currently under preparation?	PEDAL
Belgium	Ghent	19/11/2019	19/11/2019	Regional	B3	FBBV & BBD	Packaging and construction	How to communicate biobased with sustainable packaging	WR
Portugal	Caparica	04/09/2019	06/09/2019	National	B3-D3	Lipor Wastes2019 Conferece		#WasteToProducts Is it possible to develop environmental and economical sustainable bio-based products from waste in Portugal? YES! An example is the sustainable and bio-based soil improver Nutrimais developed by Lipor! But how to effectively target farmers, to boost such sector?	LOBA
Netherlands	Bergen op Zoom	16/04/2020	16/04/2020	National	A1/A3/D2	NFT2020	Building/insulation		

Italy	Rome	17/10/2019	17/10/2019	National		Forum BuyGreen - Forum Compraverde	bioeconomy, packaging, food, buildings	The workshop titled "The bio-economy in Italy: incentives, laws, norms" was organized in the framework of the "forum BuyGreen 2019" the link for more info is: <a href="https://www.biovoices-platform.eu/registeredarea/mmls/viewMml/5516">https://www.biovoices-platform.eu/registeredarea/mmls/viewMml/5516</a>	CNR
Estonia	Pärnu	10/08/2019	10/08/2019	Regional		InAugust	domestic waste and food	Waste management panel and MML Workshop "Plastic ABC – how to reduce plastic waste and select best alternatives"	Civitta
Italy	Roma	18/10/2019	18/10/2018	National	C2	Forum BuyGreen-Forum Compraverde FVA	All	The role of Green Public Procurement (GPP) in boosting the Bioeconomy: challenges, opportunities and barriers to overcome	APRE
Italy	Trieste	24/05/2019	24/05/2019	National	D3, E2	PRO-ESOF	All	The alliance between primary production and bio-based industries. A macro regional approach	APRE
Italy	Palermo	24/09/2019	24/09/2019	Regional	E1	-	ALL	High environmental risk areas: from the circular bioeconomy to regional strategies for sustainable development	APRE

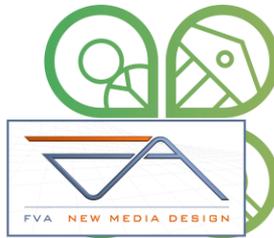
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By the end of the project, the individual summary reports from all events will be available also on the Biovoices Platform:

<https://www.biovoices-platform.eu/registeredarea/mmls>



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