



Bio-based strategies and roadmaps for enhanced rural and regional development in the EU

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Project intro

Type of project: CSA

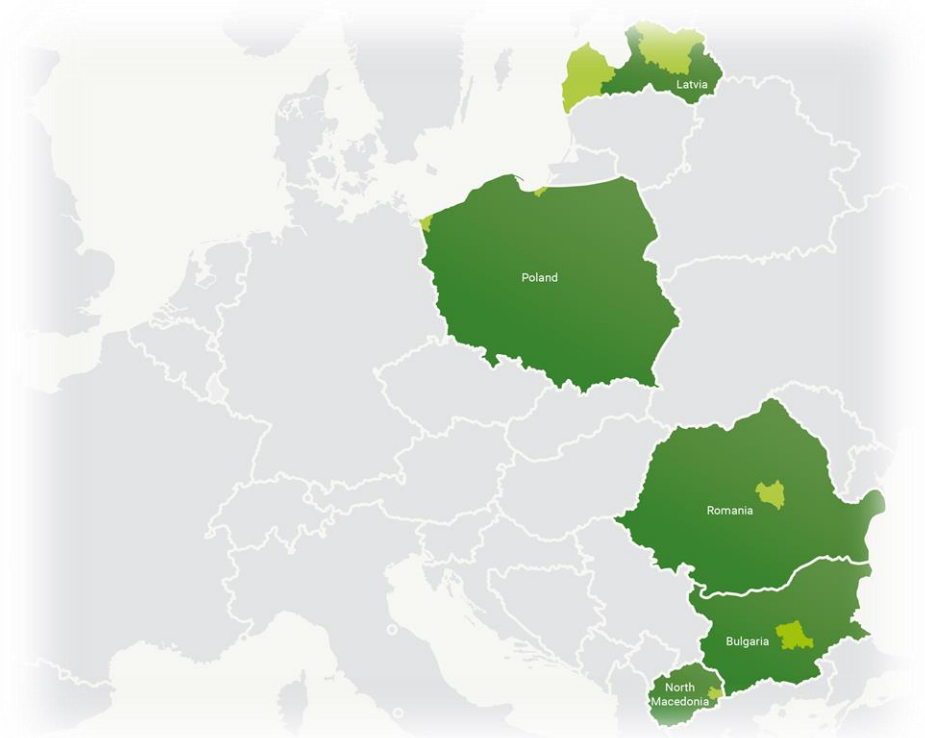
Start & end date: April 2019 – July 2022

Coordinator & number of partners:

Ecologic Institute + 8 partners

Main objective of the project:

To realise the potential of regional and local bio-based economies by supporting relevant actors in the participatory development of bioeconomy strategies and roadmaps.





Main insights and conclusions from the project on the topic

Lessons learned from five regional strategy and roadmap development processes:

- High level of entrepreneurship, but lack of initiatives among individual producers for joint actions
- Rural exodus: difficulties in hiring trained and experienced staff is a key barrier
- Rural areas often lack critical mass and infrastructure (such as incubators, clusters, R&I), thus collaboration with urban centers needs to be supported (e.g. Bioeconomy accelerator ZeroWaste Scotland)
- Need for transparent and inclusive communication and cooperation to overcome prevalent distrust in associations among primary producers
- Local policies/initiatives need to be linked to wider issue of territorial development: EU rural development, EU Cohesion Policy and the cross-cutting framework of smart specialisation.

Results are available at: <https://be-rural.eu/be-rural-regional-strategy-and-roadmap-documents/>



How it contributes to implementing the LTVRA?

- Development of small-scale bio-based business models for stronger and prosperous rural areas
- Design, implementation and evaluation of participatory processes in different rural settings
- Understanding the ecological boundaries of the bioeconomy at regional level (NUTS-3)
- Revitalisation of local traditions: Slow tourism concept underpinned by low-value fish species from Szczecin Lagoon and Vistula Lagoon (PL)