



BIOEAST Food Systems Thematic Working Group

Prof. Dr Paweł Chmieliński, Chair of the BIOEAST TWG Food Systems, IRWIR PAN

Ms Justyna Cieslikowska, (MARD PL - TWG coordinator), dr Adam Wasilewski, TWG vice-Chair, IERIGŻ

15 October 2024, 12.00-12.50. *Leverages to foster sustainable rural / urban development and communities' approaches based on circularity and bioeconomy: the role of governance and partnerships*

Joint meeting of the Sustainable Development Observatory (SDO) and Permanent Group on Sustainable Food Systems (PG)



Why BIOEAST SRIA?

BIOEAST Vision 2030:

A network of cooperating bioeconomy clusters combining conventional (bioeconomy) industries with innovative bio-based technologies.



Food Systems TWG and the SRIA

ABOUT US

The TWG on Food Systems is coordinated by the Polish Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development together with Polish research institutes.

TWG OBJECTIVES

Within the BIOEAST Food Systems Thematic Working Group (FS TWG) we aim to generate discussions and develop a bottom-up stakeholder driven approach for defining synergies and complementarities of the food systems in BIOEAST countries, and draw up a joint Thematic Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda. We establish and maintain a network of policy-makers, research institutes and stakeholders in the BIOEAST countries to discuss expectations, challenges and possible solutions towards food systems transition. We aim to maintain the debate on goals and challenges, main research topics, expected outcomes and impact for better addressing research and innovation needs for the BIOEAST macro-region.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE TWG FOOD SYSTEMS ARE:

To mobilise partners and provide access to expert networks in CEECs, mobilise resources beyond Horizon Europe to implement the European Commission's (EC) R&I policy framework on food systems of the future.

- To provide strategic advice and support Food Systems research and innovation activities, including mapping of research topics and collection of national inputs for the thematic Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda.
- To map the research and innovation activities that address systemic approach to accelerate

the impact transition pathways to sustainable and healthy food systems.

- To provide the activities for international dialogue aimed at raising awareness and better recognition of the needs and potential of the countries in our region.
- To catalyse future reflections and discussions at national and regional level regarding the need to work together to tackle food system transformations.
- To advise on the development of a long-term national, European and global strategic approach to food systems transformation in Member States.
- To collect and share good practises in an innovative approaches to food systems in CEE.
- To better understand social changes (e.g. climate change, consumer choices, migration, personalised nutrition) and how they drive changes in exposure patterns, and choices in diets that may constitute new hazards.
- To provide the strategic background enabling better assessing the impact of new technologies on food production and circular economy (e.g. emissions, food waste).

ACTIVITIES

We prepare BIOEAST common Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda on Food Systems. It provides an added value to BIOEAST SRIA and help to set the long-term action plan for research and innovation in BIOEAST 11 Countries.

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE OF BIOEAST



We provide policy-science interface and actively represent the CEE (Central Eastern European) countries in debates on EU Research and Innovation (R&I) policy framework towards food systems' transition.

We create input to European policy, including the Horizon Europe (HE) research and innovation framework programme, with a special regard to the biannual Work Programmes for HE Cluster 6 'Safe and Sustainable Food System for People, Planet and Climate'.

We actively promote the TWG and its collaboration with Standing Committee on Agricultural Research (SCAR) and other EU high level bodies (incl. DG Agri, DG RTG), FAO and OECD. We link the BIOEAST FS TWG and the SCAR Food Systems Strategic Working Group activities including reports, workshops and joint undertakings.

We work to better engage the BIOEAST community in European Partnership "Safe and Sustainable Food Systems for People, Planet and Climate" and other research and innovation initiatives.

MAIN TOPICS

- Sustainable Food Production.
- Power and information in the food system: strengthen the food environments and vulnerable actors in the food chains.
- Research, innovation, digitalization, technology and investments for future sustainable food system.
- Promoting sustainable food consumption and the shift to healthy, sustainable diets.

We are looking forward to welcoming you on board.
If you want to join us, please get in touch!

Coordinators

Justyna Cieślakowska
TWG Food Systems Coordinator
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Justyna.Cieslikowska@minrol.gov.pl

Prof. dr Paweł Chmieliński
TWG Food Systems Chair
Institute of Rural and Agricultural Development Polish Academy of Sciences
PChmielinski@irwirpan.waw.pl

Dr Adam Wasilewski
TWG Food Systems Co-Chair
Institute of Agricultural and Food Economics – National Research Institute
Adam.Wasilewski@ierigz.waw.pl

List of the member countries



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BIOEAST THEMATIC WORKING GROUPS FOOD SYSTEMS





Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda: Food Systems



Strategic Thematic Areas:

1. Sustainable Food Production (PRODUCTION)
2. Power and information in the food system: strengthen the food environments and vulnerable actors in the food chains (FOOD CHAINS)
3. Research, innovation, technology and investments for future sustainable food systems (RESEARCH)
4. Promoting sustainable food consumption and the shift to healthy, sustainable diets (CONSUMER)



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Main research topics:

- RT 1.1: Ensuring **sustainable food production by human and financial investment** – innovation, skills and technology shift
- RT 1.2: Stimulating **reduction of use and risk and dependency on pesticides**
- RT 1.3: Promoting measures for **reducing biomass loss and waste** in production
- RT 1.4: **Optimization of harvest** for the applied processing technologies **to reduce food waste, finding the best use of the raw materials and by-products**
- RT 1.5: Bring to the practice the state-of-the-art of **the preservation technologies** (with special emphasis to the environmentally friendly packaging, storage conditions etc.) **to extend storability of raw materials** and the shelf life of final products



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Main research topics:

RT 2.1: **Promoting sustainable food chains**, initiatives and **new green business models** in food processing, wholesale, retail and food services

RT 2.2: **Cooperation of primary producers** to support their **position in the food chain** and non-legislative initiatives to improve transparency

RT 2.3: Tackling with **food fraud** along the food supply chain

RT 2.4: Development of **information hubs to connect farmers** and primary producers with potential customers to promote the formation and consolidation of **sustainable short food chains**

Core Theme: Food Systems

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Main research topics:

RT 3.1: Environmental, biodiversity and natural capital **observation** (new statistics)

RT 3.2: Food **system dynamics modelling & risk management** at local level

RT 3.3: Future **advisory services, data and knowledge transfer and skills** for future sustainable food systems

RT 3.4: Better **understanding of planetary boundaries** facilitates innovative solutions for sustainable and circular management and use of natural resources as well as prevention and removal of pollution

RT 3.5: Improve the production with the help of **digitalization in the agriculture and food sectors**

RT 3.6: **Development of technologies in food chain:** bio-based packaging, use of expired products, reuse of water in the food industry, use of waste and sludge as bio fertilizers

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Main research topics:

RT 4.1: **Reformulation of processed food**, including the setting of maximum levels for certain nutrients

RT 4.2: **Monitoring framework for responsible business and marketing** conduct in the food supply chain

RT 4.3: Revision of EU marketing standards for agricultural, fishery and aquaculture products to ensure the uptake and supply of sustainable products

RT 4.4: **Educational framework for sustainable food use** and the shift to sustainable diets (eg. new nutrient profiles to restrict promotion of food high in salt, sugars and fat)

Cooperation between the TWG FOOD SYSTEMS members

BIOEAST Congress in Warsaw – 15.03.2024

- Presentation and approval of the FS SRiA and BIOEAST concept papers,
- Combining our group's strategic agenda with the Partnership priorities - discussion on SRiA of the SFS Partnership
- Analysis of needs in the context of future activities.

Annual BIOEAST Bioeconomy Conference, Budapest – 7.03.2024

- Presentation of planned activities within the BIOEASTS initiative (boosted by B4B)
- Idea of partnership and other international activities of the Group (incl. Horizon Europe ongoing and planned projects)
- Active discussion on ideas by TWG members about future activities of the Group.

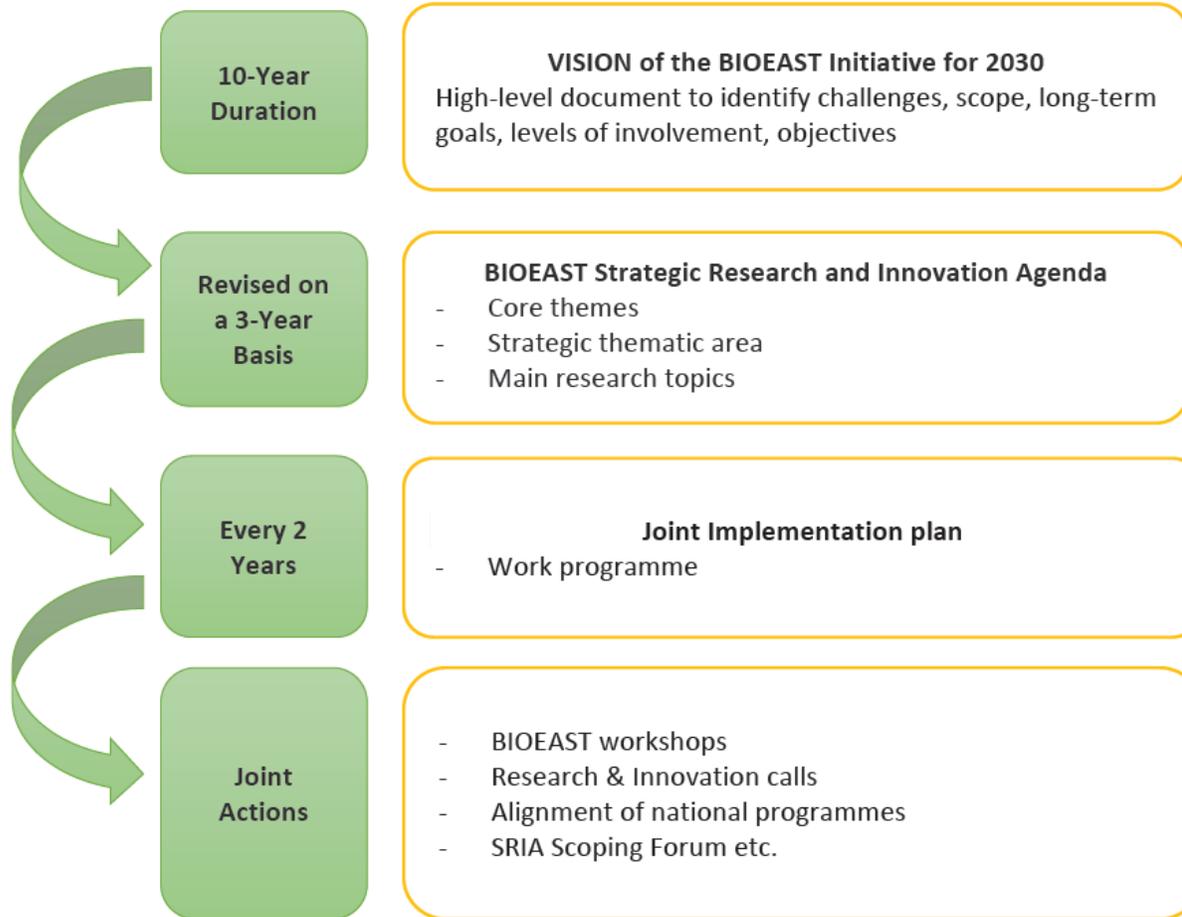
BIOEAST HU Presidency Conference 3-5.12.2024

BIOEAST PL Presidency Conference June 2025



BIOEAST Thematic Working Group Food Systems

Key elements of implementing the BIOEAST Initiative activities



FOODPATHS and BIOEAST TWG Food Systems activities to PROMOTE:

- **Food System co-funding network and aligning funding strategies**
- **Establishing EU branded network of university-driven local food ecosystems**
- **Aligning SRIA, science to Policy processes & Education (RIPE)**
- **EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP on SFS**



CLEVERFOOD and BIOEAST TWG Food Systems ACTIVITIES:

- **The FOOD 2030 Online Platform**
- **FOOD 2030 Project Collaboration Network**
- **FOOD 2030 Connected Lab Network**
 1. Policy Labs,
 2. Living Labs and
 3. Pan-European multi-actor and public engagement.



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TWG FOOD SYSTEMS
Strategic Research and
Innovation Agenda



WHAT *R&I Areas* have been identified in the EU:

R&I 1 'Change the way we eat'

Transition to healthy & sustainable diets everywhere: shifting food environments and consumer behavior to promote sustainable consumption of safe, healthy, nutritious, affordable, accessible, equitable and culturally acceptable tasteful foods while tackling malnutrition in all its forms and promoting health.

R&I 2 'Change the way we process and supply food'

Supply-side innovation towards carbon neutrality and circularity, reorienting the food environment to support healthy and sustainable diets

R&I 3 'Change the way we connect with food systems'

Citizen engagement and consumer trust in reoriented food systems

R&I 4 'Change the way we govern food systems'

Leverage points for local, national, EU and global transition pathways, co-creation, including private ones like F2F code of conduct & local initiatives (e.g. cities)



European Partnership 'Sustainable Food Systems'

BIOEAST Food Systems Thematic Working Group

Contact:

Prof. Dr Paweł Chmieliński, BIOEAST TWG Food Systems Chair, Polish Academy of Sciences,
pchmielinski@irwirpan.waw.pl

Ms Justyna Cieslikowska, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development - TWG coordinator,
Justyna.Cieslikowska@minrol.gov.pl

Dr Adam Wasilewski, TWG vice-Chair, Institute of Agriculture and Food Economics NRI,
adam.wasilewski@ierigz.waw.pl



MEETING

Joint meeting of the Sustainable Development Observatory (SDO) and Permanent Group on Sustainable Food Systems (PG)

15/10/2024, 10:00–13:00 and 14:30–17:30

Interactio and EESC, Rue Van Maerlant/Van Maerlantstraat 2, 1040 Bruxelles/Brussel, room VMA 23