





# Mapping the Networks and Platforms

Analysis of pre-screening results

28.11.2018





#### Content

Introduction	1
Summary of the survey results	1
Interest to join the pre-screened networks and platforms	1
Interesting platform features to benchmark	4
National platforms for bioeconomy development	5
Online platforms in the Regional Innovation Systems	5
Lessons for the RDI2CluB platform development	7
Recommendations	8
Transnational learning and experience sharing	8
Inclusion to Joint Action Plans	8
Test-use for benchmarking	9
Annex 1. Survey responses	9





# Introduction

The results of the pre-screening of the 26 networks and platforms was shared with RDI2CluB partnership on August 20, 2018. The pre-screening materials included short descriptions of the networks and platforms included in the pre-screening task including examples of the platform model or service. Along with the short descriptions, the pre-screening material involves two Excel documents containing basic data and information on the innovation services.

The pre-screening material includes data on transnational platforms for networking of clusters and/or Regional Innovation Systems (5), innovation service platforms for SMEs (3), Bioeconomy RDI platforms or networks with relevance to BSR/EU (5), Bioeconomy RDI platforms or networks created in past Interreg projects (2) and Bioeconomy RDI platforms or networks created in Horizon2020 projects (11).

The pre-screening data was reviewed by the regional innovation hubs involved in the RDI2CluB – Bioeconomy Campus in Central Finland, Evenstad Innovation Centre in Hedmark (Norway), Bioeconomy Knowledge Centre in Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship (Poland) and High added value and healthy food cluster in Vidzeme (Latvia). The hubs responded to a survey to highlight their interests in platform development, to identify interesting network and platform services and to map the national and regional platforms focusing on bioeconomy.

This report summarizes the results of the survey and provides conclusions for the network and platform development in RDI2CluB. Finally, recommendations are given for the regional innovation hubs on the how to proceed with assessing the interesting platforms.

### Summary of the survey results

Interest to join the pre-screened networks and platforms

The first question for the hubs was about their interest to join the pre-screened networks and platforms. The responses indicate the relevance of the network and platform to the hubs. The project based platforms have been excluded from this part of the survey, since their sustainability is uncertain after the project lifetime and in many cases opportunities to join are limited.

If there is a clear interest to join a network or platform, it is possible to include this action to the regional joint action plans. If majority of the partners are interested in the same network or platform, this can be also considered as a transnational joint action. If all partner hubs agree, a network or platform could also be integrated into the Operational Model for Innovation Management as a supporting element for the innovation service path from idea generation, sharing and assessment to innovation support services.





Responses from the regions are summarized in the table 1. Answers are marked FI for the Bioeconomy Campus in Central Finland, NO for the Evenstad Innovation Centre in Hedmark, PL for the Bioeconomy Knowledge Centre in Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship and LV for High added value and health food cluster of Latvia.

	1 Not relevant	2 Can't estimate	3 Interesting, not relevant	4 Interesting, possibly relevant	5 We are members
A1 TCI	FI <i>,</i> NO		PL, LV		
A2 ECCP	FI		NO	PL	LV
A3 S3 Platform	LV			NO, FI	PL
A4 GCCA	FI, LV		NO, PL		
A5 ENDR	LV	NO	FI		PL
B1 EEN			FI, NO, PL	LV	
B2 Globenia	NO, LV		PL	FI	
B3 Mooc.House	FI, LV		NO, PL		
C1 Scanbalt Bioregion		LV	FI, NO, PL		
C2 EIP-Agri				FI, NO, PL, LV	
C3 ERRIN	NO		PL	LV	FI
C4 EIT Climate KIC	PL			FI, NO	LV
C5 Agri-Source		LV	FI	NO, PL	

**Table 1:** Responses to the pre-screened network and platform relevance. Question proposed to the partner hubs is; "Is the pre-screened network and platform relevant for our organization/ regional hub to join? Looking into the pre-screened networks and platforms from A1. to C5.

The partners were also asked to motivate their choices. The responses are summarized here.

#### **Bioeconomy Campus, Central Finland**

Regional Council of Central Finland is involved in the **ERRIN** network which is for Brussel based regional offices. RCCF is active in ERRIN thematic work group in bioeconomy. ERRIN has provided especially new cooperation possibilities via its thematic workshops. ERRIN network enables us to learn ongoing Brussel level preparatory work in bioeconomy.

In addition, RCCF has identified **S3 platform** as a relevant network and platform. S3 platform important for networking as well as benchmarking and learning about smart specialization approaches on regional level.

For the Bioeconomy Campus, **EIT Climate KIC** and **EIP-Agri** have been identified as relevant for pursuing international RDI co-operation. EIT Climate KIC could also involve students with educational programmes as well as the opportunities to support students' start-up projects.

Finally, **Globenia** has been identified interesting for benchmarking as it is an online open innovation platform that is targeted especially towards SMEs. The platform is run by a Nordic





Innovation Accelerator (NIA) that has strong Nordic connections and Global Cleantech networks via Global Cleantech Cluster Association. The platform has two interesting features – Matchmaker networking forum and Innovation call. In addition, NIA runs a well-established event, Cleantech Venture Day to connect innovative SMEs and investors.

The matchmaker works via registration, which can be done also with LinkedIn profile.

- Access to inventions (proposals) waiting to be commercialized
- Network of 561 companies with solutions for sustainable development
- Profiles: company profile, innovators profile, investors profile

Open innovation service - Innovation call - introduces a sustainable development challenge from a large company, city or other organization interested in investing in a solution. Start-ups, SMEs and inventors can propose their solutions via the platform and the organization making the proposal selects interesting proposals for further discussions.

Based on preliminary discussions, it would be possible to integrate the matchmaker and innovation call features of Globenia to our Open Virtual Biobusiness Hub (cost unknown) and provide these services under our platform and network – with a connection to the companies enrolled in the Globenia site. Co-operation in the Cleantech Venture Day could also be explored.

#### **Evenstad Innovation Centre**

**EIP Agri** and **EIT Climate KIC** have been identified as relevant for further analysis. For EIP-Agri, the focus group approach has been noted as good practice to benchmark. Similarly, EIT Climate KIC's approach for addressing the transition to zero-carbon economy has been identified a good practice to benchmark to be applied with a focus on sustainability and agriculture.

#### **Bioeconomy Knowledge Centre**

Bioeconomy Knowledge Center has identified **ECCP**, **EIP-Agri** and **Agri-Source** as potentially relevant for joining. The selection has been based e.g. on provided access to project calls and grants, matchmaking opportunities for co-operation projects and availability of information services. Stimulation of smart specialization strategies and inclusion to EU structures have also been assessed as beneficial features.

#### High added value and healthy food cluster

Cluster has a profile in the European Cluster Collaboration Platform, **ECCP**, which is used as the primary on-line hub/home page equivalent. The ECCP profile is always referred to it in any project applications and also during the partner search. In addition, IES has been involved in the **EIT Climate KIC** activities. Main added value for taking part in the networks has been access to expertise as well as the access to project funding, networks and consortiums.

**ERRIN** was identified interesting by the Cluster, but there was limited information available about the membership and costs associated. In case of Latvia, the only option would join as an





associated partner, since all members are expected to have a Brussels presence (such as a Brussels office for the region). In addition, **EIT Food KIC** is highly relevant for the Cluster.

#### Interesting platform features to benchmark

The regional innovation hubs assessed the networks and platforms in terms of features to benchmark and features to integrate. The responses are presented in the table 2.

Type of feature	Networks and platforms
Networking	Agri-Source (Map- based networking tool, OIP)
Matchmaking	BiOPEN (project calls and idea calls) Globenia (matchmaker & innovation call)
Co-working	EIP- Agri (Focus groups)
Knowledge base /Information services	S3 platform ERIFORE Bioways (BioWatch is an interactive online platform – e-Library for biobased research and projects) Supebio (value chain approach) BioSTEP ("Knowledge tree") ECCP ERND Databio Agrisource (database with innovations) ProBio (Page flow)
Online Toolbox/	Bioways (on-line games, video materials and educational materials)
dashboard	Superbio (10 innovation services)

**Table 2.** Platforms with interesting features for benchmarking including the ones that are identifiedinteresting in terms of integration





#### National platforms for bioeconomy development

The regional innovation hubs were asked to identify the most important for bioeconomy development in their own country. The responses have been gathered to the table 3.

Regional Hub	National platforms
FI	<b>Biotalous.fi /Bioeconomy.fi</b> Biotalous.fi promotes and presents Finnish bioeconomy and offers various information sources on the development of bioeconomy.
	<b>Maaseutu.fi /Rural.fi</b> The Rural.fi is a website for rural Finland and a window into rural development in Finland. Rural.fi offers information on rural innovation support and networks. Rural.fi is a national access point to EIP-Agri network.
NO	Clusters: Heidner, Norwegian Wood Cluster, Arena Innovation Cod Fish, Arena Forest Industries in Trøndelag, Legasea blue biotechnology cluster, Oslo Renewable Energy and Environment Cluster, NCE Aquaculture, NCE Aquatech Cluster, NCE Seafood Innovation Cluster and NCE Culinology
	HANEN is a nationwide business organization for farm tourism, farm food and inland fishing in Norway.
	Cooperatives: Rørosmat
PL	Eastern Building Cluster http://www.budowlanyklaster.pl/ This cluster is one of the national key clusters what makes it very important, especially within project assessment. The one of most interesting feature are sale and purchasing platforms. This tool allows for matching buyers and sellers together.
LV	N/A

 Table 3. National platforms for bioeconomy development

#### **Online platforms in the Regional Innovation Systems**

The regional innovation hubs were asked to identify any online platforms operating in your region that are relevant to catalyzing innovation or for SMEs in bioeconomy. In addition, they listed any online platforms used to support innovation activities in the own hub. The responses have been summarized to the table 4. The table includes only responses related to online platforms.



RDI2CluB

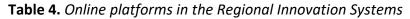


Regional Hub	Regional Innovation Platforms (Online)	Online platforms used by the Hub
FI	<ul> <li>Ideastabusiness.fi</li> <li>Business development agency of Viitasaari area (Northern Central Finland), Witas Ltd, provides an online service that is a kind of digital 'bulletin board' for companies and innovators. Registered users can share their inventions and ideas, announce the firms and facilities for sale and find contacts from the network.</li> <li>ideanappi.fi / ideanappi.fi/en</li> <li>The 'idea button' or ideanappi is an online service where anyone can submit their business idea and an expert Business advisor will send you a feedback by email during the following workday.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>aitomaaseutu.fi</li> <li>Real countryside (Aito maaseutu) in Central Finland – web platform run by JAMK aims to connect the entrepreneurs and developers or rural business, food chains and travel.</li> <li>biotalouskampus.fi/inenglish/</li> <li>Bloom -knowledge hub</li> <li>As a part of the H2020 project BLOOM, JAMK is developing a Swedish &amp; Finnish Knowledge Hub on Forest and Wood with Vetenskap &amp; Allmänhet. Focus on the hub is on the new forest materials and products.</li> </ul>
NO	<ul> <li>Green Visits http://www.greenvisits.no/ Green Visits is your entry point to exploring the innovative environmental, climate and renewable energy solutions developed and implemented in the Oslo region.</li> <li>The Explorer https://www.theexplorer.no/ The Explorer is a digital showroom for Norwegian green and sustainable solutions.</li> <li>Innovasjon Norge https://www.innovasjonnorge.no/en/start-page. Innovation Norway is the Norwegian Government's most important instrument for innovation and development of Norwegian enterprises and industry.</li> <li>Norges Forskningsråd</li> <li>https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/Home_page/1177315753906</li> <li>Funding and calls for proposals for research based innovations.</li> <li>Skogtiltaksfondet http://www.skogtiltaksfondet.no/</li> <li>Skogtiltaksfondet / The Forest Access Fund is the forest owners' joint research fund established in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food.</li> <li>Skogbrukets verdiskapingsfond https://verdiskapingsfondet.no/</li> <li>Support development work in the forestry.</li> </ul>	N/A





	Utviklingsfondet for skogbruk https://www.landbruksdirektoratet.no/no/eiendom-og- skog/prosjektmidler-og-forskning/utviklingsfondet-for- skogbruk/utviklingsfondet-for-skogbruket The Forestry Development Fund aims to promote research, development, information and training in forestry, as well as other measures of interest to the forestry industry.	
PL	N/A	N/A
LV	N/A	ECCP



# Lessons for the RDI2CluB platform development

- The use of online platforms on national and regional levels is more common in Finland and Norway compared to Poland and Latvia. This should be taken into consideration when planning the uptake.
- For the innovation hub's as a user group of the Open Virtual Biobusiness Hub, the following features are seen to add value:
  - Networking and matchmaking for attainment of EU funding and gaining access to international RDI co-operation projects;
  - O Knowledge base on the updated EU/European bioeconomy context;
  - Connections to the networks and platforms run or supported by the EU commission is seen to add credibility and visibility in EU context;
  - O Good search features on databases and networks;
  - O Communication material on bioeconomy for public awareness-raising; and
  - Tools and means to communicate the impact of the hub's projects and RDI activities for a wider multiplying effect and impact to society.
- The SMEs and other user groups should be analyzed separately, as the responses of the hubs may not adequately reflect the needs of the SMEs.
- Many platform features are not visible for un-registered users which hinders evaluation.
- All in all, we have a wide variety of knowledge base ideas; the focus areas should be specified in the Joint Action Plans and we should aim to utilise and complement existing knowledge bases wherever possible. Test-use of existing knowledge bases would be recommendable.



ALL CONTINUES OF THE BALING OF

#### RDI2CluB

## **Recommendations**

Recommendations for next steps in the regional innovation hubs are outlined here to be discussed in more details in the 'Innovation Hub Developers' group.

#### Transnational learning and experience sharing

As certain partners are already involved in the networks and platforms included in the prescreening, there are also opportunities for transnational learning between the partners. Based on the responses, we can match the partners interested in certain networks and platforms with partners already involved in them.

#### Transnational learning opportunities identified include:

- To learn more on ECCP, PL is recommended to discuss with LV who is involved in ECCP
- To learn more on S3 platform, FI and NO are recommended to discuss with PL who is involved in S3 platform
- To learn more on EIT Climate KIC, FI and NO are recommended to discuss with LV who is involved in EIT Climate KIC; FI, NO and LV could also study the EIT Food KIC in more detail.
- To learn more on ERRIN, LV is recommended to discuss with the Regional Council of Central Finland who is involved in ERRIN

#### **Inclusion to Joint Action Plans**

#### Networks and platforms ranked most relevant for the partner hubs:

- EIP-Agri was found relevant by all hubs
- EIT Climate KIC was found relevant by FI and NO; LV is already involved, but would also be interested in EIT Food KIC
- S3 platform was found relevant by FI and NO; PL is already involved

If any of the hubs has a clear interest to join a network or platform, it is possible to include this action to the regional joint action plans. If many of the partners are interested in the same network or platform, this can be also considered as a transnational joint action. These opportunities could be agreed on in the Joint Action Plan speed-dating in late January 2019.

Finally, if all partner hubs agree, a network or platform could also be integrated into the Operational Model for Innovation Management as a supporting element for the innovation service path from idea generation, sharing and assessment to innovation support services. This can be assessed after the completion of the Joint Action Plans.





#### **Test-use for benchmarking**

All Innovation Hub developers (WP3 working group members) are requested to register as users to 2 platforms:

- BIOPEN https://www.biopen-project.eu/
- Biowatch <u>http://library.bioways.eu/why-join-seed</u>

In addition other platforms can be tested based on expected relevance. The test users should gather notes and experiences related to usability and relevance to your hub and your work. Especially we hope to get feedback on what you have found easy to use and what was challenging. Also, please comment what we can learn from the use of tags and categories for sorting information and building search features and matchmaking opportunities.

Please share your experiences by January 28, 2019. This task is part of the 3.2.3 activity.

#### Annex 1. Survey responses

# Survey for regional hubs on the network and platform screening

**Questions for regional hubs** 

Question 1.1: Is the pre-screened network and platform relevant for our organization/regional hub to join? Looking into the pre-screened networks and platforms from A1. to C5.

- 1: Not relevant for us
- 2: Did not understand the platform operation model
- 3: Seems interesting, but not relevant for us to join
- 4: Relevant and interesting, we hope to study the possibilities to join in more detail
- 5: We are already part of the network/platform

	1	2	3	4	5
A1 TCI	X				
A2 ECCP	X				
A3 S3 Platform				Х	
A4 GCCA	X				
A5 ENDR			Х		
B1 EEN			Х		
B2 Globenia				Х	
B3 Mooc.House	X				
C1 Scanbalt Bioregion			Х		
C2 EIP-Agri				Х	
C3 ERRIN					Х
C4 EIT Climate KIC				Х	
C5 Agri-Source			Х		

#### Question 1.2: Based on your answers, please provide further explanations

*If you have answered 5 to certain networks and platforms, please indicate what added value you have experienced from being part of the network.* 

If you have answered 2 or 4 to certain networks and platforms, please indicate what information would be needed to continue assessment of the relevance to join.

*If you answered 4 to certain networks and platforms, please indicate what added-value you expect from the mentioned networks and platforms?* 

\*\*\*

**C3 ERRIN** network is for Brussel based regional offices. We are part of ERRIN via our Brussels office and active in ERRIN thematic work group in bioeconomy. ERRIN has provided us especially new cooperation possibilities via its thematic workshops. ERRIN network enables us to learn ongoing Brussel level preparatory work in bioeconomy.

A3 S3 Platforms are important for benchmarking and learning about smart specialization approaches on regional level. Important for networking.

**B2 Globenia** is a Finnish based innovation platform focused on cleantech. The platform is run by a Nordic Innovation Accelerator (NIA) that has strong Nordic connections and Global Cleantech networks via Global Cleantech Cluster Association. The platform has two interesting features – Matchmaker networking forum and Innovation call. In addition, NIA runs a well-established event, Cleantech Venture Day to connect innovative SMEs and investors.

The matchmaker works via registration, which can be done also with LinkedIn profile.

- Access to inventions (proposals) waiting to be commercialized
- Network of 561 companies
- Profiles: company profile, innovators profile, investors profile

Open innovation service - Innovation call - introduces a sustainability challenge from a large company, city or other organization interested in investing in a solution. Start-ups, SMEs and inventors can propose their solutions via the platform and the organization making the proposal selects interesting proposals for further discussions.

Based on preliminary discussions, it would be possible to integrate the matchmaker and innovation call features of Globenia to our Open Virtual Biobusiness Hub (cost unknown) and provide these services under our platform and network – with a connection to the companies enrolled in the Globenia site. Co-operation in the Cleantech Venture Day could also be explored.

**C2** EIP-Agri – offers a one-stop-shop for agricultural innovation in Europe with possibilities to:

- Share with us information about you, your projects and projects ideas, research needs, etc.
- Search and find funding opportunities, partners, interesting projects... on EIP-AGRI Meeting Point
- Focus on practical innovative solutions to problems and opportunities provided in the EIP-AGRI Focus Group chapter
- Deepen your knowledge by different EIP-AGRI related publications in our library
- Stay up to date on innovation related agricultural topics and read about the latest EIP-AGRI news and events
- MY ACCOUNT connect to your own EIP- AGRI dashboard and follow the information and people you are interested in

For the agriculture team of the Institute of Bioeconomy, this platform could enable boosting international co-operation in the RDI work related to agriculture.

#### C4 EIT Climate KIC

EIT Climate-KIC is a European knowledge and innovation community, working to accelerate the transition to a zero-carbon economy. Supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, EIT Climate KIC identifies and supports innovation that helps society mitigate and adapt to climate change. EIT Climate-KIC has more than 270 global partners spanning universities, businesses, cities and NGOs. The network brings together partners in the worlds of business, academia, and the public and non-profit sectors to create networks of expertise, through which innovative products, services and systems can be developed, brought to market and scaled-up for impact.

Services for **catalyzing innovation** from large corporations, research institutes and public bodies, as well as through to start-ups and individual entrepreneurs. EIT Climate KIC encourage fresh new thinking from beyond the mainstream through initiatives like our 24-hour hackathon Climathon, or our cleantech ideas platform Climate Launchpad. The incubator programme, Accelerator, gives seed funding, structure and assistance to start-ups and SMEs. Network drives innovation in established organisations through our range of innovation programmes, specifically for our partners.

- Climathon is a global 24-hour climate change hackathon that takes place simultaneously in major cities around the world every year. It attracts innovators, entrepreneurs, students and professionals to come together to create innovative solutions to climate challenges.
- ClimateLaunchpad is the world's largest green business idea competition. Its mission is to unlock the world's cleantech potential that addresses climate change. Each year the competition creates a stage for over 1,000 ideas to flourish, with partners in 35+ countries offering training, coaching, and financial support.

EIT Climate-KIC runs a range of inspirational **education programmes** across Europe and online, for students, postgraduates and professionals. These programmes develop their participants' skills and capacities, empowering them with up-to-date knowledge and best practice.

- → Interesting network and innovation services available
- → Co-operation with Nordic Hub could be explored
- ➔ Potential also for engaging students
- → Need more information on the possibilities in practice

Question 2: What networks and platforms have network concepts or platform models and online services that we should benchmark and study further when planning our own network and platform? Looking into the pre-screened networks and platforms from A1. to E.11 – please select 5 most relevant ones and provide a short motivation to your choices.

#### Agrisource (map-based networking tool); https://www.agrisource.org/en/2 2/map.html

On Agrisource, farmers, businesses, research labs, governments, associations, think tanks create profiles for their own organisations, for the projects they contribute to, for the knowledge and experience they consider useful to share with the community. In order to do so, different types of profiles are at their disposal (could be e.g. hub, project, pilot, ...). Users can share documents and information. Agrisource displays a major and unique feature that is relational mapping. Thanks to the links between profiles, the Agrisource engine is able to create a virtual map actually showing the networks of Players and Innovation – and value chains. Agrisource also assumes a role of specialized social network, designed to share news, events and debates with the whole community.

**Superbio** (innovation services); the toolbox of Superbio highlights effectively the 10 innovation services available for SMEs via the project. Basic information available on what is available and who offers the service.

**BIOPEN** features opportunities for joint planning of projects with information on project calls, partner search features and options for sharing project ideas.

**Bioways** (Biowatch). BioWatch is an interactive online platform – e-Library for biobased research and projects - that provides projects in the bioeconomy sector with a free service to position themselves in the European context and provides direct access to industry, political stakeholders, the media and the public. Bioways is currently recruiting all BBI-JU projects in order to build a critical mass of bio-based research projects in one, single location – the BioWatch SEED Research Library

Projects are displayed as multi-media digital brochures that can gain followers. By listing the project in the e-library, you are able to:

- Put your research project in the context of what's going on in research and innovation within the bioeconomy across Europe
- Build up a list of project 'followers' for future communication and collaboration
- Reach a much wider and more relevant online audience than with your stand-alone project website
- Find collaboration, partner and funding opportunities
- Take the opportunities to share knowledge and communicate with user groups and audiences of similar projects
- Gather feedback and interact with other projects and users for future research and innovation success

This feature could be benchmarked for our own platform development – and/or we could look into the possibilities for using the existing Biowatch e-library.

In the OVBH, regional bioeconomy projects could have regional followers with a national language content, and/or BSR followers with a project displayed in English. The feature could be promoted to regional policy makers, BSR networks, students and 4-helix stakeholders to join and follow projects they find interesting – researchers and developers would be encouraged to engage in a dialogue with the followers. The Biowatch feature could e.g. work for multiplier groups & stakeholder engagement to projects and to network projects of similar interests connected to the innovation hubs.

Globenia (matchmaker & innovation call) – see the response from 1.2.

Question 3: What networks and platforms would you like to see connected/integrated in to the innovation cooperation of our BSR network of bioeconomy innovation hubs? Looking into the pre-screened networks and platforms from A1. to E.11 – please provide a short motivation to your choices.

# Potential integration to the platform:

**BLOOM knowledge Hub;** the repository and the hub discourse could be integrated to the RDI2CluB web platform. As a part of the H2020 project BLOOM, JAMK is developing a Swedish & Finnish Knowledge Hub on Forest and Wood with Vetenskap & Allmänhet. Focus on the hub is on the new forest materials and products. Aim is to raise public awareness about the possibilities with forest products and to showcase new innovative materials and products; Increase interest for bioeconomy studies/education.

**BIOPEN;** As discussed during the benchmarking visit to Netherlands, BIOPEN was looking for partners to link their open innovation platform to a other clusters site. We could explore this option.

#### Globenia; see 1.2

#### Potential connection to the innovation model:

**Bioways;** The Biowatch e-library could be used for BSR bioeconomy projects to position the projects in the European bioeconomy development context and engage in a EU level dialogue with stakeholders interested in the project topic. (see more 2)

#### EIT Climate KIC; see 1.2

**Demola;** Demola facilitates multidisciplinary co-creation projects. We bring together industry experts from leading companies and millennials from our alliance universities around the globe. JAMK is involved in the Demola network via Demola Jyväskylä.

Demola network provides companies, big or small, access to an international network full of talent, enthusiasm, and fresh ideas that can solve your problems. Depending on the level and nature of the project, you can either assign the work to a local Demola team or have a

combination of our centers working on your project. Demola co-creation teams are formed from partner company staff and university students based on individual interests with multidisciplinary approach. Teams work on real-life cases designed together with partner companies to explore the future. Teams validate problems, create and refine business concepts, and develop new products and services. Demola is part of universities' education and research processes providing a unique opportunity to create inspiring combinations of knowledge. Researchers as well as the numerous laboratories of Demola alliance universities are available to the Demola teams. <u>https://www.demola.net/companies/</u>

There are Demola Hubs in Jyväskylä, South-East Norway, Latvia that could do the task in a connected network. For the issue of involving Poland, we could rely on the Demola Global team to provide a proposal. The co-creation process costs around 8,000 EUR per company (must confirm the total price).

We could even use the Demola – co-creation method for designing the operational model for innovation management (or some connected features of the service path for bioeconomy entrepreneurs at the innovation hubs). In the Demola method, a group of selected students from relevant fields works in a co-creation assignment together with the experts from Demola and the company/organization that is providing the assignment (in this case the innovation hub experts). The process takes 8 weeks and the experts work together with the students one day a week.

Question 4: What networks and platforms are the most important for bioeconomy development and innovations in your country? Please provide a short description of the content of said network and platform. Also, indicate if you are somehow connected to the activities of those networks and platforms.

#### Biotalous.fi /Bioeconomy.fi

Biotalous.fi promotes and presents Finnish bioeconomy and offers various information sources on the development of bioeconomy. Biotalous.fi webplatform is owned by the Ministry of Employment and the Economy that runs the platform with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry & Ministry of the Environment as well as Tapio Ltd consulting company. The platform has an editorial team that accepts blog-texts and case articles from any organizations involved in bioeconomy. The Biotalous.fi platform has a strong social media presence and a newsletter consisting of the latest articles and news on the biotalous.fi site.

Also available in English – bioeconomy.fi - presenting Bioeconomy in Finland: cases, contacts, national strategy.

#### Maaseutu.fi /Rural.fi

The Rural.fi is a website for rural Finland and a window into rural development in Finland. It features key organisations working in rural development, and provides information about work being done to maintain the vitality of the Finnish countryside. Rural development in Finland is based on two parallel programmes: the Rural Development Programme for Mainland Finland

and the Rural Development Programme for the Åland Islands. The programme for the mainland is run by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, who run the Rural.fi website.

Rural.fi offers information on rural innovation support and networks. Rural.fi is a national access point to EIP-Agri network.

# Question 5: Are there any online platforms operating in your region that are relevant to catalyzing innovation or for SMEs in bioeconomy? Please provide a short description of the content of said network and platform.

#### Ideastabusiness.fi

Business development agency of Viitasaari area (Northern Central Finland), Witas Ltd, provides an online service that is a kind of digital 'bulletin board' for companies and innovators. Registered users can share their inventions and ideas, announce the firms and facilities for sale and find contacts from the network. The purpose is to enable people with ideas or inventions to create business or develop the idea further with support of the network. The platform is connected to the Inventors week –event and has already gained several hundred registered users.

In the next phase, the idea is to launch the platform nationally. The national launch will start in 2019 with support of a regional development project (Innoserviisi). Bioeconomy Campus plans to engage in a regular dialogue with the new project manager to follow-up on the development and to find potential co-operation areas.

#### ideanappi.fi / ideanappi.fi/en

The 'idea button' or ideanappi is an online service where anyone can submit their business idea and an expert Business advisor will send you a feedback by email during the following workday.

The service is run by the Central Finland Enterprise Agency (Keski-Suomen uusyritys keskus) to help people who plan starting their own business to obtain all the necessary information and adopt the approach needed to develop the thought into an operational business idea. Enterprise Agency also connects you with a wide network of experts in different fields, in addition to our entrepreneurship advisors. Entreprise Agency strives to create as good operational preconditions as possible for your company, and to create permanent jobs.

# Question 6: Is your hub utilizing any online platforms to support innovation activities?

#### aitomaaseutu.fi

Real countryside (Aito maaseutu) in Central Finland –web platform aims to connect the entrepreneurs and developers or rural business, food chains and travel. The platforms provides a communication channel for research, good practices and operation models as well as a forum for encounters between rural sectors and projects. JAMK University of Applied Sciences is running the platform.

#### biotalouskampus.fi / biotalouskampus.fi/in-english/

Bioeconomy Campus has a website for sharing information on the research environments and innovation services available for companies in Tarvaala. The site features projects, blog texts and news articles and events. Page will soon feature also the process for idea assessment service for bioeconomy inventors.

#### Bloom -knowledge hub

As a part of the H2020 project BLOOM, JAMK is developing a Swedish & Finnish Knowledge Hub on Forest and Wood with Vetenskap & Allmänhet. Focus on the hub is on the new forest materials and products. Aim is to raise public awareness about the possibilities with forest products and to showcase new innovative materials and products; Increase interest for bioeconomy studies/education.

# Survey for regional hubs on the network and platform screening

#### Instructions

Each of the four hubs should provide a response to the survey of six questions by Oct 15, 2018. To answer, we propose the following steps:

- Agree on which experts from your hub will carry out the task
- The selected team should familiarize with the materials of pre-screening
- Team should compare notes and agree on preliminary responses
- The preliminary response should be presented to other relevant colleagues in the hub to validate the response
- Send your response to PP1 by Oct 15
- Results are compiled by PP1 and presented at the transnational workshop in Norway

#### **Questions for regional hubs**

Question 1.1: Is the pre-screened network and platform relevant for our organization/regional hub to join? Looking into the pre-screened networks and platforms from A1. to C5.

- 1: Not relevant for us
- 2: Did not understand the platform operation model
- 3: Seems interesting, but not relevant for us to join
- 4: Relevant and interesting, we hope to study the possibilities to join in more detail 5: We are already part of the network/platform

	1	2	3	4	5
A1 TCI	х				
A2 ECCP			х		
A3 S3 Platform				х	
A4 GCCA			х		
A5 ENDR		х			
B1 EEN			х		
B2 Globenia	х				
B3 Mooc.House			х		
C1 Scanbalt Bioregion			х		

C2 EIP-Agri			х	
C3 ERRIN	х			
C4 EIT Climate KIC			х	
C5 Agri-Source			х	

Question 1.2: Based on your answers, please provide further explanations

If you have answered 5 to certain networks and platforms, please indicate what added value you have experienced from being part of the network.

If you have answered 2 or 4 to certain networks and platforms, please indicate what information would be needed to continue assessment of the relevance to join.

If you answered 4 to certain networks and platforms, please indicate what added-value you expect from the mentioned networks and platforms?

#### A5 – It is too broad and focus is too wide. I miss an opportunity to zoom in on specific topics.

A3 – Need no more info, but more time to check out the website

C2 – As for several of the other platforms, I struggle finding out what is the business-model and therefore; how long term is this network calculated to be in business. The Focus groups is a very interesting solution for tailoring project/development-teams

C4 – It is a bit off-topic or narrow (Climate only) but still interesting to see how they address transition to Zero-carbon economy. We would like to see a focus on sustainability and agriculture in the same sett-up.

#### \*\*\*

Question 2: What networks and platforms have network concepts or platform models and online services that we should benchmark and study further when planning our own network and platform? Looking into the pre-screened networks and platforms from A1. to E.11 – please select 5 most relevant ones and provide a short motivation to your choices.

The SUPERBIO (E7) is interesting because of the value-chain approach and the ability to handle innovation services direct towards SME's. Still it lack a management platform for communicating. That would be an important feature, covering rural areas and fragmented industry.

A3 – We like the S3 approach as it targets the highest potential for success.

C2 is good and have this clever organisation of Focus groups and tailor-made expert teaming up.

More of the platforms provide meeting places in good ways, but the best of them has managed to cover funding too.

Question 3: What networks and platforms would you like to see connected/integrated in to the innovation cooperation of our BSR network of bioeconomy innovation hubs? Looking into the pre-screened networks and platforms from A1. to E.11 – please provide a short motivation to your choices.

The SUPERBIO (E7) is interesting because of the value-chain approach and the ability to handle innovation services direct towards SME's. Still it lacks a management platform for communicating. That would be an important feature, covering rural areas and fragmented industry.

The SUPERBIO is not only focusing on product – but the whole production chain; from feedstock thru Transformer (industry) to end-user. This is important to build sustainable new products and to enable the products to keep value in a circular economy.

C2 - EIP-Agri because of the Focus groups

\*\*\*

Question 4: What networks and platforms are the most important for bioeconomy development and innovations in your country? Please provide a short description of the content of said network and platform. Also, indicate if you are somehow connected to the activities of those networks and platforms.

#### Rørosmat

Rørosmat SA is a cooperative with many active food producers as shareholders. Rørosmat SA and the brand "Røros - mat fra Røros-traktene" wants to be Norway's clearest brand in local food and contribute to value creation for their members. With one contact point, Rørosmat serve the Norwegian grocery and HoReCa market and convey the diversity of goods our members produce.

Rørosmat work on behalf of manufacturers with the marketing, sale and distribution of their goods.

This is Rørosmat contribution to the success of the manufacturers, so that the Røros area emerge as a culinary region where they are proud to produce resell and enjoy unique raw materials.

The Norwegian partners in RDI2Club are to some extend connected to Rørosmat. Heidner

The objective of Heidner Biocluster is to improve sustainability in the food production, by developing innovative products, services and know-how and thereafter exporting the results globally. The cluster's core activities are related to supplying essential input factors to the food production value chain, such as genetic material, feed and fertilizers, as well as utilising and adding value to the residual materials.

Heidner Biocluster is a research-driven cluster, as evident by numerous research collaborations and joint innovation projects. Unique knowledge, skills and innovation is key to the cluster's continued sales growth in both national and international markets.

Norway has unique advantages to in terms of agriculture, forestry and marine resources, for example, the strong tradition for sustainable breeding, has resulted in genetic material for

animals, fish and plants that are both healthy and high-yielding. This is also an important reason for the minimal use of antibiotics and pesticides in Norwegian food production.

The Norwegian partners in RDI2Club are well connected to Heidner thru financing and close cooperation.

#### Norwegian Wood Cluster

Norwegian Wood Cluster SA (NWC) is a collaborative project between 8 companies in the value chain forest, wood industry, construction and NTNU Gjøvik (university). The vision is to establish an internationally leading industrial cluster for industrially sustainable wood construction.

Norwegian Wood Cluster aims to create a network organization that increases the interaction, both within the value chain and between business and research and education environments, to a new level.

The cluster project should be a shared resource for the participants, which will help the companies involved increase their skills and increased implementation capacity, which can strengthen their competitiveness and innovation capabilities, as well as reinforce the value chain's ability to develop sustainable industrial solutions.

NWC will appear as concrete and solution oriented with particular focus on realizable projects and innovative solutions with commercial value for the value chain.

The Norwegian partners in RDI2Club are well connected to Norwegian Wood Cluster thru financing and close cooperation.

#### 7 Sterke

7sterke symbolizes fellowship and cooperation between industrial companies in the 7 municipalities in southern Hedmark.

Through 7 strong, we will influence regional business development and policies, we will create regional attraction, stimulate innovation and competence development, and market South Hedmark as an industrial region.

The Norwegian partners in RDI2Club are well connected to 7Sterke thru financing and close cooperation.

#### Hanen

HANEN is a nationwide business organization for farm tourism, farm food and inland fishing in Norway. HANEN has more than 500 member companies across the country.

As a business organization, HANEN offers its members a multitude of services and benefits. HANEN helps and guides members with many different tasks and refers to external assistance when needed.

HANEN is also an industry organization that represents a whole industry of local, regional and national businesses and authorities. HANEN is in a variety of committees, councils, working groups, management groups, etc. on behalf of its members

Members of the national Cluster program with relevans to bioeconomy:

#### Arena Innovation Cod Fish

A business cluster, located in Vesterålen, consisting of enterprises within the fish industry. Purpose: Build competence in the fishing industry through user involved research and development. The cluster companies form a naturally value chain, which includes capture, live betting, production, processing, use of residual materials supply logistics, and sales and exports of groundfish. Participants: 24 companies, 3 knowledge and development actors.

#### Arena Forest Industries in Trøndelag

Companies connectet to the forest industries located in Trøndelag Purpose: Take a leading role in developing the bio economy based on the forest resources in the area. Working with collaboration and innovation to create new products and develop increased competitiveness for the companies. Participants: 25 companies 12 knowledge and development actors. The Norwegian partners in RDI2Club are to some extend connected to Arena Forest Industries.

#### Legasea

A blue biotechnology cluster, that is located in Aalesund. Purpose: Be a global leader in sustainable and profitable development and utilization of marine bio resources and residual raw materials on an industrial scale. Participants: 19 companies, 4 knowledge and development actors.

The Norwegian partners in RDI2Club are to some extend connected to Legasea.

#### Oslo Renewable Energy and Environment Cluster

A cluster cooperating about solution to the solar industry and renewable energy located in the Oslo area. Purpose: OREEC (Oslo Renewable Energy and Environment Cluster) is a network of businesses, research, education and public organisations in the renewable energy and environment in the Oslo region. OREEC aims to increase the pace of innovation, increase business opportunities and add value for the network participants. OREEC is organized as a separate department in Knowledge-city Lillestrom. Participants: 41 companies 9 knowledge and development actors.

The Norwegian partners in RDI2Club are to some extend connected to Oslo Renewable Energy and Environment Cluster.

#### NCE Aquaculture

The aquaculture cluster along the Nordland coast develops and delivers farmed fish, seafood and supplies the world market. Purpose: Develop Norwegian aquaculture and related businesses. The goal is to be a locomotive in the development of Norwegian aquaculture and related businesses. NCE Aquaculture working on fish health and the environment, technology for safe operation and monitoring, product quality, quality of juveniles, further development of cod-farming, sharing and dissemination of knowledge, education, as well as the framework for future development. Participants: 20 companies, 4 knowledge and development actors

#### NCE Aquatech Cluster

The cluster, located in Trondheim area, develops and delivers tech solutions to the members within the aqua farming. Purpose: The goal is to deliver technology for sustainable growth in

aquaculture food production around the world and establish a global position for farming technology from Norway. Participants: 99 companies, 8 knowledge and development actors.

#### NCE Seafood Innovation Cluster

The Bergen based cluster is developing the fishing industry, through investment in research, development and innovation. Purpose: Ensure sustainable growth of the Norwegian seafood industry. The cluster is recognized as one of the world's most complete industrial clusters and knowledge hubs in the seafood industry. The cluster has its hub in Bergen, but are represented along the Norwegian coast and in international seafood regions. The cluster plays a leading role in the sustainable development of the industry, through significant investments in research, development and innovation. Participants: 70 companies, 14 knowledge and development actors.

#### NCE Culinology

The cluster, located in Stavanger, has its work in the production, processing and preparation of food. Purpose: Mobilize culinary arts and industrial production to add value throughout the value chain: raw materials, processing, finished product and marketing profile. The cluster has its center of gravity at the Culinary House in Stavanger The cluster develops expertise and food based on Norwegian food production. Participants: 42 companies, 33 knowledge and development actors.

#### \*\*\*

Question 5: Are there any online platforms operating in your region that are relevant to catalyzing innovation or for SMEs in bioeconomy? Please provide a short description of the content of said network and platform.

#### Green Visits http://www.greenvisits.no/

Green Visits is your entry point to exploring the innovative environmental, climate and renewable energy solutions developed and implemented in the Oslo region.

**The Explorer** <u>https://www.theexplorer.no/</u> The Explorer is a digital showroom for Norwegian green and sustainable solutions.

#### Innovasjon Norge <a href="https://www.innovasjonnorge.no/en/start-page">https://www.innovasjonnorge.no/en/start-page</a>

Innovation Norway is the Norwegian Government's most important instrument for innovation and development of Norwegian enterprises and industry. We support companies in developing their competitive advantage and to enhance innovation.

**Norges Forskningsråd** <u>https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/Home\_page/1177315753906</u> Funding and calls for proposals for research based innovations.

#### Skogtiltaksfondet <a href="http://www.skogtiltaksfondet.no/">http://www.skogtiltaksfondet.no/</a>

Skogtiltaksfondet / The Forest Access Fund is the forest owners' joint research fund established in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food. The main task of the Forest Access Fund is to ensure user financing of research and development projects that can contribute to the development of Norwegian forestry. The fund may also contribute to joint actions in forestry and training.

#### Skogbrukets verdiskapingsfond <a href="https://verdiskapingsfondet.no/">https://verdiskapingsfondet.no/</a>

Support development work in the forestry. Do you want to develop good and profitable jobs in a serious industry, or need support for education and for work environment measures? We mainly assist with development projects, both as joint actions (for more companies in common) and corporate initiatives.

**Utviklingsfondet for skogbruk** <u>https://www.landbruksdirektoratet.no/no/eiendom-og-skog/prosjektmidler-og-forskning/utviklingsfondet-for-skogbruk/utviklingsfondet-for-skogbruket</u>

The Forestry Development Fund aims to promote research, development, information and training in forestry, as well as other measures of interest to the forestry industry. Fund funds will primarily support R & D activities with clear issues and goals. The Agriculture Directorate is a sectoral secretariat for the Fund.

\*\*\*

Question 6: Is your hub utilizing any online platforms to support innovation activities?

No

# Survey for regional hubs on the network and platform screening

#### Instructions

Each of the four hubs should provide a response to the survey of six questions by Oct 15, 2018. To answer, we propose the following steps:

- □ Agree on which experts from your hub will carry out the task
- □ The selected team should familiarize with the materials of pre-screening
- □ Team should compare notes and agree on preliminary responses
- □ The preliminary response should be presented to other relevant colleagues in the hub to validate the response
- □ Send your response to PP1 by Oct 15
- □ Results are compiled by PP1 and presented at the transnational workshop in Norway

#### **Questions for regional hubs**

Question 1.1: Is the pre-screened network and platform relevant for our organization/regional hub to join? Looking into the pre-screened networks and platforms from A1. to C5.

- 1: Not relevant for us
- 2: Did not understand the platform operation model
- 3: Seems interesting, but not relevant for us to join
  - 4: Relevant and interesting, we hope to study the possibilities to join in more detail
- 5: We are already part of the network/platform

	1	2	3	4	5
A1 TCI <u>http://www.tci-</u>					
network.org/about_us/organization/list/			Х		
A2 ECCP https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/vibrant-					
platform-service-cluster-organisations				Х	
A3 S3 Platform http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/s3-platform-					
registered-regions					Х
A4 GCCA https://www.gcca.org/about-us			Х		
A5 ENDR https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/about_en					Х
B1 EEN https://een.ec.europa.eu/			Х		
B2 Globenia					
https://www.nordicinnovationaccelerator.com/en/page/about					
-partners-en			Х		
B3 Mooc.House <a href="https://mooc.house/pages/about">https://mooc.house/pages/about</a>			Х		
C1 Scanbalt Bioregion <a href="http://scanbalt.org/about-scanbalt/">http://scanbalt.org/about-scanbalt/</a>			Х		
C2 EIP-Agri https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/about				Х	
C3 ERRIN https://www.errin.eu/who-we-are			Х		
C4 EIT Climate KIC https://www.climate-kic.org/who-we-					
are/what-is-climate-kic/	X				
C5 Agri-Source <u>http://www.agrisourceonline.com/</u>				Х	

Question 1.2: Based on your answers, please provide further explanations

If you have answered 5 to certain networks and platforms, please indicate what added value you have experienced from being part of the network.

#### Answer:

#### S3 Platform and ENDR:

- Presentation of the region's potential in the field of bioeconomy (including smart specializations, local action groups)

- The possibility of networking, acquiring new contacts
- Acquisition of knowledge and familiarization with the best practices.

If you have answered 2 or 4 to certain networks and platforms, please indicate what information would be needed to continue assessment of the relevance to join.

#### Answer:

It may occur crucial to conduct a process of assessment which criteria the Regional Bioeconomy Hub (RBH) will be forced to fulfill. In example, the level of readiness, the accession procedure, the cost of participation in the network (including the intensity of cooperation, translated into personnel costs, participation in events, etc.). It is important to bear in mind that RBH is under process of creating and no ready solutions are provided. It may become difficult if these organizations expect only existing clusters/hubs.

If you answered 4 to certain networks and platforms, please indicate what added-value you expect from the mentioned networks and platforms?

#### Answer:

All entities provide wide scope of profits. For example it is matchmaking opportunity what allows to find similar cluster/hub for further cooperation. All these institutions are a tangible source of calls for source of co-financing. Furthermore, some of them are stimulating regional smart specializations strategies which are a significant economy branches in different region. On their web site all interested bodies can easily find all important data and strategic documents. Moreover, some of them are working within EU structures (EU Commission is a kind of managing body which drives cohesion police within Member States) what is also strengthening their position.

\*\*\*

Question 2: What networks and platforms have network concepts or platform models and online services that we should benchmark and study further when planning our own network and platform? Looking into the pre-screened networks and platforms from A1. to E.11 – please select 5 most relevant ones and provide a short motivation to your choices.

#### Answer:

All platforms listed down have their structural operating model. It means that they have own goals to achieve, list of potential and current participants which are segregated and shared within different models.

- <u>http://www.tci-network.org/about\_us/organization/list/</u> it displays a very usable menu of web site. Beyond the fact that it has some other submenu it is easy to browse. Moreover, strictly under this link we can find all participants taking part in collaboration which are segregated within different level (area) of their business and within 5-helix share.
- <u>http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/regions/PL33/tags/PL33</u> this platform provides a wide number of important information describing different EU region. It is essential when we want to obtain some crucial data.
- <u>https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/vibrant-platform-service-cluster-organisations</u> its IT service allows to seek interesting calls to find suitable source of project co-financing.
- <u>https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/about</u> en totally dedicated for rural area. A very high level of utility in further conceptual works for RBH IT tool.
- <u>https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/share-us</u> also good example for RBH. This platform provides an opportunity for stakeholder to share its research needs or project ideas with other participants. This solution is restricted only for registered users.

Question 3: What networks and platforms would you like to see connected/integrated in to the innovation cooperation of our BSR network of bioeconomy innovation hubs? Looking into the pre-screened networks and platforms from A1. to E.11 – please provide a short motivation to your choices.

#### Answer:

All five described above may occur crucial to improve our network of bio-economy hubs. It is really important to realize that some of them are leaded or supported by EU Commission. Be a partner or participant of this platforms and networks may provide a great chance to put additional spotlight on our net of cooperation within the project. We need to remember that different regions from countries like Poland, Latvia, Estonia will need another sort of support to strengthen them at least on average EU level.

In particular:

- A2 ECCP 52 polish clusters participate in it, including two clusters from the Świętokrzyskie vovivodeship, i.e. INNOWATOR Construction Cluster and Waste Management and Recycling Cluster;
- A5 ENRD contains a lot of useful information on the agricultural policy of countries, partners (including Local Action Groups);
- C2 EIP-AGRI contains a lot of information on agriculture and forestry, including publications and funding opportunities;

- E1 BioSTEP available so-called "Knowledge tree", including information on models of stakeholders' involvement in the process of development of the regional bioeconomy and popularization of information on the bioeconomy;
- E3 Bioways on-line games, video materials and educational materials for engaging stakeholders (including young people) and popularizing information on the bioeconomy;
- E9 Erifore a large amount of materials on the circular forest bio-economy.

Question 4: What networks and platforms are the most important for bioeconomy development and innovations in your country? Please provide a short description of the content of said network and platform. Also, indicate if you are somehow connected to the activities of those networks and platforms.

#### Answer:

<u>http://www.budowlanyklaster.pl/</u> - this is a form of cooperation called Eastern Building Cluster. Beyond the fact that the name may drive only to Eastern part of Poland it gathers different entities (mostly private business) from whole country. This cluster is one of the national key clusters what makes it very important, especially within project assessment. The one of most interesting feature are sale and purchasing platforms. This tool allows for matching buyers and sellers together.

Question 5: Are there any online platforms operating in your region that are relevant to catalyzing innovation or for SMEs in bioeconomy? Please provide a short description of the content of said network and platform.

#### Answer:

Bioeconomy is not separate specialization in region, but is a part of Research and Innovation Strategy (RIS3) of Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship, like: resource-efficient construction industry, modern agriculture and food processing, sustainable power industry growth.

Platform that support innovation SMEs in bioeconomy are:

- Regional Centre for Innovation and Technology Transfer LTD Support in the field of: development and preparation for the implementation of a new business model in SMEs, consulting and research services, training, seminars.
- Kielce Technology Park offers support to young companies which need help in first years of operation. KPT prepared a special support program which include help and quick analysis of the idea, pre-incubation, incubation and market expansion. KPT offers services: consulting, trainings, workshops, research and development, searching for business partners, support in obtaining external sources of financing, promotion, consulting: patent and intellectual property, commercialization of knowledge, strategic planning and management of innovation; KPT also offers preferential rental rates to young companies.
- The Staropolska Chamber of Industry and Commerce the mission is to support the entrepreneurship in The Świętokrzyskie Province. SCIC provides a number of the services designed for the enterprises' sector. It offers, among others, economic information, advisement as well as conferences and trainings; organizes both open and closed trainings,

offers advice on gaining finances for the economic activity, issue the certificates of origin and we legalize the documents of foreign commerce; checks the financial credibility of contracting parties.

- The Świętokrzyskie Centre of Agricultural Counselling in Modliszewice it offers farm advisory services in the fields of agriculture, development of countryside, agricultural markets and households in rural areas aiming at increasing income and market competitiveness of rural households, supporting sustainable development of rural areas and increasing professional qualifications of farmers and other inhabitants of rural areas.
- National Association for Support of Entrepreneurship in Końskie the main aim of KSWP is comprehensive development and promotion of entrepreneurship. KSWP as a company acting to support people and organizations in the development of their competences, potential and capabilities, provides assistance both to the sector of micro, small and medium enterprises, as well as unemployed and working people, providing training, financial and information services and consulting.
- Center for Business Promotion and Entrepreneurship in Sandomierz support the development of entrepreneurship and local initiatives. It focuses on providing high quality advisory services to those thinking of starting or expanding their own businesses, as well as assisting larger firms to improve their productivity and competitiveness, towards generating vitally needed off-farm employment. It offers advice, trainings, access to information, loans as a part of the Loan Fund, assistance in opening a business.

\*\*\*

Question 6: Is your hub utilizing any online platforms to support innovation activities? **Answer:** 

The Hub is at the stage of formation and does not use any platform yet. In the future hub will establish cooperation with different networks and platforms in Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship.

# Survey for regional hubs on the network and platform screening

#### Questions for regional hubs

\_

\_

Question 1.1: Is the pre-screened network and platform relevant for our organization/regional hub to join? Looking into the pre-screened networks and platforms from A1. to C5.

- 1: Not relevant for us
- 2: Did not understand the platform operation model
  - 3: Seems interesting, but not relevant for us to join
- 4: Relevant and interesting, we hope to study the possibilities to join in more detail
  - 5: We are already part of the network/platform

	1	2	3	4	5
			Х		
A2 ECCP					Х
	х				
A4 GCCA	х				
	х				
B1 EEN				X	
B2 Globenia	х				
B3 Mooc.House	х				
C1 Scanbalt Bioregion		х			
C2 EIP-Agri				х	
C3 ERRIN				<mark>x</mark>	
C4 EIT Climate KIC					x
C5 Agri-Source		Х			

Question 1.2: Based on your answers, please provide further explanations

If you have answered 5 to certain networks and platforms, please indicate what added value you have experienced from being part of the network.

LFC has a profile in the ECCP, which we use as our primary on-line hub/home page equivalent and always refer to it in any project applications and also during the partner search.

IES has been involved in the Kilmate KIC activities.

If you have answered 2 or 4 to certain networks and platforms, please indicate what information would be needed to continue assessment of the relevance to join.

ERRIN in particular looks very interesting, but there was limited information available about the membership and costs associated. In case of Latvia our only option would join as an associated partner, since all members are expected to have a Brussels presence (such as a Brussels office for the region).

EIT Food KIC is missing and could be very interesting to join for LFC.

If you answered 4 to certain networks and platforms, please indicate what added-value you expect from the mentioned networks and platforms?

Main added value - access to expertise and access to project funding/ networks/ consortiums.

\*\*\*

Question 2: What networks and platforms have network concepts or platform models and online services that we should benchmark and study further when planning our own network and platform? Looking into the pre-screened networks and platforms from A1. to E.11 – please select 5 most relevant ones and provide a short motivation to your choices.

EIT Food KIC https://www.eitfood.eu/

E.9 Erifore: development of workshops and their work to enhance the awareness, utilisation and open access of the complementary research facilities.

E.8 DataBio: piloting activities and results multiplication

E.5 ProBio Page flow approach application to RDI2CluB consortium needs C.5 Agrisource – CSA Open Innovation Platform (OIP) Showcase feature of the innovations: https://www.agrisource.org/en/2/114/global.html \*\*\*

Question 3: What networks and platforms would you like to see connected/integrated in to the innovation cooperation of our BSR network of bioeconomy innovation hubs? Looking into the pre-screened networks and platforms from A1. to E.11 – please provide a short motivation to your choices.

Klimate KIC and Food KIC

C5. Agrisource

ERRIN

\*\*\*

Question 4: What networks and platforms are the most important for bioeconomy development and innovations in your country? Please provide a short description of the content of said network and platform. Also, indicate if you are somehow connected to the activities of those networks and platforms.

<mark>N/A</mark>

\*\*\*

Question 5: Are there any online platforms operating in your region that are relevant to catalyzing innovation or for SMEs in bioeconomy? Please provide a short description of the content of said network and platform.

N/A

\*\*\*

Question 6: Is your hub utilizing any online platforms to support innovation activities?

**ECCP**