

## Join our events

Broad engagement is at the centre of BE-Rural. Citizens, teachers and students will be involved through innovative formats such as bio-based pop-up stores, educational seminars, summer schools or webinars. The goal of these events: to stimulate understanding and interest in supporting their regional bioeconomy. Further, bioeconomy stakeholders and local key actors from academia, business, policy and civil society will come together to discuss regional potentials and develop bio-based strategies and roadmaps. Visit our website and register for our newsletter to stay up to date and join our events.

## Partners



BIOCOM®



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# BE-Rural: Bio-based strategies and roadmaps for enhanced rural and regional development in the EU



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**Developing Rural Bioeconomies by focusing on Regional Strengths:** European regions are diverse – economically, ecologically and culturally. These areas are home to a wealth of ecosystems and resources, where the bioeconomy carries the promise of opportunities for rural employment and sustainable growth. This transition towards a new, bio-based regional economy requires the active involvement of a broad spectrum of stakeholders and the sustainable use of agricultural, forest and marine ecosystems. Building on this idea, BE-Rural will explore the potential of regional and local bio-based economies and support the development of bioeconomy strategies, roadmaps and business models. To this end, the project will focus on establishing Open Innovation Platforms (OIPs) within selected regions in five countries: Bulgaria, Latvia, North Macedonia, Poland and Romania.

## Goals

Advance innovation regions

Mobilize engagement

Identify and disseminate good practices

Build capacity

Generate new knowledge

Explore business models

Increase awareness and understanding



Poland

### Vidzeme & Kurzeme, Latvia

15,257 km<sup>2</sup>

- › Available resources: Wood, overgrowth in abandoned agricultural lands, perennial grass
- › Regional partner: The Latvian State Research Forest Institute

### Szczecin & Vistula Lagoon, Poland

1,097 km<sup>2</sup>

- › Available resources: low-value fish stocks, especially bream and roach
- › Regional partner: National Marine Fisheries Research Institute

### Covasna, Romania

3,705 km<sup>2</sup>

- › Available resources: wood, rapeseed, grains, livestock, mineral water
- › Regional partner: Institute for Economic Forecasting

5,151 km<sup>2</sup>

### Stara Zagora, Bulgaria

- › Available resources: Abundance of herbs, rose, lavender, mint, fruit orchards, wine, fiber forage, cereals, vegetable crops
- › Regional partner: Bulgarian Industrial Association

935 km<sup>2</sup>

### Strumica, North Macedonia

- › Available resources: vegetables, cereals, forage crops, waste from industrial plants
- › Regional partner: International Centre for Sustainable Development of Energy, Water and Environment Systems – Macedonian section (SDEWES-Skopje)

Latvia

Romania

Bulgaria

North Macedonia