



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL AFFAIRS

Developing bioeconomy in Estonia

International scientific conference

**„Sustainable bioeconomy development 2020: from thinking
globally to acting locally**

25 June 2020

Argo Peepson

Adviser

Estonian Ministry of Rural Affairs

Bioeconomy in Estonia

Figure 1. Gross Value Added of bio-based primary sector (M€, Eurostat, 2017)

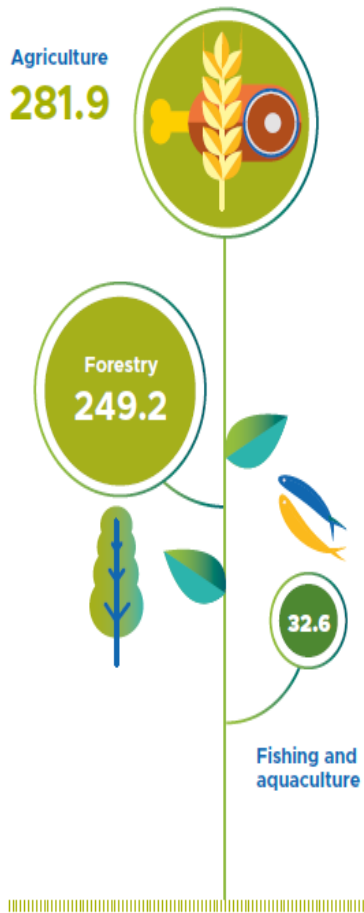
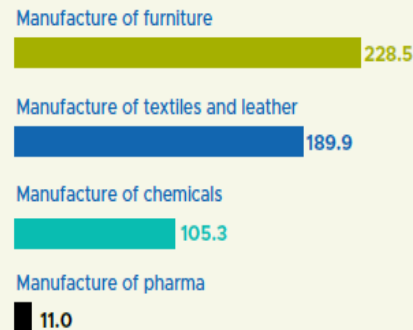


Figure 2. Gross Value Added of bio-based manufacturing sector (M€, Eurostat, 2017)



Figure 3. Gross Value Added of partially bio-based manufacturing sector (M€, Eurostat, 2017)



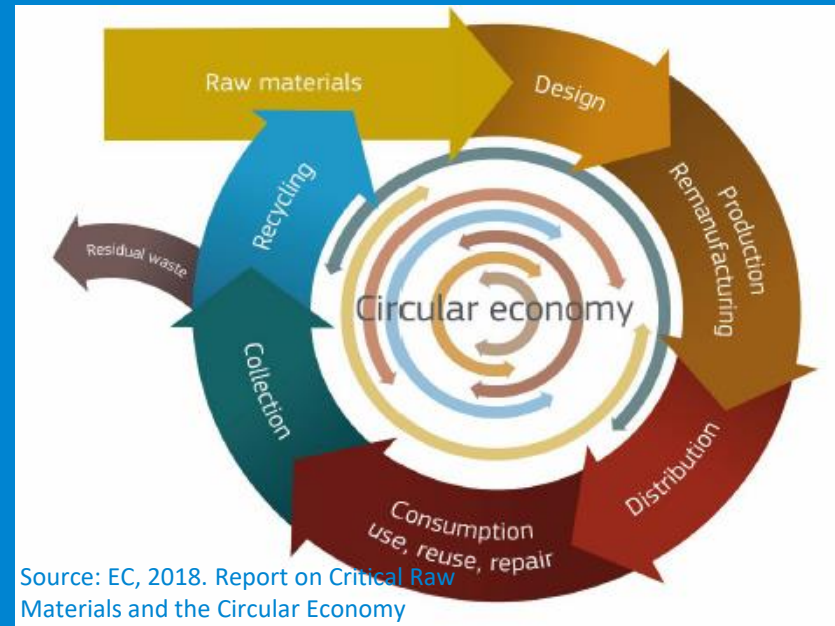
Source: BIC 2020

- ~ 7-8% of all Estonian companies
- ~ 12% of employees (2017)
- Value added created by bioeconomy companies: 11% (2016) -> wood processing, food and beverage branches 50-60% of the total value
- Share of bioeconomy enterprises in the total export volume ~17%

(Kers, 2019)

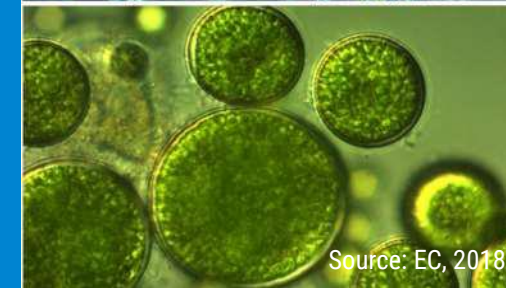
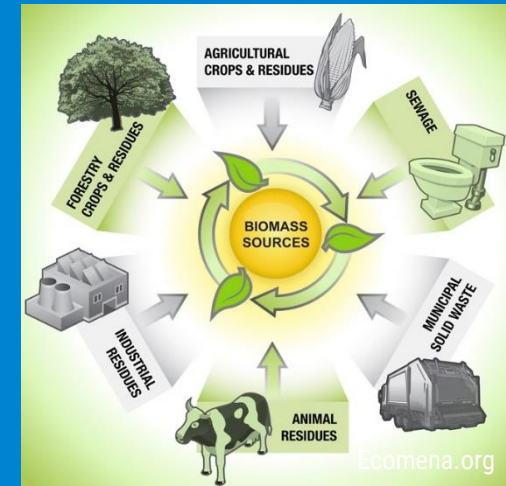
Challenges

- Biggest bottleneck is **low added value**
- The principles of the **circular economy** are not yet widespread
- **Cross-sectoral cooperation** and the **agreement of strategic developments** at national level



Areas of priority

- **Development Plan of Agriculture and Fisheries 2030**
 - ❖ The use of **residues and by-products** as a valuable resource
 - ❖ **Aquaculture and marine farming** also has great development potential
 - ❖ Setting up **biorefineries** suitable for primary producer
- **Development Plan „Estonia 2035“**
 - ❖ Making Estonia a recognized **centre for the development of the bioeconomy** in Europe
 - ❖ Support **innovation cooperation** between companies and R&D institutions
 - ❖ Technologies and innovation of **marine** resources



Actions taken and planned for bioeconomy development

- **RDP 2014–2020 measures:**
 - ❖ M4.1, M6.4, M16
- **CAP Strategic Plan 2021–2027:**
 - ❖ Investments for demonstration of valorisation of bioresources (biorefineries) – farmers and processors in agriculture, forestry
 - ❖ Innovation interventions for piloting (e.g. biomass processing technologies)
- **Horizon, ERDF etc.**



Examples

Estover

Biogas production from **wastewater** and **whey** collected from the dairy industry replacing the current use of oil shale



Planned biogas plant. Source: Estover

Sweetwoods

First-of-a-kind **wood fractionation** demo plant in Estonia using hardwood biomass



Sweetwoods demo plant in Estonia. Source: Sweetwoods



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL AFFAIRS

Thank you!

argo.peepson@agri.ee