

EVENT REPORT

Country: Latvia	Place: "Krūmiņi", Liepas pagasts, Cēsu novads	Venue: Seminar room
Project partner: Vidzeme Planning Region (Latvia)	Contact persons: Iřina Kulitāne	Start date: 17.12.2021 End date: 17.12.2021

TYPE OF THE EVENT

(A) Awareness raising event (2 transnational conferences planned; 2-day events)	<input type="checkbox"/>
(B) Business sector engagement event (8 local workshops planned; 1-day events with field trips)	<input type="checkbox"/>
(C) Business sector engagement event (2 transnational networking/matching events planned; 2-day events)	<input type="checkbox"/>
(D) Public sector engagement event (4 transnational events for experience exchange planned; 2-day events)	X
(E) Public sector engagement event (7 local trainings on circular bioeconomy planned; 1-day events)	<input type="checkbox"/>

TITLE OF THE EVENT

Transfer of experience and knowledge of the project "Baltic Biomass4Value" to the stakeholders of Vidzeme region.

PARTICIPANTS

Business enterprises (biomass producers and processing companies, incl. bioenergy companies, as well as other value chain players, such as providers of specialised equipment, logistics, financing or consulting services) and state/municipality owned enterprises (waste management or other utility companies):

Business enterprises:

- Farm “Krūmiņi”
- LTD “Mazā brīnumzeme”
- LTD “EFSYSTEM”
- Farm “Paeglītes”
- Farm “Kalnpierbes”
- Farm “Ogrītes”
- Farm “Oši”

Persons – owners or managers of bioresources in Vidzeme region (planning bioresources based business development):

- Rita Matveja
- Marta Klēra Priede
- Gunda Kazerovska
- Aija Gailiša
- Jānis Gudēns
- Laura Kaimiņa
- Jānis Zušmanis

National, regional and local public authorities, such as ministries, sectorial agencies, administrations of municipalities:

- Irīna Kulitāne (VPR, BB4V project)
- Anita Āboliņa (VPR, BB4V project)
- Ineta Tauriņa (VPR, project manager)
- Guna Kalniņa-Priede (VPR, Head of administration)

Non-governmental organisations (associations and other non-profit non-governmental organisations):

- Association “Reveranss”

Research and academic institutions, i.e. institutions which core activities are research and/or education (be it public or private entities):

- Institute for Environmental Solutions

FEEDBACK FROM THE PARTICIPANTS

1. Main questions discussed with the participants

At the first part of the event participants were introduced with the knowledge resources and tools elaborated within the project and made available for public use in the Interactive Online Portal. The main target was to empower bio-resource owners and managers with knowledge and instruments encouraging and enabling them to work out plans on how to use the biomass they have in the most effective and sustainable way. Four sections of e-tools were presented, their content and applicability explained and discussed. These tools are:

1. **Virtual library “Explore good practice bio-based business models and real-life inspiring examples”** containing 20 real-life examples illustrating biomass potential and benefits of its use.
2. **Analyse biomass value chains in the Baltic Sea Region** – statistical data and expert assessments on biomass deployment, as well as on related market opportunities were presented. Biomass and biological waste potential calculators and their applicability were demonstrated. Tools demonstrated to the participants:
 - [Biomass resources and its deployment database](#)
 - [Bioenergy demand modelling tool](#)
 - [Biomass and biological waste potential calculators](#)
3. **Start or expand your own bio-based business** - bio-based business analysis and planning tools were demonstrated to the participants:
 - [Bio-based business planning tool](#)
 - [Catalogue of other relevant bio-based business analysis and planning tools](#)
4. **Enable bio-based businesses at your region** – participants were introduced to the information on circular bioeconomy support systems:
 - [Catalogue of measures for developing regional or local circular bioeconomy](#)
 - [Training programme on circular bioeconomy development and its support systems](#)

At the second part of the event participants took part in the discussion, where they shared experience and ideas on different origin (agriculture, forestry, waste) use and management. Issues such as knowledge and technology needs, challenges, supporting mechanisms were discussed, as well possible use of the presented tools for realisation of the plans and passing the challenges.

2. How presented project outputs are useful for the participants and can be applied in their activities?

Participants (owners and managers of bioresources) recognised the tools proposed. Participants with experience in using bioresources showed the greatest interest in the tool “Biomass and biological waste potential calculators”. Meanwhile, those participants who are just planning to start bioresource management or have recently started doing so welcomed “Bio-based Business Planning tool”.

3. What proposals were provided by the participants (on how to develop further project outputs, regarding future events, etc.)?

Participants are interested to get assistance in applicability of the developed tools. They would appreciate if they will be translated in Latvian, thus enabling for more active use. Several participants also expressed the interest to take part in the future events, if those events will be scalable to the size and scope of their activities.

4. Good practice examples suggested by the participants

Use of plant origin bioresources (herbs and aromatic plants) as a resource for food, cosmetics and pharmacy industries.

5. Maybe other organizations that were not present, but might be interested in presented project outputs were identified during the event?

Yes, bioresources owners and managers, searching for novel solutions are potential users of the project outputs.

6. The participants made questions and expressed their concern mainly about:

Lack of specific knowledge necessary for a particular biomass management is a challenge for the bioresources owners and management.