

The History and Current Status of Bioeconomy with an Overview on Existing Global Initiatives

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Abstract

Bioeconomy is a globally much debated concept for a transformation from the linear economy towards an economy that respects the planetary boundaries. Bioeconomy is referred as a main contributor to solve several of the big societal challenges like climate change, biodiversity losses, raw material shortage and soil degradation - to name a view. But the concept of Bioeconomy does not have a general acknowledged description. This article provides a historic background, describes the present concepts, outlines a few of its challenges and gives an overview of existing and planned political strategies and global initiatives. Beside the economics it also takes environmental and social aspects of the bioeconomy into consideration.

Background is a literature review as well as a subjective summary of existing global initiatives and networks as well as an outlook of possible future developments.

Keywords: Bioeconomy concepts, Circularity, Resource management, Environmental aspects, Social aspects