

# INTERNATIONAL BIOECONOMY DIALOGUES IN MILAN

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June 13<sup>TH</sup> 2018

*Palazzo Lombardia, floor 1 - Sala Marco Biagi  
via Melchiorre Gioia, n. 37 (Nucleo N4)*

## **INSTITUTIONAL OPENING SPEECH**

Dear All,

on behalf of Mr Fabrizio Sala, Vice President of Lombardy Region Government, let me welcome you in Milan at the “**International Bioeconomy Dialogues**” and thank you very much for your participation today.

First of all I would like to thank Lombardy Green Chemistry Association and the other stakeholders in organizing this event: the European Commission and Wafaty, SPRING – the Italian Cluster of Green Chemistry, Federchimica Assobiotech, Innovhub, Smart Pilots Interreg Europe projects.

Our General Directorate “Research, Innovation, University, Export and Internationalisation” is very pleased to host this event. We are firmly convinced that bioeconomy should start from the research and the development of new products and new models.

Thus, starting from the regional governance system on Research and Innovation, particular attention is paid to bioeconomy related issues in two main strategical documents:

- The Regional Law "Lombardy is Research and Innovation", approved in November 2016, which aims at enhancing regional investments in research and innovation in order to promote the competitiveness of the economic-productive system. Besides that, it encourages the growth of human capital, the sustainable development and the initiatives to raise the social well-being and the quality of provided services to citizens and businesses;
- The regional Smart Specialisation Strategy (S3) which points out an ambitious challenge that consists in identifying and supporting the emerging industries, emerging activities, such the ones related to bioeconomy. The Lombardy

Technological Clusters and the Regional Open Innovation Platform play an important role in creating an enabling environment for cross-sectoral businesses;

Based on the regional S3, the regional direct measures regarding Research and Innovation (financial instruments, but also other initiatives) are closely knitted to the Specialisation Areas (7 SAs) and respectively with operative Work Programmes (es. Agrifood, Aerospace, Advanced Manufacturing, Eco Industry etc.).

The Work Programmes are a part of the regional Entrepreneurial Discovery Process and are jointly developed with territorial stakeholders: clusters, experts, sectoral associations and citizens through public consultations.

Bioeconomy is part of Eco-Industry Specialisation Area, which included topics such as:

- Creation of bio refineries for the production of products with added value from no-food culture and waste biomass (bio-economy).
- Bioeconomy of the future

Moreover, within the recent public survey about the future development of Research & Innovation in Lombardy, citizens have identified - bioeconomy as a priority for the territory.

Lombardy Region is interested in understanding and settle how to support the bioeconomy industry. It is essential to go on exploiting all possible synergies between European, national, regional and funds, including resources that can be mobilized via European financial institutions.

Next step is the elaboration of a regional position paper for bioeconomy strategic development considering European and national trends.

These are the premises for having an interesting occasion in order to further develop the thematic during this event, share additional information with the presentation of the speakers invited, whom I also thank very much for their presence.

I wish you a very interesting conference and fruitful meetings during the afternoon.