

Fostering Cross-Sectoral Collaboration

Piret Fischer



Collaboration in Bioeconomy

- ShapingBio scope was to identify primary obstacles and proposed supportive measures that influence cross-sectoral collaboration (CSC) throughout the EU across the main biobased sector
- Methodology:
 - survey among collaborative structures
 - in-depth case studies (21 collaborative BE structures across EU)
 - MAG and validation workshops



Bioeconomy Collaboration in the EU

- The number of collaborative structures in the bioeconomy has grown significantly
- Different EU funding programs (H2020, HE & CBE JU), have supported partnerships by providing financial support
- Supportive measures on MS level exist
 - R&D is the most critical topic across
 the bioeconomy
 - <u>Most cross-sectoral collaboration</u> occurs at TRL 3-5-> focusing on the pre-commercialization phase



Collaborations in Bioeconomy

Source: ShapingBio stakeholder survey



Key Elements to Support Collaboration

- Adequate financing and supportive policies/regulations are essential enablers of effective collaboration.
- Access to information about potential partners and collaboration opportunities, along with building mutual trust, is critical for success.

-> Intermediaries play a pivotal role in connecting stakeholders and facilitating (cross-sectoral) collaborative processes.



Source: ShapingBio stakeholder survey



Key Messages from ShapingBio

- Broaden stakeholder involvement in bioeconomy innovation for collaborative activities
 - Connect primary producers to bioeconomy innovation chain (e.g. agri-sector)
 - Foster regional innovation hubs
 - Regional hubs should support bioeconomy industries, offering networking, resource sharing, and collaboration (can be also virtual)
 - Expand (mostly virtual) hubs to physical investments, facilities activities (i.e. PDI) in lowinnovation countries
 - Support cross-border partnerships
 - Foster international partnerships to expand perspectives and access resources that support growth.
- As the bioeconomy environment is evolving rapidly, intermediaries must pro-actively align their services with needs of their members
 - Tailor services to members' needs
 - Regularly assess member needs to offer customized services like networking, training, and knowledge exchange.

