

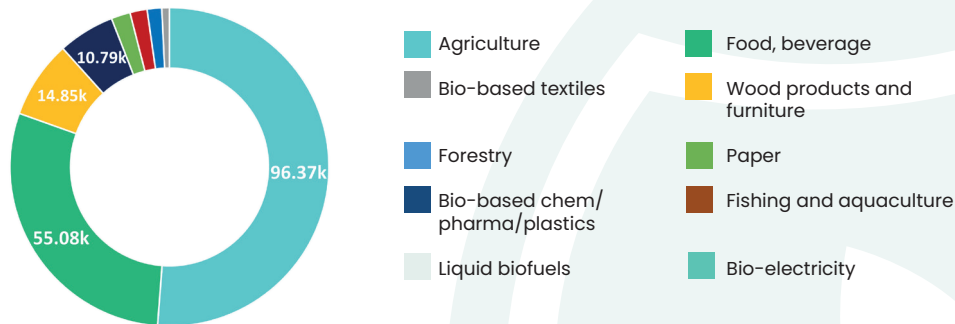
The National Policy Statement published in 2018 with the objective to 'grow Ireland's ambition to be a global leader for the bioeconomy' through a 'coordinated approach that harnesses Ireland's natural resources and competitive advantage and that fully exploits the opportunities available while monitoring and avoiding unintended consequence'. The Irish Government acknowledge bioeconomy as a key to support the transition to a low carbon and circular economy.

The development of the bioeconomy has advanced significantly over the past years (2018-2022) which is evident from the progression across multiple domains:

1. Sectoral coherence: Bioeconomy importance is increasingly recognised in national policies (e.g., Food Vision 2030, the Climate Action Plan 2021, the Circular Economy Strategy, Impact 2030);
2. Research, Innovation and Investment: bioeconomy initiatives including research, innovation, public private partnerships, etc., have been launched such as the Irish Bioeconomy Foundation, national bioeconomy research centre, as well as education and training programmes.
3. Raising awareness: Annual events since 2019 such as Bioeconomy Ireland Week, held in October each year bringing together industry, local communities, producers and researchers to discuss bioeconomy development.

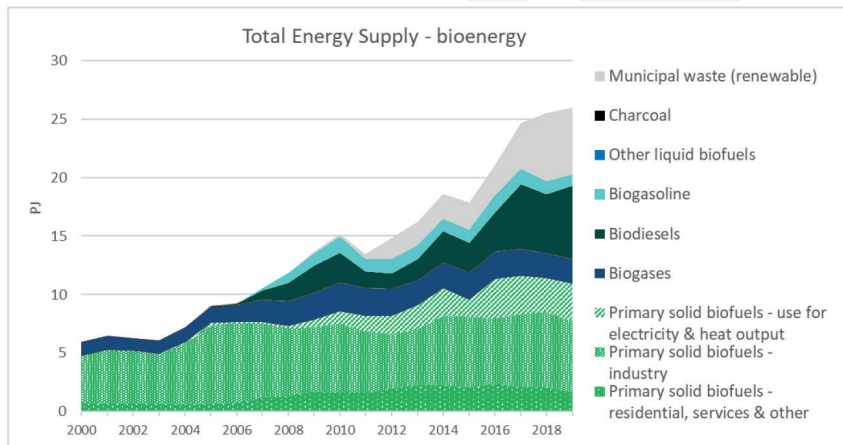
Bioeconomy: persons employed by sector


2020



Development of total energy supply from bioenergy in Ireland

2000-2018





Publication date
2018
(National Bioeconomy Action plan is expected to be launched in 2023)


Responsible authorities

The Lead Ministry is the Department of the Taoiseach (Prime Minister).

The implementation of the statement is assigned to Bioeconomy Implementation Group (BIG) which is chaired by the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine and the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DCC).

Ireland Bioeconomy strategy

National Policy Statement on the Bioeconomy








Dominant sectors

Agriculture + Forestry

Bio-based sectors (incl., materials, energy)

Food Systems

Other related strategies

-  Food Vision 2030
-  Project Ireland 2040
-  Climate Action Plan 2023
-  National Action Plan for Jobs 2016
-  National Action Plan for Rural Development 2017

Policy instruments

Bioeconomy demonstration fund



Co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union through the EU Just Transition Fund. The funding will support close collaboration between a wide range of stakeholders along the bio-based value chain (including SMEs, research performing organisations, universities, local authorities, etc.)

Innovation Boost programme



A programme from Inter Trade Ireland to support the development of innovative cross-border business that develop new products or improve production process. Funds available are up to €67,900 (18 months) and €47,400 (12 months).

Policy and Strategic Studies Research Call



€4.2 million fund from DFAM for policy-focused research projects on emerging policy and strategic needs of the agri-food, forest and bioeconomy sectors.

Accelerate Green



Develop and fund further education and training programmes. The Green Skill Programme designed to progress the green transition in the Further Education and Training sector, support climate action and create awareness of sustainability and bioeconomic issues.

SOLAS



Irish accelerator dedicated to support the scaling up of companies within sustainability and green innovation.

CIRCULÉIRE's Circular Venture Programme



Combination of non-equity funding and mentoring that supports circular entrepreneurs impact Ireland's consumer behaviour, the economy, and accelerate the national transition to a net-zero carbon circular economy.

Bioeconomy in Ireland

Collaborative structures

Irish Bioeconomy Network

The network seeks to promote the collaborations and raise awareness of the bioeconomy.

Irish Bioeconomy Foundation

Promote the transformation of natural resources to high-value products for the development of a sustainable bioeconomy that is globally competitive

The Marine Institute

National agency responsible for marine research, technology, development and innovation. The focus is on assessing the economic potential of Ireland's marine resources, promoting the sustainable development of marine industry.

Bioeconomy Implementation Group

Chaired by the DFAM and DCC to oversee the implementation of the national policy statement and to report back with recommendation to Government.

BiOrbic

The national bioeconomy research centre, established to promote and develop sustainable circular bioeconomy. The centre works with industry, communities, the public, and policy makers.

CIRCULÉIRE

Public-private partnership working on delivering circular business models.

Showcase AgriChemWhey project

The project is based on building an industrial-scale biorefinery that take the by-products from dairy processing and convert them into lactic acid, which is then used to make bio-based products (biodegradable plastics and bio-based fertilizers).