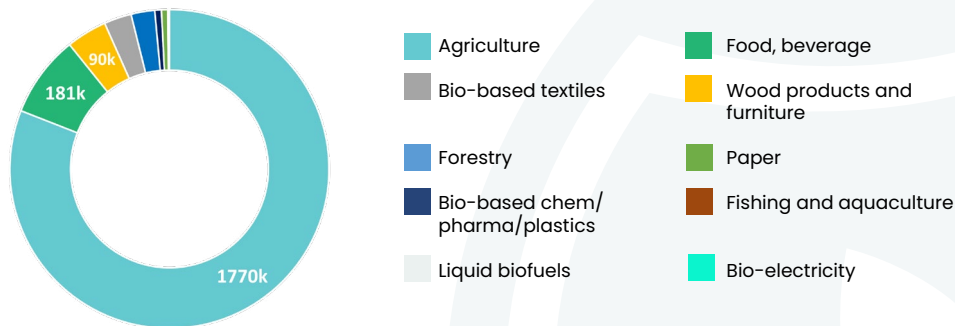


Romania has one of the largest agricultural sectors in Europe and a strong (petro)chemical industry. These two factors, combined, concur to make it an ideal candidate for bio-based chemistry. The concept of bioeconomy as a multi-sectoral discipline is just surfacing in Romania and the massive amount of biomass available is un- or under-exploited. However, relevant bioeconomy themes are included in the Smart Specialisation Strategy of the Country.

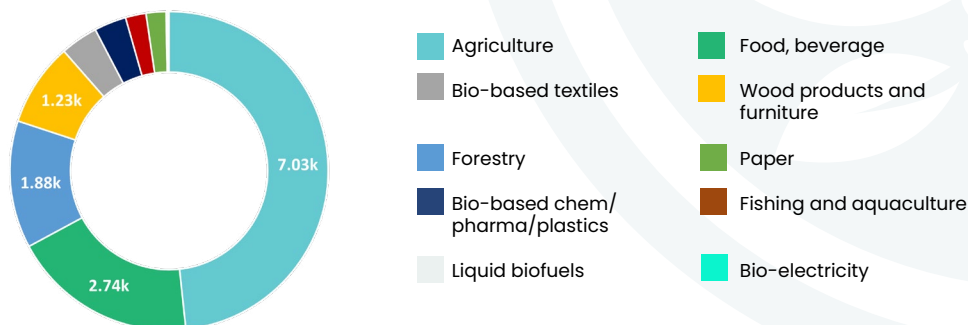
## Bioeconomy: persons employed by sector

2020



## Value added by sector (million €)

2020





Publication date  
**2020**  
(Duration: 2020-2023)

Responsible authorities



Romanian Government,  
Department of Sustainable  
Development.



Romania Bioeconomy strategy  
**National circular economy strategy**

Dominant sectors

**Agriculture**

**Food & Beverages**

**Forestry and wood products**

Other related strategies

-  Strategy for the development of the agri-food sector in the medium and long term 2020-2030
-  National Strategy for Research, Innovation and Smart Specialization 2022-2027
-  The 2021-2030 Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan
-  Romanian Sustainable Development Strategy 2030

This National Circular Economy Strategy (SNEC) provides an overview of 14 economic sectors in Romania from the circularity potential perspective. The energy, water and waste are addressed in all 14 sectors in a cross-cutting manner. Water and waste are also presented separately to highlight their circularity challenges and potential, given Romania's still underdeveloped infrastructure in these areas. Based on a preliminary analysis, we can conclude that Circular Economy (CE) improvement has the greatest potential in agriculture and forestry, automotive sector, construction, consumer goods such as food and beverages, packaging, textiles, and electrical and electronic equipment.

## Policy instruments



### National Programme for Research and Development

The Romanian government provides funding through this program to support research and development projects in various sectors, including the bioeconomy.

### Sustainable Development Operational Program (POSDRU)



POSDRU is a Romanian funding program that aims to foster social and economic development. While not specific to the bioeconomy, it includes support for projects related to sustainable practices, including those within the bioeconomy sector.

### Romanian Research and Innovation Fund (FUIR)



This fund focuses on supporting research and innovation projects in Romania across various sectors, including the bioeconomy. It provides grants and financial assistance to projects that demonstrate scientific and technological excellence.

## Bioeconomy in Romania

# Collaborative structures

### AICAR

Government-supported, nationwide network of incubators, associations, NGOs from Alba Iulia, Brasov, Mangalia, Sfantu Gheroghe, Targu Mures, Cluj Napoca, Bacau, Satua Mare, Dorotoi, Campia Tutzii, Timisoara

### AGROPRO Oltenia Cluster

The Cluster membership consists of 11 industries, 4 universities and research centres, 11 associations and public institutions. It is incorporated within the Regional Development Agency of Oltenia, which corresponds to South-West.

### Inter-Bio

A membership organisation that supports its members to interact with the governing bodies, to internationalise their production, to gain business skills, increase RDI development, links to consumers and other sectors in bioeconomy, networking.

### Romanian Institute of Bioeconomy

Aims: promote the concept of bioeconomy, inform the public on the importance of bioeconomy in the Romanian and international society, investigate and contribute to the development of bioeconomy. These include objectives to involve new technologies and processes for the development of bioeconomy; new markets and competitiveness in bioeconomy sectors; ensure close cooperation between policy makers, NGOs, academia and civil society environment in developing and marketing bioeconomy, environmental protection and renewable resources.

### IND-AGRO-POL competitiveness pole

The Cluster groups 95 members, including 50 SMEs. Its mission is to stimulate innovation and collaboration in the agro-industrial sector (technologies and technical equipment construction for agriculture and food industry) and in related sectors (Bioeconomy, renewable energy, environment and climate changes, eco-technologies and advanced materials, information technology and communications), in order to strengthen the competitiveness and sustainable development of these sectors, regional development and intelligent growth, sustainable and favorable to social inclusion.

### CLUSTERO

CLUSTERO gathers 49 of the most active Romanian clusters in fields such as: textiles, renewable energy, electronics and software, machine building, wood and furniture, agrifood.

### *Showcase* ASIMCOV

Agrofood Regional Cluster's project (of local importance) Consolidation of smart bioeconomy development capacity in Covasna County project is financed by the Romanian Administrative Capacity Operational Program. Its main objective is to evaluate and strengthen the development capacity of the intelligent bioeconomy ecosystem in Covasna County for sustainable development through the involvement of local communities, economic actors and local public administration.