

From Policy to Practice: Scaling Up Sustainable Forest-Based Bioeconomy Approaches

Tuesday, 6 May 2025

13:15 - 14:30

UNHQ - Conference Room 7

There is an urgent need to **scale-up innovations** for climate adaptation and mitigation that promote the development of **carbon-neutral economies** while also generating **decent employment** and **supporting the livelihoods** of millions of people. The **sustainable bioeconomy** represents an integrated approach that leverages biological resources to replace fossil fuel-based materials and processes, driving progress across economic sectors while balancing economic growth, environmental sustainability, and social equity.

Forest products harvested from sustainably and responsibly managed forests are increasingly recognized as a crucial element of the bioeconomy. However, the supply of forest products to the growing bioeconomy requires a careful and complex balance of cohering objectives related to social well-being, economic development, and environmental values.

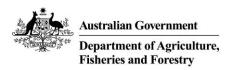
Against this background, a **Country and Organization-Led Initiative (COLI) on Sustainable Forest-based Bioeconomy Approaches**, initiated by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management, together with partner countries and organisations, is aiming to further **develop the forest-based bioeconomy worldwide**.

COLI is contributing to the proposed actions of the omnibus resolution of the <u>UNFF19</u> as well as the latest work programme of <u>FAO's Committee on Forestry</u>. The main aim of COLI is to create a useful <u>multilateral dialogue</u> to foster the exchange on sustainable forest-based bioeconomy approaches by connecting as many interested actors as possible and making best use of synergies.

Objectives of the side event:

- Highlight the potential of sustainable forest-based bioeconomy approaches
- Perspectives from policy and practise in different regions
- Announcement of Austria's CLI on Sustainable Forest-Based Bioeconomy Approaches







Programme

Moderator: Tiina Rytilä, Senior Ministerial Advisor, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Finland

13:15 - 13:20 | Welcome and objectives

13:20 – 13:25 | Opening remarks

ismail BELEN, Chair of the UNFF 20/21 Bureau

13:25 - 13:30 | Setting the Scene

Georg Rappold, Chair of COLI

Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management, **Austria**

13:30 – 14:10 | Panel: Regional Bioeconomy Approaches and Views from Stakeholder Organizations

Vicente de Azevedo Araújo Filho, General Coordinator for Sustainable Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, **Brazil**

Joseph Morrall, Director of International Policy – Forests and Agvet Chemicals, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, **Australia**

William Nambiza, Coordinator of Forest programs, Embassy of Finland, Tanzania

Ross Hampton, Executive Director, **International Sustainable Forestry Coalition (ISFC)**

Maria Pohjala, Board Member, International Family Forest Alliance (IFFA)

14:10 - 14:25 | Q&A

14:25 - 14:30 | Closing remarks