

Economic relevance

The bioeconomy sectors (agriculture, food, forestry, fisheries, bio-based products and bioenergy/fuels) represent an annual turnover of around EUR 2 trillion, making it one of the Union's biggest and most important sectors. The bioeconomy employs around 22 million people, a large number in rural and coastal areas.

Addressing cross-cutting societal and environmental challenges

In order to cope with the cross-cutting societal and environmental changes, Europe needs to radically change its approach to production, consumption, processing, storage, recycling and disposal of biological resources.

Cross-cutting societal and environmental changes

- Increasing global population
- Rapid depletion of natural resources
- Increasing environmental pressures
- Climate change