

19 ottobre

Bioeconomy for a more sustainable and competitive Country

Fabio Fava

Alma Mater Studiorum-University of Bologna. DICAM, Via Terracini 28. Bologna. Italy. Email: fabio.fava@unibo.it

Bioeconomy is one of the core and enabling pillar of Italian economy. With EUR 330 billion of annual turnover and 2 Million of employees, it is the third Bioeconomy in Europe; the country is often second in terms of presence in the R&I projects funded by Horizon 2020 Societal Challenges 2 and BBI JU and the first one in terms of quality products in the food and bio-based product domains.

Bioeconomy is also contributing to the reduction of the biodiversity loss and land use change; further, it is contributing to the environmental regeneration and the creation of new economic growth and jobs in the rural, coastal and former industrial areas, leveraging on local specificities and traditions.

To further exploit the whole Bioeconomy potential of the Country, the Italian Government promoted the set up of a national Bioeconomy Strategy in 2017 (BIT) and then, more recently, its update (BIT II), to more efficiently interconnect the main pillars composing the national Bioeconomy (eg., production of renewable biological resources and the conversion of these and biowaste streams into value added products such as food, feed, bio-based products and bio-energy) but also the Ministries, the Ministries and the 21 national Regions, for policies and regulations, R&I funding programmes, infrastructures, etc. BIT II aims at achieving an increase of 15% in the current turnover and jobs of the Italian Bioeconomy by 2030. BIT II also includes actions addressed to promote Bioeconomy in the Mediterranean area, for a greener and more productive region, wider social cohesion and greater political stability in the area. The BIT II R&I agenda and priority actions are then accompanied by measures creating and guaranteeing the framework conditions required for the strategy effective implementation in the whole Country.