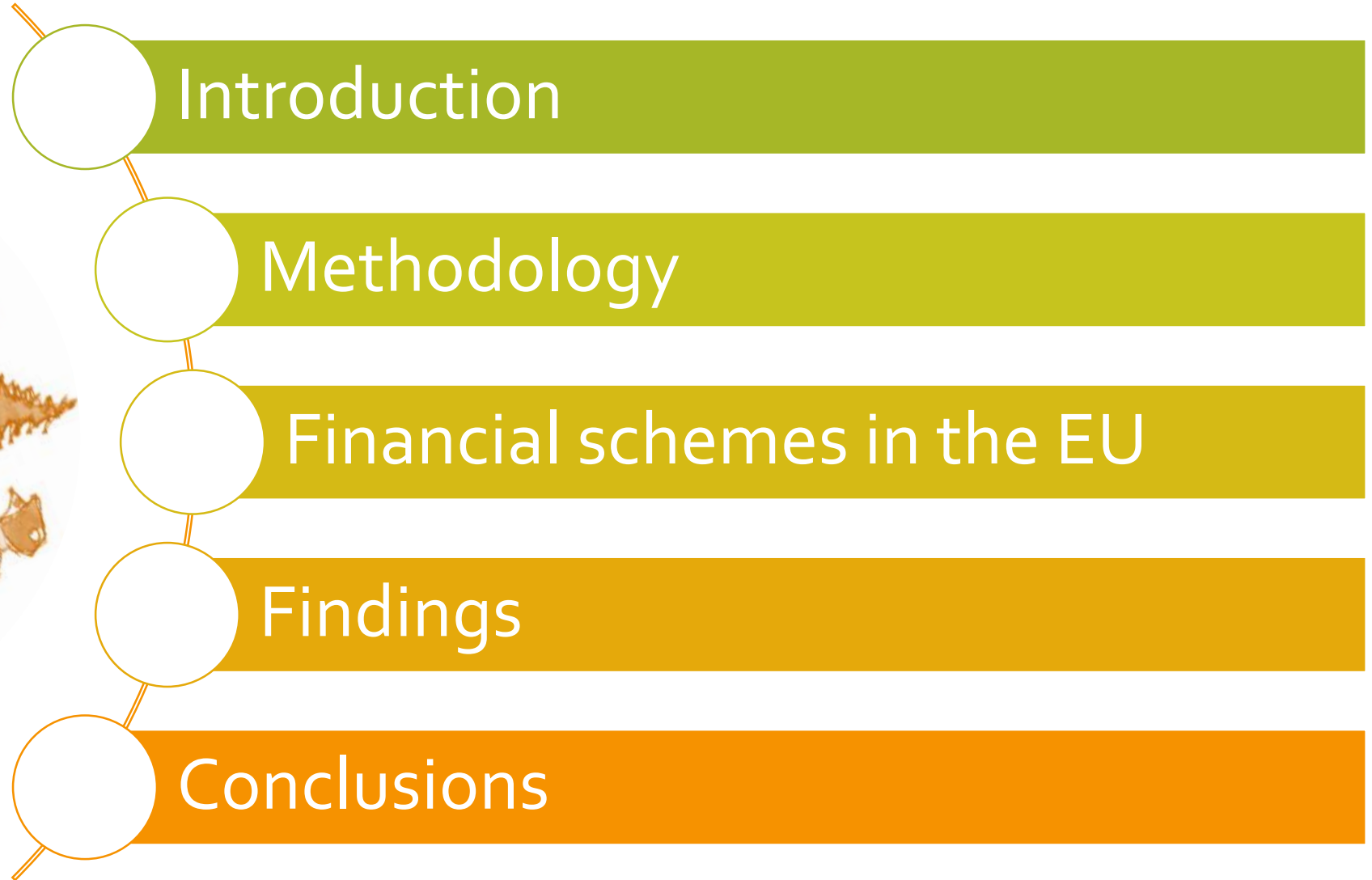


EU Funding for Bioeconomy Transition: Perception of Forest Actors

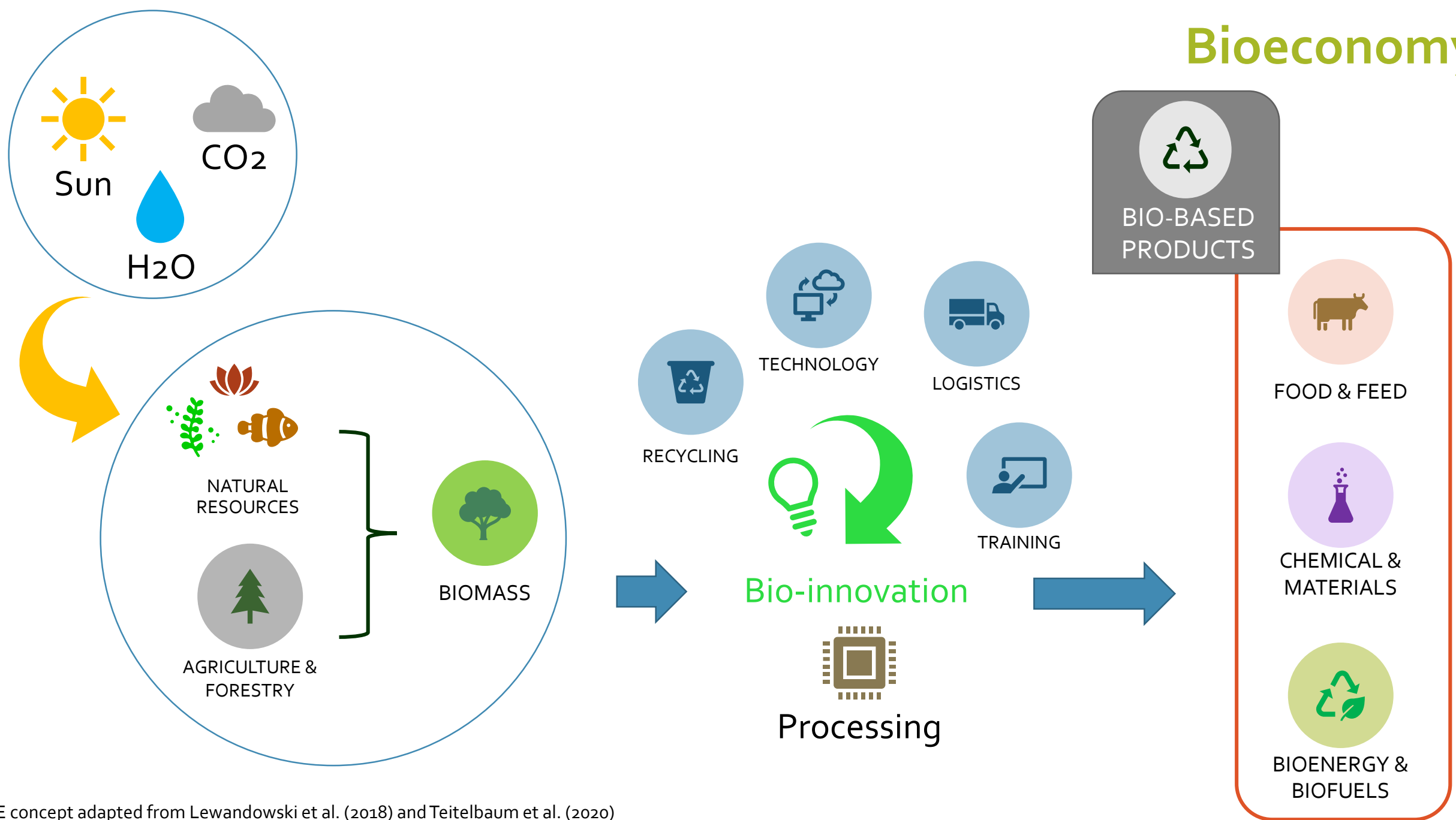
Huertas-Bernal, D.C.
Hájek, M.



Content

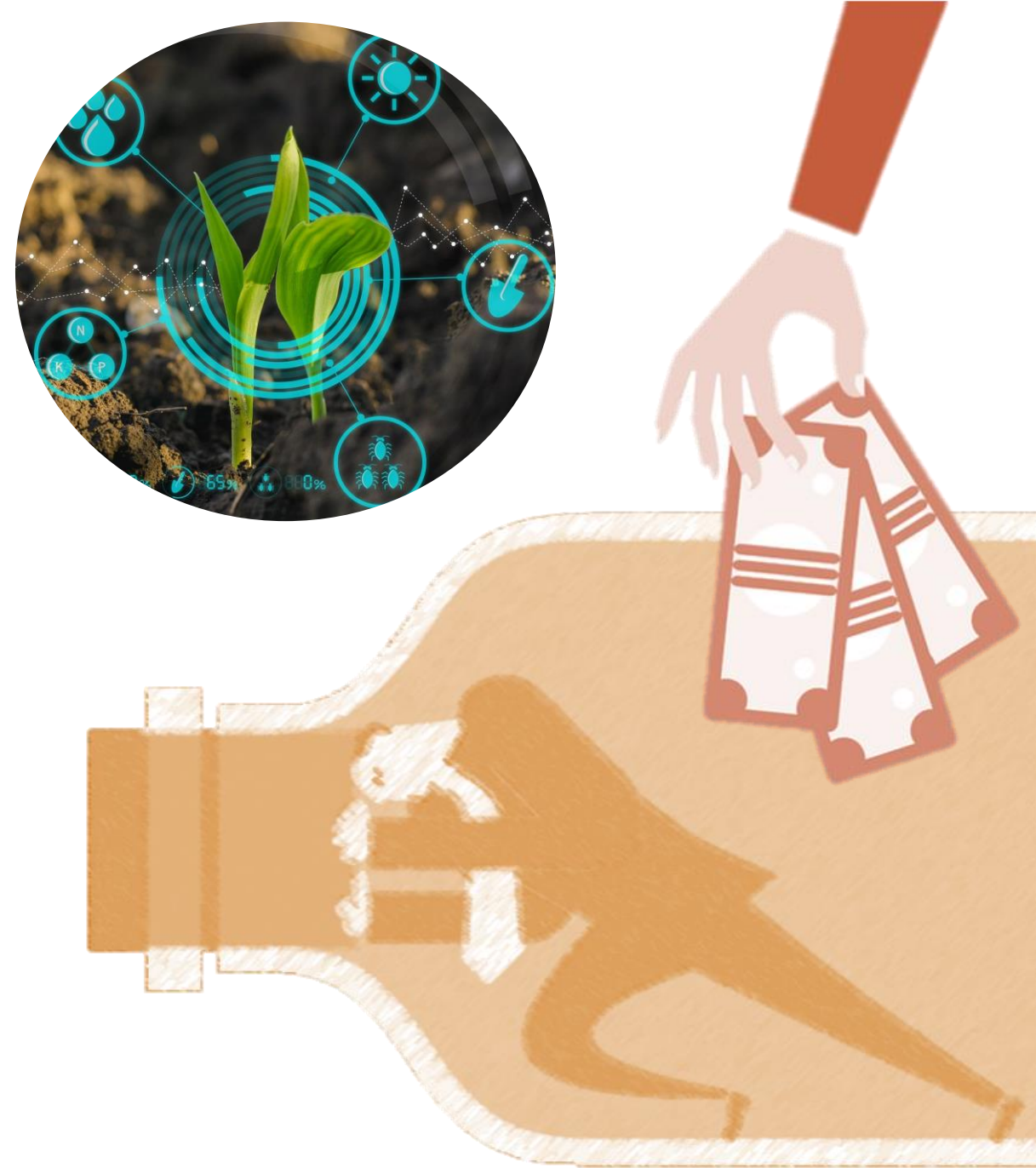


Bioeconomy



BE concept adapted from Lewandowski et al. (2018) and Teitelbaum et al. (2020)

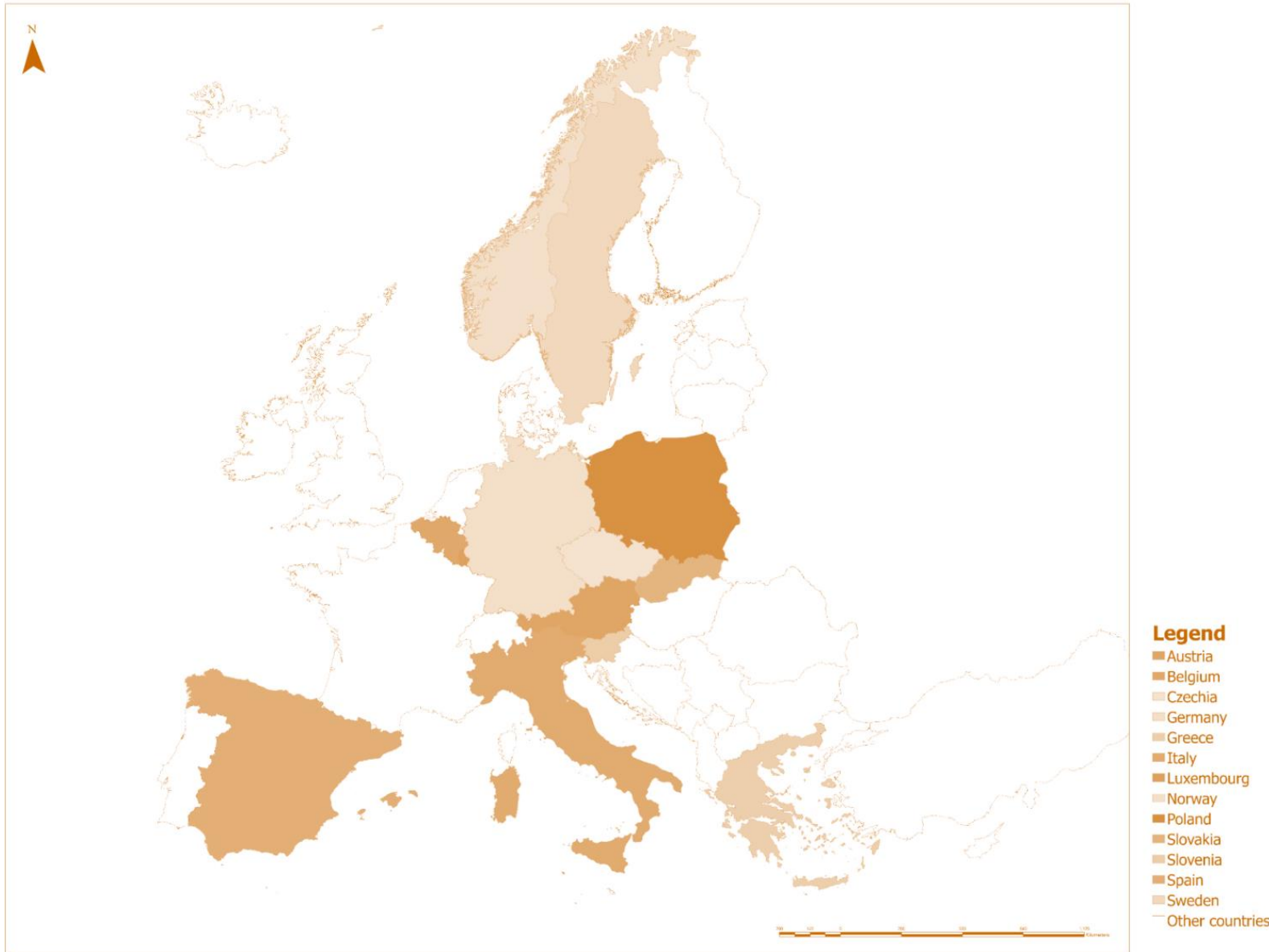
- The bioeconomy strategy has been established in many countries and regions of the world.
- Specific economic and legal instruments are required to encourage the production and consumption of products and services derived from the bioeconomy (Yakubiv et al., 2020).
- Investment is currently the main bottleneck hindering the transition to a sustainable bioeconomy (Enriquez et al., 2021; Hinderer et al., 2021)



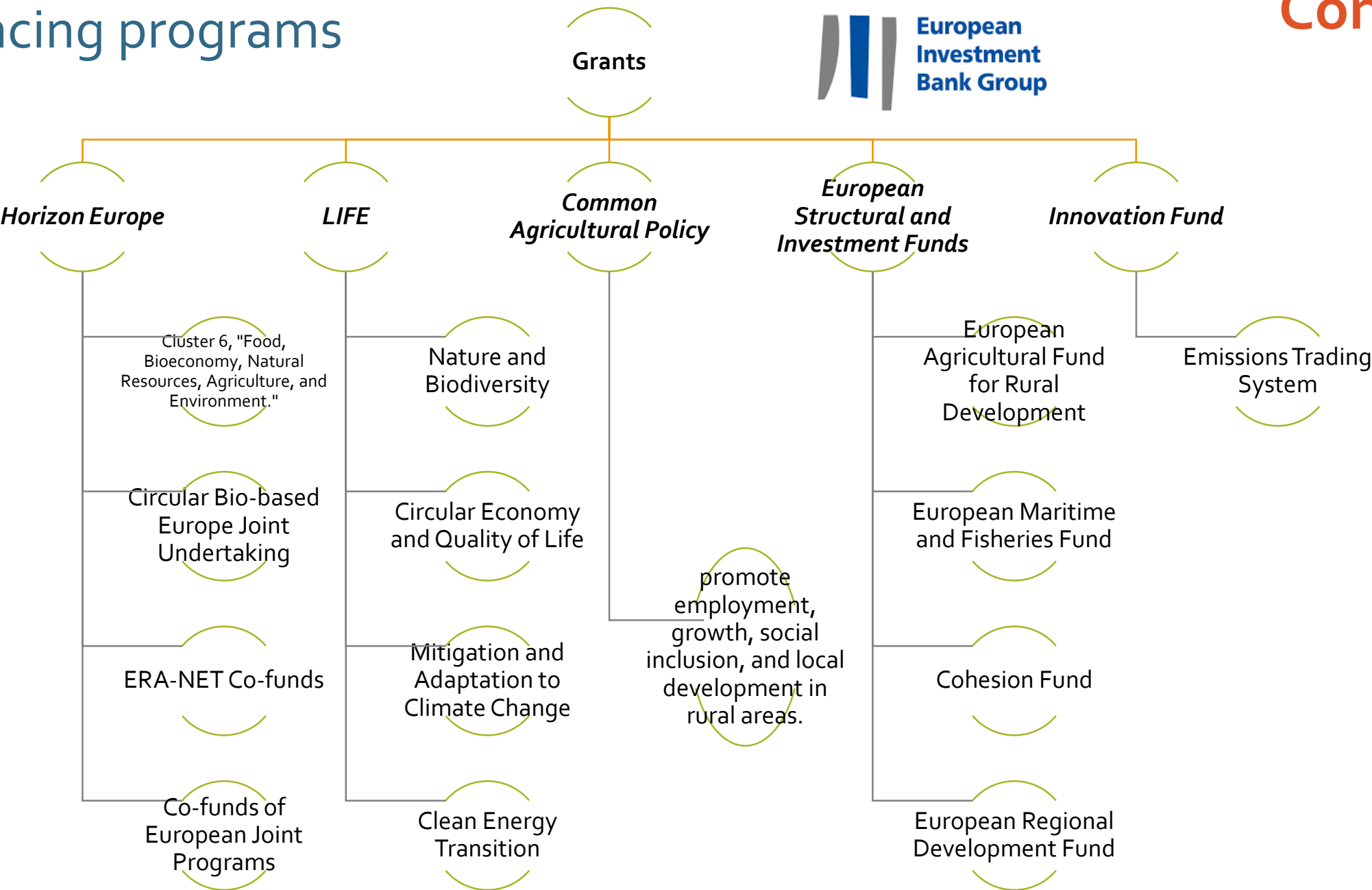
Methods

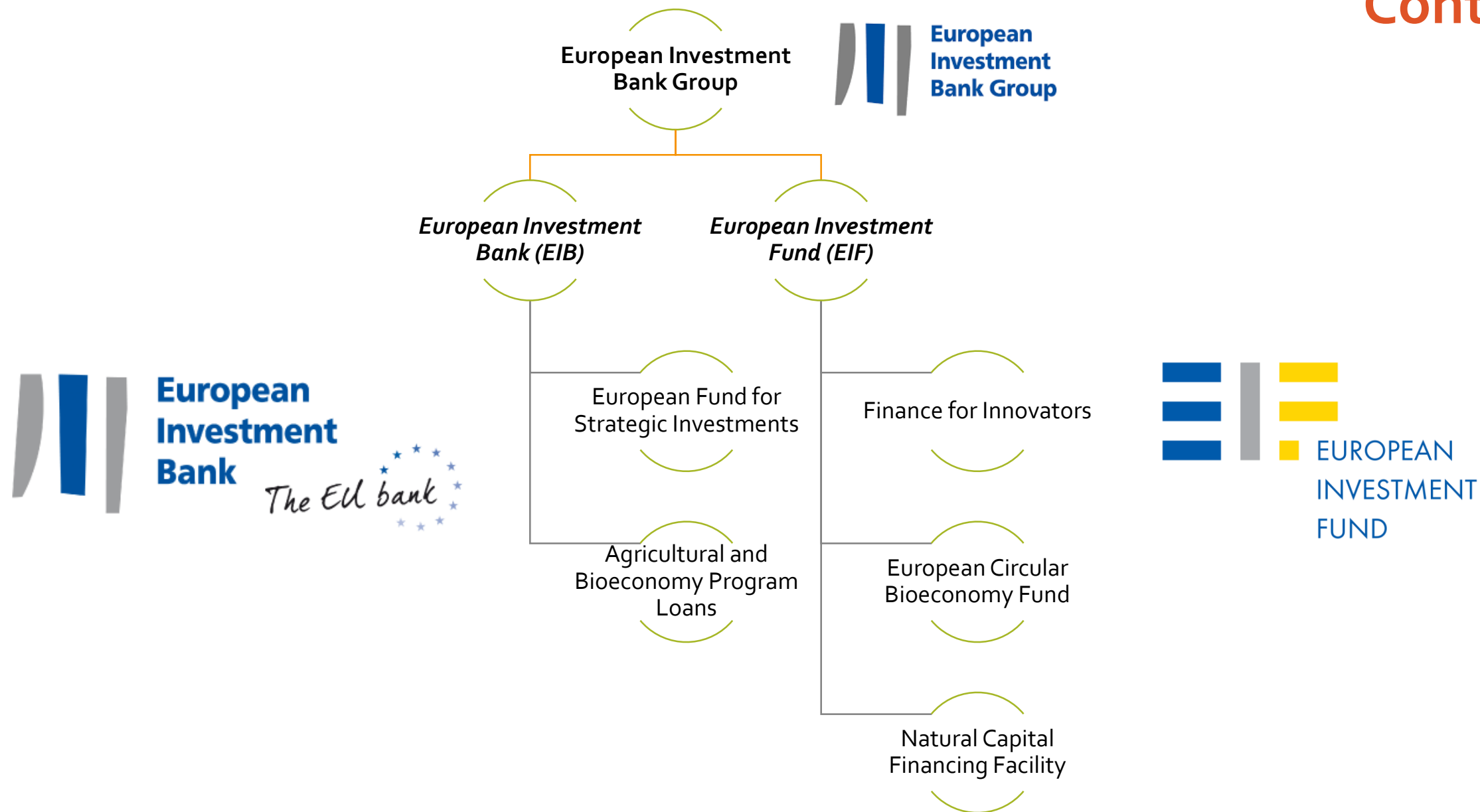


- 19 In-depth interviews.
- Experienced forestry professionals.
- 12 EU countries + Norway
- Guideline with 18 semi-structured open-ended questions.

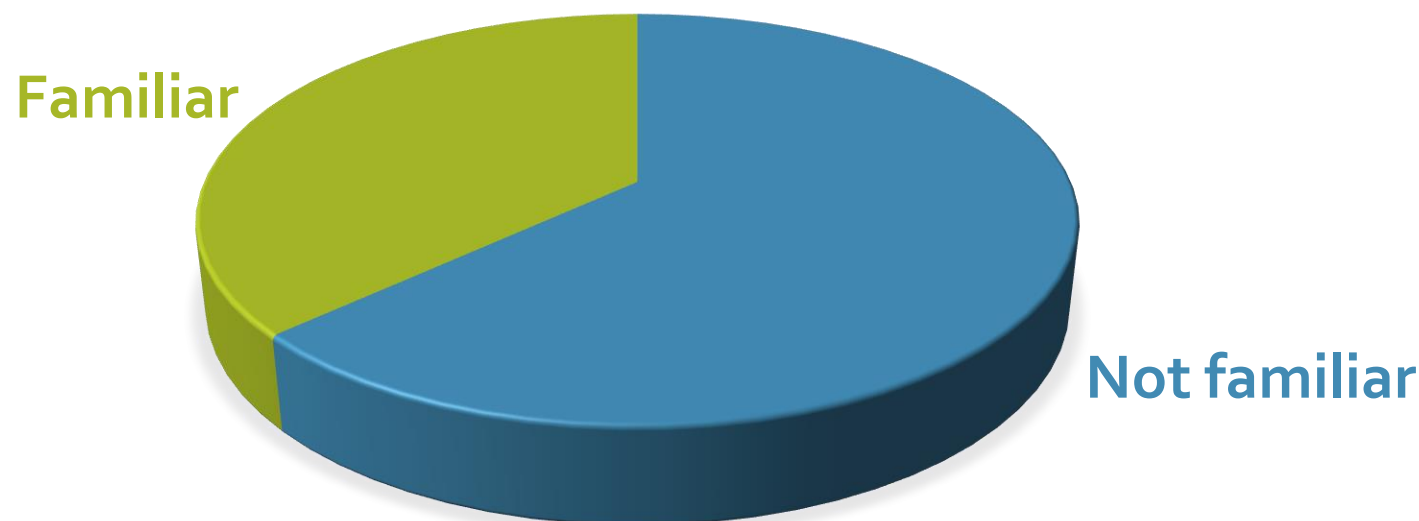


EU financing programs





How familiar does the term "bioeconomy" sound to you?



- Lack of widespread awareness among forest stakeholders regarding bioeconomy.
- Forest actors acknowledged practicing specific measures that align with its definition.
- Different degrees of adoption of forest bioeconomy initiatives and strategies.

What do you think about the European Union programs to finance forestry initiatives?



- Stakeholders acknowledge the overall utility of various financing options for forest management.
- Limited effectiveness (cumbersome, expensive and confusing procedures).
- Lack of knowledge from the forest managers and owners about the different existing financing mechanisms and the forms of access to them.
- Forest actors who seek financial resources possess the necessary knowledge to identify suitable options.



- The European Union offers various funding mechanisms to support the transition to the bioeconomy.
- Different financing mechanisms can be mixed to obtain benefits depending on the nature of the bioeconomy project.
- Cooperation between regions and countries is highly recommended since financial resources are used more efficiently.
- Some of the study countries have defined financing mechanisms integrated into action plans of the bioeconomy strategy, including monitoring measures and indicators. While in other countries, the level of implementation is perceived as lower or null.

- Lack of communication between the financial and forestry sectors.
- Bioeconomy strategies in the early stages can adopt financial mechanisms that have reported efficient performance in other countries or regions.
- Involving stakeholders allows for diversifying funding sources.
- Facilitate the dissemination and exchange of information between the State and the community.



"Our biggest challenge... is to take an idea that seems abstract – sustainable development – and turn it into a reality for all the world's people."

—Kofi Annan

Huartas-Bernal@fld.czu.cz 

carolina.huertas.db@gmail.com 

<https://twitter.com/CHuertasDb> 

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2656-8644> 

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Diana_Huertas_Bernal 

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/diana-carolina-huertas-bernal-633999a/> 