

# Bio-economy: opportunities and challenges

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Germany



# Facts and Figures on Forschungszentrum Jülich

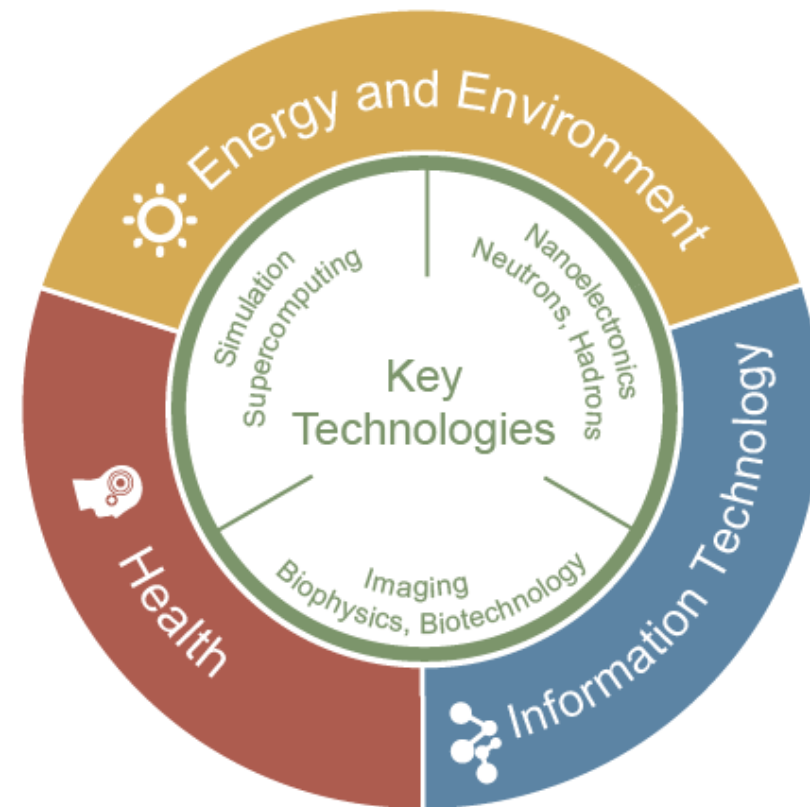
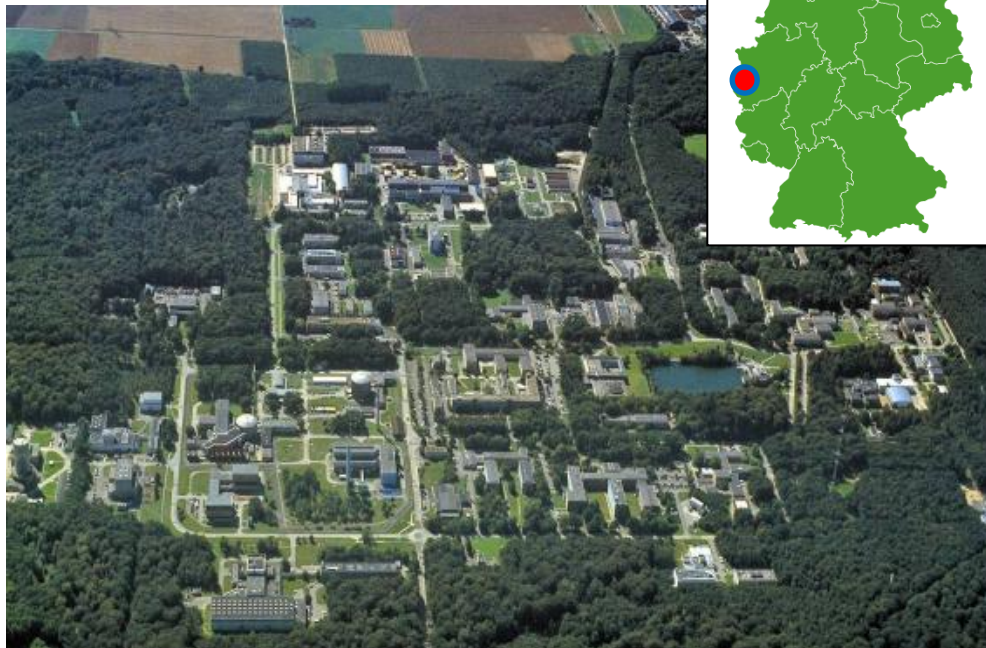
## People

- Employees: 5.534
- 900+ guest scientists (>45 countries)

## Budget

- Budget: 560 Mio €
- Third-party funding: ~ 170 Mio €

## Science Strategy



# Sustainable Bioeconomy – Knowledge about biological systems for addressing grand challenges of society

Climate Change



Energy



Food and Feed



**Sustainable  
Bioeconomy**

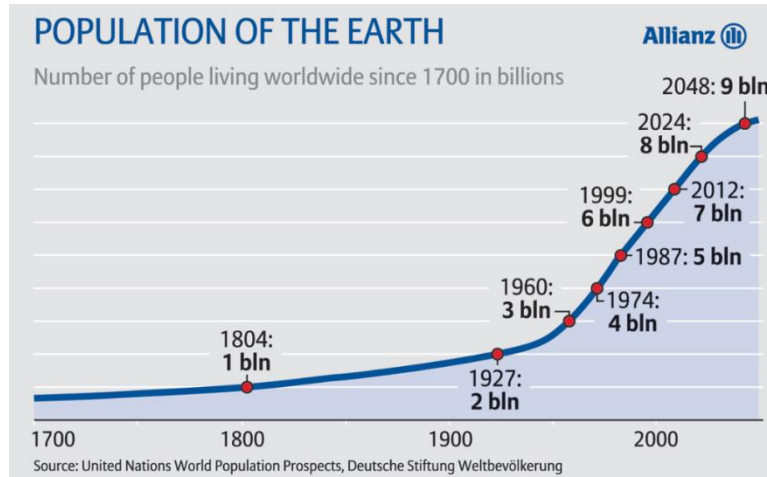


Natural Resources

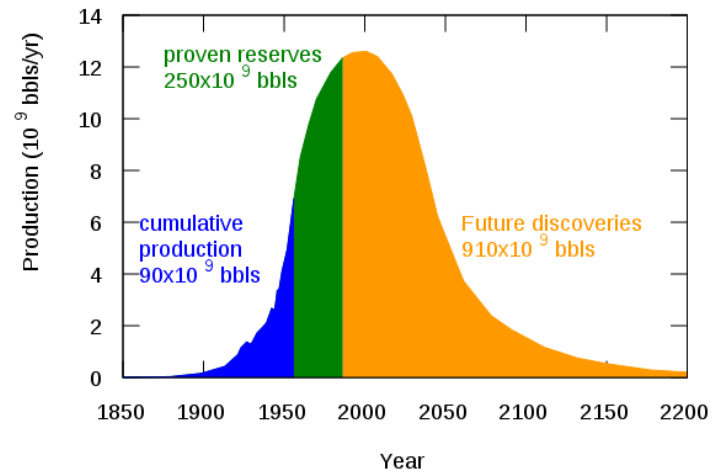


# Major societal challenges: plants are key

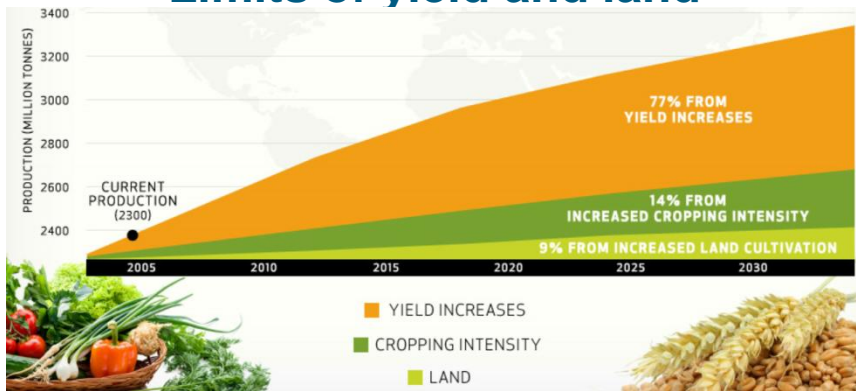
## Global and climate change



## Fossil resources

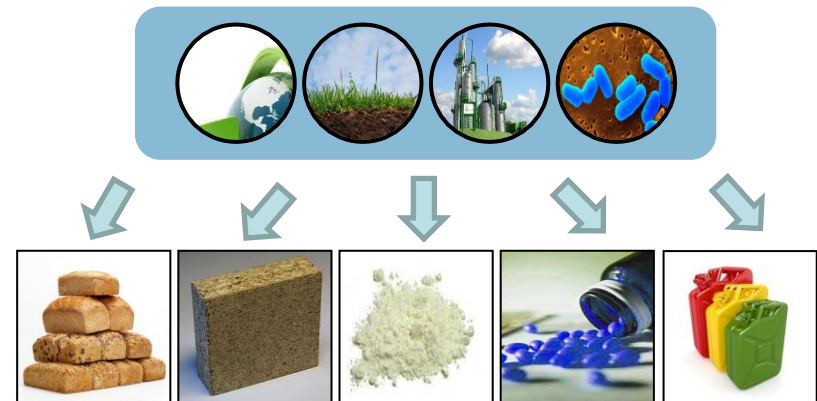


## Limits of yield and land



Need for sustainable intensification  
(Resource outlook, J. Bruinsma, 2013)

## Novel demands in quality and scale



Need for diversification

## The Bioeconomy

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Prof. Uli  
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*Giles Chichester*

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Chichester



## Food security and climate change

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## Strategies

- Europe 2030
- International cooperation strategies

## Bioeconomy Panel

## Bioeconomy Observatory (JRC)

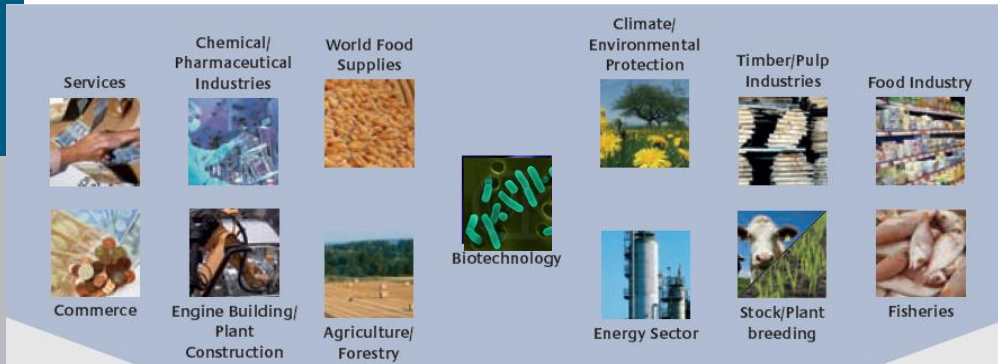
## Bioeconomy stakeholder conferences

## H2020

- Infrastructure
- About 50% DG Agri and 50% DG Research
- Multi-stakeholder approaches

## EIP

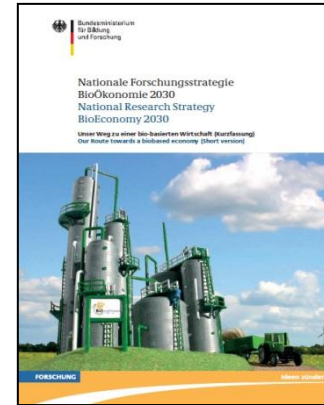
- Focus groups
- Operational groups



**Understanding, predicting and using biological systems to address global challenges**



## Research strategy (2011)



## Policy strategy (2013)



“a natural cycle-oriented, sustainable bio-based economy that carries the promise of **global food supplies** that are both ample and healthy, and of **high quality products** from renewable resources”

*National Research Strategy Bioeconomy 2030*

• **BMBF** Federal Ministry of education and research

• BMEL Federal Ministry of food and agriculture

• BMWI, BMZ, BMUB...

• Research Institutes: HGF, WGL, FhG, MPG

• Industry

• Federal states (NRW, ...)

• European and International cooperation

➤ starting November 2010; duration 6 years

Project funding	1 457.6 Mio €
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Institutional funding	976.6 Mio €
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Total funding	2 400.0 Mio €
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National Research Strategy  
BioEconomy 2030

Our Route towards a biobased economy



**Securing  
global nutrition**



**Using renewable  
resources for  
industry**



**Sustainable  
agricultural  
production**



**Developing  
biomass-based  
energy carriers**

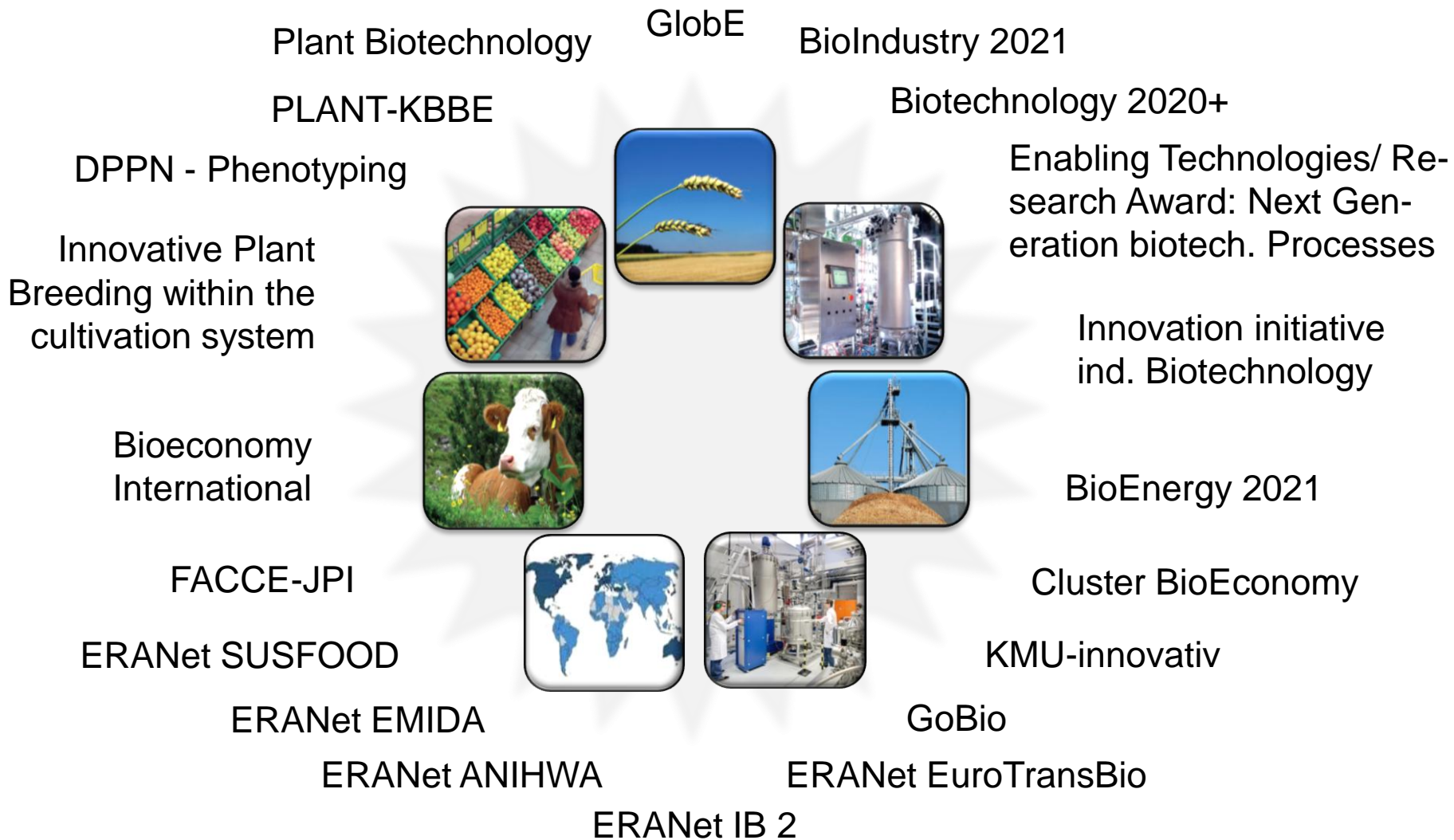


**International  
Cooperation**

**Producing healthy  
and safe foods**



## Bioeconomy Funding programs in Germany



Renewable resources and biotechnological processes as a basis for food, industry and energy

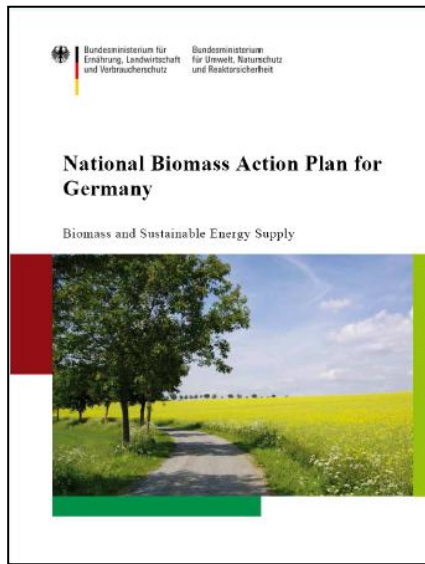


- Bioeconomy as an opportunity for the 21st century
- Goals and guiding concepts for a sustainable bioeconomy
- Challenges and drivers of the bioeconomy
- Growth markets, innovative technologies and products – Industrial biotechnology, bio-based products and bioenergy, food and feed
- Areas of action, strategic approaches and measures – Cross-sectoral and thematic areas of action

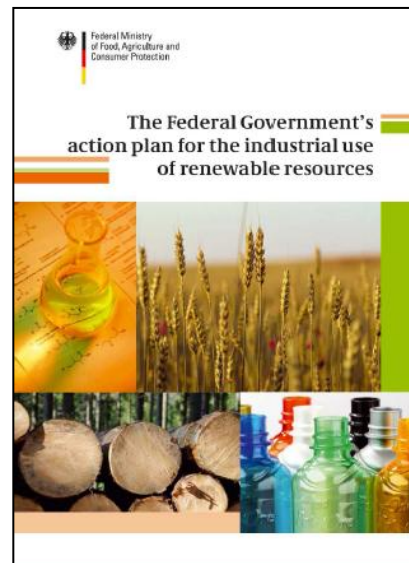


Inter-ministerial workgroup on bioeconomy

## Action Plan Bioenergy



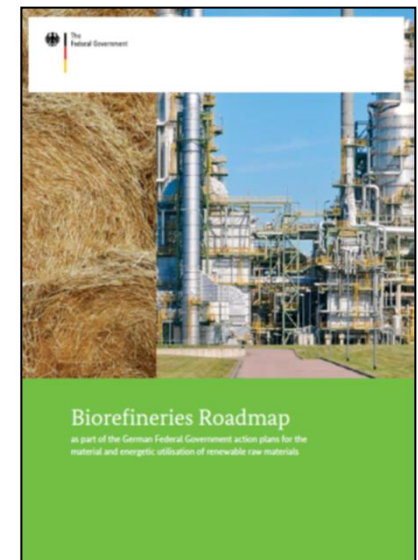
## Action Plan Industrial use of renewable resources



## Strategy Renewable resources



## Biorefineries Roadmap





- Key Technologies
- Energy
- Earth and Environment

Key Technologies for the Bioeconomy

Biological systems

Conversion technologies

Renewable Energies

**Cross-Programme Initiative**

**Sustainable Bioeconomy**

Atmosphere and Climate

Technology, Innovation, and Society (cross-cutting programme)

Societal impact

Environmental impact

Terrestrial Environment



HelmholtzZentrum münchen  
Deutsches Forschungszentrum für Gesundheit und Umwelt



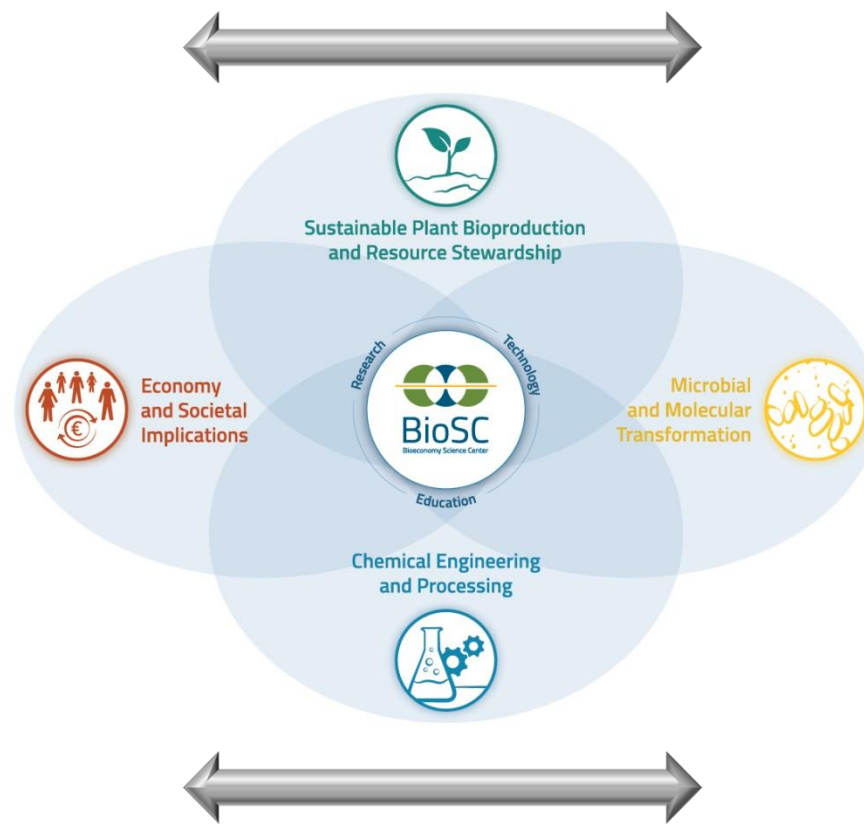
## Knowledge about biological systems for addressing grand societal challenges



Climate change



Food/feed



Energy

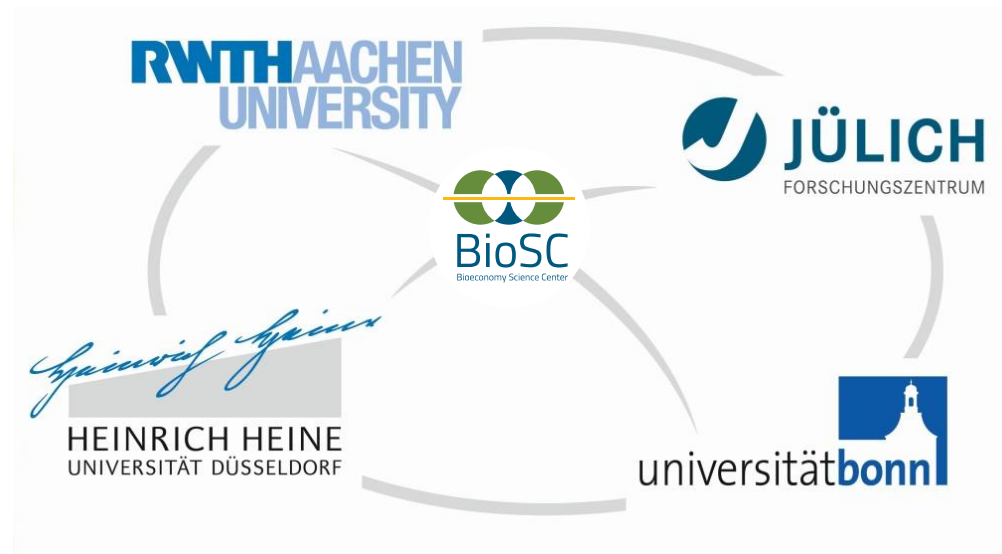


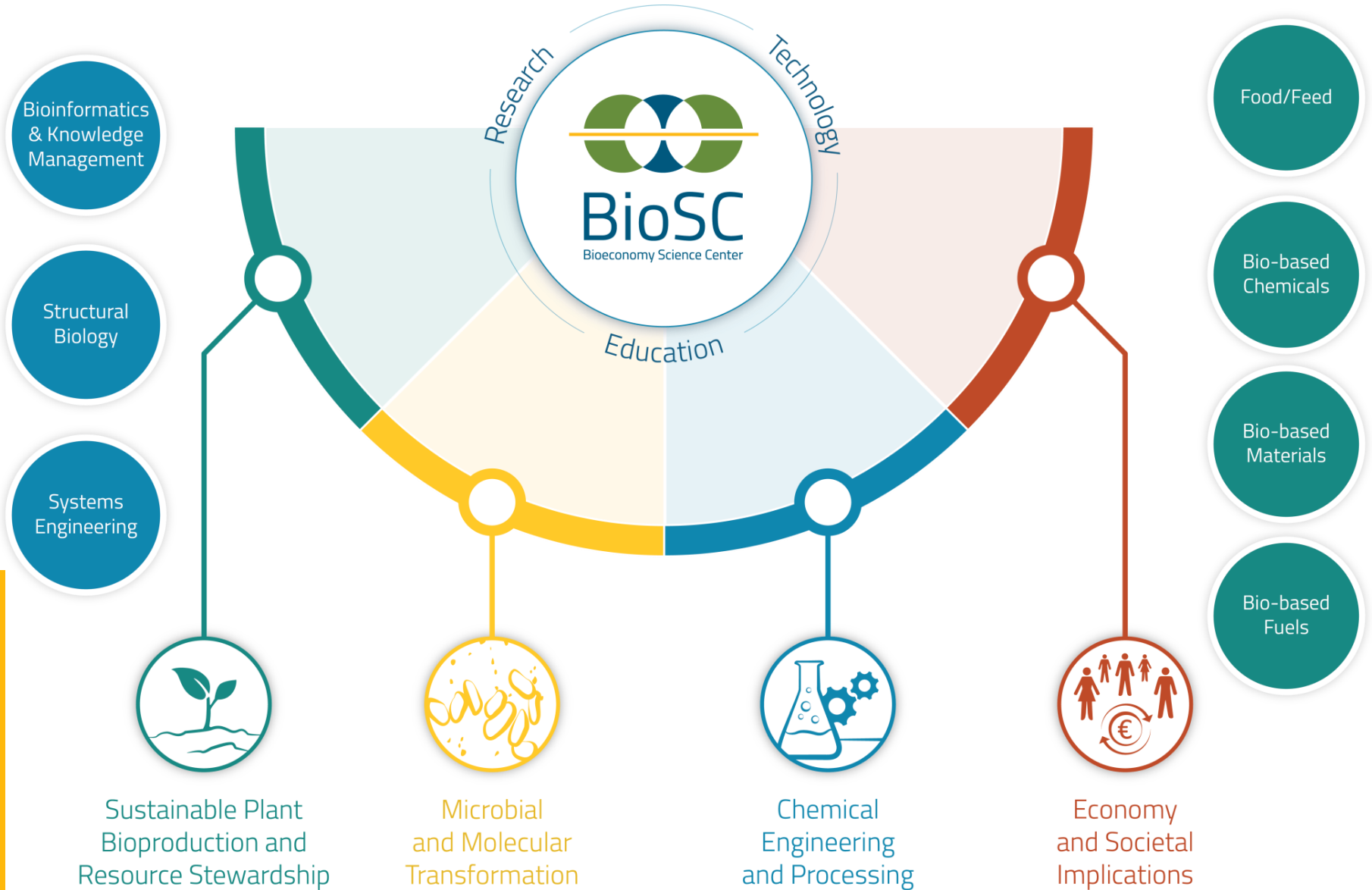
Resources



## Research Center BioSC

- Established 2010
- 62 Core Groups, > 1400 staff
- Integration of key disciplines for the provision of biomass, bio-based products and processes, economy
- Vision „Sustainable and integrated bioeconomy“
- Research & education
- Four key research areas, three cross-cutting topics





## Sustainable Plant Bioproduction and Resource Stewardship

- Improvement of quality and quantity of biomass
- Improvement of resource use efficiency
- Bio-geo-chemical material cycles and efficient acquisition of nutrients from soils
- Vulnerability and resistance as well as adaptation possibilities of agricultural cropping systems against environmental changes
- Integrative approaches for the evaluation of land use changes





## Microbial and Molecular Transformation

- Methods for the production of bulk and fine chemicals, pharmaceutical products, proteins, enzymes, biopolymers from renewable resources.
- Whole cell processes, isolated enzymes and chemical catalysts for effective and efficient transformation of substrates
- Integrative production systems
- New products for the chemical and pharmaceutical industry



## Chemical Engineering of Renewable Resources

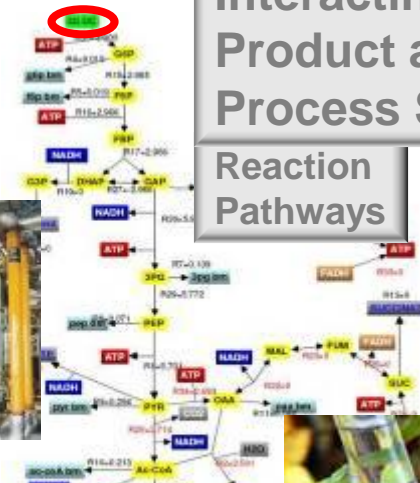
Tailor-made Fuels



Low Emission Combustion



Reaction and Separation Processes



Interacting Product and Process Systems

Reaction Pathways



Chemical Engineering:

- principles of material and energy conversion technologies
- systems integration

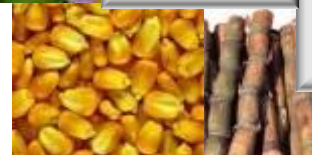
Bio- and Chemo-Catalysis



Green Solvents



Sustainable Agriculture



Tailored Crops: Composition

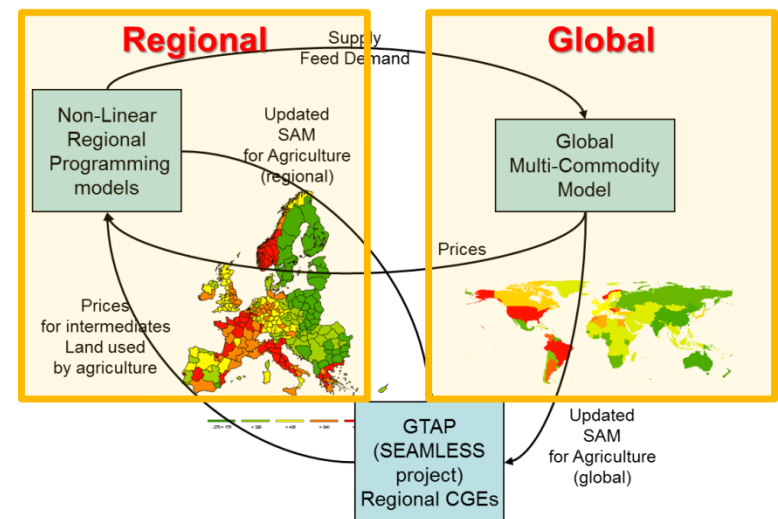


Water Technologies

## Economy and social implications

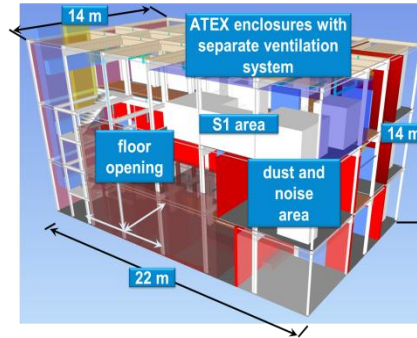
### Research Topics:

- Global and regional socioeconomic and economic frameworks and conditions
- Environment and resource economy
- Organisation and management of process and value chains
- Consumer and acceptance





Agricultural  
experimental sites  
(Campus Kleinaltendorf)



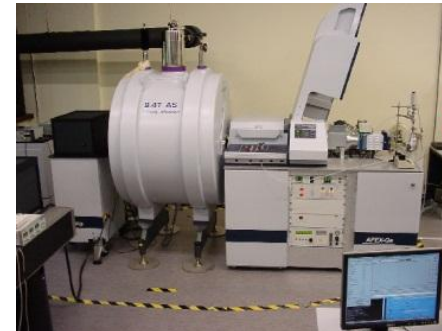
Bioraffinery  
(NPG<sup>2</sup>)



Bioinformatics



Phenotyping



Bioanalytics

## Strategic Development of a Bioeconomy Research Infrastructure

- Since 2013 the BioSC is supported by the State of North-Rhine Westphalia on a long term basis
- 10 years funding, 5.8 Mio. €/a
- Instruments to support the integration
- **Research funding**
  - SEED FUND/BOOST FUND
- **Funding of Structural Measures**
  - Strategic Fund
  - Graduate Education Fund



## Research funding

### SEED FUND

### BOOST FUND

#### Aims

Exploration and development of new, innovative bioeconomy topics

Exploration and further development of innovative and interdisciplinary bioeconomy topics with a high potential for follow-up projects

#### Application guidelines

Cooperation of at least 2 Gore groups and 2 partner institutions and at least 2 research areas must be addressed

#### Funding

Max. 150.000 €/a  
Max. 12-15 months project duration

Max. 800.000 €/a  
Max. 24 months project duration

## **Topics (14 Seed Funds; 11 Boost Fund projects)**

- **Biosensorics**
- **Sustainable production of biomass (lignocellulose)**
- **Optimising biomass for specific use**
- **Biocatalysis and expression platforms**
- **High value products (proteins, secondary (plant) metabolites)**
- **Degradation of lignocellulotic biomass** (novel enzymes, optimisation plant)
- **Biorefinery**
- **Waste and resource recovery**
- **Economy, sustainability and innovation in integrated value chains**

# Plant Sciences role in Bioeconomy strategy

## Action fields

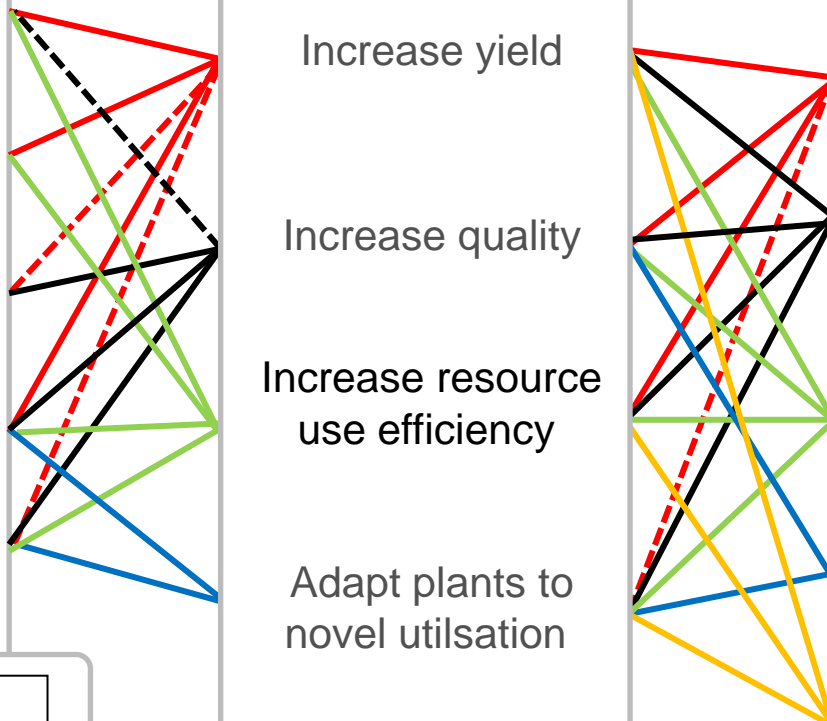
- Securing global nutrition
- Sustainable agriculture
- Producing healthy and safe foods
- Using renewable resources for industry
- Developing biomass-based energy carriers

## Contribution of plant science

- Increase yield
- Increase quality
- Increase resource use efficiency
- Adapt plants to novel utilisation

## Optimizing plants bioresources

- Overcome bottlenecks in (pre-)breeding (phenotyping, bioinformatics)
- Identify novel traits
- Improve crop genetic resources
- Improve biomass composition
- Develop efficient production systems



**National  
Research  
Strategy  
BioEconomy  
2030**





# IBG-2: Plant Sciences



Prof.  
Uli Schurr,  
Director



Prof.  
Björn Usadel,  
Director

Dr. Andreas Müller  
Management



Ecosystem  
dynamics



PD Dr. Uwe  
Rascher



Transport



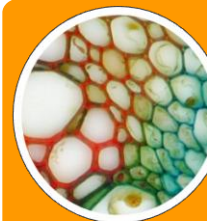
PD Dr. Heike  
Schneider



Growth  
Metabolism



Dr. Shizue  
Matsubara



Bioinformatic/  
Cell walls



Prof. Björn  
Usadel



Enabling  
Technology



Dr. Siegfried  
Jahnke



Jülich Plant  
Phenotyping  
Center



Dr. Fabio  
Fiorani

# IBG-2 Jülich:

## Plant sciences for improved resource use efficiency and optimized biomass

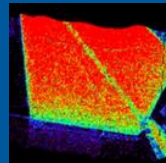
Biomass quality and alternative resources



Selection and screening of novel traits



Identifying novel traits



Next generation infrastructure and technologies



Service to plant science community

Associated partners (beyond Helmholtz)

Chemistry and processing



Breeding and agronomy



Crop genetic resources



Technology platform



