



Media Information

Global Bioeconomy Summit 2020 (GBS2020)
16.–20. November 2020

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Global Bioeconomy Summit 2020 (GBS2020)

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1. Key Facts

- › leading event for global bioeconomy stakeholders
- › 16 - 20 November 2020
- › 16 - 18 workshops, 19 | 20 plenary program
- › fully virtual
- › third edition
- › estimated 2.000 participants
- › organized by an international advisory council IACGB
- › funded by the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research
- › 5 plenary sessions
- › 5 official international partners representing Japan, the ASEAN region, Eastern Africa, the European Union, and Latin America & the Caribbean
- › 12 interactive workshops organized by international organizations & institutions
- › 100+ speaker (workshops & plenary)

2. Topics in Focus

New Dynamics in Bioeconomy Development

- › effects of the corona crisis & sustainable bioeconomy as new economic strategy that stabilizes global economies
- › potential of biotechnology for healthy living
- › latest bioeconomy developments in science, technology and policy

The Bioeconomy's Role in solving Global Crises and contributing to a resilient, sustainable Economy and Future for all

- › bioeconomy & sustainable development goals
- › new measurement approaches
- › systemic crises: biodiversity, climate change, economy, health



Bioeconomy Innovations, Markets & Consumers

- › biologization of the economy
- › enabling frameworks for emerging technologies & innovations
- › emerging trends in sustainable consumption

Investing in the Bioeconomy

- › key actors and policies relating to funding & investment
 - › new capacity building & education programs
 - › organizing innovation ecosystems
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3. Bright Minds on Stage

The GBS is known for bringing leading international personalities into the limelight. This year, the virtual stage will once again feature **exciting change-makers** from business, politics, science and society.

An extract of our top speakers:

- › **John Bell** (*Director Healthy Planet, DG Research & Innovation at European Commission*)
- › **Emily Chew** (*Global Head of Sustainability for Investment Management at Morgan Stanley*)
- › **Ray Dhirani** (*Head of Sustainable Finance, WWF-UK*)
- › **Agnes Matilda Kalibata** (*President of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)*)
- › **Anja Karliczek** (*Federal German Minister for Education and Research*)
- › **Julia Klöckner** (*Federal German Minister of Food and Agriculture*)
- › **Emily LeProust** (*CEO, Co-founder and Director of Twist Bioscience*)
- › **Ipshita Mandal-Johnson** (*Global Bio Fund*)
- › **Frank Rijsberman** (*Director- General of the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)*)
- › **Jeffrey Sachs** (*Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University*)
- › **Hiroyuki Kojima** (*Chief Innovation Officer, Ajinomoto Co., Inc*)
- › **Eispeth MacRae** (*Steering Group Member, IAC | Chief Innovation and Science Officer, SCION*)
- › **Marcus Remmers** (*Chief Technology Officer, Royal DSM*)
- › **Virgilio Mauricio Viana** (*Director General of the Sustainable Amazon Foundation (FAS)*)
- › **Brendan Edgerton** (*Director, Circular Economy at World Business Council for Sustainable Development*)
- › **Louise Fresco** (*President, Wageningen University*)
- › **Mary Maxon** (*Steering Group Member, IAC | Associate Laboratory Director for Biosciences, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory*)
- › **Michal Devir** (*Co-Founder and General Managing Partner at Rimonim Agro VC*)

4. Global Experts on Bioeconomy – well-established & brand-new

- › The International Advisory Council on Global Bioeconomy (IACGB) was initially formed to support the Global Bioeconomy Summit 2015 and has been maintained and extended since. The IACGB is composed of about forty high-level policy experts and drivers of the bioeconomy in all hemispheres. It is significantly **involved in the development of the GBS2020 plenary agenda and workshop program** to ensure its global spirit and its non-commercial nature.
 - › The IACGB was looking for young champions motivated to engage with the global bioeconomy youth during the GBS2020. For this reason, the experts decided to have a call. More than 100 young people applied for it and eight **Bioeconomy Youth Champions** were selected. More about these impressive young group and its engagement in the GBS2020 you can find here.
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5. Interactive Workshops

The first three days of GBS2020 (November 16-18) are entirely dedicated to the workshop program. The workshops are organized by a variety of bioeconomy stakeholders from all over the world and cover a **highly diverse range of topics**.

They are divided into four tracks:

Science & Innovation

- › education for a sustainable bioeconomy
- › the transformation of agriculture

Policy & Society

- › policy approaches for sustainable consumption
- › international governance concepts for bioeconomy implementation

Industry & Business

- › sustainable growth through the bioeconomy
- › Bioeconomy revolution – opportunities for the start-up scene

Regional Bioeconomies & Global Collaboration

- › innovative bioeconomy pathways to promote health & well-being
 - › regional bioeconomy as a key driver to build up resilient economies
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6. Special Elements

Digital Bioeconomy Exhibition

- › latest product & process developments in the bioeconomy presented in an entertaining way with surprising animations

Media Corner

- › a selection of the best bioeconomy media material from the years 2019 & 2020
- › books, cartoons & graphic novels, games, learning/teaching material, policy documents, videos

Videos & Showcases

- › entertaining & informative video clips about projects, start-ups, large-scale companies from the bioeconomic sector, produced by GBS2020 participants, presented during the plenary program

Evening Reception (19 November)

- › innovative bio-based menu presented by four emerging food start-ups (CellFarm, Knaerzje, Solar Foods, Yolélé)
- › exclusive guided virtual tour through two world-famous natural history museums
- › Bioeconomy Youth Champions presenting first ever youth roadmap for inclusive bioeconomy
- › virtual roundtables for networking

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7. Exclusive Launch: Communiqué, Roadmap, Survey & Report

- › **Communiqué** with policy recommendations developed and agreed by the International Advisory Council on Global Bioeconomy (IACGB)
- › **Shared vision on sustainable bioeconomy** developed by the International Advisory Council on Global Bioeconomy (IACGB)
- › **Bioeconomy Roadmap** prepared by the Bioeconomy Youth Champions
- › **Global Expert Survey** on sustainability governance for the bioeconomy
- › **Global Bioeconomy Policy Report (IV)**, two findings (not yet published):
 - › The trend of developing **dedicated bioeconomy policy strategies** has prevailed in recent years with **19 countries and macro-regions** (Austria, Costa Rica, EU, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Malaysia, Nordic Countries, Norway, South Africa, Spain, Thailand, UK, US, East Africa) having adopted strategies since 2010.
 - › In parallel, bioeconomy development is increasingly driven by the engagement of **macro-regional** and **international actors** as well as **stakeholders from science, civil society and industry**.

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8. Quotes

Top Speaker

Jeffrey Sachs (University Professor and Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University)

“The Covid-19 pandemic accelerated tropical deforestation, and mega-forest fires, are all evidence of a global bioeconomy dangerously out of balance. Yet the recent announcements of the European Green Deal, the Chinese commitment to net-zero emissions by 2060, and the Japanese and South Korean commitments to decarbonization by 2050, are all evidence of a growing global awareness of the urgency of sustainable development. We must now move quickly to a new kind of governance in which the bioeconomy strategies will be central. I will discuss the sustainable governance of the bioeconomy and the key decisions that the world will need to take in 2021 at a series of crucial global gatherings.”

Emily LeProust (CEO, Co-founder and Director of Twist Bioscience)

“Synthetic Biology will play a key role in driving the future of Health and Sustainability. With such approaches we don’t have to choose between either human benefits or nature, but can move towards a future where we can achieve a balance for both.”

Ipshita Mandal-Johnson (Global Bio Fund)

“Our global post-pandemic recovery needs active support for a new breed of bio entrepreneurs, with environmental and social impact values in the very DNA of their business.”

International Advisory Council on Global Bioeconomy (IACGB)

Torfi Jóhannesson (Senior Adviser at the Nordic Council of Ministers)

“The transition towards bio-based economies is not only about production but also about sustainable consumption. GBS2020 covers both sides of the equation and brings together experts from around the world to discuss regional differences in lifestyle and culture.”

Mary Maxon (Associate Laboratory Director for Biosciences, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory)

“A vibrant bioeconomy is economic activity that is reinforced by the safe, secure, ethical and reciprocal use of biological data, as well as by international standards and norms in research and business operations.”

Morakot Tanticharoen (Senior Advisor to the President of the National Science and Technology Development Agency Thailand (NSTDA))

“In the wake of pandemic, the global bioeconomy community will virtually come together for GBS2020 to explore uncharted territory and advance our sustainable development.”

Peter Wehrheim (Head of Unit for the “Bioeconomy and Food System” at the European Commission)

“By scaling up its bioeconomy, the EU can become the first climate-neutral continent: I look forward to see many concrete best practice solutions for climate mitigation at this year’s Global Bioeconomy Summit.”

Bioeconomy Youth Champions

Johann Liebeton

“I am incredibly proud to be chosen as a Global Bioeconomy Youth Champion at GBS2020 because I am very passionate about bioeconomy. In my opinion, the greatest thing about this programme is that we can and will create a global bioeconomy youth community.”

Tokelo Shai

“The path to a sustainable bioeconomy requires concerted efforts from all stakeholders. This year’s Global Bioeconomy summit creates that platform for all, especially youth to be at the centre of implementation and design of a sustainable bioeconomy. I look forward to the conversations and co-creation of the bioeconomy we all envision.”