

EBEEC 2024 Special Interest Working Group Kick-Off on Bioeconomy, climate change, sustainability and the agri-food sector

An EBEEC Special Interest Working Group is an intense collaboration between multiple researchers from different academic fields and a balanced geographical representation to produce targeted, high-value work on the specific scientific area(s).

Particular Interest Working Group Leaders

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Suggested Scientific areas (not limited to)

Bioeconomy

- Bioeconomy in agriculture
- Blue Bioeconomy
- Biobased Energy
- Socioeconomic issues and Bioeconomy
- Waste management
- Circular bioeconomy and value chains

Climate change

- Economic Performance – Environmental Performance interlinkages in Agriculture
- Climate-smart Technologies
- Climate-smart Agriculture
- Corporate Climate Change
- Climate Change – Food Security interlinkages

Sustainability and the Agro-food sector

- Economic Performance of Agro-food Industries
- Sustainable Agriculture
- Food Policy
- Policy Impacts on Agriculture

Objectives

Objectives: The agricultural sector is a significant source of GHG emissions that, in sequence, lead to climate change and environmental deterioration. On the other hand, climate change strongly affects quality and productivity through the pressure on land and water. The modifications entail changes in the practices adopted by farmers, fishers, and aquaculture producers to meet the challenges of the new dominant conditions toward a more environmentally friendly economy. In this direction, the bioeconomy aims to drive sustainable development and circularity. In particular, the circular economy principles (reuse, repair, and recycling) are a fundamental part of the bioeconomy, as the total amount of waste and its impact is reduced through reuse,

repair, and recycling. Furthermore, expectations for adopting and improving sustainability practices are constantly increasing, particularly in the agri-food sector. To meet higher sustainability expectations, companies in the agri-food sector will have to integrate social and environmental objectives and economic ones. The previously mentioned point to the need to provide practical insights, academic projects, and study results on how all entities/actors in the food chain can fulfill their responsibilities effectively and in line with current empirical results.

The objectives of the Special Interest Working Group on Bioeconomy-Climate Change and Sustainability of the Agri-food Sector can be named as follows:

- First, strengthen and build unique expertise related to the above areas.
- Discussion of tangible issues and development of projects and research proposals
- Combine/compare state-of-the-art developments implemented by different nations
- Mutual learnings
- Collaboration with a multinational research team
- Special session at the EBEEC 2024

The Special Interest Working Group on Bioeconomy-Climate Change and Sustainability of the Agri-food Sector meets twice a year and focuses on a defined topic at each meeting.

Publication opportunities

- EBEEC Conference proceedings once a year
- Springer and KnowledgeE publication opportunities based on EBEEC.
- International Journal of Sustainable Agricultural Management and Informatics

Timeline

EBEEC 2024 Kick Off Special Interest Working Group

- **Before: Call for Members**
- **At the conference: Call for the contribution to EBEEC2024 Special Track**
- **First Meeting and Project Brainstorming**
- **Outline and first steps to undertake**

EBEEC 2025 Special Interest Working Group

- **Meetings with the group members**
- **Establish iterative EBEEC Special Session/Track**