



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Deliverable 2025 GFFA

Project Title:

Towards Establishing the Global Bioeconomy Partnership for Sustainable Agrifood Systems

Project Duration:

1st of December 2024 to 31st of May 2025.

Funding:

Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL): Bilateral Trust Fund with FAO.

Background:

FAO's work on bioeconomy commenced 10 years ago with the issuance of the [*Communiqué of the 7th Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Summit*](#) held under the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA) in 2015, who advocated that *"FAO continues and intensifies its work on the primacy of food security in bioeconomy and provides information and pertinent policy advice for the benefit of its Members,"* and acknowledged that FAO, in collaboration with other partners, would provide the appropriate platform for *"tangible action and international cooperation [that] are necessary to seize the opportunities provided by sustainable bioeconomy for agriculture and rural development while securing the primacy of food security and nutrition"*.

The GFFA-Communiqué in 2015 led to the formulation of the project GCP/GLO/661/GER "Stock taking and analysis of existing national bioeconomy strategies, policies and programmes (STBP)" followed by the project GCP/GLO/724/GER "Towards Sustainable Bioeconomy Guidelines" (SBG) Project (2017-2023) funded by Germany (BMEL). The need for enhancing collaboration has been recognized by FAO's Governing Bodies such as the 27th session of the FAO's Committee on Forestry ([COFO/2024/REP](#)) and the 29th session of the FAO's Committee on Agriculture ([C2025/21](#)) in 2024. The project responds directly to this

global need¹.

¹ For further details see section **2.6. Intersectoral policies and the enabling environment for a sustainable bioeconomy** in FAO (2024b).

Project Overview:

The main objective of the project is to define and prepare the draft Terms of Reference (ToRs) and a Governance Framework for the multistakeholder **Global Partnership on Bioeconomy for Sustainable Food and Agriculture (GP-BSFA)** in a transparent, inclusive, and geographically representative manner (through surveys and multistakeholder consultations at global and regional levels, including FAO Members, partners and beyond). The ToRs will include a description of the proposed mission statement, objectives, guiding principles, long-term financial strategy, membership, pillars, and coordination mechanism/secretariat functions.

The GP-BSFA will become a catalyst for

- developing bioeconomy policies, strategies, and plans;
- building capacities and knowledge networks;
- and creating incentives at global, regional, national, and sub-national levels,
- aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals whilst ensuring global food security and nutrition and thus contribute the implementation of the Right to Food.

The deliverables will be a detailed ToRs and a Governance Framework, which will be prepared after a series of global and regional consultations. The project will benefit from advisory role of FAO and non-FAO experts, including the International Sustainable Bioeconomy Working Group (ISBWG). The consultations will be organized around issues regarding national action, knowledge, financing, and policy coherence for sustainable development. The outcome of these consultations aimed at the establishment of a partnership will also be used at other for a such as the **G20 Bioeconomy Initiative under the Presidency of South Africa**.

The consultations on the Partnership's technical focus will be structured around the **four pillars** mentioned above:

- The **National Action Pillar** will cover issues related to collective support on means to accelerate action at the country and regional level where applicable, including technology transfer, advisory support, capacity building, training, knowledge sharing, triangular cooperation, and other forms of technical assistance.
- The **Knowledge Pillar** will address gaps and demand for cooperation and coordination on data, sustainability criteria and indicators, lessons learned, and the facilitation of science-policy interface.
- The **Financing Pillar** discussions should aim at means to catalyze and scale up financial resources to national bioeconomy commitments through funds, public private partnerships and other means.

- The **Sustainable Development Synergies Pillar** aims to mainstream bioeconomy developments in relevant sustainable development frameworks and mechanisms, including trade, MEAs at global, regional, and national levels.