

Advancing Bioeconomy Skills Development in Portugal

Policy Brief | Portugal CoP

This policy brief outlines the key outcomes and recommendations from the Portugal CoP's Regional Policy Workshop, held under the BioGov.net project, focusing on identifying deficiencies within governance and feedback mechanisms in bioeconomy skills development.

Introduction

This policy brief outlines the key takeaways and recommendations from the Portuguese CoP's Policy Workshop, held as part of the BioGov.net project. The workshop, organised by LOBA, was held in September 2023, and aimed to gather insights on bioeconomy education-related policies and skills gaps.

The event consisted of one-on-one interviews with 13 participants, including education providers, policymakers, and economic actors. The focus was on identifying deficiencies in governance and feedback mechanisms for bioeconomy skills development.

Main takeaways

Policy

01.

Bioeconomy Strategy:

Portugal does not have a standalone bioeconomy strategy but integrates bioeconomy principles within existing national frameworks (e.g., [Circular Economy Strategy, Portugal 2030, RIS3](#)).

02.

Collaboration:

Strong cooperation between chambers of commerce and educational institutions is needed to enhance bioeconomy industry integration.

03.

Work Experience Programs:

Practical training through internships is essential, continuing from high school to university levels.

04.

Data and Resource Mapping:

There is an urgent need to collect data on existing bioeconomy training programs and resources to improve planning.

05.

Recommendations:

Facilitate stronger collaboration between policymakers, industry, and educational institutions to support skills development.

Education

01.

Vocational Orientation:

Strengthen bioeconomy education starting from high school.

02.

Teacher Training:

Equip teachers with environmental and bioeconomy knowledge to integrate into curriculums.

03.

Public Awareness:

Expand environmental education initiatives to close knowledge gaps.

04.

Certification Programs:

Develop certification for bioeconomy courses, offering financial incentives to students.

05.

Recommendations:

- Increase investment in teacher training on environmental topics.
- Enhance student engagement through internships and certifications.
- Promote environmental literacy from an early age.
- Launch broader environmental awareness campaigns.

For more detailed information, visit the [Portugal regions page](#) and [Biogov.net website](#).

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DEPARTAMENTO DE CIÊNCIAS E TECNOLOGIAS
AGRO-ALIMENTARES

btg
Business Technology Group

WILA
Bonn

BioGov.net

info@biogov.net

@biogovnet

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