



# EBC 2030

CATALAN  
BIOECONOMY  
STRATEGY 2030

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY







In fulfilment of the Government Plan for the 12th legislature and through Government Agreement GOV/23/2020, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Food<sup>1</sup> was assigned the task of drafting the 2021-2030 Catalan Bioeconomy Strategy in collaboration with the other implicated departments of the Catalan government. This Strategy follows the guidelines of the European Strategy, passed in 2012 and updated in 2018.

Taking these antecedents into account, the goal of EBC2030 is:

### The goal of EBC2030 is:

To promote the sustainable growth and development of the Catalan economy by fostering the production of biological resources and local and renewable processes.



<sup>1</sup> Since 26th May 2021, Ministry of Climate Action, Food and Rural Agenda

To achieve this goal, the Government Agreement establishes a series of principles:



**Integrate and complement existing policies and strategies.**



**Ensure food security and independence.**



**Contribute to mitigating and adapting to climate change.**



**Guarantee circularity and sustainability.**



**Develop regional areas with less economic activity.**



**Support research and innovation.**



**Ensure the participation of all parties involved.**



In addition to the above and given its relevance and its cross-disciplinary nature, EBC2030 also incorporates the following principles:



Contribute to halting the loss of biodiversity and conserving the natural heritage.



Promote the efficient use of natural resources.



Include the single health paradigm.



Incorporate women and ensure their consolidation.



Reinforce leadership in the Catalan food sector and its international outreach.



Promote the link between the urban environment and the primary sector.

To achieve the goal of EBC2030 and in line with the previously mentioned principles, the aim of this strategy is to achieve the execution of various actions which have the capacity to transform and make it possible to advance in the circular bioeconomy in Catalonia. These actions will be gathered in triennial action plans, supplemented by the interventions of the various groups promoting the bioeconomy in Catalonia.





# Framework

In the new post-Covid-19 scenario combined with the social and economic situation linked to the climate emergency, **it is vital to maintain a strong primary sector with an advanced degree of autonomy and social, economic and environmental sustainability.**

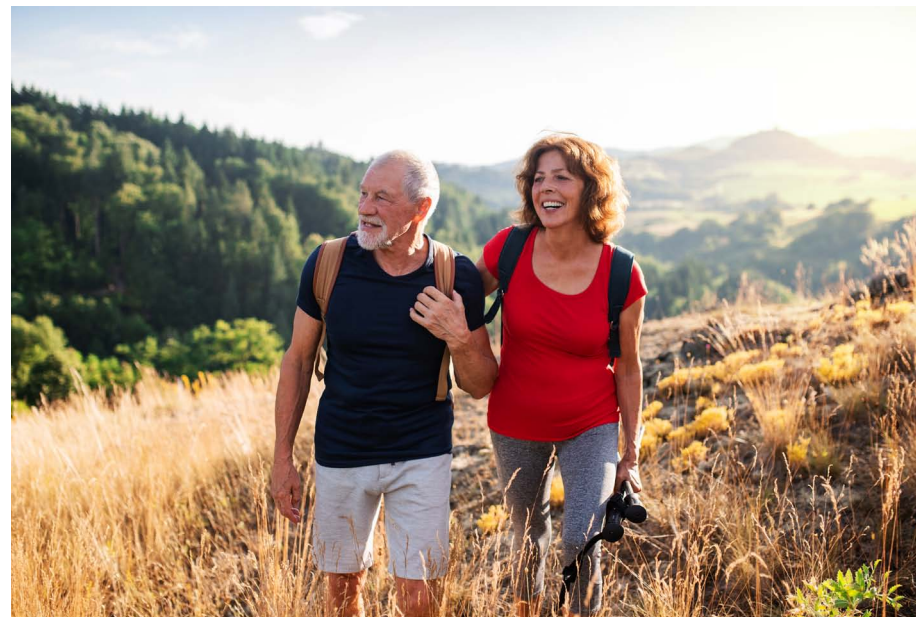
Now is the time to intensify our efforts to face and anticipate the future, by **capitalising on the territory and promoting the management of activities linked to the primary sector, potentiating existing value chains and implementing new ones, making sustainability and competitiveness compatible through the circular bioeconomy.**

In this context, it is necessary to reconsider the current **economic model** and advance in the transition from a linear economic model based on resources derived from raw



materials and fossil fuel energy toward a **circular bioeconomy** model. It is here where the primary sector becomes the cornerstone of this circular bioeconomy and one of the essential pillars for the mitigation of climate change. For this reason, it is essential to guarantee sustainability on a social and economic level as well, by, among other means, activating rural areas, creating employment, and diversifying farm, forest and fishing incomes.

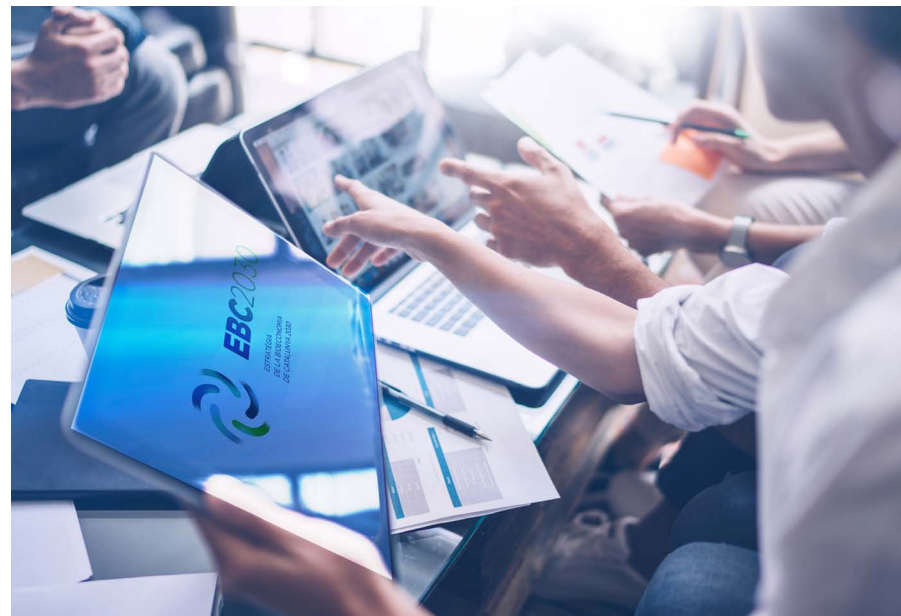
Moreover, in the context of the Green Deal's Biodiversity and Farm to Fork strategies, it is necessary to coordinate them in conjunction with the implementation of the European Bioeconomy Strategy updated in 2018, which quite clearly establishes that **no circular bioeconomy can exist without conserving biodiversity and natural capital** in general.



# Drafting process

The process of drafting EBC2030 has involved the participation of **160 individuals**. Seven co-creation workshops were organised and used to identify the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the circular bioeconomy in Catalonia and draft an initial proposal of strategic goals, strategic lines and measures, validated in a final workshop and a series of in-depth interviews with experts. In parallel to the validation process, a citizen participation process was executed with the goal of informing the citizenry on the strategic goals and measures proposed in the document and receiving proposals which would make it possible to complete these goals and measures and to adapt them to the needs expressed by the participants.

Furthermore, for the drafting and confirmation of EBC2030, an intradepartmental committee has been constituted with the different implicated units of the promoting Ministry itself (DARP) and an interdepartmental commission with representatives from the various Catalan government departments with jurisdiction in the field.





# Diagnosis: the circular bioeconomy in Catalonia

EBC2030 also aims to define and diagnose the circular bioeconomy in Catalonia, assessing the role of the primary sector; the use and recovery potential of biomass in Catalonia; both forest-based and agricultural ecosystem services; the Catalan R&D+i ecosystem; financial instruments; and an analysis of opportunities, threats, strengths and weaknesses for the implementation of the circular bioeconomy in Catalonia.

The bioeconomy in Catalonia is quite significant: it sees revenues of €43476 million, which represents 9.8% of the total value of domestic production and 4.5% with respect to the GDP of added value, and 5.2% of jobs in Catalonia.

The two most important spheres of activity – the food industries followed by the primary sector (agriculture, livestock, forestry and fishing) – generate great potential for the recovery and use of biomass in Catalonia.



Ecosystem services include supply, regulation, culture, and support. The forest ecosystem services of Catalonia are very diverse and could be classified into: water supply; carbon sequestering; conservation of biological diversity; erosion control; recreational services; production of food and raw materials and hunting for sport. Agricultural ecosystem services provide food, feed, bioenergy, bioproducts and pharmaceutical products, among other goods. Ecosystem services must balance nature's conservation against its use and sustainable development.



# Mission and vision of EBC2030

## Mission

To encourage the transition toward an economic model based on the optimal use of local and renewable biological resources to create products of greater added value, improving the competitiveness and sustainability of the sectors involved, and especially of underdeveloped value chains, by creating quality jobs and promoting the generation of knowledge as a motor for change, paying special attention to the primary sector.

## Vision

To transform Catalonia into a leading Southern European region in the transition toward more sustainable, inclusive and resilient models, employing the circular bioeconomy as a motor for change.



# Strategic goals, strategic lines and measures

EBC2030 is based on **seven strategic goals (G)** and **17 main strategic lines (L)**:

## Goals linked to the generation of economic activity:

**G1** Improve the use of biomass in Catalonia through the characterisation, quantification and optimisation of its management and distribution

- L1** - Provide biomass data in a format which adds value for the users
- L2** - Ensure sustainability and efficiency in the management and distribution of biomass

**G2** Develop a business community based on the circular bioeconomy throughout the territory, paying special attention to the primary sector

- L3** - Promote cooperative work between companies throughout the supply chain to attract offer and demand
- L4** - Strengthen the growth of existing companies based on the circular bioeconomy
- L5** - Provide incentives for the creation of new companies and business models based on the circular bioeconomy

**G3** Encourage the use and consumption of bioproducts, bioenergy and biomaterials on the market

- L6** - Generate demand for the use and consumption of bioproducts, biomaterials and bioenergy
- L7** - Improve the positioning of bioproducts, biomaterials and bioenergy on the market

**G4** Promote resilient agricultural and forest landscapes and the sustainable provision of ecosystem services in the context of the circular Catalan bioeconomy

- L8** - Promote the establishment of resilient agricultural and forest landscapes using advanced tools and expertise
- L9** - Conserve and improve the quality of agricultural soils and foster their role as a carbon sink
- L10** - Encourage the provision of ecosystem services



## Facilitating goals of a cross-disciplinary nature:

### G5 Position knowledge as a motor of the circular bioeconomy

- L11 - Promote research, innovation and technological transfer associated with the circular bioeconomy
- L12 - Encourage knowledge transfer and exchange
- L13 - Provide well-trained professionals and attract talent

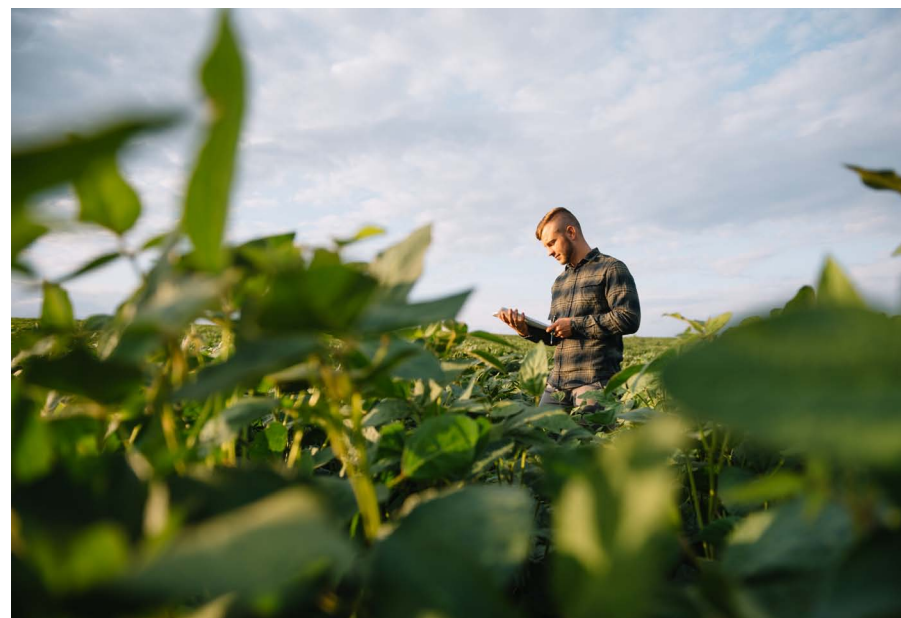
### G6 Strengthen the role of the administration and adapt the legal and regulatory framework in a way that favours the circular bioeconomy in Catalonia

- L14 - Adapt the legal and regulatory framework
- L15 - Facilitate the implementation of circular bioeconomy activities in the territory

### G7 Prepare the Catalan society for the change toward the circular bioeconomy

- L16 - Inform and raise awareness among the citizenry on the necessity of implementing and the benefits of the circular bioeconomy
- L17 - Incorporate the civil society into the design and execution of new projects associated with the circular bioeconomy

These strategic goals and lines are pursued via **37 measures** for the development of EBC2030.





# Governance

In order to ensure the correct deployment of the EBC2030, the Strategy Co-Management Board will be set up. Representatives of all the entities and agents, public and private, that are involved in the definition and execution of the actions of the Strategy will take part of this Board.

The Ministry of Climate Action, Food and Rural Agenda, through the General Secretariat, will support the Board, and will perform coordination and promotion functions in order to boost the foresights of the EBC2030.

The implementation of EBC2030 will be based on the following documents:

1. **Triennial action plans**, which will specify the actions required to effectuate the measures included in the various strategic objectives.
2. **Regular follow-up reports**, based on the indicators proposed in the strategy itself and action plans.
3. **Action confirmation system**, designed to check the consistency of the actions proposed with the Strategy's general principles.
4. **Communication plan**, used to anticipate future publicity campaigns about the advances in the unfurling of the provisions of EBC2030.



# Monitoring and assessment

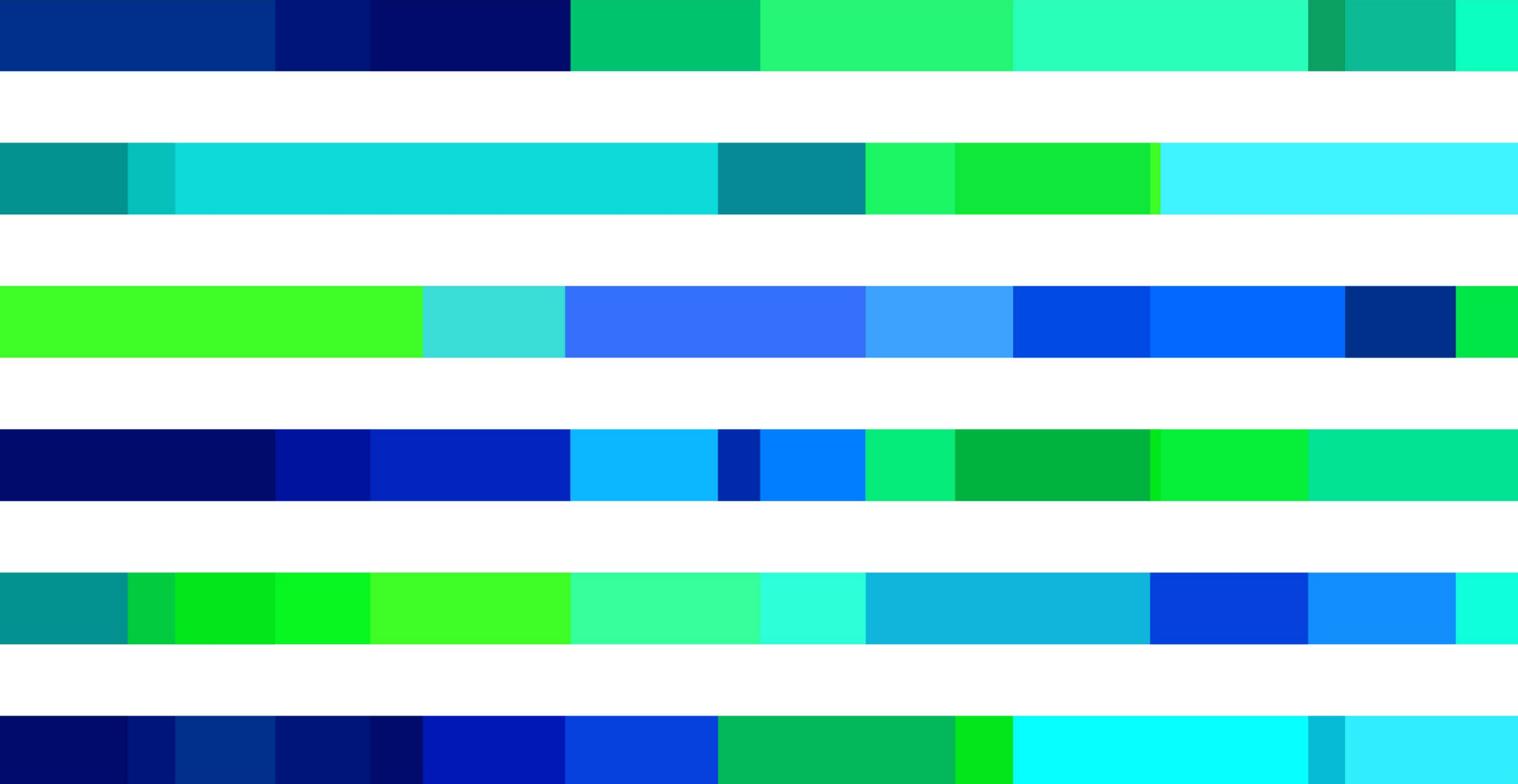
The monitoring and assessment of the 2030 Catalan Bioeconomy Strategy will be executed through a series of indicators used to measure the Strategy's major accomplishments. These indicators will coincide with the indicators proposed on a European level and those provided in public sources to assess the transition toward a circular and sustainable bioeconomy in Catalonia.











**EBC 2030**  
CATALAN BIOECONOMY STRATEGY 2030

 Generalitat de Catalunya  
Departament d'Acció Climàtica,  
Alimentació i Agenda Rural

**CTFC** 

**IRTA** 

