

# FUTURE OF THE DANUBE REGION: GREEN TRANSITION AND CIRCULAR BIOECONOMY

**Enhancing the Competitiveness and Sustainability of Enterprises – Climate neutrality, Raw material supply and New Business Models**

An event within the framework of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR), Priority Area 8 (Competitiveness of enterprises)

## WHEN:

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2023

## WHERE:

ZAGREB (CROATIA),  
[HOTEL INTERNATIONAL, MIRAMARSKA CESTA 24](#)  
AND ONLINE

## BACKGROUND:

The world has changed through the Covid-pandemics, greenhouse gas emissions and other causes of climate change. The countries in the Danube region with the war in Ukraine in its east, and its consequences in terms of increasing energy prices, and lost and interrupted access to raw materials and markets, interrupted supply chains are significantly affected. A green transition is the answer of human society. These changes are pushing regions to strengthen regional development by using their resources more efficiently, i. e. to redirect their economies towards circular economies and circular bioeconomies. For enterprises, circular bioeconomy is offering important contributions to become more sustainable, reach climate neutrality, secure raw material supply from regional sources and new business models. Questions to be asked are: Where do we stand? What technologies and skills are already available? Do these technologies make economic sense? What can we improve? How to find funding for the projects? Which skills are necessary to implement these processes? How to proceed? How can we cooperate?

**Join us in Zagreb or online** and use the opportunity to inform yourself and discuss these and other related topics on how to accelerate the transition from a fossil-based economy to a circular bioeconomy and how to recover raw materials from waste and waste water to strengthen the sustainability and resilience of the SMEs in the Danube region!

Registration is already possible with this link: <https://form.jotform.com/223172327440044>

## PROGRAMME (INDICATIVE):

12.00-14:00 Lunch and Registration

14.00-14.10 Introduction and welcome messages

**14.10-15.15    Where we stand**

- Keynote lecture: Scandinavian experience
- Vanguard initiative
- Panel discussion: SWOT of circular bioeconomy in the Danube region
- Q&A

**15.15-17.15    Where is the potential?**

- Urban and industrial Circular Bioeconomy Baden-Württemberg. Showcases for utilizing waste and wastewater streams for industrial purposes (S. Awiszus)
- Bioeconomy, food and agriculture
- Panel discussion: Financing and investments in the circular bioeconomy in the Danube Region:
- Q&A

**17.15-17.30    Closing remarks - End of the conference**

**17.30-18.00    Coffee Break**

**17.00-18.00    Workshop: Seed money call - 1st brainstorming (only for the participants on site)**

**19:00            Evening reception**