

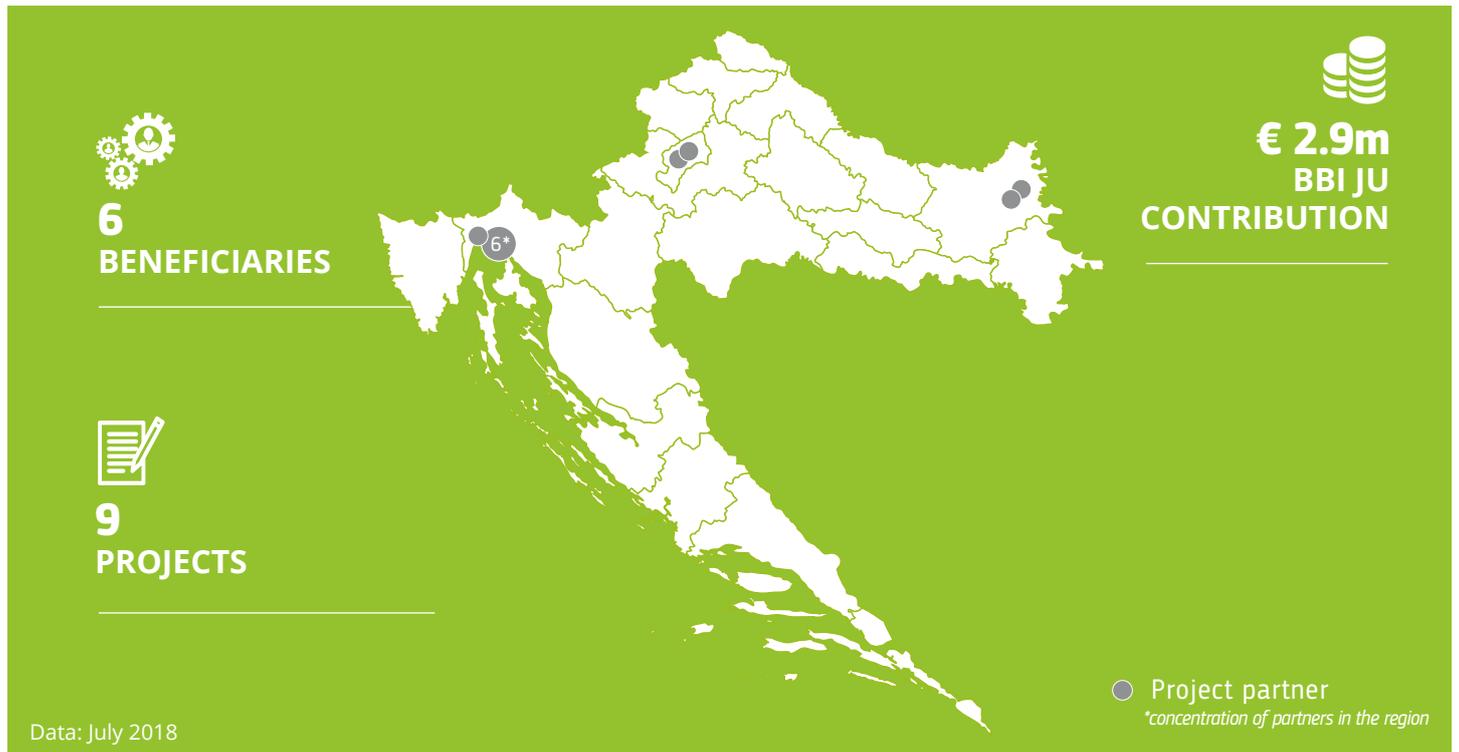


# CROATIA

Hrvatska



Croatia's main potentials in terms of bioeconomy probably lie within its great availability of natural resources, unpolluted arable land and sea, forests and freshwater. The country participates in BIOEAST, a macro-regional bioeconomy initiative being developed by Central and Eastern European countries. Bioeconomy also plays a role in different national strategies such as the "National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture Development" (2014-2020), the "Rural Development Program" (2014-2020) and the "Smart Specialisation Strategy and Action Plan" (2016-2020). The country's activities in the bioeconomy have a total turnover of EUR 10 478 million and employ more than 257 500 people.\*



With nearly 30% of the beneficiaries being involved in R&I projects and more than 60% operating on demo scale, Croatia's BBI JU activities in the bioeconomy sector revolve mainly around innovation and demonstration of technologies and products in areas such as bio-based food packaging and exploitation of biomass.

## Examples of BBI JU projects with Croatian beneficiaries :

- ④ **GRACE** will demonstrate the techno-economic viability and environmental sustainability of miscanthus and hemp biomass-based value chains using marginal, contaminated and unused land. It will therefore support Europe in building its bio-based industry without compromising food security.
- ④ **REFUCOAT** is aiming to develop fully recyclable food packaging with enhanced properties and new functionalities. It will reduce landfill waste, enhance preservation of fresh food produce and improve cost and environmental effectiveness in processing.
- ④ **BIOBRIDGES** aims to increase consumers' and brand owners' confidence and trust while raising awareness to boost the marketability of bio-based products. It will establish close cooperation and partnership between bio-based industries, brand owners, consumers, local communities and authorities.
- ④ **PULPACKTION** will develop cellulose-based packaging solutions for the specific demands of the food and electronic packaging industries. It will reduce dependence on non-renewable fossil fuel-based plastics and deliver a safe 100% bio-based and biodegradable product.



**64%** of projects involved in **demo-scale production**



**1/2** of beneficiaries are **research centers**



**60%** of BBI JU funding goes to **SMEs**

\*Source: Bioeconomy Knowledge Center (2015)



▶ [More information about BBI JU projects in Croatia](#)



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