



**Ireland**  
Ireland



The Irish government has recognised the potential of the bioeconomy and published a "National Policy Statement on the Bioeconomy" in February 2018. The recently created National Bioeconomy Research Centre (Beacon) and the Irish Bioeconomy Foundation (IBF) are creating an ecosystem linking fundamental and industry led research from lab to industrial scale and aim to turn Ireland's bioeconomy into a well-oiled, profitable machine. The bioeconomy's annual turnover in Ireland amounts to approx. EUR 60 000 million and the sector employs more than 181 000 people.\*



A first-of-its-kind flagship biorefinery, that will contribute to the creation of over 1,000 jobs in a rural area, represents a significant part of the BBI JU activity in Ireland.

### Examples of BBI JU projects with Irish beneficiaries :

- ④ By using a first-of-its-kind integrated biorefinery, **AgriChemWhey** proposes to convert dairy-processing sidestreams into added-value products, developing rural communities by creating local jobs. Replicating this flagship biorefinery has the potential to create over 1,000 rural jobs within four years of project completion.
- ④ **LIBRE** will utilise lignin-rich sidestream feedstock from the pulp and paper industry to create a more resource-efficient and low-emission production process creating higher quality carbon fibre. This will give a competitive edge to end user sectors such as transportation, renewable energy and construction.
- ④ **FUNGUSCHAIN** extracts value from the agricultural waste of commercial mushroom farming and produces a spectrum of bio-based products, notably food supplements for the elderly and plastic products. It uses environmentally friendly techniques that SMEs and local industries can adopt thus stimulating local entrepreneurship and developing rural areas.
- ④ **BIOrescue** aims to develop the concept of an integrated bio-production process based on the cascading use of spent mushroom substrate. Its replication in other mushroom production sites will bring environmental and economic benefits and address the need for development in rural areas across Europe.

\*Source: EC Bioeconomy Knowledge Center (2015)



**1** first-of-its-kind **flagship biorefinery** converting dairy sidestreams into bioproducts



**36%** of beneficiaries are **SMEs**



**1/3** of beneficiaries is **academia**



▶ More information about BBI JU projects in Ireland



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