

## BIORESP FORUM

### The Transition to a Biobased economy

**The BioRESP Forum is a platform for dialogue between multiple actors which aims at exploring the enabling conditions to make the bioeconomy a sustainable and attractive option.**

[www.bioresp.eu](http://www.bioresp.eu)

## WHAT IS IT ?

The **BioRESP Forum** is designed along the lines of the NanoRESP Forum, launched in 2013 about controversial issues in the field of nanotechnologies.

The **BioRESP Forum** aims at discussing the drivers and potential implications of the emerging bioeconomy : for instance, the growing substitution of fossil fuels by biobased products will potentially create a pressure on the access to biomass and raise the issue of competition between usages : food, bioenergy, chemical ingredients, fibers. How to reach a balance between priorities ?

The **BioRESP Forum** is

- A framework that allows a dialogue between various actors :farmers, industrialists, retailers, consumers, public authorities, investors...
- A process to share knowledge and information about ongoing activities, as well as expressions of uncertainties and expectations on relevant controversial themes.
- A tool to address in a forward looking way the potential changes in the society and value chains that the bioeconomy will foster.
- A proposal to review the opportunities as well as the environmental, social and governance risks that life science applications might create : a conendrum that potentially leads to associated conflicts.
- A contribution to enrich the knowledge base of actors while not constraining their freedom to act.

## WHO ARE THE ORGANIZERS ?

This project is a further step after the three *Assises du Vivant* held at UNESCO (2012-2015) and more recently the *Festival Vivant* (September 2016), the French segment of the European Project *Synnergene* which garnered 15 partners.

BioRESP is run by a **Steering Board made up of representatives of 7 bodies** such as national public authorities, academia, industrialists, civil society, local authorities as well as start uppers and students

It is financed through voluntary contributions by the **Alliance of public and private supporters** (via a yearly financial contribution), among them **ADEME, SUPBIOTECH, The Paris-Reims Foundation, MSH Paris-Saclay**. The Forum is also supported by **AgroParisTech, Entreprises pour l'Environnement (EPE) and OREE**

The BioRESP *Alliance* has mandated the corporation **Anthropocène** to coordinate and organise the BioRESP workshops.

The two executives are **Dorothee Browaeys** and **Pierre-Alain Schieb**.

## HOW DOES IT WORK ?

### **A dialogue between actors to promote responsible innovation practices .**

The Forum BioRESP is operating in line with RRI Programs (« responsible research & innovation ») developed in Europe. These programs deal with upstream innovation pathways in order to design products and service which take into account from the onset their potential impacts (life cycle, degradation, usages, utility..).

The multi-actors dialogue is the preferred tool to facilitate mutual questioning and ease the expression of diverse views and interests. It allows to put forward contentious views, facilitate mutual adjustment of innovation pathways and make downstream projects more robust.

As a result, the goal of the BioRESP Platform is to maintain a **learning process** by which every participant contributes to a « **common surveillance mechanism** ».

BioRESP provides the stakeholders with a monitoring process about the initiatives and potential business models of the bioeconomy. A better acknowledgment of the industrial and lively context of the bioeconomy will help inspire better individual strategies.

### **BioResp Model is supported by public and other authorities.**

- The French bioeconomy strategy – released in January 2017 – flags the need for a dialogue between stakeholders.
- The European Commission, particularly within the Horizon 2020 program, insists on responsible research and innovations.
- The bioeconomy manifest, signed at Utrecht in 2016 by stakeholders.
- The 17 sustainable development goals of the United Nations Agenda 2030.

### **Implementation**

The BioResp Forum organises 4 workshops every year .

Every other year, a FESTIVAL VIVANT (based on the 2016 model) will take place to highlight the activities of stakeholders involved in the bioeconomy transition.

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