

The Sustainable Bioeconomy

Lesson 0: Course Outline

Introduction

Hello and welcome to this training course on the Sustainable Bioeconomy.

The resources of our planet used to sustain our peoples with food, water, heat and energy are severely challenged as the world population now, exceeding 8 billion, continues to grow.

Ongoing depletion of the finite resources that fuel our economies, lead to poverty, hunger and unrest.

Our continued reliance on fossil fuels causes increasing green house gases and disruption of natural ecosystems. We see climate change effects in droughts, flooding, winter storms and natural disasters.

As humans race to exploit the natural resources in a search for ever diminishing precious metals and fossil fuels, the negative environmental effects can be seen in habitats and diminished biodiversity.

It is clear that this cannot continue. It is clear that the resources needed to sustain and grow our societies and economies must be renewable and grown from biological sources.

It is also clear that as in nature the by-products we currently call waste must be recycled and reconstituted for further uses in supply of products.

Finally, it is clear that this transition needs to happen now.

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We are now departing the age of the fossil fuelled economy and moving into the age of the sustainable bioeconomy. The ride may be bumpy. Please make sure you are strapped in securely!

In this training course learners are provided with knowledge to be able to understand the fundamentals of the bioeconomy.

On completion of this training course, you will be able to:

- Understand how the fossil fuel economy evolved
- Appreciate the cost of fossil fuel driven growth
- Understand the definition of the bioeconomy and the concepts of sustainability and circularity
- Appreciate the guiding principles in building a sustainable bioeconomy
- Understand the development of the EU Bioeconomy Strategy
- Understand the benefits to stakeholders of a sustainable bioeconomy
- Understand how competing stakeholder needs must be managed

Who is this course for?

This course is ideal for those who are looking to study the requirements for implementing a sustainable bioeconomy

This course is also appropriate for those who wish to work in the new biomass supply or bio-conversion sectors.

The course is divided into 4 lessons:

- **Lesson 1: Understanding the Bioeconomy**
- **Lesson 2: Principles of the Bioeconomy**
- **Lesson 3: EU and National Policies and Strategies**
- **Lesson 4: Benefits of the Bioeconomy**

How to navigate the course

If this is your first course with People & Process Academy, be sure to look at “Studying with People & Process” before you begin. This short video shows you how to find your way around the lessons and modules.

Lessons are all presented in video format, and there's a transcript you can follow as you watch. If you like, you can download the video transcript to revise later on. In this

course, each new lesson builds on previous information, so it's best to follow the lessons in order. Similarly, you should follow each module in sequence as you first go through the course. All registered users have unlimited access to video lessons and transcripts, and you can repeat each video as often as you like.

There's a discussion forum attached to this course. You'll find the discussion forum on the course homepage. In this forum you can chat to other students and leave questions and comments on the course.

If you have any difficulties navigating the course, see the support section for help.

The Assessment Method

There's a quiz at the end of each lesson to test your understanding of the material. To successfully complete this course, you must pass the quiz for each lesson. Once all the lessons have been completed, you can then download and print the People & Process completion certificate.

So let's get started! In the next lesson entitled "Understanding the Bioeconomy" we will look at the need to transition to a sustainable biobased economic model.