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Economics and Governance of the Global Bioeconomy

“Bioeconomy: The Road to Sustainable Development?“

9th – 10th October 2024

On October 9-10, 2024, the Bioeconomy Economics research group welcomed scholars to the 1st Bioeconomy Economics Workshop: **Economics and Governance of the Global Bioeconomy**. In total, there were 19 presentations and 13 scholars representing research from Germany, Sweden, the Czech Republic, the Netherlands, Brazil, Costa Rica, Colombia, and Uganda.

Under the theme of **“Bioeconomy: The Road to Sustainable Development?“**, there were six presentation sessions related to introductory concepts in the bioeconomy, the forest-based bioeconomy, residues and agriculture, biodiversity in the bioeconomy, bioenergy and alternative proteins, two network sessions and one plenary session.



Presentations by scholars, Photo: University of Passau

On the first day, the first session focused on introductory concepts in the bioeconomy which included presentations from Dr. Marion Bastos Lima (Stockholm Environment Institute, Sweden), Dr. Cicero Lima (Bioeconomy Observatory, Brazil) and Alexandra Gottinger (Humboldt University, Germany). Together, they discussed the tension between deforestation and bioeconomy, measurement of the bioeconomy and policy frameworks. The second session focused on the forest-based bioeconomy with presentations from Dr. Jorge Sellare (Wageningen University, the Netherlands), Tatiana Rojas Rueda (University of Hohenheim, Germany), Philipp Jonas Kreutzer (Lund University, Sweden) and Julia Tandetzki (Thünen-Institut für Waldwirtschaft, Germany). Together, they discussed the unmet potential of scaling up non-timber forest products in Latin America, innovation trends in Swedish industries and global potential for woody biomass. In the third and fourth sessions, we discussed the development of the Bioeconomy Economics network, which was led by Jun.-Prof. Dr. Lucie Maruejols and Dr. Terese Venus (University of Passau).

On the second day, the fifth session focused on the role of agricultural residues for the bioeconomy. The presenters included Gremary Aza Mengoa (University of Passau, Germany), Claire Nakimpi (Wageningen University, the Netherlands), Daphne Santiago (University of Passau, Germany) and Marius Boesino (University of Hohenheim, Germany). Together, they discussed the challenges of involving smallholders and producers in the value-addition process for agricultural residues as well as

the potential for residues in Germany. The sixth session focused on biodiversity in the bioeconomy and included presentations from Dr. Andrea Pacheco (University of Bonn, Germany), Dr. Diana Carolina Huertas Bernal (Czech University of Life Sciences, Czech Republic) and Lina Mayorga (University of Hohenheim, Germany). Together they discussed the means in which biodiversity can be integrated and supported within bioeconomy initiatives.

During the plenary panel session, we featured Prof. Dr. Franziska Schünnemann (Chair of Bioeconomy, University of Hohenheim), Jun.-Prof. Dr. Lucie Maruejols (Chair of Computational Analysis and Modelling in Agricultural Policy, Christian Albrechts University of Kiel), Prof. Dr. Michael Grimm (Chair of Development Economics, University of Passau) and Dr. Thiago Inagaki (Soil Scientist, Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research). During the seventh session, the focus was on bioenergy with presentations from Jun.-Prof. Dr. Lucie Maruejols and Martin Eduardo Rearte (National Institute of Industrial Technology, Argentina). Together, they discussed the role of biogas in Germany and Argentina. In the eighth session, the discussion focused on alternative proteins in the bioeconomy and included presentations from Dr. Terese Venus, Alessandro Monaco (University of Bayreuth, Germany), and Amelia Espey (University of Hohenheim, Germany). They discussed the untapped potential for alternative proteins including plant-based substitutes and cultivated meat.

The event was supported by the Passau International Centre for Advanced Interdisciplinary Studies (PICAIIS) and the University of Passau's event funding pool.



*Group photo of all scientific scholars and presenters
Photo: University of Passau*