



# Sweden

## 1 Which bioeconomy-related policy strategies exist?

In late 2012, the Swedish government introduced the bill on “Research and Innovation” (2012/13:30) which defines priority areas of Swedish research and innovation policies including biomass. The bill is based, among other things, on the “**Swedish**

**Research and Innovation Strategy for a Biobased Economy**”. At the same time, the strategy represents the government’s research-oriented commitment to developing a Swedish bioeconomy.

## 2 Is the term “bioeconomy” or “biobased economy” used in the strategy documents?

Yes No

X

The term bioeconomy is considered equivalent to biobased economy and refers to an economy based

on the sustainable production of biomass and the creation of added value for biomass materials.

## 3 Who is the author of the strategies?

The “Swedish Research and Innovation Strategy for a Biobased Economy” (2012) was developed by the Swedish Research Council (Formas) in cooperation with the Swedish Governmental Agency for Innova-

tion Systems (Vinnova) and the Swedish Energy Agency. Formas is mainly funded by the Ministry of Education and Research and acts as a research and advisory body.

## 4 What are the key goals of the strategies?

The Swedish research and innovation strategy (2012) aimed to identify research gaps and provide an analysis of Swedish prerequisites for bioeconomy development. The strategy targets a

sustainable Swedish society which is based on raw materials and products from biomass. Bioeconomy should enable growth while reducing climate effects and the use of fossil raw materials.



## 5 What are the priority areas of the strategies?

In order to develop a bioeconomy in Sweden, the research and innovation strategy of 2012 identifies four strategic research areas which should be expanded in the future. It particularly highlights the central role of universities and research institutes in supporting appropriate research activities. Firstly, the strategy aims to replace fossil fuels by means of increased biomass production, while focusing, secondly, on the creation of smarter products by further refining biomass. The main emphasis is placed on efficient use of biomass by using by-products and waste products. Thirdly, research

should also focus on how the consumption patterns of consumers and producers might change in the future. Fourthly, research should reflect policy instruments as well as the environmental and socio-economic consequences of increased biomass production. The strategy proposes several measures to foster Sweden's transition to a bioeconomy. The measures include promoting cross-industry collaboration on research and development, and supporting small and medium-sized companies with business development.

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### REFERENCES

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