



## PRESS RELEASE

### **Bioeconomy Potential of Portugal, Romania and Poland Profiled in New BIC Country Reports**

**Brussels, 20 March 2018** – The Bio-based Industries Consortium (BIC), the private partner in the Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking (BBI JU), has published three new Country Reports mapping the potential and identifying opportunities for expanding the bio-based industry in [Poland](#), [Portugal](#) and [Romania](#).

**Poland's** bioeconomy sector is focused on agriculture, forestry and food processing, areas which are already central to the country's economy. Bio-based industrial activities feature prominently in its national [Smart Specialisation Strategy](#).

In **Portugal**, bio-based potential is found in side streams and residual streams from its large agri-food, forestry and fisheries industries. The country's manufacturing of cork products and leather goods also promises further bio-based opportunities.

**Romania** boasts one of the largest European agricultural sectors, which offers ample potential for valorisation of residual streams through bio-based operations. The country can also leverage its strong chemical sector to establish a nationwide bio-based industry by gradually increasing the use of biomass feedstock.

BIC Executive Director, Dirk Carrez, said, "These reports show an enormous potential for developing the local, industrial bioeconomy in Romania, Portugal and Poland. All three countries are in the process of setting up national bioeconomy strategies, which will help accelerate their bio-based activities. Partnering with BIC and BBI JU will help local stakeholders accelerate their country's bioeconomy potential and help strengthen the European bioeconomy."

Later this year, action plans will be launched in these three countries to assist local actors in stepping up their bio-based activities. BIC will be visiting Portugal in April, Poland in July and Romania in September to help raise awareness of the enormous bio-based potential and connecting local actors to the European bio-based industry initiatives and networks.

BIC will be publishing similar reports on the bio-based potential of the three Baltic states. With a [Coordination and Support Action \(CSA\)](#) in BBI JU's Annual Work Plan 2018 set to be launched in April, five further country mappings are expected to be completed by mid-2020.

## **About the Bio-based Industries Consortium**

The Bio-based Industries Consortium (BIC) is a non-profit organisation based in Brussels. It represents the private sector in a public-private partnership (PPP) with the EU, the [Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking](#) (BBI JU). Worth €3.7 billion, the partnership mobilises investment in innovative facilities and processes that manufacture high-quality bio-based products as well as in biorefining research and demonstration projects.

BIC hosts a unique mix of sectors including agriculture, agro-food, forestry, pulp and paper, chemicals, energy and other manufacturing sectors. With over 200 members including large companies, SMEs, SME Clusters, RTOs, universities, technology platforms and associations across Europe, BIC brings together an authoritative pool of cross-sector and multi-disciplinary expertise in bio-based industries.

<http://biconsortium.eu>

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