Bio-KE
Catalysing the Bioeconomy

Co-funded by the European Union

The BioConnect Newsletter

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The National Bioeconomy Education and Policy Framework in Kenya (Bio-KE)

Catalysing the Bioeconomy

Message *From The* Project Coordinator

Transitioning thinking from "waste" to "biomass residue".

Kenya stands at an important moment in shaping a bioeconomy that is sustainable, inclusive, and resilient.

The National Bioeconomy Education and Policy Framework in Kenya (Bio-KE) project was established to help translate bioeconomy ambitions into practical action by strengthening education systems, informing policy, and connecting knowledge with enterprise.

Through collaboration among government institutions, universities, industry, and communities, Bio-KE seeks to build the skills, frameworks, and partnerships needed to unlock the full value of Kenya's biological resources.

Since the project's launch, we have seen strong momentum and commitment from stakeholders across sectors.

This first issue of BioConnect reflects that collective effort—highlighting learning, innovation, youth leadership, and real-world bioeconomy practices already shaping livelihoods and resilience across the country.

As we move forward, Bio-KE will continue to serve as a platform for co-creation, shared learning, and impact, ensuring that Kenya's bioeconomy grows in ways that benefit people, protect the environment, and support long-term development.

Prof. Thomas Rewe

Project Coordinator, Bio-KE

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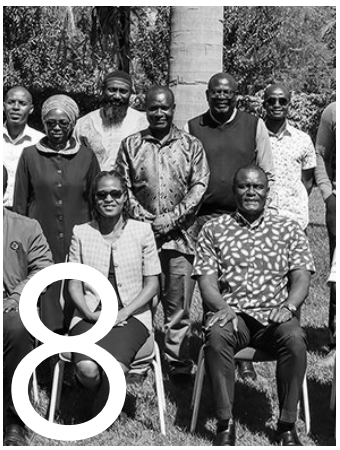

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Demystifying the Bioeconomy: Does it Matter for Kenya?

Development in Kenya is gradually shifting towards a new area of sustainability and economic growth. Although the bioeconomy is often perceived as a scientific field, the term can be broadly defined as the use of biological materials, such as plants and organic waste, to provide bioenergy, food, and services for sustainable development. In Kenya, the bioeconomy sector is a source of employment, stimulates innovation, establishes a climate-smart economy, and promotes sustainable agriculture.

In many ways, bioeconomy practices already exist across the country. Farmers compost organic waste, enterprises produce organic fertilisers, and innovators convert agricultural residues into energy and animal feed. What the bioeconomy seeks to do is organise, strengthen, and scale these activities so they contribute more directly to national development goals. For Kenya, the bioeconomy is closely tied to agriculture, which remains the backbone of the economy and a significant source of livelihoods.

A bioeconomy approach enables farmers, researchers, and entrepreneurs to convert biological resources into higher-value products, such as biofertilisers, bio-based materials, animal feeds, and renewable energy solutions.

While climate change, land degradation, and population growth continue to pose challenges to food security, bioeconomy resilience interventions improve soil fertility and the efficient use of biological resources. Apart from agriculture, there are emerging employment opportunities in the bioeconomy, especially for youth.

Bio-industries, such as agri-processing, biotechnology, waste-to-value businesses, and green manufacturing, involve a range of skills. With the growth of bio-industries, there will be employment opportunities in both rural and urban areas.

Instead of treating organic waste as a burden, bioeconomy models view it as a resource. Agricultural residues, animal waste, and organic municipal waste can be transformed into valuable products, reducing pollution while supporting a circular economy where resources are reused rather than discarded.

Recognising these opportunities, Kenya has begun to put in place a structure to support its bioeconomy ambitions. The government is working toward a National Bioeconomy Roadmap that brings together universities, industry players, farmers, young innovators, and policymakers.

The roadmap is intended to provide clear direction for investment, innovation, and inclusive growth across bio-based sectors, while helping align education, research, and enterprise with national development priorities.

STAKEHOLDERS

How will stakeholders synergise and co-create a shared understanding of what actions in policy, skills and business must be convened to sustain long-term impact?

FRAMEWORKS

What frameworks are necessary for building a coordinated and inclusive bioeconomy framework that supports long-term sustainability?

LINKAGES

How can initiatives connect governance, education and enterprise to efficiently transition knowledge to action?

REPLICATION

What institutional models are best suited to advance bioeconomy action?

The National Bioeconomy Education and Policy Framework in Kenya (Bio-KE)

In pursuit of greener growth and a climate-resilient economy, the Bio-KE project is packaged as an opportunity to create value from Kenya's biological resources for a strong, sustainable economy that protects the environment and delivers value.

Bio-KE is a 48-month EU-funded project that is working to advance environmental sustainability, strengthen the water–energy–food security nexus, and expand green job opportunities, in line with EU–Africa priorities on the Green Deal, sustainable growth, and employment creation.

To achieve this, Bio-KE focuses on three core objectives:

1. Building the capacity of education-related government agencies to co-create a National Bioeconomy Education Framework
2. Supporting Kenyan universities to develop competency-based bioeconomy curricula that prepare the next generation of professionals
3. Establishing bioeconomy living labs that bring together educators, entrepreneurs, policymakers, and communities to learn, innovate, and co-create, especially around bio-entrepreneurship

These ambitions are delivered through five interconnected work packages (WPs):

WP1

Project management and coordination, ensuring effective implementation, monitoring, and reporting

WP2

Institutional capacity building, using systems-thinking approaches at government agencies and higher education institutions to develop a bioeconomy education framework

WP3

Competency-Based higher education curriculum development, drawing on international experience

WP4

Strengthening HEI–bioentrepreneur interaction, embedding experiential learning and real-world business engagement

WP5

Impact communication and dissemination, which brings Bio-KE to wider audiences through community living labs and a prototype Bioeconomy Museum of the Future

The Bio-KE Partnership

At the heart of the project is a commitment to transforming Kenya's bioeconomy education system through inclusive, multi-stakeholder collaboration. The project is delivered by a diverse consortium of higher education institutions (HEIs), research organisations, and innovation partners from Kenya and Europe. Together, the consortium brings complementary expertise in bioeconomy education, systems thinking, policy and governance, curriculum development, entrepreneurship, and science communication.

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Commission for University Education

NACOSTI

Egerton University

ELIB ...nurturing life

Chuka University

University of Hohenheim

DTU Technical University of Denmark

Africa Bioenergy program
moto safi, mbolea shwari

Harambee

AGriKilimo Consultancy Services

Bioeconomy Coalition of Africa

International Development Institute Africa (IDIA)

International Science Council
The global voice for science

By combining local knowledge and regional priorities with international experience, the Bio-KE consortium ensures that solutions are context-relevant, inclusive, and sustainable, while aligned with European Union and African development priorities.

Together, these efforts are helping to turn Kenya's bioeconomy ideas into practical learning, policy, and enterprise opportunities—laying the groundwork for a more sustainable and inclusive future.

Bio-KE Launch and Kick-off

Bio-KE stakeholders gathered in Kisumu County from 5 to 7 November 2025 to coordinate efforts and plan the next steps of the initiative. The work planning workshop held at Ciala Resort brought together experts from government, higher education, and the private sector in Kenya, alongside partners from Germany and Denmark, to strengthen collaboration and map out practical actions for Kenya's bioeconomy through Bio-KE. This followed successful signing of the Bio-KE ***partnership/ consortium agreement (Milestone 10)*** in 2025.

The workshop built momentum for transitioning planning to action as a follow-up to the project launch held at Pwani University in Kilifi on 3 October 2025.

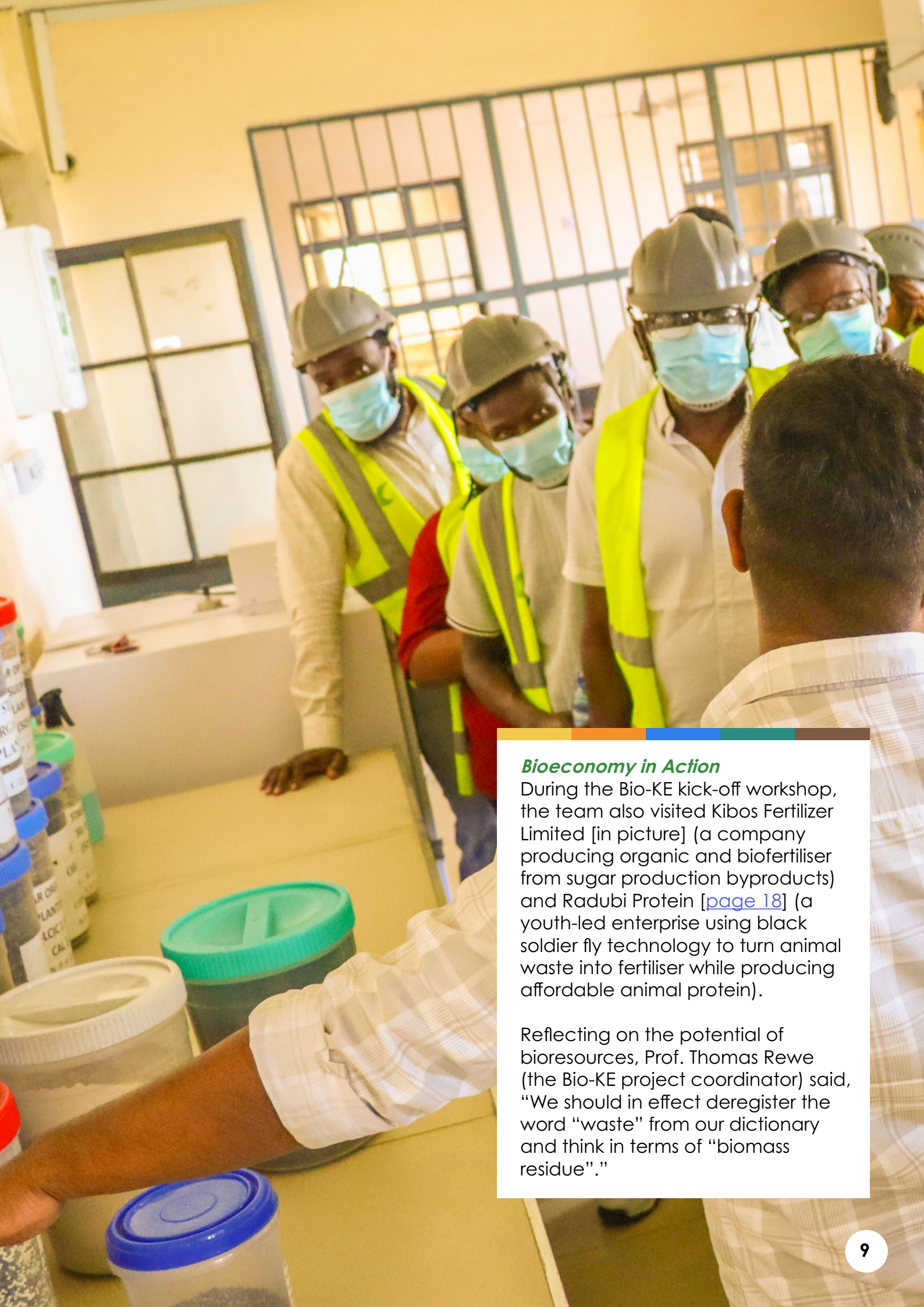
Over three days, stakeholders organised, prioritised, and scheduled activities needed to achieve the project's main objectives, i.e., strengthening government capacity in bioeconomy education and policy, HEI competency-based bioeconomy curricula development, HEI-bio-entrepreneur collaboration and scaling communication knowledge sharing, and impact measurement. Partners created a shared understanding of "bioeconomy" concepts and set groundwork for the role of "living labs" as tools for sustainability and resilience.

As aligned with ***Deliverable D1.1 (Project Staff List)*** project staff appointed by respective implementing partners built consensus on management and coordination structures, co-designed frameworks for reporting, project coordination, and financial management to ensure smooth, transparent implementation.

Turning Bioeconomy Vision into Action

"Collaboration is the backbone of a strong bioeconomy, aligning diverse actors, sharing knowledge and resources, and transforming individual efforts into collective impact for sustainable development."

Prof. Alexander Kahi is a professor of animal breeding and genomics at Egerton University, the director CoELIB and a sustainability leader driving multicountry science, knowledge, community and governance actions within Africa's agriculture, climate, entrepreneurship and bioeconomy discourse.



Bioeconomy in Action

During the Bio-KE kick-off workshop, the team also visited Kibos Fertilizer Limited [in picture] (a company producing organic and biofertiliser from sugar production byproducts) and Radubi Protein [page 18] (a youth-led enterprise using black soldier fly technology to turn animal waste into fertiliser while producing affordable animal protein).

Reflecting on the potential of bioresources, Prof. Thomas Rewe (the Bio-KE project coordinator) said, "We should in effect deregister the word "waste" from our dictionary and think in terms of "biomass residue"."

Work-Package-Level Commitment and Engagement

After work planning, the Bio-KE team has been engaging at work-package-level through hybrid working group meetings to further scale action toward Bio-KE intervention areas by granulating the specific tasks and resources needed to achieve intended outcomes.

Meetings convened discussed different areas of importance to the project, including the institutional needs assessment and capacity development (IACD) process and strategic approaches to capacity enhancement in bioeconomy curriculum development, bioeconomy innovation acceleration, bioeconomy resilience scaling through established bioeconomy community living labs, and impact communication, among others.

As detailed in Bio-KE's abridged implementation plan, Bio-KE continues to leverage said self-organised working groups as points of intervention mapping and execution, ensuring that individual partner capacities are fully utilised to achieve maximum benefit for Kenya's bioeconomy landscape.

For instance, as a scheduled work plan activity, the WP5 working group convened to strategise on best approaches to harness the full capacity of the Bio-KE website and social media pages (see next page) as platforms for disseminating the different outputs of the project while scaling bioeconomy action among diverse stakeholders.

As Bio-KE gears up implementation effective project management, quality assurance and monitoring and evaluation remain top priority as stressed during the work planning workshop. At WP level, Bio-KE is establishing quality assurance frameworks including tasking institutional-linked project and task managers alongside WP leads with ensuring timely reporting of deliverables in alignment with a quality assurance plan ***(deliverable D1.3)*** that will outline the projects approach to robust monitoring, evaluation, accountability, and learning (MEAL).

A participant at the Bio-KE work planning and co-creattion workshop in Kisumu County (5-7 November 2025)

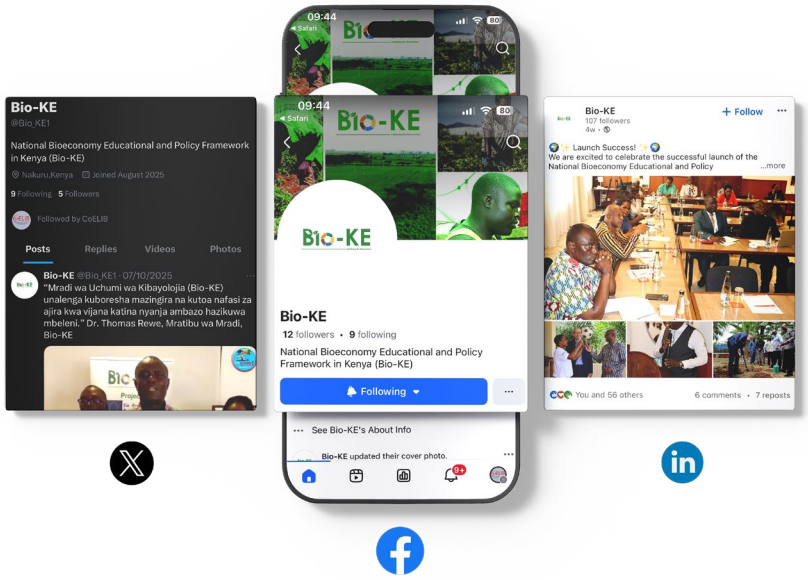
Our Logo & Identity

Color Hex	Interpretation
#3A8C3F	A rich green: **Life, agriculture, renewal, and sustainability**. Reflects nature and growth.
#7C5A43	A deep brown: **Soil, indigenous knowledge, and natural resources** — the foundation of bio-based industries.
#2C8C82	A cool teal-green: **Biotech innovation**, water conservation and sustainable systems.
#F2C94C	A warm yellow: **Solar energy, hope, and future potential**. A vibrant nod to renewable resources.
#2F80ED	A solid blue: **Education, research, and trust**. Anchors the circular system in science and institutional strength.
#f78f28	Vibrant orange: **Bioenergy, warmth, transformation**. Captures the dynamic role of renewable energy from biomass, linking agriculture and energy for a sustainable future.

Project Website and Social Media

As a requirement of deliverable **D5.1 (Project Website and Social Media Accounts)**, a dedicated website (www.bio-ke.org) and social media profiles for project were set up as platforms for disseminating news information about the project, strengthening learning, and unifying a common voice for bioeconomic resilience in Kenya. They also serve as portals showcasing EU-Africa global investment priorities on the green economy, sustainable growth and employment.

The platforms were developed with critical consideration of EU branding requirements based on learning from similar projects implemented over time. The website and social media clearly attribute funding support to the EU. The website fearures multiple sections that serve different functionality purposes including a home page, an about us page, a learning hub, the Toward2040 podcast, a blog page, a resources page, and a dedicated BioConnect



page where this and all other versions of the newsletter can be found. A project specific email and telephone number have also been created. *See back page.*

Regular posting and engagement on emerging and relevant issues on the bioeconomy landscape continues across platforms.

> **"It is our intention to ensure that communication interventions serve the needed purpose of amplifying bioeconomic resilience interventions while providing a space for shared commitment towards progress." Sarowiwa Andanje, Bio-KE**

Read the full deliverable report **here**.

Communication and Dissemination Plan

Further, the team is developing a communication and dissemination and plan **(deliverable 5.6)**, a comprehensive document which highlights the external and internal communication activities, stakeholders, resources, and capacities involved in or needed to support information development and sharing at key stages in the life of the project. The plan will support and multiply synergies in communicating the activities and results of the project for scaled visibility and impact across audiences.

Brochures and project banners **(deliverable 5.2)** have also been developed and were actively used during multiple events including the project launch and kick off. A detailed narrative on this will be highlighted in the next newsletter issue. More resources, including information and education communication material, policy briefs, etc., will be progressively developed during project implementation.

Bio-KE: Building a Resilient BIOECONOMY

Through Policy, Skills and Innovation

Kenya's growing population, climate vulnerability, and pressure on natural resources underscore the urgent need to build a resilient bioeconomy that can support sustainable development.

A well-developed bioeconomy can help the country reduce dependence on fossil-based systems, make better use of biological resources, strengthen food, energy, and water security, and create decent green jobs. By embedding resilience, circularity, and innovation across agriculture, industry, and education, a resilient bioeconomy offers Kenya a pathway to adapt to climate change, absorb economic shocks, and deliver inclusive growth that benefits both present and future generations.

To explore this further, we spoke with Prof. Thomas Rewe, the Bio-KE project coordinator to gain insights into what the bioeconomy means for Kenya, the opportunities it presents, and how initiatives like Bio-KE are working with institutions, industry, and communities to turn vision into action.

1 ***How do you define the bioeconomy in the Kenyan context, and why is it important for the country's development?***

Prof. Rewe: In Kenya, the bioeconomy harnesses renewable biological resources to produce food, energy, and industrial goods in line with sustainability goals. Over 40% of the population relies on these resources, especially in agriculture, which contributes more than 30% of GDP, making bioeconomy support vital for national and regional development.

2 ***What are the biggest opportunities the bioeconomy presents for green jobs, innovation, and sustainable growth in Kenya?***

Prof. Rewe: Kenya prioritises bioenergy and biofuels, bioproducts and bio-based materials, biopharmaceuticals and natural extracts, agricultural biotechnology, industrial biotechnology, and circular bioeconomy solutions. These sectors leverage local feedstocks to create jobs, strengthen value chains, advance climate goals, and support sustainable industrialization through innovation, partnerships, and enabling policy frameworks.

3 ***What key gaps or challenges is Bio-KE addressing to strengthen Kenya's bioeconomy ecosystem?***

Prof. Rewe: Kenya prioritises bioenergy and biofuels, bioproducts and bio-based materials, biopharmaceuticals and natural extracts, agricultural biotechnology, industrial biotechnology, and circular bioeconomy solutions. These sectors leverage local feedstocks to create jobs, strengthen value chains, advance climate goals, and support sustainable industrialisation through innovation, partnerships, and enabling policy frameworks.

4 ***How does Bio-KE bring together government, universities, industry, and communities to co-create bioeconomy solutions?***

Prof. Rewe: Bio-KE unites government, universities, industry, and communities through multi-stakeholder coordination platforms and living labs that foster co-creation, shared learning, and continuous engagement. It links policymakers, HEIs, bio-entrepreneurs, and civil society to develop curricula, drive research-industry collaboration, inform policy, and scale inclusive bioeconomy innovations together.

5 ***Looking ahead, what impact do you hope Bio-KE will have on bioeconomy education, policy, and entrepreneurship in Kenya?***

Prof. Rewe: Bio-KE aims to mainstream bioeconomy education across universities, strengthen evidence-based policy and regulatory frameworks, and catalyse bio-based entrepreneurship. By building skills, fostering innovation ecosystems, and de-risking early-stage ventures, it seeks to drive sustainable industrialization, green jobs, and inclusive economic growth aligned with Kenya's development and climate goals.

Prof. Thomas Rewe is an associate professor at Pwani University and expert in bioeconomy development, education, and environmental governance. He leads multi-stakeholder partnerships that connect policy, education, and enterprise to support Kenya's transition to a resilient and inclusive bio-based economy.

The Bioeconomy Museum of the Future - Virtual Reality Studio Comes to Life at Bio-KE

An immersive digital space that brings Kenya's bioeconomy to life through interactive storytelling, simulations, and virtual exhibits.

Kenya's Bioeconomy Landscape: Challenges and Opportunities

Kenya's transition toward a sustainable bioeconomy is promising. However, progress is slowed by broad policies, weak standards, and limited public understanding, according to Salome Wahome of Africa Bioenergy Programs Limited (ABPL), an implementing partner of the Bio-KE project.

During an interview at the Bio-KE work planning workshop in Kisumu, Kenya, Ms. Wahome underscored the vital role of the project in bringing together policymakers, educators, researchers, and entrepreneurs to build a shared understanding of the bioeconomy and strengthen the ecosystem that supports bio-based innovation.

"While Kenya has sustainability-related policies in place, many of them remain too broad to support real business growth. The lack of clear regulations and standards makes it difficult for bio-entrepreneurs to access markets and scale their solutions." "Standards," she said, "play a critical role in guiding businesses on compliance and product quality."

Low public awareness still poses a significant barrier to the bioeconomy, with the term "bioeconomy" still unfamiliar to many Kenyans; this limits participation and investment. Bio-KE aims to improve understanding of the subject by packaging information in accessible ways and sharing it with a broader audience.

"Bioeconomy is an interdisciplinary field that encompasses education, research, and enterprise development; therefore, there is a need to identify policy gaps, strengthen partnerships with entrepreneurs, and develop sustainable study programs in higher education institutions." – Ms. Wahome

Wahome expressed confidence that Kenya can move from bioeconomy concept to implementation. "Strengthening links between policy, education, and enterprise support," she said, "would help bio-entrepreneurs build productive businesses while contributing to environmental protection and economic growth."

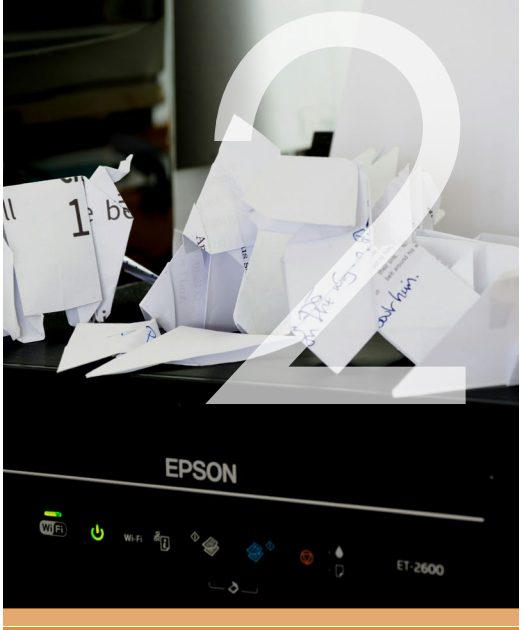
"Sustainability has become a buzzword, but whatever we do has to be sustainable, for the environment and for people. Stakeholders should support the Bio-KE initiative actively to ensure that the ambition for bioeconomy resilience yields long-term impact."

Salome Wahome serves as the monitoring and evaluation liaison at Africa Bioenergy Programmes Limited, supporting data systems, reporting, and learning to track the impact of sustainable bioenergy projects.

Save Energy Every Day

- Switch off computers, printers, and lights after work hours
- Use energy-efficient appliances where possible

Impact: Lower electricity bills and reduced carbon emissions.



Reduce Paper Use

- Move documents to digital storage and cloud platforms
- Print only when necessary
- Set printers to double-sided by default

Impact: Saves trees, water, and energy.

Manage Waste Responsibly

- Provide clearly labelled bins for paper, plastic, and general waste
- Introduce safe e-waste disposal for old electronics

Impact: Less waste to landfills, cleaner workspaces.

Six Practical Ways to Organisational SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability at work starts with simple, everyday actions. From how offices use energy to how waste is managed, small changes can make a big difference. Here are six practical ways workplaces can operate more sustainably.

Support Green Commuting

- Encourage cycling, or walking
- Offer flexible working hours
- Allow remote or hybrid work where possible

Impact: Cuts transport emissions and improves work–life balance.

Choose Eco-Friendly Supplies

- Buy recycled or biodegradable office supplies
- Use reusable cups, plates, and cutlery
- Switch to environmentally friendly cleaning products

Impact: Healthier offices and reduced environmental harm.

Build a Sustainability Culture

- Appoint a green champion or team
- Set simple targets (e.g., reduce energy use by 20%)
- Train employees on everyday sustainable habits

Impact: Sustainability becomes part of daily work, not just policy.

“I am earning from the bioeconomy, and more young people can too.”

Lydia Kasandis - Radubi Protein

For Lydia Kasandis, the bioeconomy is a lived reality.

As the founder of Radubi Protein, cow manure is more than mere waste. It is a source of organic productivity due to its use in turning organic waste into valuable products, based on circular economic principles. Lydia has mastered the art of black soldier fly (BSF) farming in converting cow manure into agri-fertiliser while getting affordable protein-rich chicken feed from BSF larvae.

As a result, the entrepreneur is creating jobs and addressing food insecurity proving that the youth can make a living from sustainable organic bioeconomy solutions.

For the last six years, Lydia has been working at her Radubi project, where she has employed four people. Her hands-on involvement in BSF farming has opened her mind to the bioeconomy, which she describes as using biological resources to create income and protect the environment.

Her Journey reflects the goals of Bio-KE, which directs energies towards practical learning, future-ready skills and industry linkages to achieve bioeconomic resilience, including through enterprise.

"The bioeconomy has really benefited me as a young person. I am earning from it, and I can see how it can change livelihoods if more young people understand it."

Bioeconomy awareness remains a significant gap to be addressed. According to Lydia, many young people are already in the field of bioeconomy without fully understanding its economic potential.

"Stakeholders should localise the concept in practical terms, explaining how young people can make money from bioeconomy ventures."

As the concept of the bioeconomy grows, the country must develop and support structured initiatives for youth development. This could include grants, courses, and incubation spaces that address the real application of the bioeconomy concept.

Lydia's story is a clear example of how the bioeconomy is already taking shape on the ground, led by young innovators who are turning environmental challenges into economic opportunities.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Building the Bioeconomy Through Youth Innovation and Leadership | An Account of **Dickson Obiri**

The youth deserve to be part of global environmental conversations and spaces.

This was evident at the Seventh United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-7) that took place in December 2025 in Nairobi, bringing under one roof stakeholders to forge the path towards a more sustainable and resilient planet.

Conversations on water conservation and pollution took centre stage: everyday topics that are closely linked to the growing Kenyan bioeconomy.

Among the youth representatives at the event was the Faculty of Agriculture, Egerton University, Congressperson Dickson Obiri,

whose presence at the event represented the role of student leadership sustainability and the need to have the young people in such spaces where policies are shaped.

For Obiri, participating in the UNEA-7 was as much about representing as it was about listening. Coming from the second largest Faculty at Egerton University, Obiri felt the need to hear firsthand what the pressing issues were and how the students from the Faculty of Agriculture at Egerton University, whom he leads, can benefit from the discussions.

> **"It's important for us to be there and contribute, agriculture is the backbone for this economy so it's even safer to say that we, the young people, are the backbone, so we need to get as much information as possible and lead in the implementation as well."**

Serving as faculty congressperson at Egerton University, an institution with massive influence in the country's agriculture sector and education, he stands as a link between student leadership, academics, and the real-world practice of the curriculum. He is the link between students and the university and is constantly working to expand opportunities for exposure, empowerment, and mentorship.

Crucial to his work as faculty congressperson is the concept of the bioeconomy; he stresses the need to focus and invest in bio-based solutions to boost food security, climate resilience, and create green jobs for the future, perspectives that are relevant as population surges continue to increase pressure on natural resources.

At Egerton University, the momentum is already taking shape. Obiri points to hackathons and innovation challenges that have enabled students to showcase creative solutions like artificial intelligence devices and digital farm monitoring tools. He also co-founded Agricultural Trends, a student-led platform highlighting community-level sustainable practices using media to share farmers' stories, an essential link in advancing the bioeconomy.

These efforts align with the broader goal of Bio-KE to empower the Youth so as to improve their participation in Kenya's green and circular economy. The project contributes to the development of an enabling education environment by strengthening capacity in training and research to drive investment in Kenya's bioeconomy sector.

Looking forward, Obiri points to mentorship and financing as the most pressing challenges young innovators face. He calls for collaboration between the government, universities, and the private sector to provide mentorship, networks, funding, and incubation to help grow ideas into viable ventures.

Dickson Obiri is passionate about environmental sustainability, championing innovation, clean energy, and policy-driven action to protect ecosystems and build a resilient future.

Why Academic Exchanges Matter for Kenya's Bioeconomy and Climate-Smart Livestock

Kenya's livestock industry benefits the nation's bioeconomy in a number of ways, including growth prospects, sustainable land use and food security. But over time, realising this industry's full potential has proven to be a complex undertaking.

Evans Odhiambo, a researcher and student in animal breeding and genomics at Egerton University, rightly argues for the importance of exposure to global practices and collaborative learning to bring the much-needed change to the sector.

Evans recently took part in a study abroad program in the Netherlands' Van Hall Larenstein University of Applied Sciences (VHL). This exchange is a part of a long-standing partnership between VHL and Egerton University that focuses on sustainable value chain development, animal science, and agriculture. He was exposed to top-notch techniques during the eight-month program, which he intends to implement in Kenya.

"The experience was eye-opening, seeing how research, policy, and farmers collaborate in real-time made me rethink what is possible for Kenya's livestock sector."

Evans observed how Dutch farms use resources for both financial and ecological results. In a cyclical approach to agriculture that strikes a balance between output and sustainability, livestock feed, waste, and land are managed to increase productivity, improve soil fertility, and lower emissions. In addition, he took part in cooperative research and field trips that included operations in the dairy industry, where he learned about value chain efficiency, stakeholder analysis, and reducing food loss.

These teachings, which highlight the necessity of going beyond traditional livestock strategies that concentrate on production level, are highly pertinent to Kenya.

"We frequently underuse land and animals in Kenya. Every input serves a purpose in the Netherlands, and every output adds to sustainability and value. We have to modify that model.

Additionally, the academic exchange emphasized the value of student participation and experiential learning. In order to ensure that research has a real impact, researchers and students at VHL collaborate closely with farmers to test innovations. Evans believes that Kenya should learn this important lesson.

"In our institutions, research frequently stays in libraries or at conferences. Innovations can spread locally and support a climate-smart bioeconomy if experts and students interact directly with farmers."

Kenya's capacity to develop profitable and environmentally sustainable livestock systems that integrate international knowledge with regional realities is greatly enhanced by such academic interactions.

"People make better decisions when they comprehend the connections between livestock, land, and resources. That is the cornerstone of a bioeconomy that benefits all."

Evans's experience highlights the need for international cooperation, practical learning, and knowledge sharing in addition to local innovation for Kenya's transition to a resilient, climate-smart bioeconomy.

Evans Odhiambo is passionate about advancing Kenya's livestock sector through global learning, collaborative research, and climate-smart, sustainable practices.

TOWARD 2040 PODCAST

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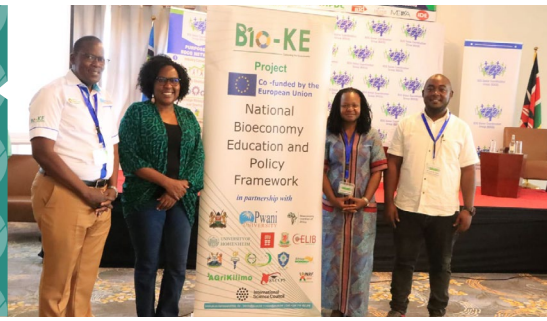
https://www.bio-ke.org/index.php/toward2040

Quarterly Highlights

1 **Bio-KE project Launch at Pwani University, Kilifi County-Kenya,** where stakeholders flagged off the project as an innovative approach for strengthening Kenya's transition toward a sustainable, innovation-driven bioeconomy.

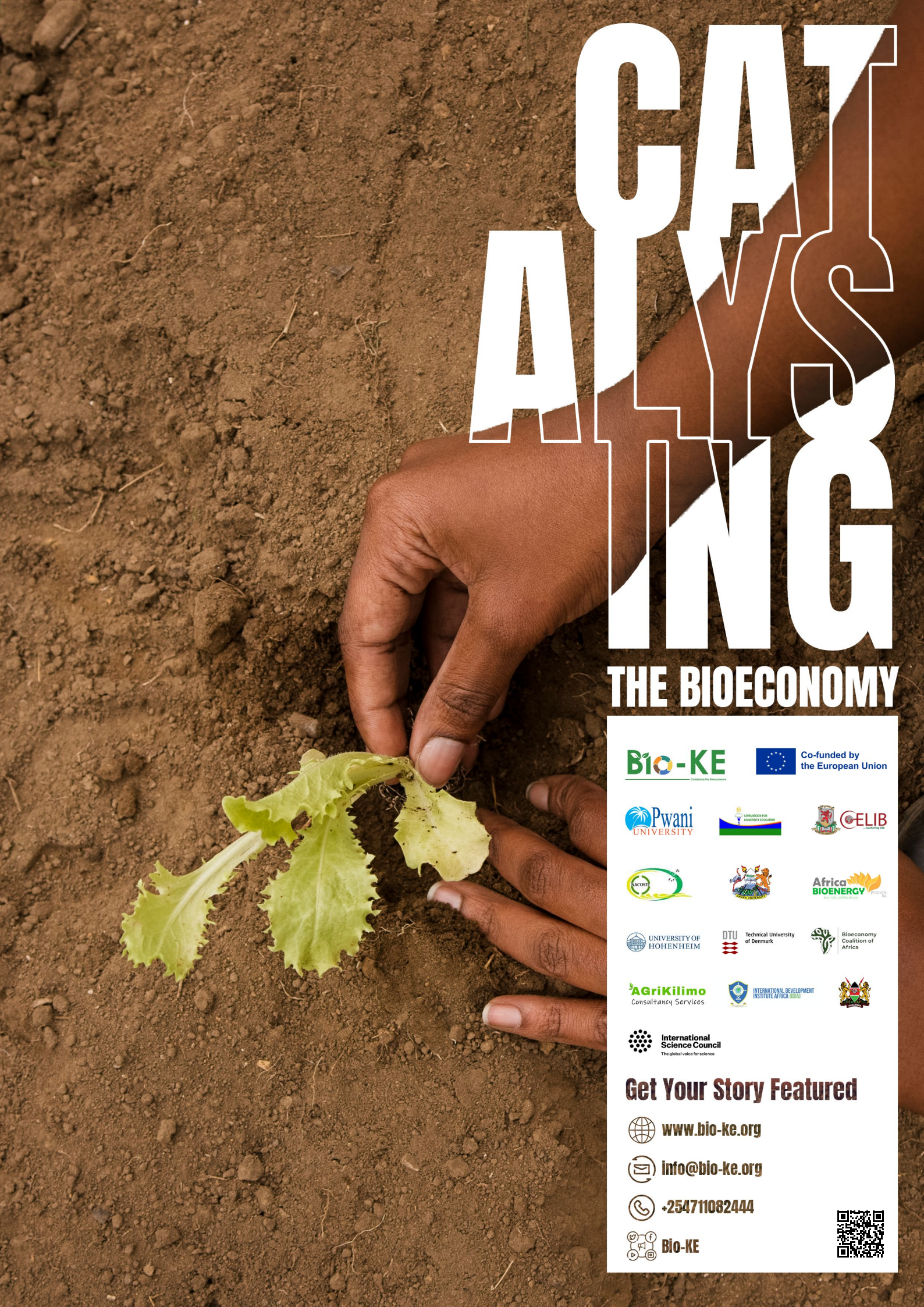
2 **Bio-KE team visit to Kibos Fertilizer Limited** - a company producing organic and bio-fertiliser from sugar production byproducts. The learning visit provided insights on industry action in bioeconomy spaces, challenges, and areas of synergy.

3 **Bio-KE's Prof. Thomas Rewe at the Business Development Services, Donor Coordination Group (BDCG), Symposium from 26th - 28th of November in Kisumu (Kenya)**, where he shared conversations about climate adaptation, green transition, the bioeconomy and links to higher education, policy and entrepreneurship.



In the next issue

- Explore how Bio-KE is establishing groundwork for intervention implementation through a needs assessment and skills and knowledge gap analysis.
- Learn how Bio-KE is strategically strengthening impact communication and dissemination.
- Engage with the different branding resources developed by Bio-KE to strengthen visibility and impact.
- Discover how Bio-KE seeks to strengthen the bioeconomy enterprise landscape(survey and digital mapping).



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