



EU CAP Network workshop 'Circular bioeconomy – valorisation of forest by-products'

Kouvola, Finland
26-27 March 2025

Envisioning the future

Nataša Lovrić
EU CAP Network, EIP-AGRI Support Facility

Introduction



TECHNOLOGY
ADVANCEMENTS



VALUE CHAIN
DEVELOPMENT



FUTURE OF THE
FOREST BIOECONOMY

Technological Advances in Valorization



Biorefinery innovations (xylitol, lactic acid)



Biochar & wood ash for soil enhancement



Engineered wood products (particleboard, fiberboard)

Value Chain Development



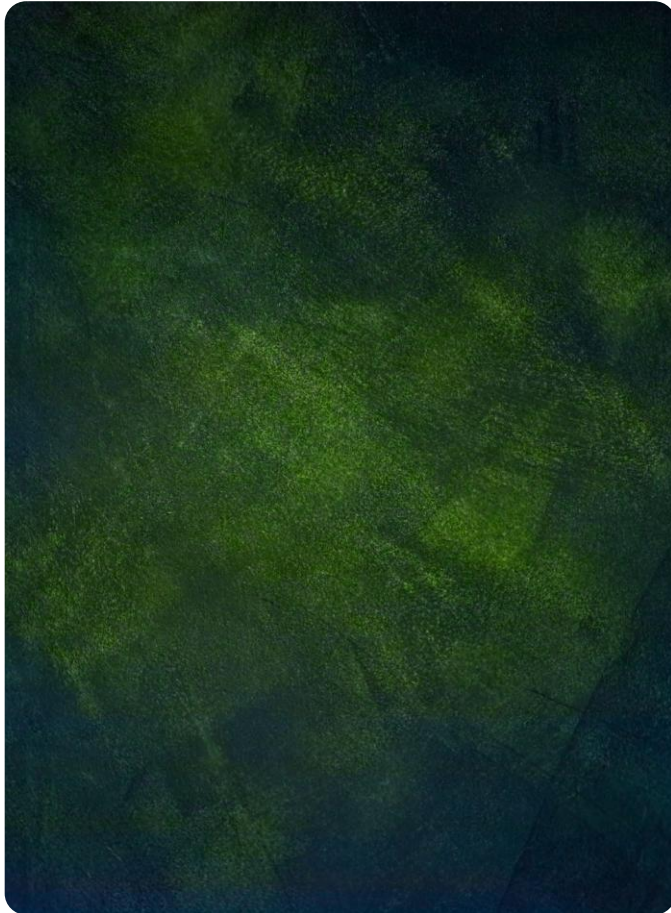
Role of private
forest
owners/advisors &
managers



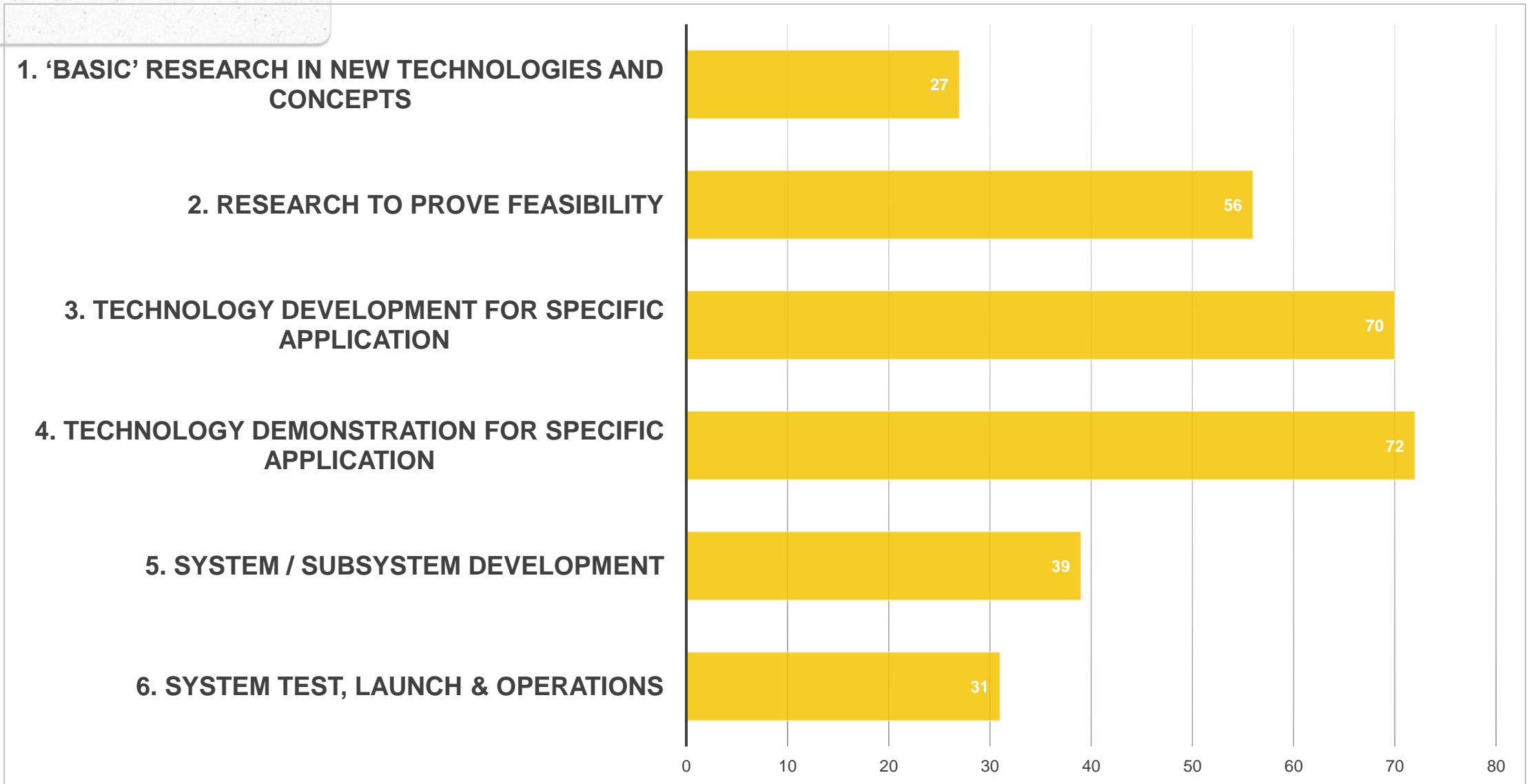
Strengthening
market links &
economic
viability



Governance &
cooperative
models

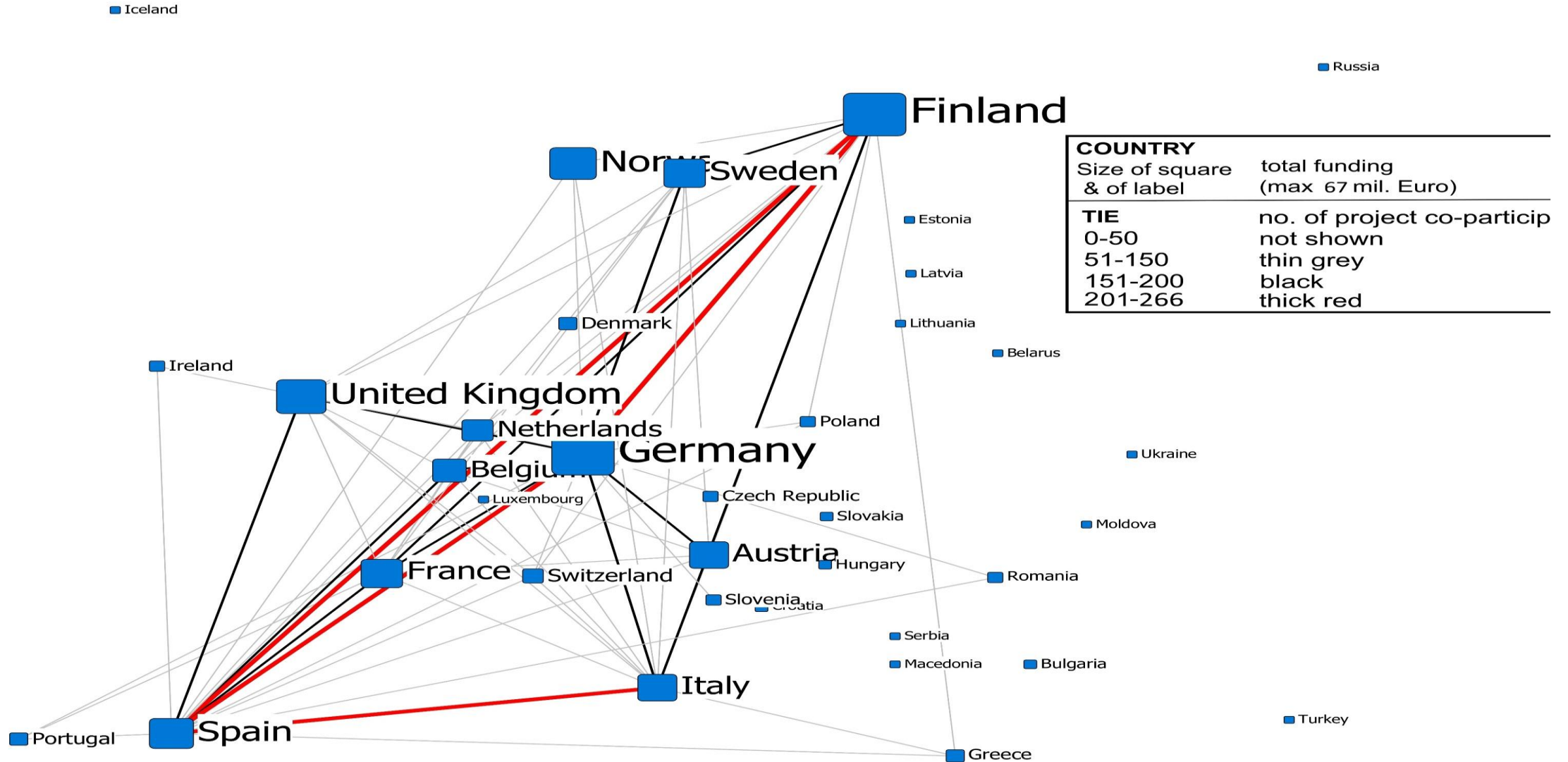


EC funded bioeconomy innovations





Cooperation in EU forest bioeconomy research



› [Mapping forest-based bioeconomy research in Europe, Lovrić et al. b, 2020](#)

Changes in European F-B sector towards 2030 & 2050

- simultaneous increase of wood production/forest conservation pressures FM
- needs for forest tenure reform
- broad spectrum of ecosystem services part of FBS diversification
- bioenergy market outlook appears highly uncertain
- shortage of forest biomass and pressure on forest resources



2030

- less pressure on forest resources (shift towards circular economy, decreasing population in Europe, decreasing bioenergy sector, changing industries focus on higher value /smaller volume products)
- sector needs to adjust to societal demands (public perceptions need to be influenced by promotion campaigns and inclusion)



2050

Future Opportunities & Research Directions



Address geographic imbalances



Emerging technologies in forestry residue valorization



Promote collaboration between OGs & research projects



Potential for new bio-based value chains

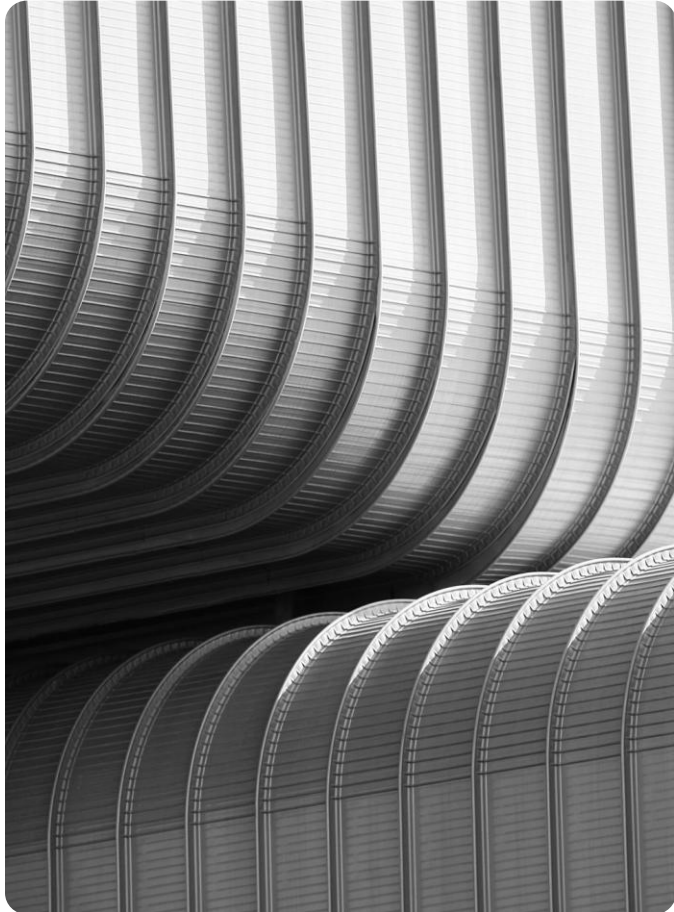


Encourage high-value product innovation (bioplastics, resins)



Integration into existing markets

Key Questions for Our Discussion



Most promising technologies for forestry residue conversion?



How can new value chains be integrated into existing markets?



How can farmers & forest owners improve their value chain position?



Effective governance models for circular bioeconomy?

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All information on the workshop is available on the event webpage:

<https://eu-cap-network.ec.europa.eu/events/eu-cap-network-workshop-circular-bioeconomy-valorisation-forest-products>

