

Questions arising from presentations

- What are the research priorities for the Bio-based economy?
- What is the optimised management of research e.g. specialisation, infrastructure, etc.?
- How to maximise innovation?

1. Research priorities and the bio-economy

- Long list but some common overarching features including:
 - Trade-offs between food, feed, fibre, fuel
 - Land-use change
 - New opportunities in support of rural economy
 - Sustainable intensification in food production
 - Climate adaptation and mitigation
 - Links to urban areas
 - Resilience

1. Research priorities for the Bio-economy

- *Not just about specific research topics but a systems approach is vital*
- *Low hanging fruit such as waste as a resource issue*
- *Integration of research across the different sectors*

2. Optimising management of research?

- Research Infrastructure sharing vital
- Not just “bricks and mortar” but soft RI including biological collections
- Specialisation – an “eternal question” – pros and cons
- Need to keep the best of competitive approach with maximisation of resources
- “Smart specialisation” – OECD and Innovation Union Flagship
- Need for better collaboration – brings us back to the sharing of resources such as RIs

3. How to maximise innovation?

- Non-linear
- Incremental or Radical
- Radical may require change in societal thinking
- Entrepreneurs and risk taking – flexible funding
- Support for persistence
- European funding e.g. FP7 not the right mechanism – Horizon 2020 the same?