

BIOTEXFUTURE Forum and Member Day (3rd and 4th of May 2023)

First Day: The Forum (3rd of May 2023)



As usual, the BIOTEXFUTURE Spring Forum was oriented toward stakeholders outside of the members of BIOTEXFUTURE from science, industry and politics. This time, the main topic was the Bioeconomy in Germany and what is important from different perspectives as well as to present some showcases out of BIOTEXFUTURE. The event was held in presence in the Forum M in Aachen, a great location with a view on the Aachener Dom.

With welcoming notes from Prof. Dr. Ulrich Schur (Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH), Ralph Kindervater (BioÖkonomieRat), and Sybille Keupen (mayor of Aachen), assuring the importance of research and transformation in this field in Aachen and Germany. The Keynotes from Prof. Dr. Stefan Bösch (HumTec RWTH Aachen), Prof. Dr. Thomas Gries (ITA RWTH Aachen), and Rolf Heimann (Hess-Natur-Stiftung) bringing the importance of innovation spaces for developing inter- and transdisciplinary research to the forefront, as well as the embeddedness of textile industry developments in the Euregio and the crucial quest for sustainability for the production of textiles.



Finally, Tim Lucas (adidas AG) gave an overview over the most important achievements of the BIOTEXFUTURE innovation space, while Dr. Marco Schmitt (STO RWTH Aachen) the project lead of the TransitionLab provided the audience with some critical insights from the ongoing accompanying social research in BIOTEXFUTURE, shedding a light on the barriers, as well as chances concerning the societal dimensions for change.



The day ended with a Q&A with leads from a variety BIOTEXFUTURE projects presenting their work and their visions.

All topics were leading to lively discussions on how to further the textile Bioeconomy in Germany and beyond, while the experts from inside BIOTEXFUTURE shared their results and answered to questions from the audience. The Spring Forum made the development of a textile Bioeconomy in Germany tangible.

Second Day: The Member Day (4th of May 2023)



The second day was centered on networking inside BIOTEXFUTURE and across all 4 Innovations spaces funded by the BMBF, with short presentations by BAMS (Bioeconomy of Maritime Systems), New Food Systems and BIOBALL, the other three innovations spaces. After that, there was extensive time to talk with each other at topic specific tables, to exchange ideas and develop synergetic research questions and project possibilities.

All in all, the day presented a thriving Bioeconomy community, where a lot is happening to create the change needed in important spheres of the German economy. Everybody is looking forward to meeting soon again in autumn.

