



Bioeconomy Innovation Spaces

"Partnerships Between Industry and Research for Bio-Based Innovations from Germany"



On November 19 and 20, 2025, the Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space (BMFTR) hosted a joint event for the four Bioeconomy Innovation Spaces in Berlin to present the achievements and results of five year's research funding.

The aim of this event was to compile and discuss the experiences gained from the funding measure, particularly with regard to the following points: challenges, enabling and inhibiting framework conditions, critical issues and success stories. In addition, the goal was to collect suggestions for future funding lines with a focus on "transfer into application." For the approx. 100 participants this was an opportunity to gain new perspectives on future partnerships, funding opportunities and innovations.



A special highlight was the visit by the Minister for Research, Technology and Space, Dorothee Bär, at the Innovation Spaces exhibition. She exchanged with the project teams about novel bio-based innovations and especially praised already applicable solutions.

The event offered a diverse program with inspiring presentations and lively discussions. After the welcome, Marco Rupp, Deputy Executive Director of the Biobased Industries Consortium (BIC), opened with his keynote speech titled “It takes two to tango – Shaping change in the bioeconomy together.”

The four innovation spaces then presented their work:

- BIOTEXFUTURE – Create the Change, together with partners from industry and science, presented how bio-based materials are driving change in the textile industry.
- BioBall showed how urban bioeconomy can be brought from the laboratory to the metropolis.
- BaMS provided insights into the progress of the blue bioeconomy.
- NewFoodSystems presented approaches to bringing bioeconomy to the table.

A moderated discussion on the challenges and opportunities offered by the innovation space funding format in the field of bioeconomy rounded off the first day. Afterwards, an exhibition of all innovation spaces provided an opportunity for intensive exchange and networking.



The second day of the event started with keynote speeches on a potential success model for national innovation funding. Claudio Flores from Mimotyp and Martin Langer from Industrieverbund Weiße Biotechnologie e.V. and BRAIN Biotech AG shared their views on this topic. They discussed challenges such as short timeframes to scale up from basic research to application, or the very demanding requirements, especially for start-ups, for participating in funding projects. In the

afternoon, the participants discussed the key issues on public-private partnerships and bioeconomy in interactive workshops and presented results in the plenary session.

With this event, the BMFTR also intended to emphasize biotechnology as one of the key future technology fields in Germany and promoted the applications of industrial biotech solutions.

In this regard, the event showed the high value of cooperation between industry, research and politics for the bioeconomic transformation. The innovation spaces provided important contributions to this objective in recent years, but the journey still continues!



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