

Monitoring, Data and Communication: Empowering Rural Actors and Promoting Climate Action via the Bioeconomy

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Catherine Bowyer – IEEP

Why are monitoring, reporting and data on climate performance important in the bioeconomy?

- ***Integrity and legitimacy*** - demonstrate that the bioeconomy meets its expected goals, contributing to a carbon neutral society and respecting the ecosystems' boundaries.
- ***Trust*** - demonstrating that all parts of value chains and resulting products promote better environmental protection and climate action.
- ***Improvement, transition and innovation*** – developing an approach to continuous improvement, value chains evolving to meet their potential.
- ***Communication and recognition***– common reporting can provide a language to communicate along a value chain, support other actors in the chain and to communicate achievements to wider society leading to potential added.

Rural actors and communities involved in climate change mitigation need data at several steps

5. to effectively communicate the difference that they are making

4. to be able to adjust the approach if it is not working (learning)

3. to understand if the action is delivering what was planned (monitoring progress)

2. to define what success looks like (setting targets)

1. to know what is the situation to start with (define a baseline)

Well-structured approaches to monitoring and reporting can offer both environmental and economic gains when:

1. structured to promote understanding - supported by advice focused on interpretation i.e. what does the data mean
2. designed to be based on indicators that are tailored to actor's needs and feasible to assess
3. linked to potential opportunities for business development including efficiency gains, access to new markets or qualifying for government support

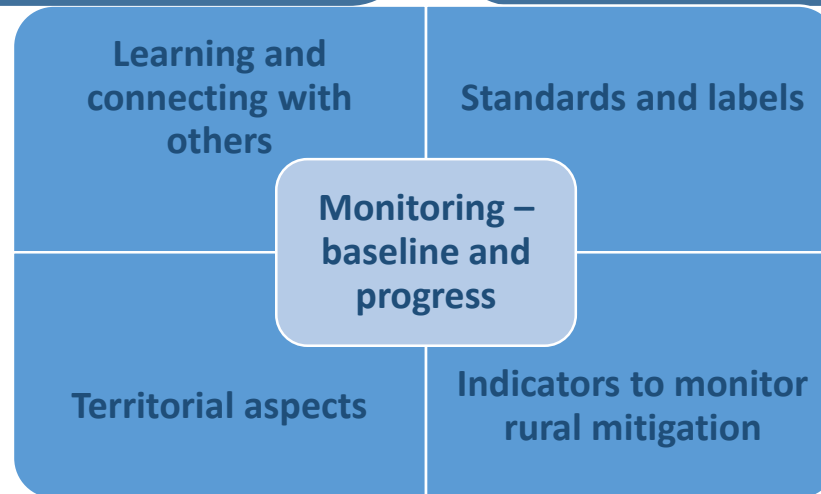
1 - data +
knowledge
and advice =>
understanding

2 - targeted
and tailored

3 -
opportunities
for change

Bringing together networks, tools to promote innovation and stakeholder engagement - Local Action Group, Opavsko region, Czech Republic – ‘lubricates the gears of cooperation between municipalities, businesses and associations’

Certifying hedgerows for biomass feedstock generation and carbon storage - Normandy, Brittany and Pays de la Loire, France, RDP supported - promote valorisation by allowing sustainably managed hedges to be certified



Combining climate and social monitoring - Towards Low Carbon Villages was carried out in 19 villages in North Karelia, Finland, in 2016-19, launching local experiments and encouraging villages to adopt carbon-reducing or carbon-saving solutions.

Operational Groups developing carbon monitoring - PRATI_CO carbon footprint in the whole production process of the Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese; Managing authorities developing results based indicators for monitoring and rewarding biodiversity and climate benefits on farm – Montado, collaboration with University of Evora