BBioNets

Boosting the adoption of Bio-Based Technologies

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# Reflecting on Our Journey, Sharing Our Legacy

**Region:** Andalusia, Spain

**No. of members:** 12

**Partners:** CTA TEPRO



## The Spanish FAN

## Stakeholder Engagement

**Types of stakeholders reached:** farmers/foresters, advisors/intermediaries, academia, public authorities

**Most effective engagement practices used:**

- Participatory workshops
- Interaction with experts
- Presentation of practical success stories

## FAN Challenges

- **Attraction & Awareness Constraints:** Overcoming limited awareness of Bio-Based Technologies (BBTs) and initial uncertainty regarding the tangible benefits of participation to convince new stakeholders.
- **Engagement & Capacity Bottlenecks:** Navigating competing operational priorities and limited time availability among key actors - particularly farmers, cooperatives, and SMEs - to secure active involvement.
- **Coordination & Alignment Complexity:** Aligning geographically dispersed AKIS actors with diverse expectations, technical capacities, and time horizons across complex regional biomass value chains.

## BBTs Uptake

### Barriers

- High Investment Costs & Economic Uncertainty
- Limited Logistics & Infrastructure
- Knowledge & Awareness Gaps

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### Enablers

- Abundant Agricultural Feedstock
- Strong Collaboration Networks
- Funding & Knowledge Transfer Support

## Lessons Learnt

- **Action over Theory:** Stakeholders lose interest in theoretical concepts. They engage when discussions pivot to concrete business opportunities, funding, and real-world case studies.
- **Collaboration requires a Catalyst:** Multi-actor networks create massive value, but they do not run on autopilot. They require continuous facilitation, regular communication, and active trust-building.
- **Confidence comes from Mentoring:** To encourage the adoption of new BBTs, the gap must be bridged via practical demonstrations, expert guidance, and peer-to-peer learning.

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## Key Outcomes



Olive biomass was identified as Andalusia's top priority



Stakeholder feedback was turned directly into regional policy recommendations



Participants showed immediate interest in forming new Operational Groups and collaborations

## "BBioNets for Everyone" in Practice

Long-term BBT adoption relies entirely on an inclusive, participatory approach. Success requires democratising technical data so it is accessible to all expertise levels, while actively engaging young professionals to refresh the AKIS ecosystem. Ultimately, technical and economic viability are only realised through the foundational social interaction, trust, and communication that drive true collaboration.

## Most Valuable Activities

- Infodays featuring Operational Groups & successful bioeconomy initiatives
- Regular meetings
- Cross-regional workshops

These combined practical knowledge sharing with direct interaction among stakeholders

## Main Impact of the FAN

- **Knowledge Transfer:** Successfully translated complex academic research into practical, everyday advice through expert mentoring and real-world examples.
- **Higher Technology Awareness:** Boosted stakeholder confidence in new technologies by showcasing successful applications, business opportunities, and available funding.
- **Value Chain Connections:** Bridged gaps by connecting diverse actors across the value chain, revealing new opportunities in olive biomass and other regional residues.

## Recommendations

### For improving FAN implementation

- Strengthen continuous engagement beyond individual events.
- Increase the number of practical demonstrations and field-based activities.
- Provide more tailored support according to stakeholder profiles.
- Further strengthen links with Operational Groups and innovation projects.

### For future Thematic Networks

- Maintain a strong multi-actor approach from the beginning of the project.
- Focus on practical and actionable knowledge transfer.
- Invest in mentoring and personalised support activities.
- Facilitate networking and collaboration beyond project activities.
- Pay greater attention to business viability and market uptake.
- Encourage stronger cross-regional exchange.

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