



Hemp Club



Co-funded by the COSME
programme of the European
Union

Total budget: EUR 587 972.48 |
Total funding: EUR 462 976.00

DAY 1. 13th of April 2023
HempClub project and hemp
potential

What we do

The HempClub project brings together **7 clusters and association** operating in the bioeconomy, advanced manufacturing and hemp production sectors to create **interconnected and interregional supply chains** between operators in primary production, agri-food processing and green chemistry by strengthening industrial symbiosis and sustainable and renewable business models in the **hemp sector**.

1

Improve the **management skills** of cluster managers.

4

Enhance **collaboration** and **networking** activities between European organisations.

2

Strengthen **cluster excellence capacity**

by improving the portfolio of business support services.

5

Promote **internationalisation, technology** and **knowledge transfer**

through the activation of new opportunities for growth and capacity of excellence for clusters and their members.

3

Facilitate **B2B and C2C** collaborative activities

to strengthen interregional strategies for the bioeconomy



Project mission

Encourage interregional Investments based on the **Smart Specialization Strategy**

Contribute to the achievements of **Green Deal and SDGs**

Support **urban-rural symbiosis** and **environmental protection**



Supporting the **ClusterXchange** scheme's implementation

Enhance the **industrial potential** of hemp through the creation of new cross-sector value chains

Enhance European cooperation networks in **agriculture, advanced manufacturing** and **bioeconomy** fields



Why hemp

With its **unique chemical properties, environmental benefits, high yield and wide range of applications**, hemp is a valuable crop for the bioeconomy, contributing to achieving climate neutrality, although still representing a niche crop in Europe.

Hemp for environmental protection



Carbon storage



Soil Erosion Prevention



Biodiversity



Minor or no use of pesticides



Small amount of water and land for cultivation



Double fiber yield per hectare

Hemp for several industrial applications



Food and animal feed



Pharma industry



Building materials



Cosmetics



Oil



Paper



Textile



Electricity



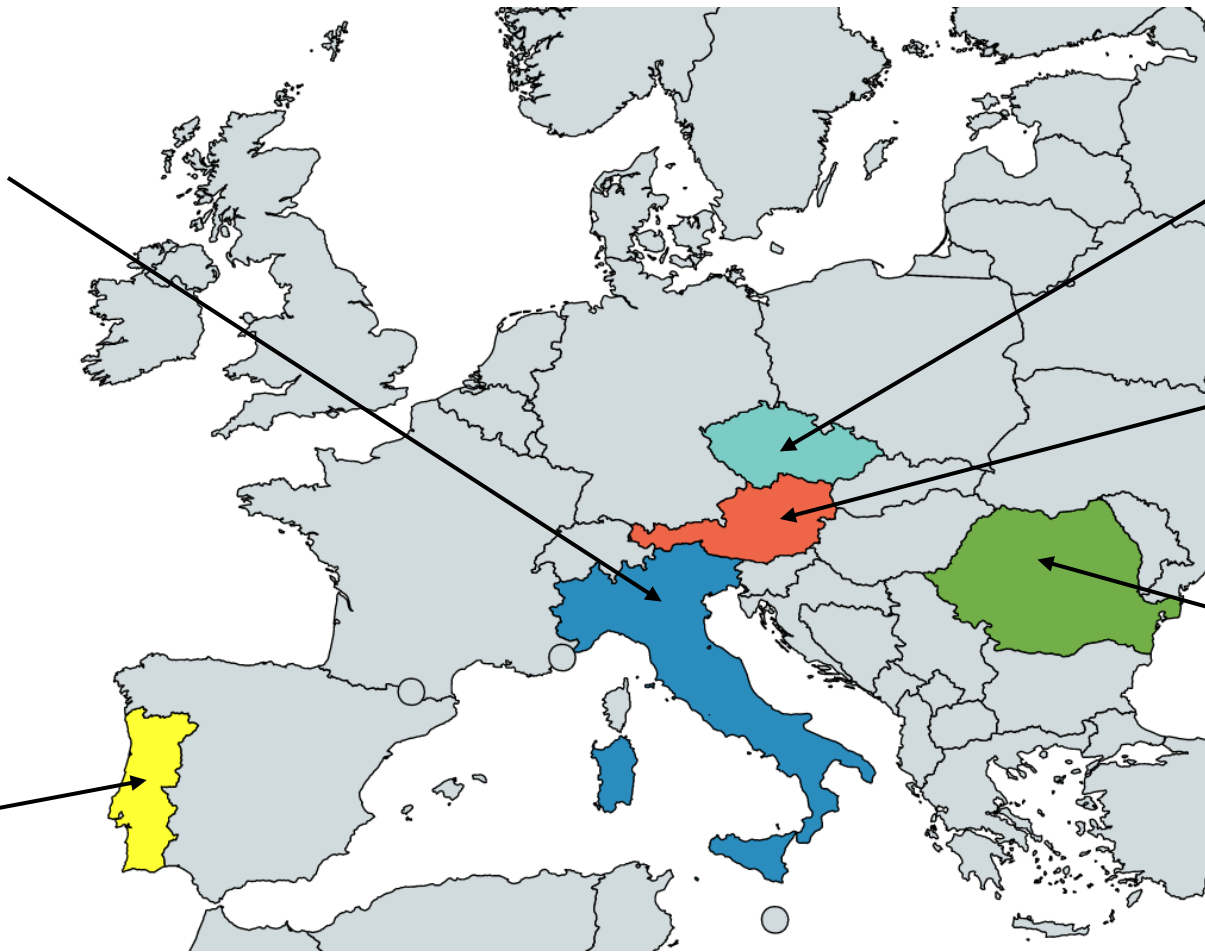
The COSME programme

The project is co-funded by the **Programme for the competitiveness of enterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises**:

- ❖ Aimed at promoting growth and strengthening the competitiveness and sustainability of enterprises in the EU.
- ❖ Managed by the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME).
- ❖ Since 2014, COSME has provided around **EUR 51 million in funding** for 130 initiatives that promote clusters.
- ❖ Built on the **European Cluster Collaboration Platform**, which counts with a mapping of more than 1200 European and international clusters, and more than 60 cluster associations.
- ❖ The platform serves as a **unique one-stop shop** for information, learning and collaboration opportunities for industrial clusters across Europe seeking to strengthen the competitiveness and sustainability of Europe's economy and industry



Project consortium



Lombardy Green Chemistry Association

LGCA is the reference point for the **Lombard bioeconomy** both at national and European level, shaping the bio-based economy as the most powerful tools for sustainable development. Founded in 2013 by Consorzio Italbiotec, LGCA was recognised by Lombardy Region as the **regional Cluster of Bioeconomy and Green Chemistry** in 2015.



Country: Italy

Mission: actively involving all regional players potentially involved in the bioeconomy, LCA aims at creating, in close cooperation with the regional authorities, the **most favourable environment for the development of the bioeconomy in Lombardy**. It represents a **meeting point** for all actors, a major reference for the regional authorities and an **access point to international players**.

Cluster members: 52 (50% SMEs)

Sectors/value chains covered: agrifood, green chemistry, food/pharma, wood

Role in the project: Project coordinator, managing the exchanges under the CXC mobility scheme



Production Technologies Cluster

PRODUTECH is an articulated network of **Production Technology stakeholders**, deploying advanced manufacturing solutions and equipping the current factories for the future. PRODU TECH is officially recognized by the Portuguese Government, as the entity responsible for managing and promoting the development, innovation and competitiveness of the Production Technologies.

Country: Portugal

Mission: To strengthen collective efficiency and strategic intelligence at the service of the expansion, enlargement and qualification of the Portuguese Production Technology Sector in highly dynamic and innovative areas, as well as to develop and promote its offer and image at national and international level.

Cluster members: 186 (65% SMEs)

Sectors/value chains covered: digital industries, production technologies, textile

Role in the project: coordinating activities to improve the management skills of cluster managers.



Federcanapa

Federcanapa is a national association promoting and supporting industrial hemp value chains in Italy, recognizing **hemp agroindustry** as a key to promote climate changes mitigation, soil fertility and national and regional bioeconomies



Country: Italy

Mission: To promote the development of industrial hemp value chains in Italy, foster the scientific research related to hemp production and transformation and disseminate knowledge on hemp benefits among public institutions, economic operators, citizens

Cluster members: 76 (35% SMEs)

Sectors/value chains covered: agrifood, food/pharma, textile, construction

Role in the project: bringing their long experience in the hemp sector to the project for the identification of hemp related value chains



Standortagentur Tirol – Cluster Mechatronik

The Standortagentur Tyrol develops, promotes and markets the Tyrolean economy and science, providing the optimal framework for developing innovative ideas, products, services and processes in a cooperative framework. The **Cluster Mechatronik** is acting regionally as a support organisation for key mechatronical applications.



Standortagentur

Country: Austria

Mission: encourage the **transfer of new technologies** from Tyrolean research institutions to business and connects Tyrolean companies with research establishments. It supports the development of important economic fields in clusters

Cluster members: 450 (60% SMEs)

Sectors/value chains covered: digitalization and I4.0, machinery and new materials composites, plastics, textiles

Role in the project: develop an IT tool mapping the EU hemp organization



Cluster SPRING

SPRING - Sustainable Processes and Resources for Innovation and National Growth is the Italian **national Cluster of Circular Bioeconomy**, gathering together stakeholders from the whole value chain. It is officially recognized by the Italian Ministry of Research and University as the association responsible for promoting the development of circular bioeconomy at regional and national level.



Country: Italy

Mission: To bring together innovative realities active in the development of the green chemistry sector; To contribute to the creation of the systemic conditions for the development of attractive, dynamic, innovative and competitive contexts; To encourage the creation of a strong, representative and cohesive community; to represent its interests towards institutions

Cluster members: 128 (26% SMEs)

Sectors/value chains covered: biofuels, industrial biotechnology, sustainable innovation, bioplastic, environmental industries, biochemistry

Role in the project: coordinating activities supporting clusters to develop a portfolio of bioeconomy added-value services for their members



CzechHemp Cluster

CzechHemp is a non-governmental non-profit cluster organization of private companies, public sector, research and education to strengthen cooperation in the **Czech hemp and medical cannabis industry**. CZECHEMP has a national scope regarding the CZ seated members but international outreach regarding its activity.

Country: Czech Republic

Objectives: To strengthen the cooperation within the hemp and medical cannabis industry, remove the barriers of its development and restore the national and international value chains.

Cluster members: 30 (50% SMEs)

Sectors/value chains covered: textile, construction, food, pharma



INDAGROPOL pole of competitiveness

IND-AGRO-POL pole of competitiveness is **an innovation cluster** of the main actors in the agro-industry sector and in the related sectors, aiming at increasing the competitiveness of their member by concentrating resources and developing the production of innovative goods, resulting from RDI activities planned and carried out in cooperation within the cluster.



Country: Romania

Mission: to stimulate the innovation and collaboration in the sector of technical equipment construction for agriculture and food industry and in related sectors, in order to strengthen the competitiveness and sustainable development of these sectors, of regional development and intelligent growth, sustainable and favourable to social inclusion.

Cluster members: 137 (59% SMEs)

Sectors/value chains covered: Bioeconomy, renewable energy, environment and climate changes, eco-technologies and advanced materials, information technology and communications

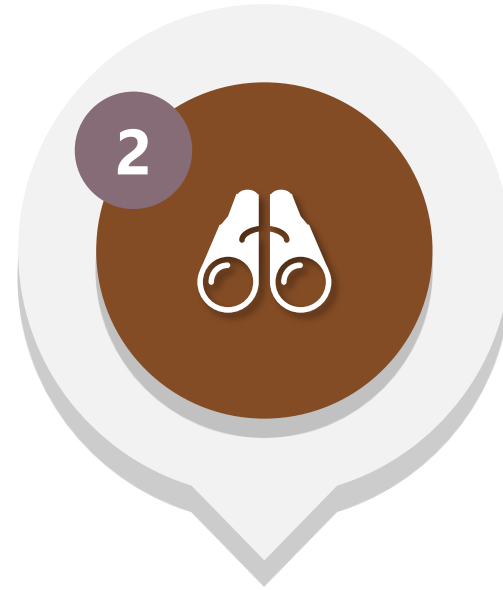


The role of clusters in promoting innovation



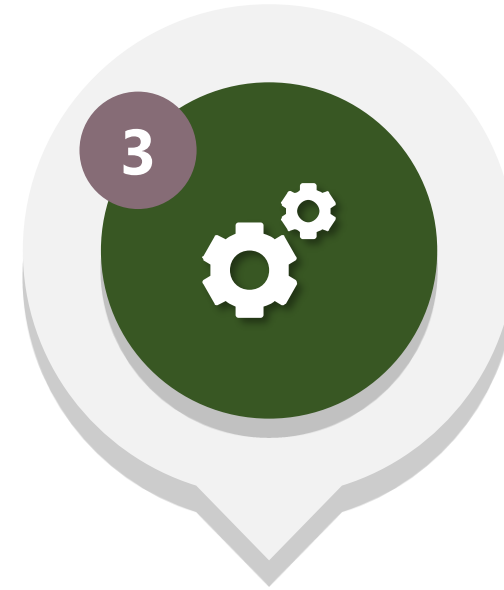
Significant part of the EU industrial landscape

There are around 3000 specialised clusters in Europe, accounting for 54 million jobs, nurturing growth and jobs.



Enablers of business development

Bringing together research organizations, SMEs and large industries, clusters can trigger innovative value chains based on industrial-hemp production and processing.



Contribute to SDGs and Green Deal

By supporting the scaling up of sustainable industries, such as hemp, clusters can better contribute to the achievements of Green Deal objectives and Sustainable Development Goals

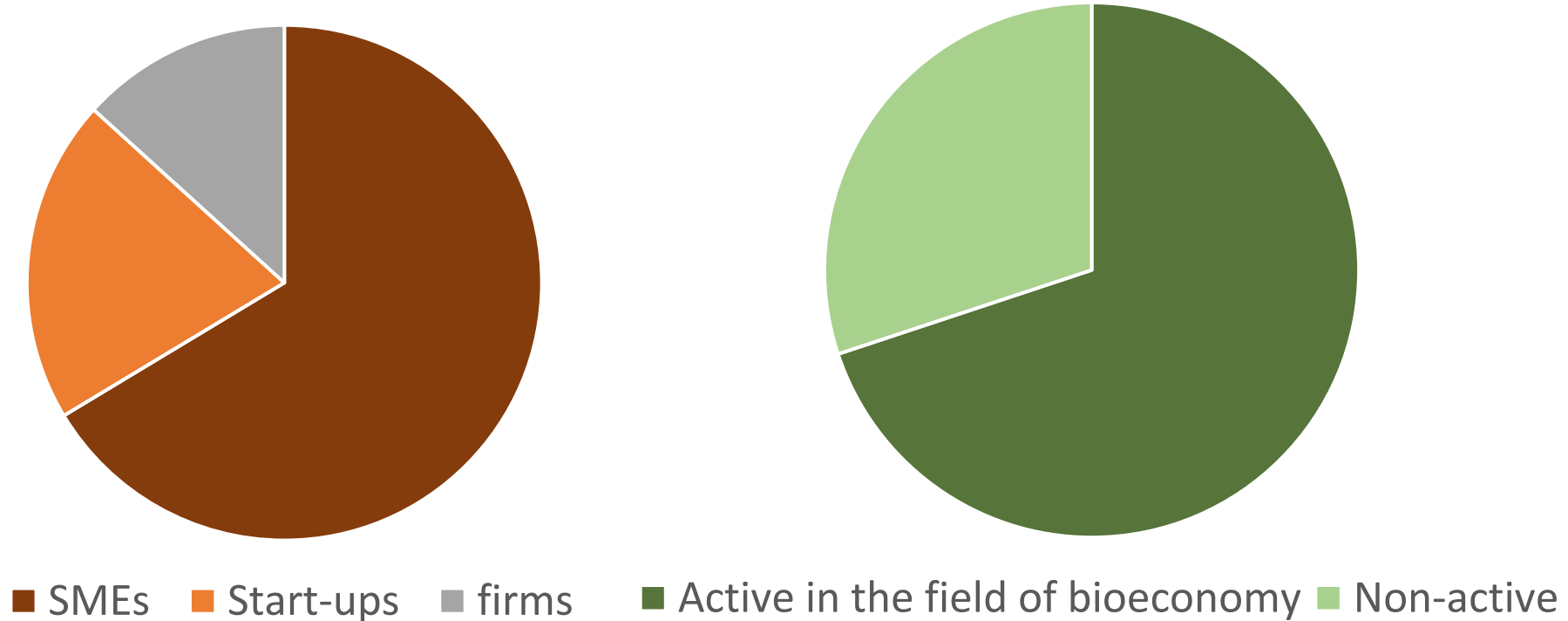


Our cluster members

As part of **Work Package 2** (Portfolio of bioeconomy-added-value services for cluster members), we have carried out a strategic analysis to understand the bioeconomy-related needs and opportunities among our members.

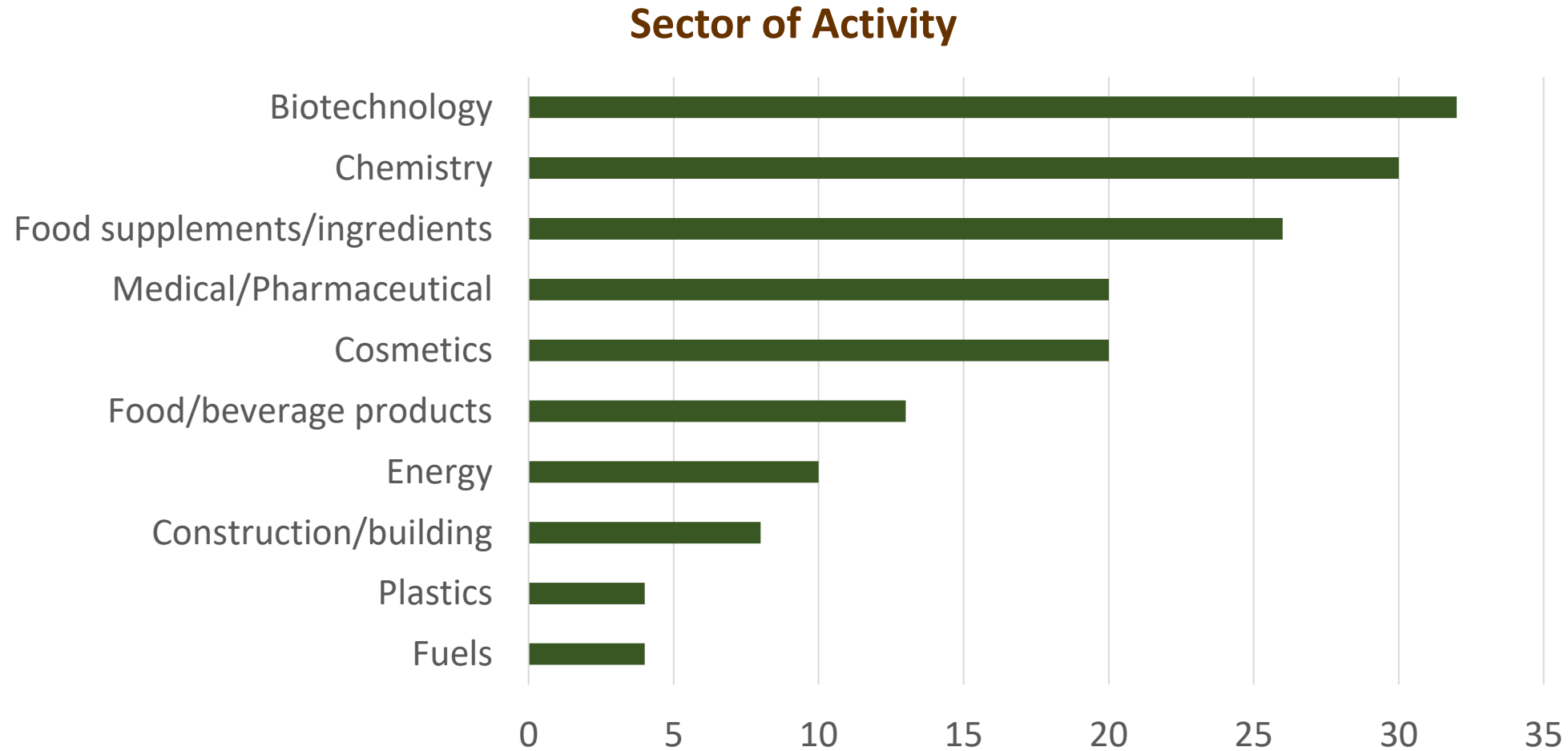
- 179 public and private entities interviewed.

THE INDUSTRIAL LANDSCAPE: 113 companies



Our cluster members

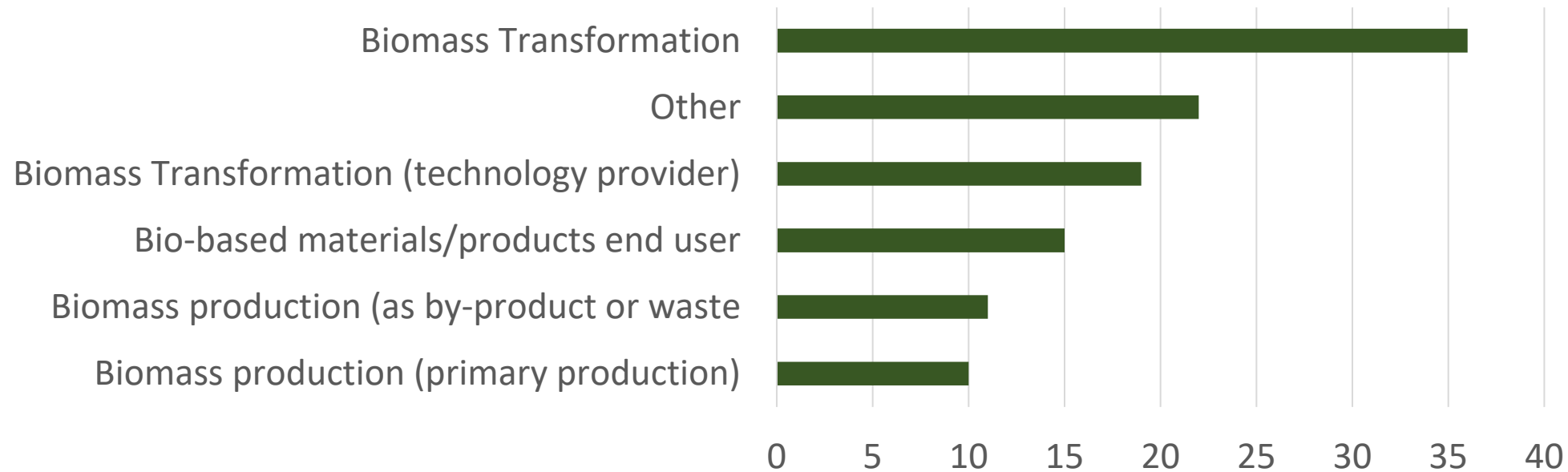
Main fields of activity: biotechnology, chemistry, food supplements, pharma



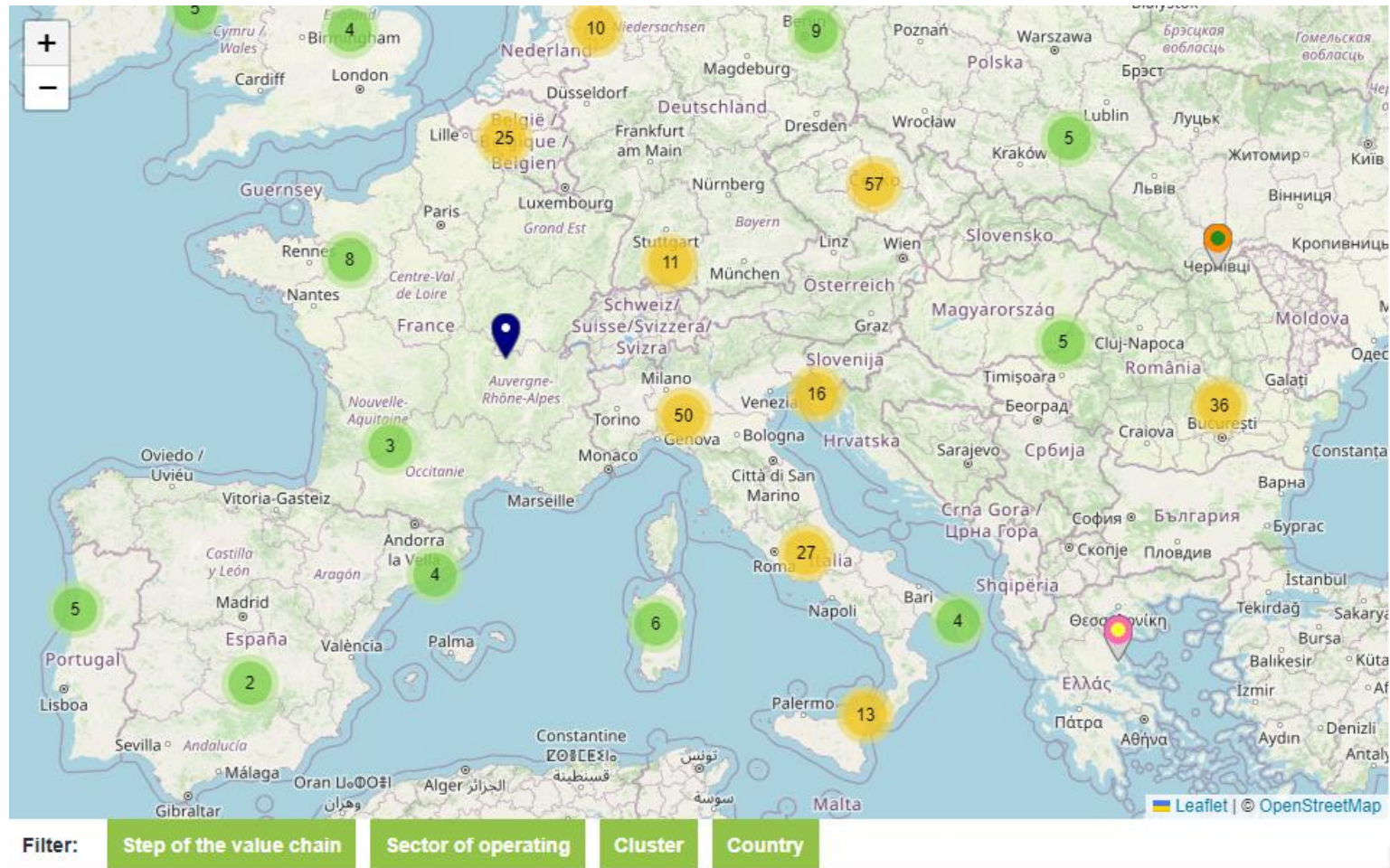
Our cluster members

Position in the value chain: biomass transformation (manufacturer of bio-based products).
The main clusters using hemp as biomass are CZECHEMP and FEDERCANAPA.

Fields of bioeconomy activity



The HempClub platform



Available on our website: <https://hempclubproject.com/map/map.html>





Standortagentur



 www.hempclubproject.com

 <https://www.facebook.com/H3mpClub>

 @HempClubEU

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