

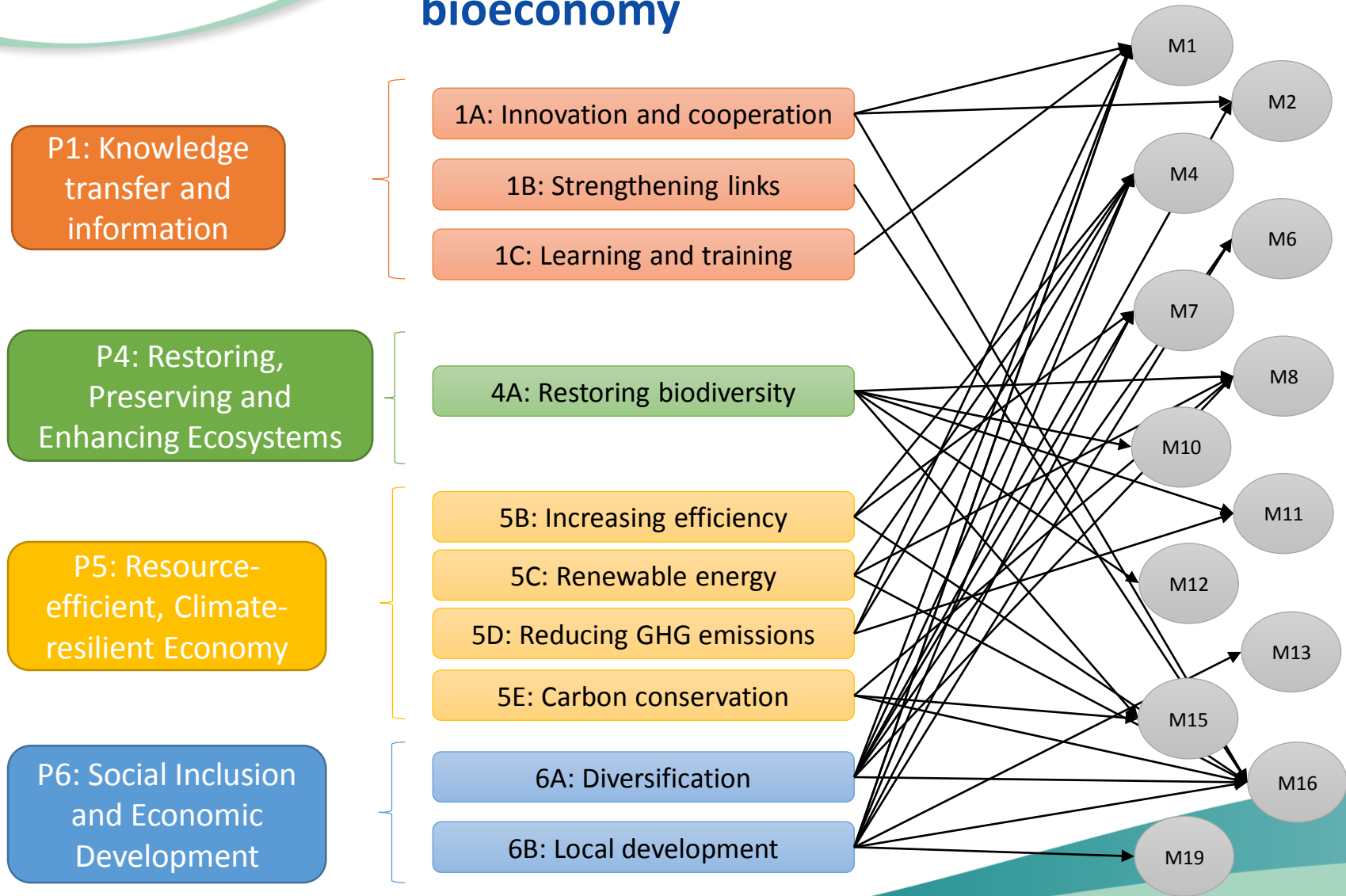
Bioeconomy value chains and rural development – the role of RDPs

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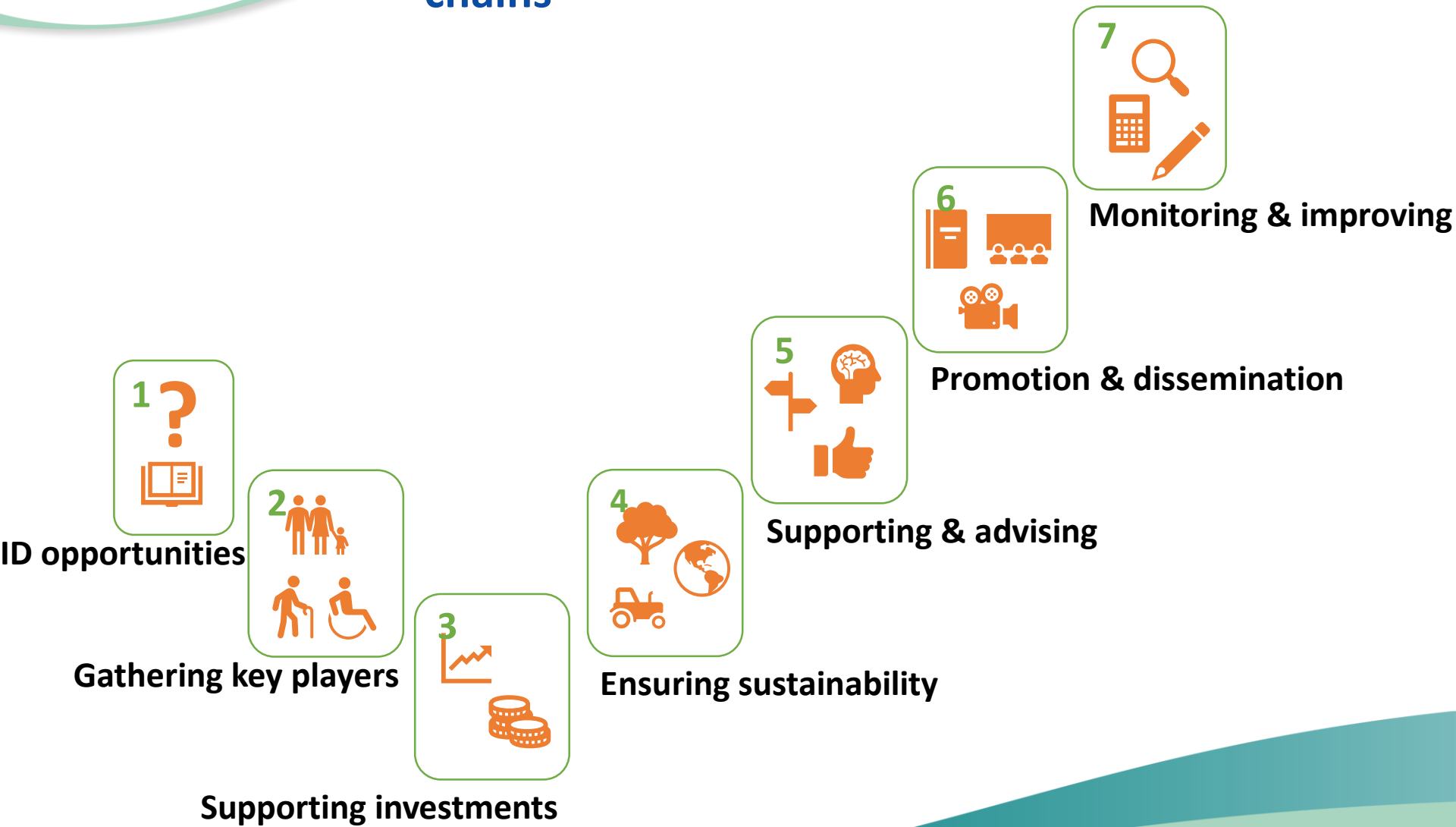
 **#Bioeconomy**

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The role of RDPs in mainstreaming a sustainable bioeconomy



Developing sustainable rural bio-economy value chains





• What are the opportunities at the territorial level?



- *Pays des Condruzes - LAG supported studies related to biogas production, including mapping the distribution of farms, capacity to produce biogas, cooperation potential, compensation, implementation, etc.*
- *Seminars for farmers and citizens, with online outreach, study trips and guidelines.*
- *LAG supported analysis estimated biogas production could cover electricity in the 7 towns*

• Potential RDP measures:

- M7 Basic services
- M16 Cooperation
- M19 Leader

Gaps:

- Identifying resource surpluses & potential for value added
- Business models beyond primary production
- Non land-based production

Gathering the key players



- Actors working together, farmers, SMEs, researchers, etc.



- *Finnish Lapland - Arctic Smart Rural Communities cluster is helping this remote area of Europe to recognise the potential of its local natural resources to supply bio-based energy, food and materials.*
- *Mission to avoid capital outflow from the area and add value.*
- *Create new innovative enterprises based on circular economy principles adding value to local natural resources for local communities*

- Potential RDP measures:

- M9 Producer groups
- M16 Cooperation

Gaps:

- Support to bio-economy innovation (beyond primary production) in a scale that is accessible for small- and medium-size rural enterprises.



- Up-front investments for infrastructure, facilitation, machinery, knowledge as a catalyst for other funding sources



- *Sastamala, Finland used M6 & LEADER support In a feasibility study to upscale a biocomposite production line, the farm and business development measures*
- *20 new jobs created.*
- *The support enabled funding visits to potential suppliers abroad to develop the bioeconomy value chains.*

- Potential RDP measures:

- M3 Quality schemes
- M4 Investments in physical assets
- M6 Farm & business development
- M7 Basic services
- M8 Investments in forests

Gaps:

- Support for existing enterprises and scale-up
- Cross sectoral support combining instruments (e.g. EAFRD, other ESIF).



Bio-economy based on natural resources to support sustainable management



- *Thuringia and Brandenburg used M323 to support pilot initiatives identifying locally appropriate ways to recover wood fuel through landscape maintenance.*
- *Focus on ecological and economical ways.*
- *Habitat management used to prevent natural succession and scrub development whilst also providing wood fuel.*

Potential RDP measures:

- M4 Investments in physical assets
- M10 Agri-environment-climate
- M11 Organic Farming
- M15 Forest-environment-climate

Gaps:

- Perception and understanding of sustainability in different contexts

Supporting and advising



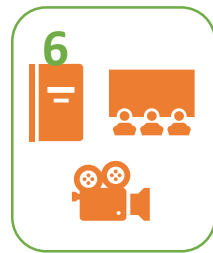
• New/novel bio-economy value chains can require better understanding

- *The 'Academy on Tour' initiative in Belgium used Leader to support all -day tour to a foreign country on a VIP- bus with appropriate facilities for work.*
- *This helped (potential) agri-food entrepreneurs to develop their business ideas into concrete plans and then implement them.*
- *In Scotland, the GrowBiz initiative (supported through M413) implement a community-led method of support, establishing a volunteer board of up to 10 people from the community and appointing a locally based Enterprise Coordinator. This prevent the need to travel to the city to get advice.*



- Potential RDP measures:
 - M1 Knowledge transfer
 - M2 Advisory services
 - M19 Leader

- Gaps:
 - Bio-economy not compulsory advice;
 - Ongoing business advice is limited



• Building and sustaining bio-economy value chains requires a market



- *‘The Leader-funded “Promoting the natural resources of western Weinviertel” aimed to raise awareness about the extraordinary wildlife in Lower Austria, Vienna and the Czech Republic.*
- *Educational activities targeted the local communities.*
- *Touristic offers were developed based on the natural resources of the area with the contribution of the local communities – establishing a service-based bioeconomy value chain.*
- *Elsewhere in Austria, M7 has been used in the “Nature Connects” campaign to raise awareness on the importance of biodiversity in rural landscapes by bringing together landowners, experts and the broader public.*

- Potential RDP measures:
 - M3 Quality schemes
 - M7 Basic services
 - M19 Leader

Gaps:

- Quality schemes don't require sustainability;
- Support only for recognised schemes

Monitoring and improving



- Meeting territorial needs, promoting and ensuring environmental sustainability requires ongoing monitoring and review.
- RDPs have limited potential but...the technical assistance measure can provide support to:
 - managing authorities;
 - the paying agencies;
 - the intermediate bodies fulfilling delegated functions;
 - and Monitoring Committees.
- The measure can also be used to reduce the administrative burden of beneficiaries and to build the capacity of MS and beneficiaries to implement EAFRD support (and other European Structural and Investment Funds).
- This may require additional data collection, baseline exercises (establishing sustainable supply levels) within a given area, and ongoing monitoring beyond that required through the current CAP.

Thank you for your attention!

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