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Session Chair	Session 3.2 Session 4.2	Global Forest Bioeconomy: Continuity or a Pathway to Transformations? (Part 1) Global Forest Bioeconomy: Continuity or a Pathway to Transformations? (Part 2)
Presentations	Session 3.2	<i>Global Forest Bioeconomy: Continuity or a Pathway to Transformations? (Part 1)</i>

Abstract Session 3.2 – Just Global Bioeconomy: Why Justice and Politics matter in the EU Bioeconomy?

This is an introduction to the double session on Global Forest Bioeconomy and an introduction to a starting Academy of Finland research fellowship project, title JUST GLOBE. The presentation draws from the assumptions and argumentations put forth in the project, which are based on policy and literature review. I first outline the origins of the European Union's Bioeconomy policy framework, highlighting the continued commitments to research and innovation, competitiveness, markets and economic growth, including the recognition of planetary boundaries and the need for circularity included in the updated EU bioeconomy strategy of 2018. I continue with a summary of the main literature trends in relation to bioeconomy, to conclude that the remaining gaps, in both policy and literature, concern the social and political aspects, including power, tradeoffs and conflicts, but also the 'Global South' perspectives and implications. In presenting some of the key theoretical ambitions of the JUST GOBE project, I especially focus on the importance of studying hegemony, discourses, global power structures and environmental justice in the context of worldwide emerging bioeconomies. Finally, I conclude with a summary of emerging empirical evidence that related to the environmental and societal costs of transitions to decarbonized economy and the conditions that drive such costs. The aim of my and similar research interventions is not to discourage bioeconomy and decarbonization processes, on the contrary the aim is to help identify pathways towards socially inclusive, fair and just bioeconomy transitions.