

FRIBOURG, THE PLACE TO GROW!

Fribourg, fertile ground for the bioeconomy

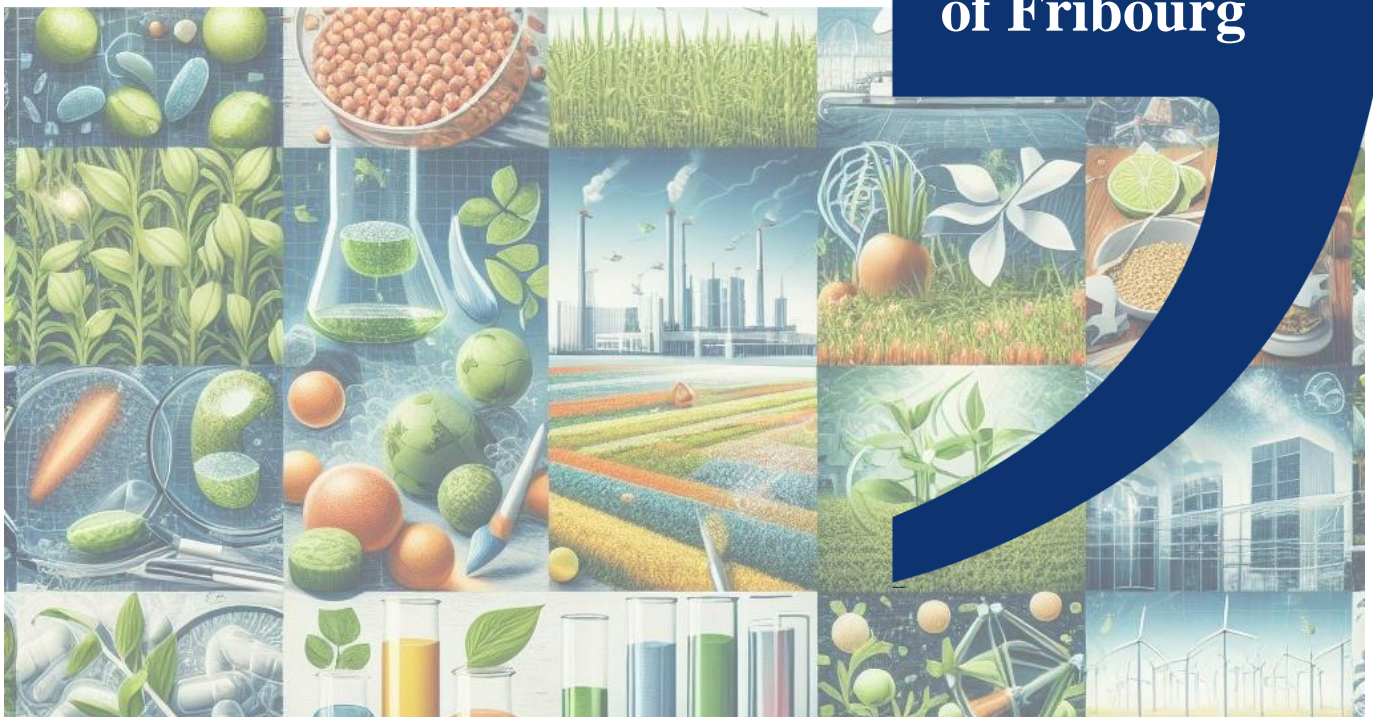


With firm roots in its soil and a steadfast gaze towards the future, the canton of Fribourg has skillfully cultivated its rural heritage and agricultural tradition. Embracing the bioeconomy – which encompasses the full spectrum of activities related to the production, transformation, and utilization of biomass for the creation of foodstuffs, molecules, and innovative materials – stands as a cornerstone in Fribourg's economic development strategy.

In addition to being home to the Cluster Food & Nutrition of the Swiss Capital Region and serving as the central hub for Agroscope, the national agricultural competence center, Fribourg is an integral part of the Swiss Food & Nutrition Valley. It also hosts the NTN Innovation Booster “Swiss Food Ecosystems,” and “Future Food Farming” with a focus on nutrition, circular economy practices, and sustainable packaging solutions. Deeply engaged in the life sciences sector, Fribourg benefits from top-tier infrastructure facilities such as the Biofactory Competence Center and the ChemTech institute.

Within this fertile ground for collaboration and innovation, where cutting-edge enterprises, research centers, and specialized institutions play pivotal roles, Fribourg emerges as the Swiss frontrunner in a bioeconomy teeming with promise, embracing technological advancements with open arms.

28%
of employment
in the canton
of Fribourg





Institut Agricole Grangeneuve

A true hub of innovation and sustainability, Grangeneuve is the canton's essential competence center serving the agricultural and environmental sectors.

The institute offers professional training in agriculture, agri-food, forestry economics, horticulture, stewardship, and dairy farming. By combining practical skills with theoretical knowledge, the Higher Schools of Agro-Commerce, Agro-Technology, Landscaping, and Agri-Food – geared towards the job market – prepare students for middle management or specialist positions.

Equipped with pilot facilities, a technology hall aims to transform agricultural resources into high-value-added food products and complements other recent investments, such as a state-of-the-art farm school, a new biogas facility, and a raw milk competence center.

Grangeneuve benefits from synergies with its neighbor Agroscope and reflects Fribourg's ambition in the agri-food sector.



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“The Fribourg agri-food ecosystem is one-of-a-kind. It provides an ideal framework for innovation throughout the value chain, from fundamental research to science-based innovation, and through to its application in the economy.”

Nadine Lacroix Oggier
Food Research & Innovation Center
University of Fribourg
www.unifr.ch/food/en/center



AgriCo

Innovation site dedicated to creating value in the fields of agriculture, nutrition, and biomass, covering the entire process from research to production.
www.agrico.swiss



Agroscope

Competence center of the Swiss Confederation for agricultural research, with most laboratory activities concentrated in the canton of Fribourg.
www.agroscope.admin.ch



Cluster Food & Nutrition

National platform aimed at enhancing collaboration among various stakeholders in the agri-food ecosystem and supporting them in their innovation efforts.
www.clusterfoodnutrition.ch



Plastics Innovation Competence Center (PICC)

Competence center combining cutting-edge science and technology with a sustainable approach for the plastics industry.
www.picc.center



Smart Living Lab

World-class research center focusing on the future of the built environment, bringing together expertise from EPFL, HEIA-FR, and UniFR, with a dedicated facility for experimentation
www.smartlivinglab.ch



Swiss Plastics Cluster

International organization aimed at promoting collaboration and innovation in the plastics industry, offering synergies, training programs, and business opportunities.
swissplastics-cluster.ch



Some references

Algaltek

As a spin-off of EPFL, Algaltek specializes in research and development of innovative food products based on algae, focusing on circular systems that integrate the recycling of industrial effluents, water and nutrients to ensure high-quality and environmentally friendly products.

algaltek.com

Bcomp

Bcomp is a leader in the development and sale of composite solutions based on natural fibers for sustainable lightweighting in high-performance applications such as motorsports or space exploration.

www.bcomp.ch

Bloom Biorenewables

Bloom Biorenewables has developed the first technology capable of selectively converting the most abundant biopolymers on Earth - cellulose and lignin found in wood waste - into high-value chemicals, offering a true alternative to petroleum.

bloombiorenewables.com

Engreen

Founded in 2020, Engreen is involved in the valorization of organic waste and the management of biogas facilities, which in turn is converted into heat and electricity.

engreen.ch

Enoki

Enoki, a startup of architects and engineers, aims to envision, build, and animate the sustainable city of tomorrow by creating synergies between the built environment, humans, and the environment.

www.enoki.ch

Groupe E

Groupe E is the Swiss energy leader, with a production portfolio including hydroelectric, solar and thermal power plants, as well as products and services covering diverse areas such as renewable energy, district heating, natural gas distribution, energy efficiency, electric installations, and mobility.

www.groupe-e.ch/fr



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“The canton of Fribourg provides tailor-made support to young companies. The focus on bioeconomy and innovation has made the Fribourg region highly attractive for launching our startup.”

Lukas Schertel
CEO & Co-founder
Seprify
seprify.com

Groupe Grisoni

Groupe Grisoni is a leading player in the construction sector, offering a variety of activities including civil engineering, buildings, roads, geothermal, deconstruction, railway works, and locally sourced timber construction.

www.groupe-grisoni.ch

Groupe JPF

The JPF Group offers innovative and high-quality constructions in various fields such as civil engineering, building, timber construction, road and railway works, gravel quarry operation, demolition, sanitation, real estate, as well as modular constructions using locally sourced wood.

www.jpf.ch

Infré

Founded in 1946, this family-owned company was the first in the world to decaffeinate tea. Its highly automated production process, constantly improving, now enables the decaffeination of over one ton of tea per hour.

www.infre.ch

Ladurée

Established in Paris in 1862 and a flagship of French pastry, Ladurée supplies the entire world with macarons from its production site in Fribourg.

www.laduree.ch

Maison Amarella

Maison Amarella specializes in the artisanal production of premium macarons, 100% natural and gluten-free, made only with high-quality ingredients, predominantly sourced locally.

www.maisonamarella.ch

Seprify

Born from a collaboration between the universities of Cambridge and Fribourg, Seprify operates in plant chemistry by transforming the most abundant organic molecule on Earth - cellulose - into an innovative natural pigment with very high potential.

seprify.com

SQTS

As a leading provider in Switzerland, Swiss Quality Testing Services offers analysis and quality control services for various industrial sectors in Switzerland, notably in the food industry, ensuring compliance with the highest standards as well as product reliability and safety.

www.sqts.ch

UCB Farchim

Owned by the Belgian biopharmaceutical group UCB, this company specializes in the production and distribution of medications in the fields of allergy, epilepsy and autoimmune diseases.

www.ucbsuisse.ch



“Fribourg offers local access to cutting-edge interdisciplinary expertise in life sciences and nanomaterials for both scientific and applied research, and warmly welcomes collaboration with companies to effectively develop pathways for valorization.”

Barbara Rothen-Rutishauser
Co-President
BioNanomaterials
Adolphe Merkle Institute
www.ami.swiss