

# The State of the European Bioeconomy Market:

## Opportunities & Obstacles



**Annika Bülow**

Marketing and Event Manager

**Ceresana**

# Ceresana

Over 10,000 customers  
in more than 70 countries

**Ceresana**  
Market Research Since 2002

## Our Expertise

Over 20 years of experience, specializing in chemical and industrial topics, and focusing on bioeconomic themes for the past 16 years

## Our Goal

Be a trusted global partner in industrial market research, driving clients' success through precise and impactful analysis

## Our References





# Bioeconomic Market Studies

## Chemicals

### Market Study: Biobased Solvents



World Report (1<sup>st</sup> edition)

Ceresana

### Market Study: Biobased Surfactants



World Report (1<sup>st</sup> edition)

Ceresana

## Plastics

### Market Study: Bioplastics



World Report (8<sup>th</sup> edition)

Ceresana

### Market Study: Polylactic Acid (PLA)



World Report (1<sup>st</sup> edition)

Ceresana

## Industry

### Market Study: Biobased Paints & Coatings



World Report (1<sup>st</sup> edition)

Ceresana

### Market Study: Biobased Adhesives



World Report (1<sup>st</sup> edition)

Ceresana

### Market Study: Biobased Insulation Material



Europe Report (1<sup>st</sup> edition)

Ceresana

## Packaging

### Market Study: Bioplastic Films



World Report (1<sup>st</sup> edition)

Ceresana

### Market Study: Biobased Packaging



World Report (1<sup>st</sup> edition)

Ceresana

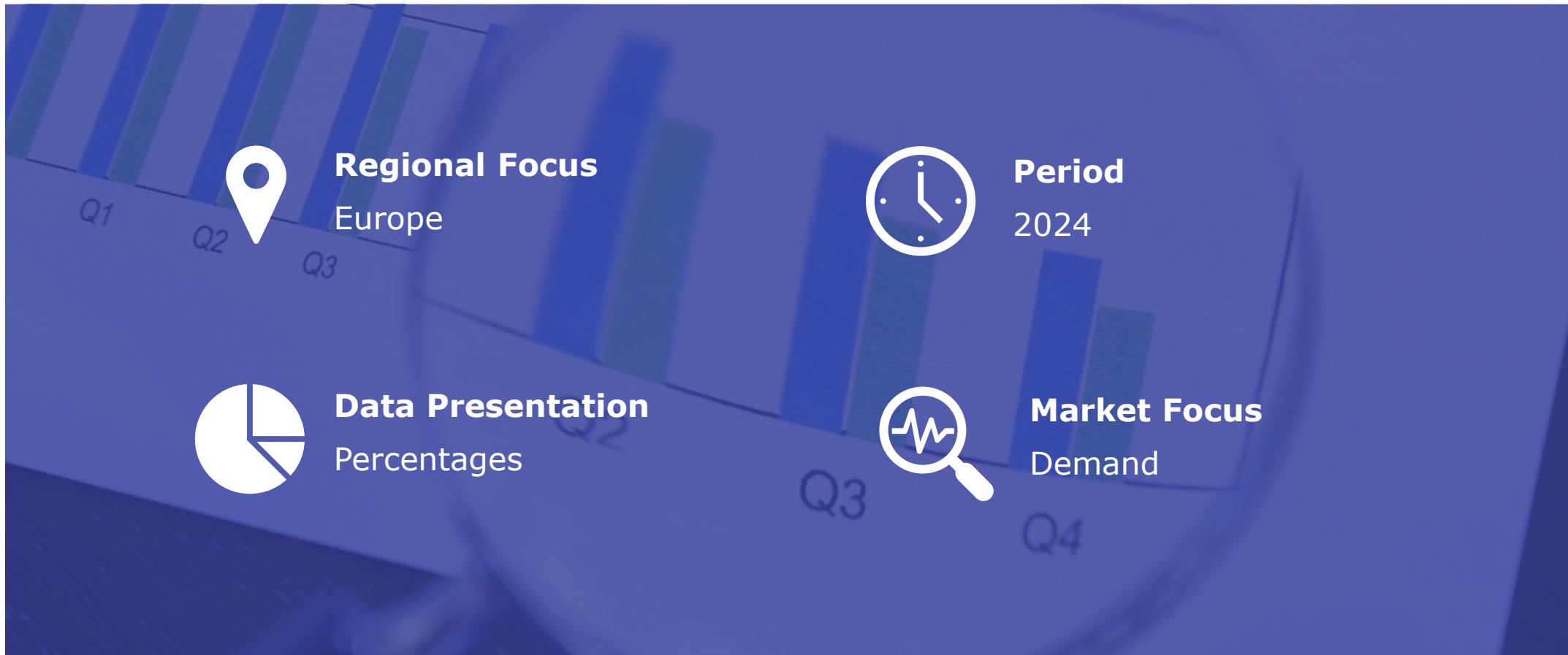
# FOCUSING ON THE VALUECHAIN

Intersections between the markets using the examples of adhesives



# Market Overview

## Industries and Regions





# Analyzing Bio-Based Market Dynamics

Three dimensions of market divergence in bio-based industries compared to the general market

A photograph of an industrial facility, likely a refinery or chemical plant, at night. The scene is illuminated by artificial lights, showing various structures, pipes, and storage tanks. The overall tone is dark blue.

**1. Industry Dynamics**

A photograph of a map with a pushpin. The pushpin is dark and is pinned to a specific location on the map. The map shows some geographical features and lines. The overall tone is dark blue.

**2. Regional Dynamics**

A close-up photograph of a clock face. The clock has a white face with black numbers and hands. The numbers 5, 10, 15, 20, 30, 40, and 50 are visible. The overall tone is dark blue.

**3. Temporal Dynamics**

# Industry Dynamics



# Solvent Market divided in Industries

## Solvent Industry

### Solvents

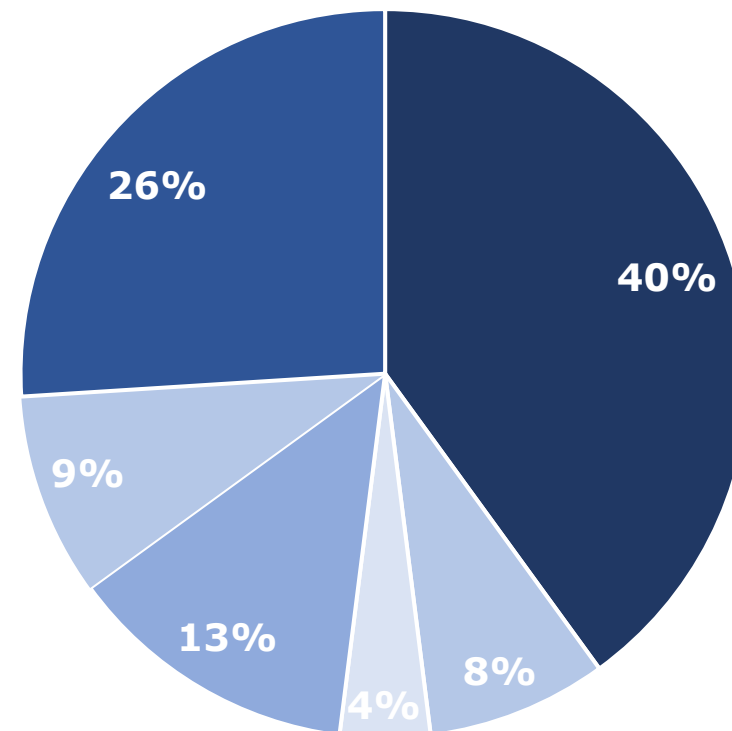
Alcohols, ketones, esters,  
ethers, aromatics,  
hydrocarbons

### Bio-based Raw Materials

Lignocellulose, starch,  
sucrose, terpenes, vegetable  
oils, animal fats

### Market Structure

Highest demand is accounted  
for by paints and coatings



- Paints & Coatings
- Printing inks
- Adhesives
- Personal care & cosmetics
- Pharmaceuticals
- Other

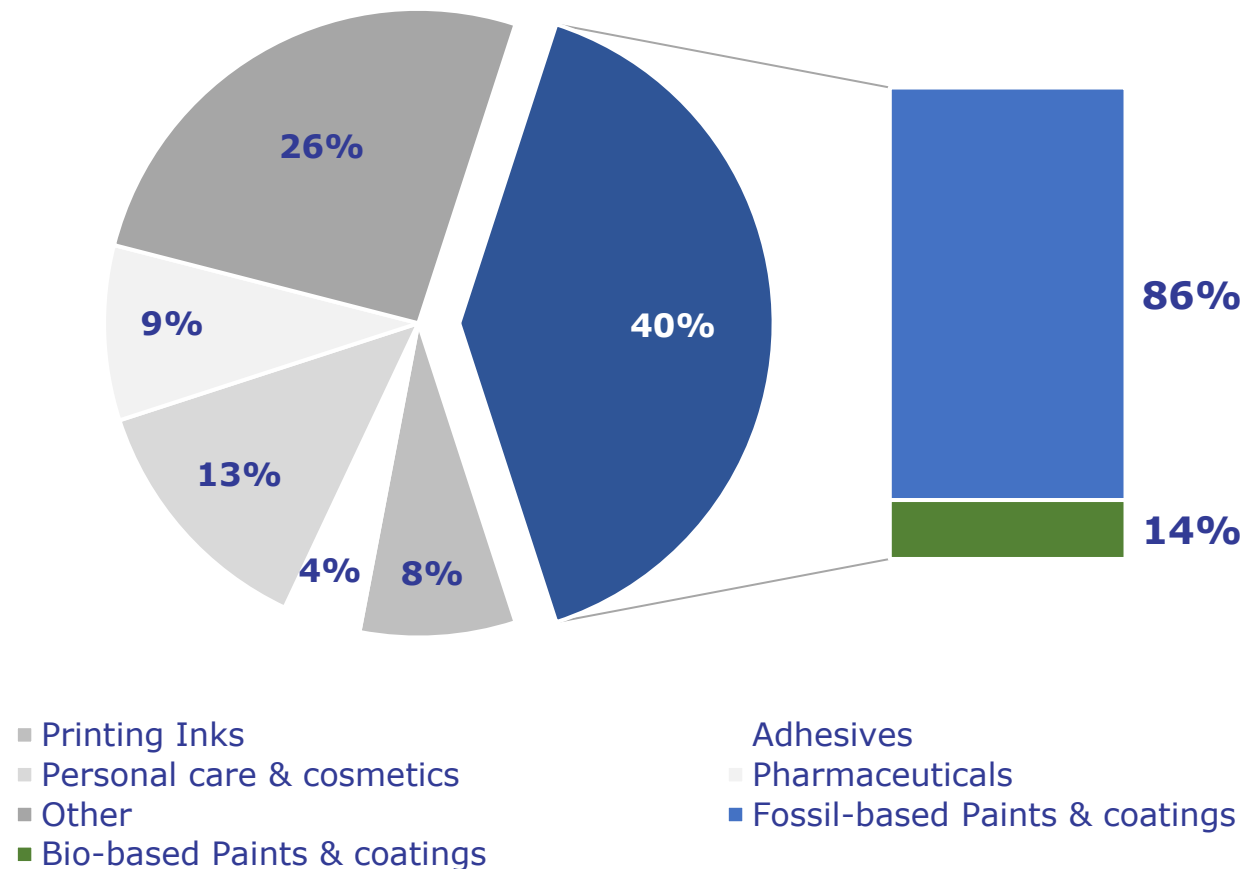
Source: Market Reports Solvents (5<sup>th</sup> Ed.) from Ceresana;  
(Market Data for 2024 in Europe)



# Bio Market Share

## Reasons for the bio-based share in the paints & coatings industry

- High reliance on aromatic solvents
- Other formulation components
- High technical performance requirements

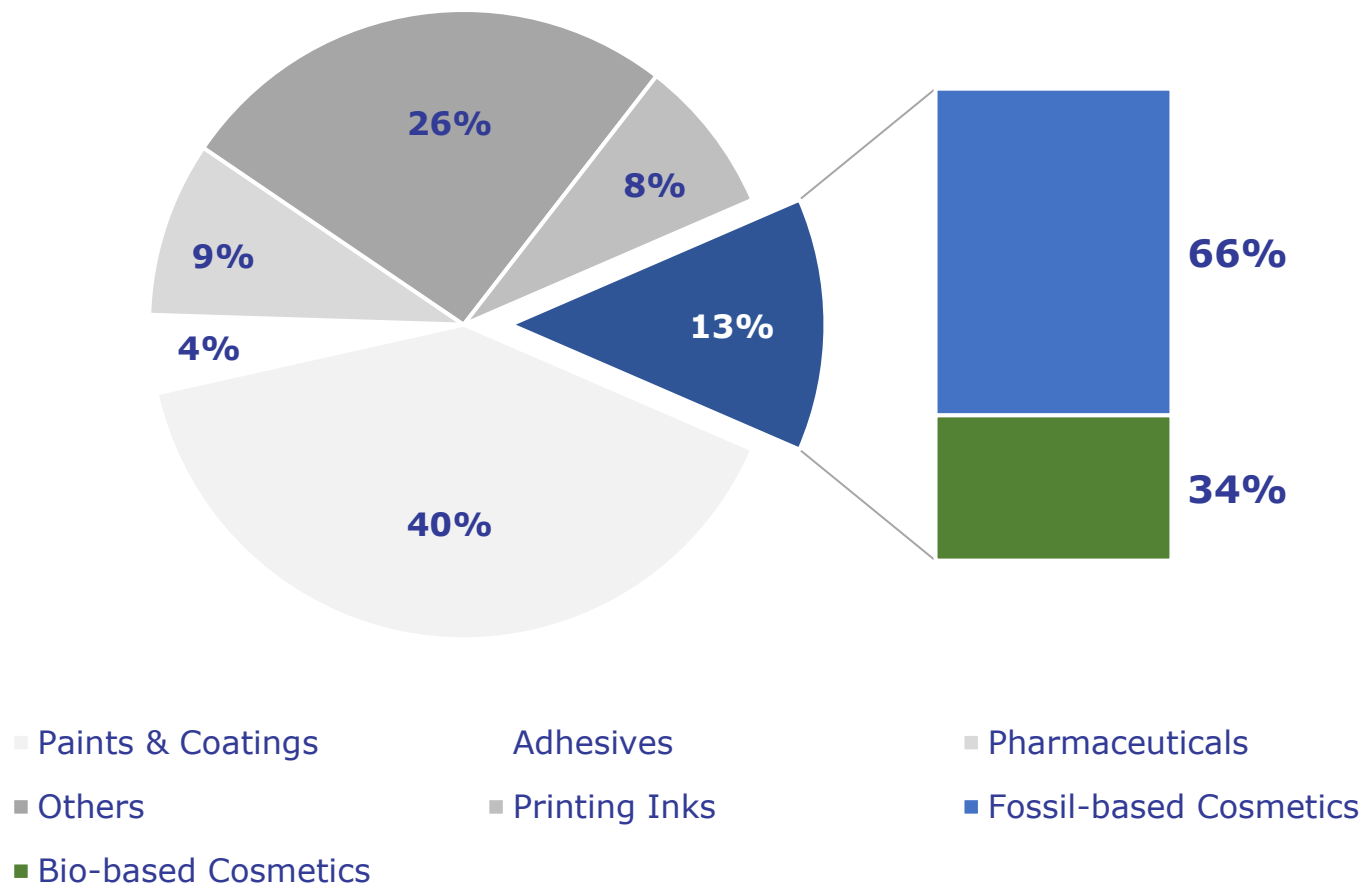


Source: Market Reports: Solvents (5<sup>th</sup> Ed.) and Biobased Solvents (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.) from Ceresana; Market Data for 2024 in Europe

# Bio Market Share

Reasons for the bio-based share in the personal care & cosmetic industry

- Widespread use of bio-based ethanol
- High solvent content in products like perfumes
- Strong consumer demand for “green” and natural products



Source: Market Reports: Solvents (5<sup>th</sup> Ed.) and Biobased Solvents (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.) from Ceresana; Market Data for 2024 in Europe

# Industry Dynamics

## Conclusion

### Challenges

- Technological barriers
- Low substitution effects with complex product structures
- High standards in technically demanding sectors

### Opportunities

- Higher adoption in consumer-oriented sectors
- Easier production of certain bio-based materials
- Demand for holistically sustainable product solutions



# Regional Dynamics



# Bio Market Share in Europe

## Surfactant Industry

### Surfactants

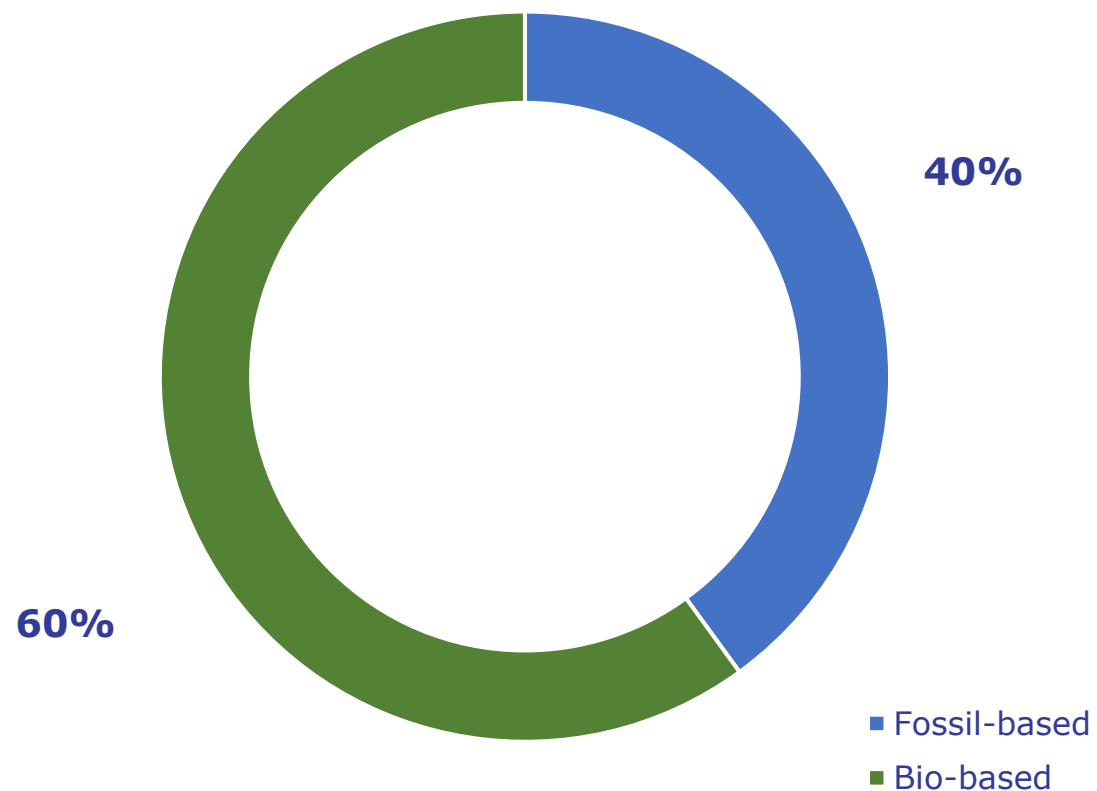
Anionic, cationic, and non-ionic

### Bio-based Raw Materials

Coconut oil, palm oil, fatty alcohols; glucose, sorbitol

### Market Structure

More the half of the surfactant demand is bio-based



Source: Market Reports: Surfactants (4<sup>th</sup> Ed.) and Bio-based Surfactants (1<sup>st</sup> Ed.) from Ceresana; Market Data for 2024 in Europe

# Surfactant Industry divided in Regions

## Reasons for regional bio-based shares

### Spain (81%)

- Preference of low-foaming cleaning products

### Poland (47%)

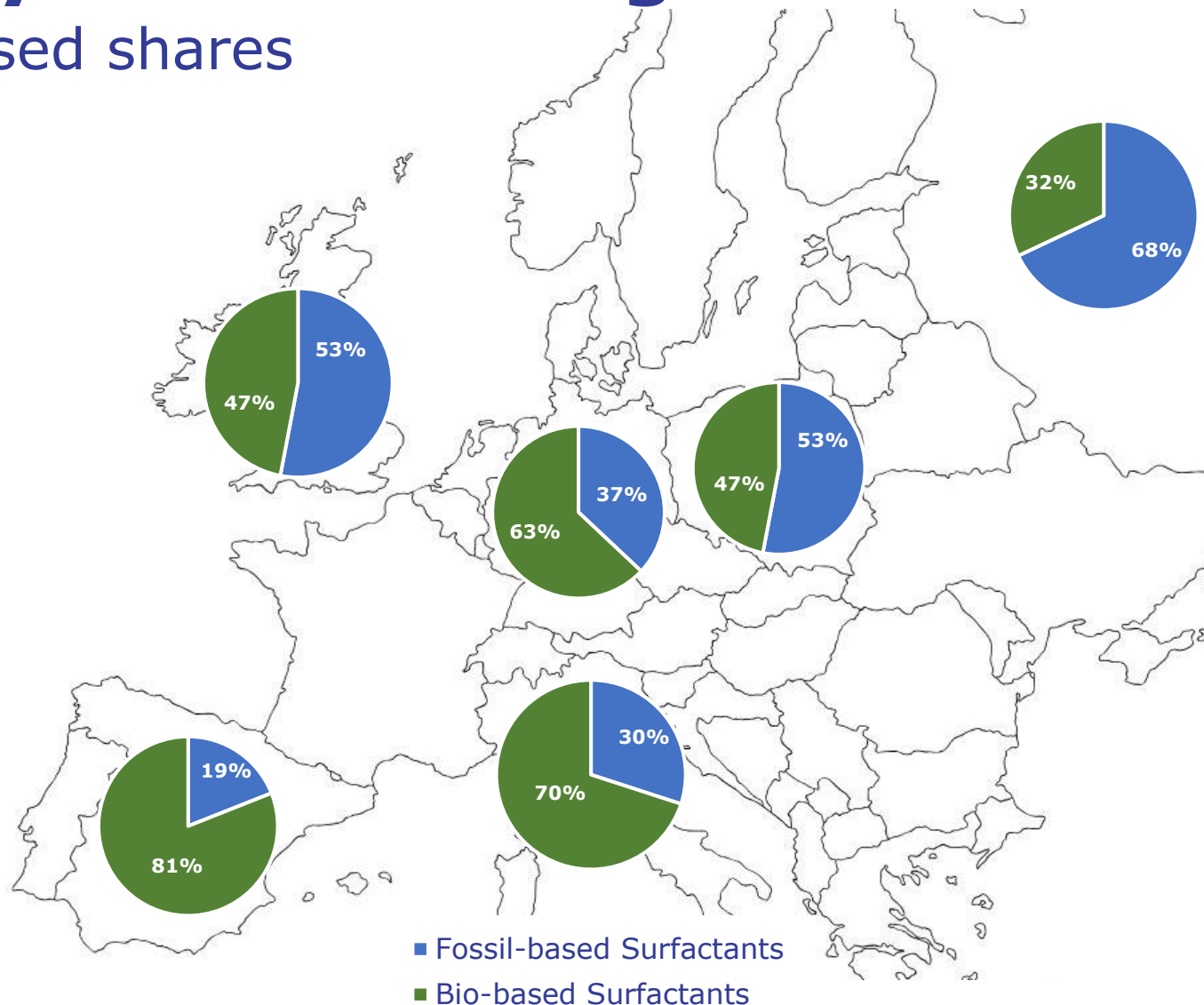
- Stronger price sensitivity and lower cost of living

### UK (47%)

- Impact of local washing habits

### Russia (32%)

- High availability of cheap fossil feedstocks





# Regional Dynamics

## Conclusion

### Challenges

- Limited access to raw materials and strong petrochemical infrastructure
- Price sensitivity in economically weaker regions
- Consumption habits shaped by cultural preferences

### Opportunities

- Strong fossil resource base
- Geopolitical risks of fossil supply chains drive interest in bio-alternatives
- Functional advantages of bio-based products such as low foaming or biodegradability

# Temporal Dynamics



# Growth Rates of bio-based products

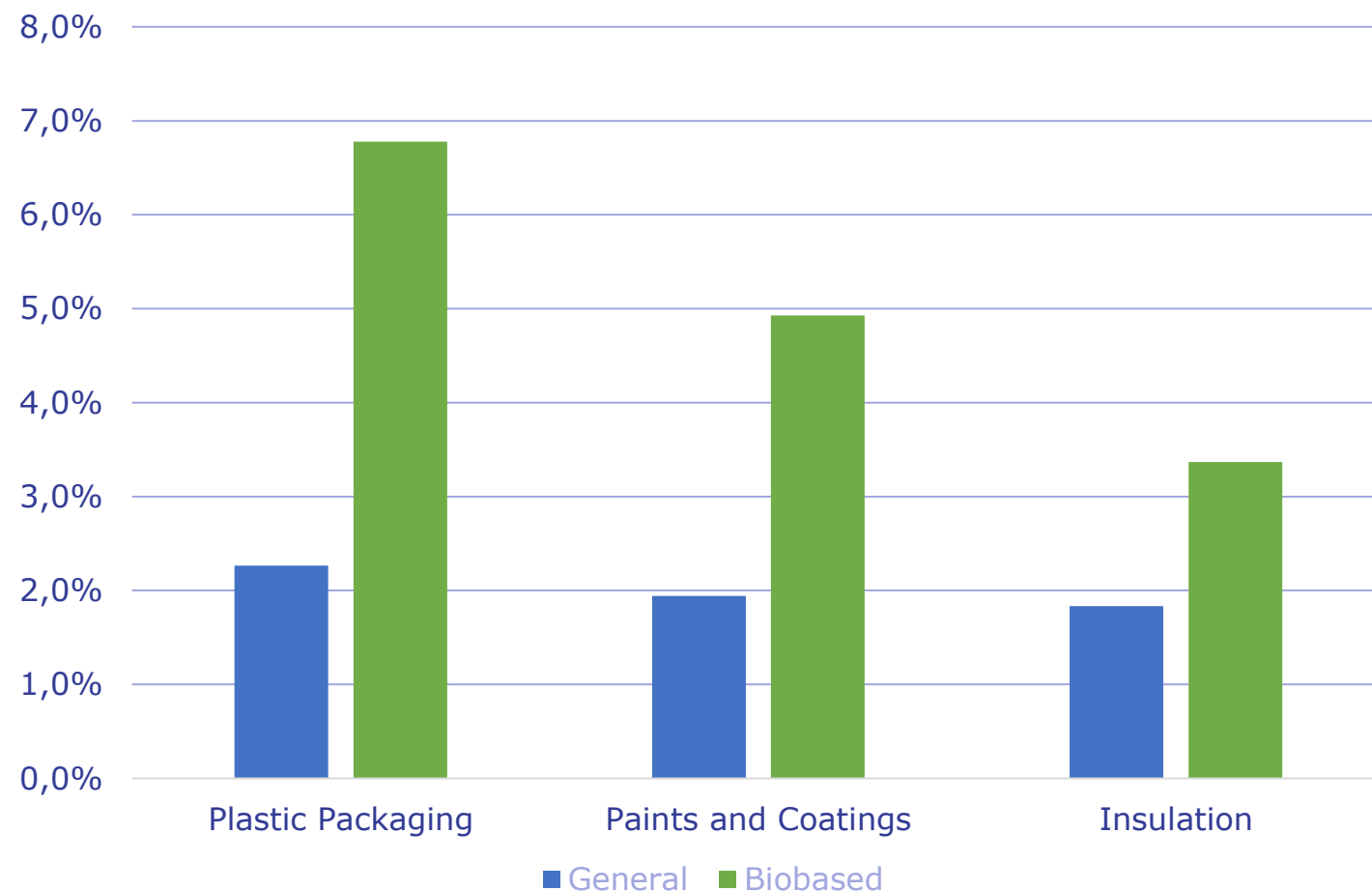
## Overview

### Bio-based Products

Plastic packaging, paints & coatings, and insulation materials

### Market Structure

All segments grow faster than the general materials market



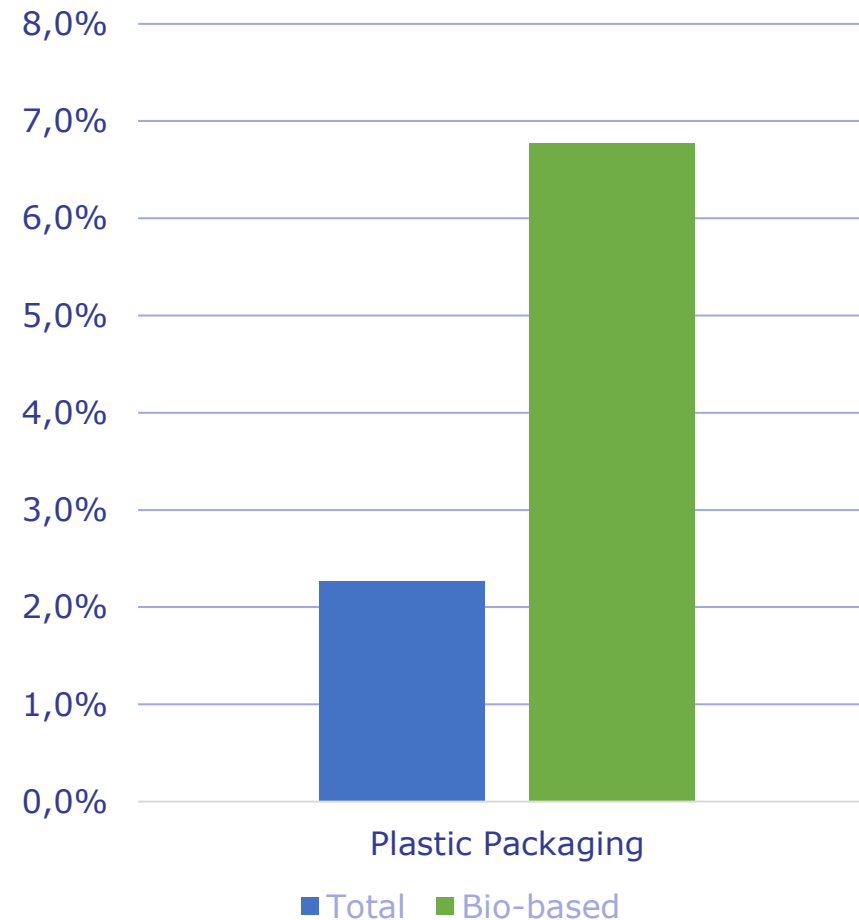
Source: Various Market Reports from Ceresana; Market Forecasts 2026–2032, CAGR of Demand in Europe)



# Growth Rate of bio-based Packaging

Reasons for growth rate difference to the general Market

- Supported by EU funding for 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> generation bioplastics
- Conventional food packaging often non-recyclable
- Rising consumer demand for sustainable packaging
- Weaker growth in industrial packaging

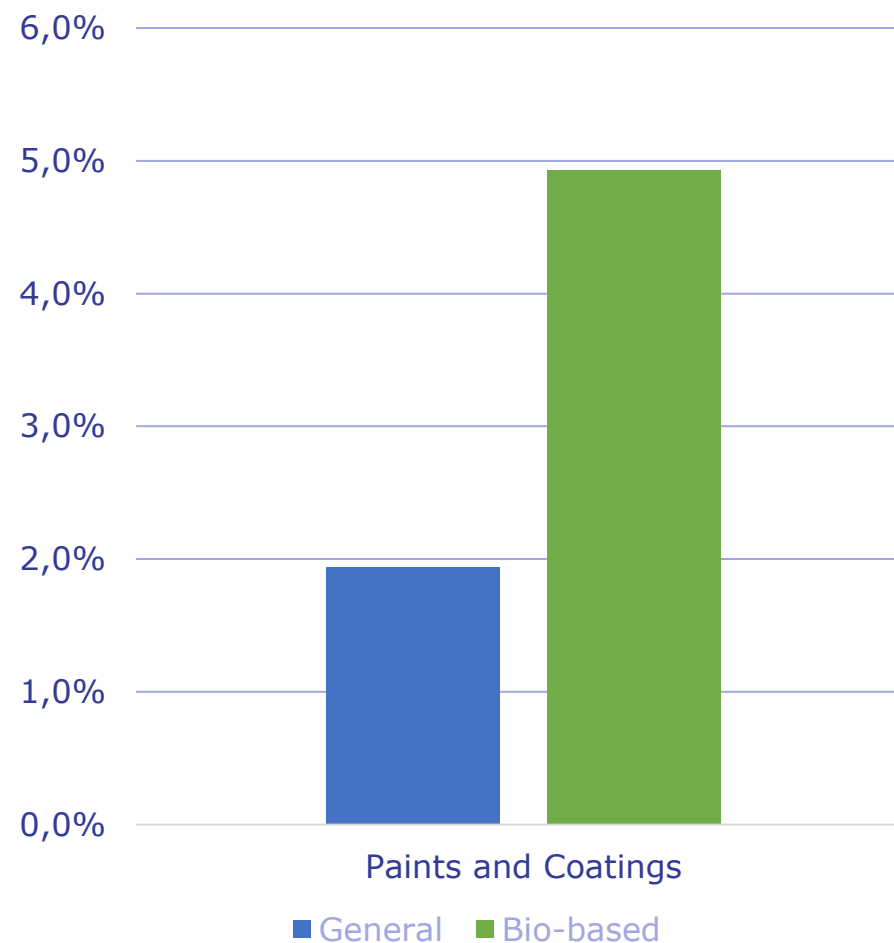


Source: Market Report: Bio-based Packaging (1<sup>st</sup> Ed.) from Ceresana; Market Forecast 2026–2032, CAGR of Demand in Europe

# Growth Rate of bio-based Paints & Coatings

Reasons for growth rate difference to the general market

- Growth mainly in the construction sector
- Functional benefits
- Challenges in technical applications
- Higher costs limit adoption in cost-sensitive sectors

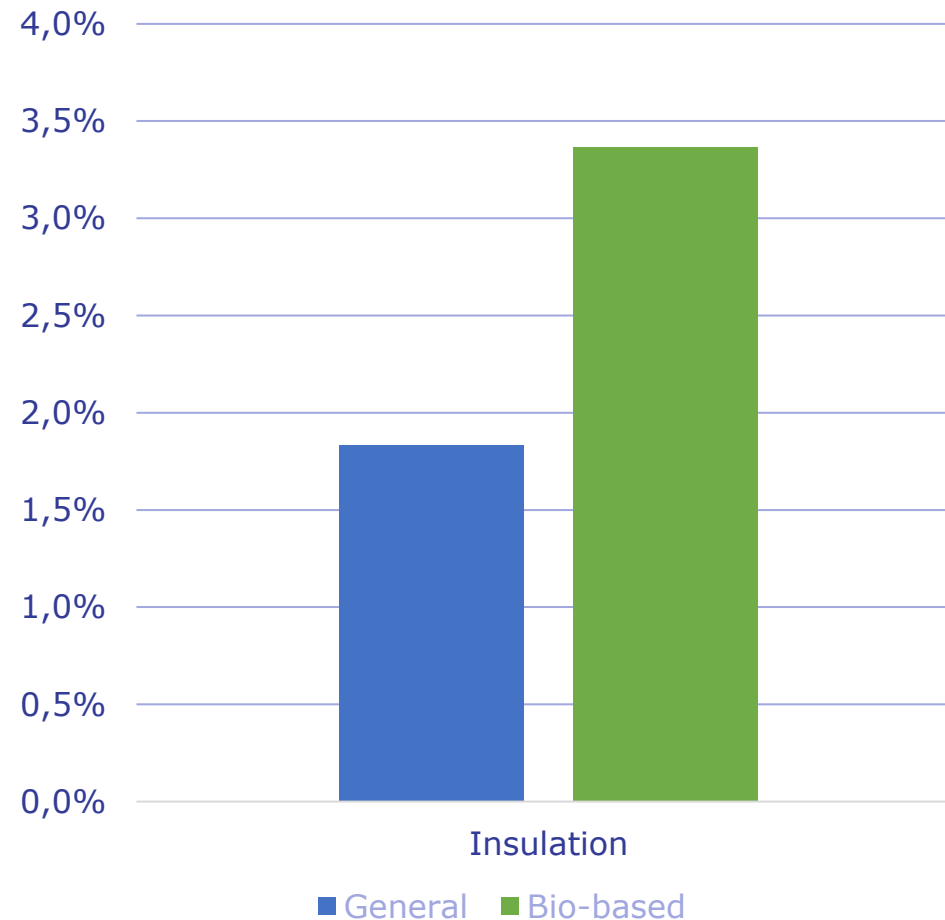


Source: Market Reports: Paints & Coatings - Europe (6<sup>th</sup> Ed.) and Bio-based Paints & Coatings (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.) from Ceresana; Market Forecast 2026–2032, CAGR of Demand in Europe

# Growth Rate of bio-based Insulation

Reasons for growth rate difference to the general market

- Use of locally available raw materials
- Incentives in energy efficiency and sustainable construction
- Strict building regulations
- Low awareness among professionals and end-users



Source: Market Reports: Insulation Materials – Europe (6<sup>th</sup> Ed.) and Bio-based Insulation Materials from Ceresana; Market Forecast 2026–2032, CAGR of Demand in Europe



# Temporal Dynamics

## Conclusion

### Challenges

- Slow pace of technological substitution
- Regulatory uncertainties and barriers
- Higher Costs
- Low visibility of bio-based options in the industry

### Opportunities

- Growth in consumer-oriented markets
- Long-term relevance due to additional ecological benefits
- Political and regulatory support
- Reducing transport costs
- Use of waste and by-products from agriculture and the food industry

# Conclusion



# Conclusion: Bio-Based Market Dynamics

Key challenges and opportunities across industrial, regional, and temporal dimensions

## 1. Industry Dynamics

### **Challenges:**

Complex products and high technical standards slow substitution.

### **Opportunities:**

Faster adoption in consumer markets; ecological benefits add product value.

## 2. Regional Dynamics

### **Challenges:**

Fossil infrastructure and price sensitivity limit uptake in some regions.

### **Opportunities:**

Regional demand and fossil risks drive interest in bio-based alternatives.

## 3. Temporal Dynamics

### **Challenges:**

Slow substitution and cost barriers in industrial settings.

### **Opportunities:**

Policy support, circular use, and consumer demand accelerate change.



# Conclusion: Bio-Based Market Dynamics

Between market barriers and strategic opportunities

**1. Industry Dynamics**

**2. Regional Dynamics**

**3. Temporal Dynamics**

**Progress emerges where barriers are addressed and potential is purposefully unlocked.**

Therefore, up-to-date and objective market knowledge is essential for well-founded decisions and a successful corporate strategy.



# Thank You for Your Attention!

**Ceresana**

[info@ceresana.com](mailto:info@ceresana.com)

[www.ceresana.com](http://www.ceresana.com)

+49 7531 94297 0

Mainaustr. 34, 78464 Konstanz

