

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|                                                                                             | Page |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| TITLE PAGE .....                                                                            | i    |
| APPROVAL OF THESIS .....                                                                    | ii   |
| THESIS EXAMINATION APPROVAL .....                                                           | iii  |
| STATEMENT OF THESIS ORIGINALITY .....                                                       | iv   |
| ABSTRACT .....                                                                              | v    |
| ABSTRAK .....                                                                               | vii  |
| FOREWORD .....                                                                              | ix   |
| TABLE OF CONTENTS .....                                                                     | x    |
| LIST OF TABLES .....                                                                        | xii  |
| CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION .....                                                                | 1    |
| 1.1 Background .....                                                                        | 1    |
| 1.2 Outline of the thesis .....                                                             | 4    |
| 1.3 Research Aim / Objective .....                                                          | 5    |
| 1.4 Primary Research Question .....                                                         | 5    |
| 1.5 Sub-Research Questions .....                                                            | 5    |
| CHAPTER II THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK .....                                                      | 6    |
| 2.1 European Sustainability and Bio-Based material Regulations .....                        | 6    |
| 2.2 Bio-Based Materials and Sustainable Production .....                                    | 8    |
| 2.3 Circular Economy and Sustainable Business Models .....                                  | 10   |
| 2.4 Sustainability Regulations and International Trade (Non-EU Exporters) .....             | 12   |
| 2.5 Adaptation Strategies for Non-EU Exporters to Comply with EU Sustainability Rules ..... | 17   |
| CHAPTER III METHODOLOGY .....                                                               | 18   |
| 3.1 Purpose of the Methodology .....                                                        | 18   |
| 3.2 Research Design .....                                                                   | 18   |
| 3.3 Research Strategy .....                                                                 | 19   |
| 3.4 Data Collection .....                                                                   | 19   |
| 3.5 Units of Analysis .....                                                                 | 20   |
| 3.6 Data Analysis Method .....                                                              | 20   |
| 3.7 Scope and Limitations .....                                                             | 21   |
| CHAPTER IV ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS .....                                                      | 23   |
| 4.1 Introduction .....                                                                      | 23   |
| 4.2 Key European Regulations Affecting Non-EU Exporters ..                                  | 24   |
| 4.3 Sector-Level Effects on Selected Export Sectors .....                                   | 26   |
| 4.4 Adaptation Strategies for Non-EU Exporters .....                                        | 36   |
| 4.5 Likely Market and Competitiveness Outcomes .....                                        | 46   |
| CHAPTER V CONCLUSION .....                                                                  | 50   |
| CHAPTER VI POLICY .....                                                                     | 53   |
| 6.1 Policy Problem .....                                                                    | 53   |
| 6.2 Target Group of the Policy Advice .....                                                 | 54   |
| 6.3 Policy Recommendations .....                                                            | 56   |

|                 |    |
|-----------------|----|
| REFERENCES..... | 59 |
|-----------------|----|