biofuture platform
Kickstarting a global, advanced bioeconomy
AN INITIATIVE OF THE CLEAN ENERGY MINISTERIAL

Clean Energy Ministerial
Biofuture Platform Initiative

1. WHAT IS THE BIOFUTURE INITIATIVE?

The CEM Biofuture Platform Initiative was launched at CEM11 to lead global actions to accelerate development, scale-up, and deployment of sustainable bio-based alternatives to fossil-based fuels, chemicals, and materials.

The Initiative, which is chaired by the U.S. Department of Energy and coordinated by the IEA, provides a forum for policy dialogue and collaboration among leading countries, organizations, academia, and the private sector.

Partners include key organizations such as the IEA Bioenergy Technology Collaboration Programme (TCP), the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP). Furthermore, it works closely with other CEM/MI initiatives including those focusing on Innovation, Biorefineries, Hydrogen and Carbon Capture.

Strategic goals of the Biofuture Platform Initiative are to:

1. Foster improved understanding of sustainable biomass availability and governance;
2. Promote policy best practices and convergence;
3. Enable supportive financing mechanisms;
4. Promote cooperation on policy, regulations, and technologies.

The Biofuture Initiative evolved from the Biofuture Platform, a 22-country* effort established in 2016 under the leadership of Brazil to accelerate the transition to a sustainable, low-carbon bioeconomy.

*Argentina • Brazil • Canada • China • Denmark • Egypt • Finland • France • Hungary • India • Indonesia • Italy • Morocco • Mozambique • Netherlands • Paraguay • Philippines • Portugal • South Africa • United Kingdom • United States • Uruguay

For further information about the CEM Biofuture Initiative and Campaign visit **biofutureplatform.org**

WHY IS AN EXPANDED BIOECONOMY IMPORTANT?

Bioenergy is the world's largest source of renewable energy today. In most energy scenarios consistent with reduced GHG emissions, bioenergy plays a significantly expanded role. For instance, in the IEA Net Zero Emissions 2050 Roadmap,* modern bioenergy use rises three-fold by 2050, meeting almost 20% of total energy needs and becoming the second largest source of energy supply. It also plays critical roles in some hard to abate sectors like aviation to reach net zero.

However, bioenergy should be considered only as a one component of a broader bioeconomy, where biobased feedstocks are used to produce high-value products that substitute for more carbon-intensive chemicals and materials, such as plastics, concrete, steel, and aluminum. In addition to reducing GHG emissions, an expanded bioeconomy provides opportunities to incentivize improved land management while helping nations achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

* https://www.iea.org/reports/net-zero-by-2050

WHAT ARE THE ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE BIOFUTURE INITIATIVE?

The Biofuture Platform is developing activities to tackle some of the key barriers to the development of a sustainable bioeconomy. Current activities include:

- **Biomass Quantification and Sustainability Governance**
  The mission of this workstream is to promote an evidence-based understanding of sustainable biomass production and use. Its desired outcomes are:
  - Ensure appropriate roles for sustainable biomass to help achieve goals for net-zero, climate-smart energy, and sustainable development;
  - Reduce sustainability risks for biomass production and utilization;
  - Recognition that biomass is the foundation for more sustainable, circular economies.

- **CEM Biofuture Campaign**
  The Biofuture Campaign enables joint work between Governments and Industry to realize the potential for sustainable bio-based fuels, chemicals, and materials to substitute for their fossil equivalents.
  The growing Campaign membership consists of companies and industry associations investing in and driving the innovation needed for an inclusive clean energy transition and a net zero, circular economy.
  The Biofuture Campaign supports the Biofuture Platform work on Biomass Quantification and Sustainability Governance and encourages the use of transparent and agreed upon carbon accounting methods to inform policies and to optimize GHG reductions from using bio-based products.

- **Policy Blueprint**
  The Policy Blueprint aims to provide countries with the methodologies, tools and practical guidance to evaluate and improve the impacts and effectiveness of their bioenergy and bioeconomy policies. The Blueprint is based on a quantitative and qualitative analysis of member countries' policy portfolios. It aims to provide guidance on the essential elements of policy portfolios, along with good practice policy examples.

  Additional workstreams are being developed, including the mobilisation of financing to facilitate large scale deployment.

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