



Biofuture Platform Initiative (BfPI)

Introduction

Aim of the Workstream

Bioenergy is the largest source of renewable energy today, providing heat and electricity, as well as transport fuels, in specific sectors including heavy freight, heavy industry, maritime and air transport where other practical options are limited. According to the IEA's Sustainable Development Scenario (SDS), further expansion of sustainable bioenergy is key to achieve emissions reductions across all end-uses and could deliver a range of co-benefits such as increased diversity and security of energy supply; improved access to modern energy services; improved local air quality; economic development; and job creation.

The Biofuture Platform (BfPI) Initiative was launched at CEM11 and aims to raise the visibility of international bioenergy activities to energy ministers in the larger context of the clean energy discussions. The BfPI Initiative will be a cornerstone of public/ private collaboration for commercial scale global bioenergy deployment as a key enabler for clean energy transition, across all sectors of the economy. It will work closely with other initiatives in this transition and also with IEA Bioenergy TCP, IRENA, GBEP etc."

How is this workstream enabling the global clean energy transformation?

The BfPI Initiative supports the global clean energy transformation through ministerial visibility, engagement of leading countries, global outreach, structured, active engagement with the private sector, especially in the context of the proposed CEM Biofuture Campaign. Since its launch, the BfPI Initiative has already started to raise the visibility of international bioenergy activities to energy ministers in the larger context of the clean energy discussions. In particular, the Initiative contributes to raising international ambition and advance sustainable commercial scale bioenergy production, trade and use globally, across all sectors of the economy, via analysis, policies, programs and projects making bioenergy a key enabler in the global clean energy transition. In concrete, the BfPI will help CEM member countries to realise their sustainable bioenergy potential, thus supporting transitions to a low-carbon energy system (and bioeconomy, more broadly) and contributing to reaching targets under the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda.

Member Participation

Lead governments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brazil, Ministry of Foreign Affairs• Canada: Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN)
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India: Ministry of Science and Technology; Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas • The Netherlands: Ministry of Economic Affairs • United Kingdom: Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) • United States of America: Department of Energy (DOE)
Operating Agent/Coordinator	International Energy Agency (IEA)
Participants	China, Denmark, Finland, France, Indonesia, South Africa
Non-CEM participating members	Argentina, Egypt, Morocco, Mozambique, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Uruguay.

Update on Activities since CEM11

Webinars

- 15/10/2020, The Biofuture Principles for Post-COVID Recovery and its national applications: This webinar featured speakers from the IEA, from selected Biofuture Platform countries – i.e. Brazil, Canada, India and France – and from the Finland-based company Neste, who shared their experiences in the design and implementation of policies and strategies aligned with the Biofuture Principles for Post-Covid Recovery and Acceleration, which were launched in August 2020 following a formal consultation process among Biofuture Platform members and partners. This event was organized as part of the on-line segment of the Biofuture Summit II, a major conference co-organized by the Biofuture Platform (see the section on 2021-2022 activities for further details); <http://www.biofutureplatform.org/post/biofuture-summit-ii-webinar-discusses-biofuture-principles-for-post-covid-recovery-with-bio>
- 30/11/2020, Mini Policy Forum on "The Single Most Important Policy Tool for Accelerating the Bioeconomy"; This event, which was part of the on-line segment of the Biofuture Summit II, was preceded by a high-level opening ceremony, with interventions from a number of key authorities, including Minister Ernesto Araújo (Brazil), Minister Bento Albuquerque (Brazil), and Dr. Fatih Birol (Executive Director, IEA). The Forum discussed strengths and weaknesses of policies such as California's LCFS, Canada's CFS, Brazil's RenovaBio, and Europe's RED II, in light of the ongoing Biofuture Platform work on the Policy Blueprint, under which a methodology has been developed to assess and improve the effectiveness of bioenergy policies; <http://www.biofutureplatform.org/post/iea-calls-for-all-countries-to-implement-biofuture-platform-post-covid-principles>.

Other activities not listed above

- 16/09/2020, Biofuture Platform Initiative Launch at CEM-11: The launch event was attended by several high-level representatives, including Minister Bento Albuquerque (Brazil) and IEA's Executive Director Dr. Fatih Birol. In addition to senior government representatives from co-lead countries (Brazil, Canada, India, the Netherlands, United Kingdom, United States) and from Indonesia, senior managers from key industry groups intervened as well, including the Executive Chairman of Praj Industries (India) and the President and CEO of Neste Corporation (Finland). Following the event, a press release was issued, triggering wide media coverage: <http://www.biofutureplatform.org/post/biofuture-launches-clean-energy-ministerial-workstream-to-accelerate-bioenergy-in-energy-transition>
- 03/12/2020, Biofuture Platform All Member Group meeting: The meeting, which was the first under the newly established CEM Initiative, brought together representatives from 14 Biofuture member countries, in addition to a number of partners and other organizations. The All-Member meeting provided the opportunity to receive member countries' approval of the 2020-2021 workplan and to reinforce their commitment to it. Furthermore, a preliminary version of the proposal for the establishment of a CEM Biofuture Campaign was discussed, with no objections raised by

the All Member Group, which gave its green light to the further development of the proposal and its subsequent submission to the CEM Secretariat.

- 17/02/2021, Biofuture Platform All Member Call with Industry: The call, which was joined by the representatives of around a dozen Biofuture Platform countries and of ten key industry groups, discussed the proposal for the establishment of a Biofuture Campaign, a first draft of which was submitted to the CEM Secretariat in early February. The Biofuture Campaign aims to strengthen the Biofuture Platform Initiative activities by providing a mechanism for sustained engagement with industry partners from across the entire bioeconomy value chain, with the aim to put in place collaborative, action- oriented programs to support the increased production and use of bio- and waste-based Fuels, Chemicals and Materials (FCMs). The participants in the call confirmed their interest in - and commitment to - the proposed Campaign, providing in-depth, constructive suggestions for its finalization and operationalization. The feedback received will be reflected in the revised proposal to be submitted a few weeks ahead of CEM-12.

Next Steps and Plans for CEM12/13

Workshops

- 24-26/05/2021, Biofuture Summit II: As a follow-up to its landmark first edition in 2017, the Biofuture Summit II will explore ways to help its member countries and the global community to converge on the best roadmap to put the sustainable low carbon bioeconomy back on track and overcome related barriers. The Summit will convene countries, entrepreneurs, and scientists around the world who are already trying policies, practices, and technologies to achieve this goal, and try to converge on what works and what doesn't, and in which context; what should be replicated, and what should be avoided. <http://www.biofutureplatform.org/event-details/biofuture-summit-ii>

Policy Recommendations or Reports

- Q4/2021, Policy Blueprint: The Blueprint will include a series of country profiles discussing and analyzing the effectiveness of domestic bioenergy policies in selected countries. General lessons learned and recommendations will be drawn and presented.
- Q4/2021, Bioeconomy Status Report: The report will be a follow-up to the first edition issued in 2018. It will provide an update on the status of bioenergy and bioeconomy deployment in Biofuture Platform countries, focusing on Covid-19 impacts and related policy and business responses.

Other activities not listed above

- 1-12/11/2021, Possible high-level side event at UNFCCC COP26: The meeting aims to raise awareness about the Biofuture Platform Initiative, its work and key messages among key high-level decision-makers.

Contact Information

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