



9th Bioenergy Week and Study Tour for Capacity Building

Asunción, Paraguay

(exact venue to be confirmed)

26-29 September 2022

Concept note and zero draft agenda

(all speakers are tbc)

1. Background

The 9th Bioenergy Week of the Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP) will be held in Asunción, Paraguay, from 26 to 29 September 2022.

GBEP has been holding the GBEP Bioenergy Weeks since 2013, with the first one held in Brazil, followed by the second in Mozambique in 2014, the third edition in Indonesia in 2015, and the fourth Bioenergy Week in Budapest in June 2016. The GBEP Working Group on Capacity Building (WGCB), under the co-leadership of ECOWAS and Argentina, have stressed the enormous added value of this first cycle of regional events in terms of capacity building and information sharing, and expressed the willingness and need to continue this activity with a second cycle of regional Bioenergy Weeks. As such, the fifth Bioenergy Week was held in the ECOWAS region, in Ghana in 2017, the sixth in Argentina in 2018, the seventh in the Philippines in 2019. In 2021, the third cycle of regional Bioenergy Weeks started with the eighth edition held in Ethiopia.

The 2022 Bioenergy Week will enhance learning from positive experiences on sustainable production and use of bioenergy looking at various value chains with a special focus on energy transition, and to support the design and implementation of bioenergy policies in the Americas. Furthermore, it will provide the opportunity to continue a dialogue with the private sector and other stakeholders on ways to improve mutual cooperation towards a more sustainable production and use of bioenergy.

2. Objectives

The 2022 Bioenergy Week is organized to foster discussion and exchange of experiences and skills that have been proven to showcase the practicality of sustainable bioenergy services and to support its accelerated implementation in the Americas. It will serve as an avenue for strengthening cooperation between member states and established institutions for increasing the provision of sustainable energy services.

Specifically, the Forum aims to:

- Demonstrate the state of global and regional bioenergy, policies and regulations;
- Present the state of the regional bioenergy situation and efforts to further enhance the share of bioenergy within the regional energy mix;
- Discuss successful, replicable bioenergy systems that provide sustainable modern energy services, with a special focus on energy transition;
- Showcase available technologies, R&D, feedstocks and financial instruments of partners and investment firms; and
- Provide a platform to the private sector in order to facilitate a viable bioenergy market in the region.

GBEP Working Group on Capacity Building (WGCB)

Study tour for capacity building and training (Activity Group 3)

Agenda for the 9th Bioenergy Week

DAY 1 26 SEPTEMBER	DAY 2 27 SEPTEMBER	DAY 3 28 SEPTEMBER	DAY 4 29 SEPTEMBER
<p>HIGH LEVEL OPENING Welcome Speeches</p> <p align="center">***</p> <p>Global, regional and national policies</p> <p>State of the art, challenges and lessons learned</p> <p align="center">***</p> <p>Promotion of Bioenergy in Paraguay</p>	<p>ROLE OF BIOFUELS IN THE ENERGY TRANSITION</p> <p>Panel I - Long-term planning and biofuel's role in the face of market oscillations</p> <p>Panel II - Biofuels, batteries or both? The future profile of sustainable low-carbon mobility in Latin America</p>	<p>BIOGAS AND BIOMETHANE Exchange of experiences and opportunities on biogas and biomethane</p> <p align="center">***</p> <p>BIOENERGY IN THE CONTEXT OF THE BROADER BIOECONOMY</p>	<p align="center">Field Visit</p>
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
<p>WOOD ENERGY AND LAND RESTORATION Exchange of experiences and opportunities on links between wood energy and land restoration. Under each session speakers will be invited to make cross cutting references to sustainability and to value chains approaches, challenges and opportunities.</p> <p>GBEP Youth Award (Call for papers for students in the Americas)</p>	<p>ROLE OF BIOFUELS IN THE ENERGY TRANSITION (continued)</p> <p>Panel III - Global market opportunities in sustainable aviation fuels and other new biofuels</p>	<p>ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION WITH POLICY MAKERS, BUSINESS SECTOR AND INTERNATIONAL BANKS/FUNDS</p> <p align="center">***</p> <p>KEY MESSAGES AND CONCLUSIONS</p>	<p align="center">Field Visit (cont'd)</p>
Welcome Reception (TBC)			

Monday, 26 September 2022

08.30 – 09.00 **Registration of participants**

09.00 – 09.45 **Opening and Welcome Remarks**

- *Luis Alberto Castiglioni*, Minister of Industry and Trade, Paraguay
- *Santiago Moisés Bertoni*, Minister of Agriculture, Paraguay
- *Jorge Meza*, FAO Representative in Paraguay
- *Amb. Jose Antonio Marcondes de Carvalho*, Embassy of Brazil in Paraguay, Co-Chair of the Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP)

09.45 – 10.45 **Global, regional and national policies**

Moderator: Guillermo Lopez Flores (TBC)

- IEA global vision on bioenergy to accelerate deployment
Paolo Frankl, International Energy Agency (IEA)
- Bioenergy's role in the World Energy Transition Outlook (WETO)
Ricardo Gorini, International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)
- Bioenergy regulatory frameworks in Latin America and the Caribbean
Ruben Contreras, CEPAL
- Overview of the bioenergy regulatory framework in Paraguay
Francisco Ruiz Diaz, Vice Minister of Industry and Trade, Paraguay
Carlos Zaldivar, Vice Minister of Mines and Energy, Paraguay

10.45 – 11.15 **Coffee break**

11.45 – 12.45 **Promotion of Bioenergy in Paraguay**

Moderator: Guillermo Lopez Flores, Paraguay

- Bioenergy development in Paraguay
José Kim, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Paraguay
Gustavo Casal, Ministry of Mines and Energy, Paraguay
- Rapid implementation of the GBEP sustainability indicators on soy based biodiesel in Paraguay - Results
Amado Insfran, Héctor Corvalán and Stefania Spitale, CEAMSO
- Q&A

12.45 – 14.00 **Lunch**

14.00 – 16.00

Wood energy and land restoration

Moderator: Cristina Goralewski, President INFONA, Paraguay

This session will look at the potential for positive linkages between wood energy and land restoration. There will be a focus on understanding how wood energy value chains can be developed and managed in order to restore not only forests but also other landscapes, especially through the use of sustainable forest management, integrated biomass production systems, the exploitation of bioenergy by-products, and improvements in bioenergy efficiency.

- Potential contribution of bioenergy, as part of the broader bioeconomy, to the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration
Annette Cowie, University of New England, Australia
- Short rotation woody crops and their contribution to land restoration
Ronald Zalensy, USDA Forest Service
- *Representative from Guatemala, CEPAL*
- Alternatives to the overexploitation of woody biomass: case studies on pellets from agricultural residues
Christian Rakos, Chairman, World Bioenergy Association
- Integration of forest biomass procurement as a silvicultural tool for forest restoration in Quebec, Canada
Prof. Evelyne Thiffault, Natural Resource Canada, Canada
- The GCF PROEZA project in Paraguay
Adilio Celle Infrán, Vice Minister of General Economic and Social Coordination, Paraguay
- Indigenous sustainable forest management and biochar in LAC
Representative Forest Trends and COICA/AMPB, TBC
- *Q&A session*

16.00 – 16.20

Coffee break

16:20 – 17:00

GBEP Youth Award

Moderator: GBEP Secretariat

- UNICEF engagement on youth and environment
Mr. Rafael Obregón, Representative of UNICEF in Paraguay

Delivery of the award certificate to the winner of the 2022 GBEP Youth Award in recognition of the most remarkable and outstanding research work in the field of bioenergy carried out by students in the Americas.

- Presentation of the awarded research
Winner of GBEP Youth Award

17.30 – 21.00 **Reception (TBC)**

Tuesday, 27 September 2022

09.00 – 09.30 **Role of biofuels in the energy transition**

Moderator: Representative TBD

- Introductory remarks
Government representatives from MERCOSUR countries (AR, BR, PY, UY)
Miguel Yudis, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Paraguay

09.30 – 11.00 ***Panel I - Role of biofuels in the energy transition - Long-term planning and biofuel's role in the face of market oscillations in Latin America***

Keynote speeches (15' each)

- *Plinio Nastari, President DATAGRO, Brazil*
- *Agustín Torroba, IICA*
- *Estefania Laterza, Vice Minister of the Investment and Export Network (REDIEX), Paraguay and Massimiliano Corsi, President BIOCAP, Paraguay*

Panel discussion (5'each and 40'debate)

- Representatives from MERCOSUR countries (AR, BR, PY, UY) and Panama CEPAL
- Moderated debate

11.00 – 11.30 **Coffee break**

11.30 – 13.00 ***Panel II - Role of biofuels in the energy transition - Biofuels, batteries or both? The future profile of sustainable low-carbon mobility in Latin America***

Keynote speeches (15' each)

- *Pablo Di Si, Executive Chairman, Volkswagen Latin America*
- *Representative of Uruguay*

Panel discussion (5'each and 40'debate)

- Representatives from MERCOSUR countries (AR, BR, PY, UY) - 5'
- Moderated debate (40')

13.00 – 14.30 **Lunch**

14.30 – 16.00 **Panel III - Role of biofuels in the energy transition - Global market opportunities in sustainable aviation fuels and other new biofuels**

Keynote speeches (15' each)

- *Representative of the Omega Green Project, Paraguay*
- *Pietro Mendes, Deputy-Secretary of Oil, Gas and Biofuels, Ministry of Mines and Energy, Brazil*

Panel discussion (5'each and 40'debate)

- *Representatives from MERCOSUR countries (AR, BR, PY, UY) and Colombia, CEPAL - 5'*
- *Moderated debate (40')*

Wednesday, 28 September 2022

09.00 – 10.30 **Exchange of experiences and opportunities on biogas and biomethane**

Moderator: Shaun Patrick McGahan, University of San Lorenzo, Paraguay

This session will enable exchange of experiences on biogas and biomethane both within the region and beyond.

- *Overview of Biogas and biomethane including perspectives for hydrogen in the sugar ethanol sector in Brazil
Alessandro Gardemann, ABIOGAS, Brazil and Suani Coelho, University of Sao Paulo (USP), Brazil*
- *Enabling communities in the Philippines – Biogas production from rice straw
Mirjam Röder, Aston University, UK and Craig Jamieson, Straw Innovations Ltd.*
- *Anaerobic digestion in rural communities: sugarcane bagasse, cheese whey and pig manure as case studies
Liliana Castro, Universidad de Santander, Colombia*
- *The experience of Paraguay
José Bogarin, Director ITAIPU Paraguay*
- *Representative from Uruguay, CEPAL*
- *Biogas done right
Argentina tbc*
- *Q&A session*

10.30 – 11.00 **Coffee break**

11.00 – 12.30	Bioenergy in the context of the broader bioeconomy <i>Moderator: Agustín Torroba, IICA</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Situation and perspectives of the bioeconomy in Latin America and the Caribbean, <i>Hugo Chavarría, IICA (10' each)</i> • The role of biofuels in the framework of the national bioeconomy strategy, <i>Jeans Mesa, Fedepalma, Colombia</i> • The role of biofuels in the framework of the national bioeconomy strategy, <i>Representative from Uruguay</i> • Biofuels as drivers of economic, social and environmental development of rural territories - challenges and opportunities, <i>Representative of the private sector of Argentina or Brazil</i> • The role of biofuels in the framework of the national bioeconomy strategy, <i>Pedro Mancuello, Vice Minister of industry and Trade, Paraguay</i> • The role of the GBEP sustainability indicators as a contribution to bioeconomy, <i>Maria Michela Morese, GBEP Executive Secretary</i> • <i>Q&A session (40')</i>
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch
14.00 – 15.30	Roundtable discussion: Challenges and opportunities for the development of bioenergy <i>Moderator: Gerard Ostheimer, co-Manager of the Biofuture Campaign</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No silver bullet: the need for building coalition within the renewable energy sector <i>Mackenzie Boubin, U.S. Grains Council, USA</i> • Biofuel blending programme in Central American region <i>Aida Lorenzo, Renewable Fuel Association, Guatemala</i> • Diversification for a Sustainable Sugarcane Industry <i>Flavio Castellari, APLA, Brazil</i> • Advanced biofuels industrial deployment: key factors <i>Dario Giordano, Versalis</i> • The experience of Clariant <i>Paolo Corvo, Clariant</i> • Financing Development of Bioenergy <i>Representative from Inter American Development Bank</i> • Representative from Paraguay <i>Enzo Olmedo, INPASA, Paraguay</i>
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee break

- 16.00 – 16.30 **Roundtable: Challenges and opportunities for the development of bioenergy (cont'd)**
- *Q&A session*
- 16.30 – 17.00 **Conclusions and closing remarks**
- *Representative/s from Paraguay*
 - *Minister of Ministry of Agriculture, Paraguay*
 - *Minister of Ministry of Industry, Paraguay*
 - *Vice minister of Mines and Energy*
 - *Maria Michela Morese, GBEP Executive Secretary*

Thursday, 29 September 2022

- 08.00 – 16.00 Field visit**
- Biofuel plant IMPASA in Guayaibi (2-hour distance from Asunción)