



IEA Bioenergy
Technology Collaboration Programme

Task 39: Biofuels to decarbonize transport



Assessment of demonstration plants and commercialisation progress

IEA Bioenergy Task 39 - Biofuels to Decarbonize Transport

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Online, 12.11.2024, Webinar Scaling up advanced biofuels production

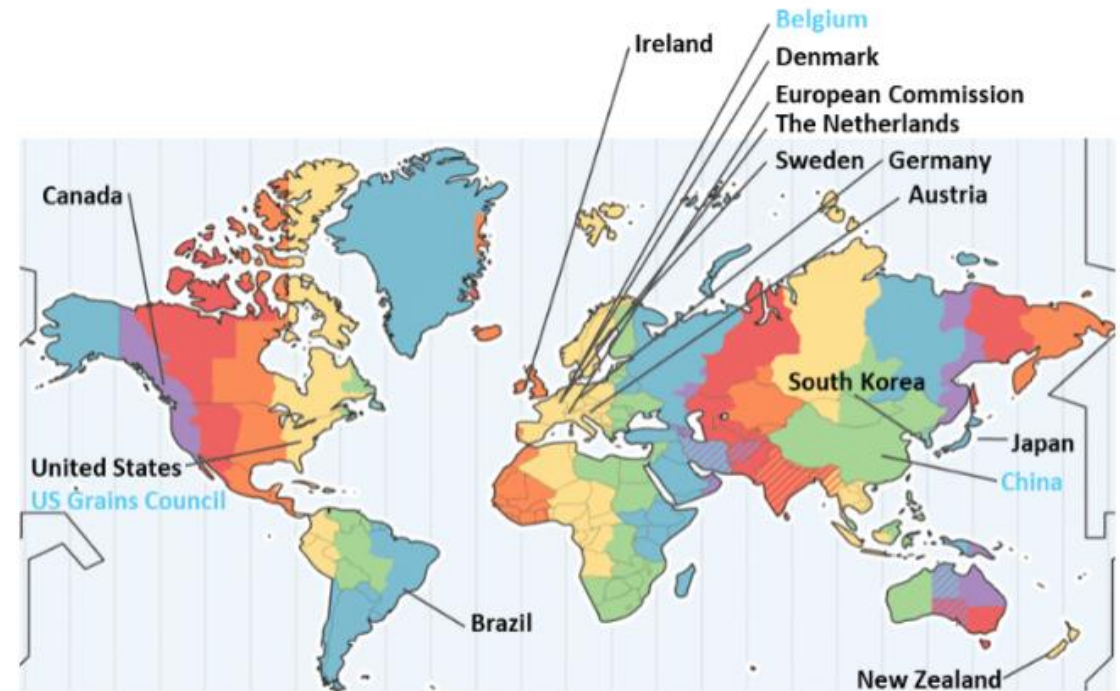
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IEA Bioenergy Task 39 - Biofuels to decarbonise transport

16 participants/member countries

Analyses policy, technology, markets and sustainable biofuel implementation

SAF/biojet	Drop-in fuels	Implementation Agendas
Marine fuels	Demonstration Facilities	Certification
Biofuel policies	Sustainability	Commercialisation on progress
Synergies with green hydrogen	Emerging countries	Cooperations



IEA Bioenergy Task 39 - Reports

<https://task39.ieabioenergy.com/publications-new/>

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Progress in Commercialization of Biojet / Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF):
Technologies and policies

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January 2024

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Update on drop-in biofuel and co-processing commercialization

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June 2024

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Biofuels in Emerging Markets
Potential for sustainable production and consumption

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February 2023

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Biofuels in Emerging Markets of Africa and Asia
An overview of costs and greenhouse gas savings

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July 2024

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Implementation Agendas:
Compare-and-Contrast Transport Biofuels Policies
(2021-2023 Update)

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The BC-SMART Low Carbon Fuels Consortium

BC Bioenergy Network
PARTNERS FOR A GREENER FUTURE

September 2023

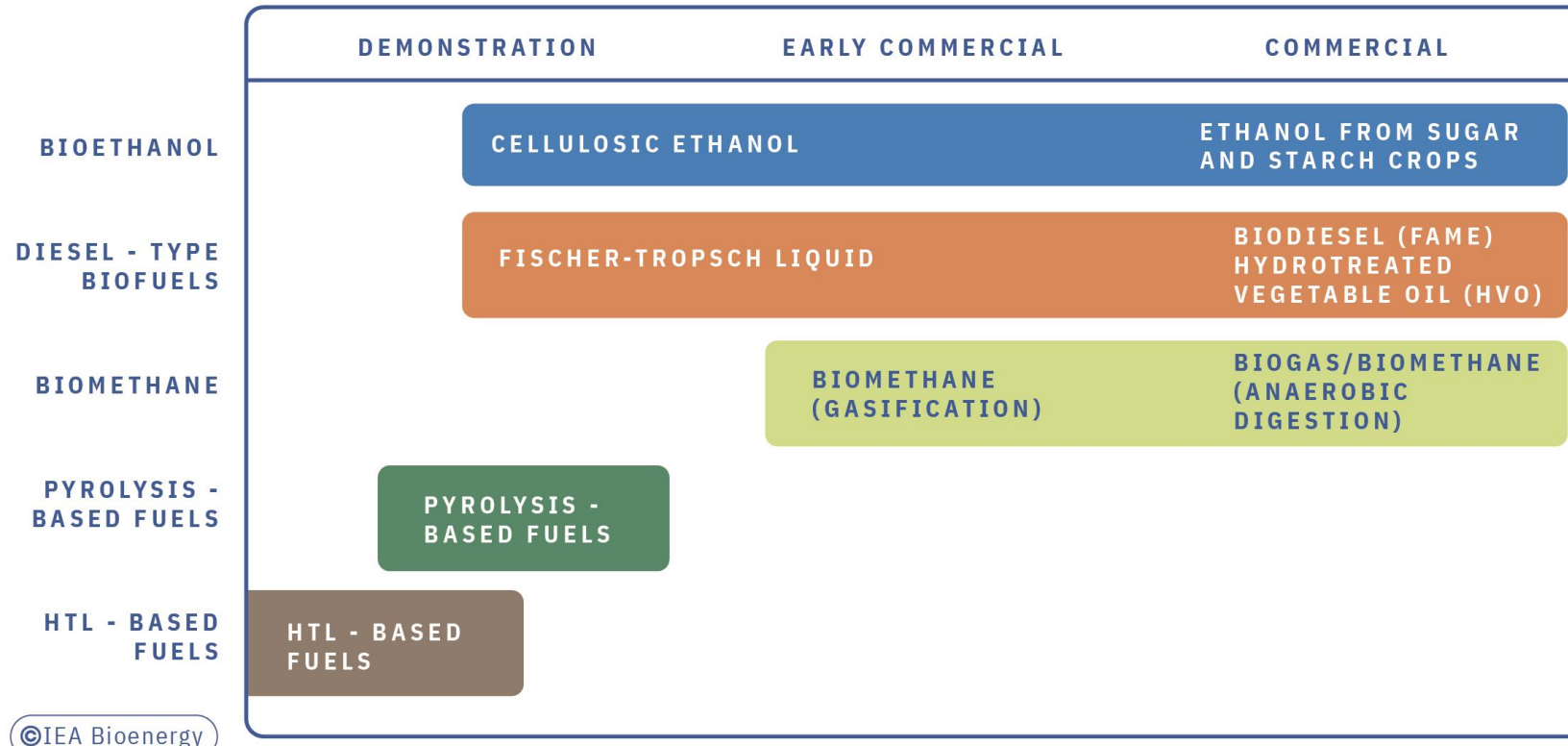
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Technology pathways and TRLs

residues



crops



IEA Bioenergy, Bioenergy Review 2023, <https://www.ieabioenergyreview.org/transport-biofuels/>

Advanced Biofuels Demoplants Database

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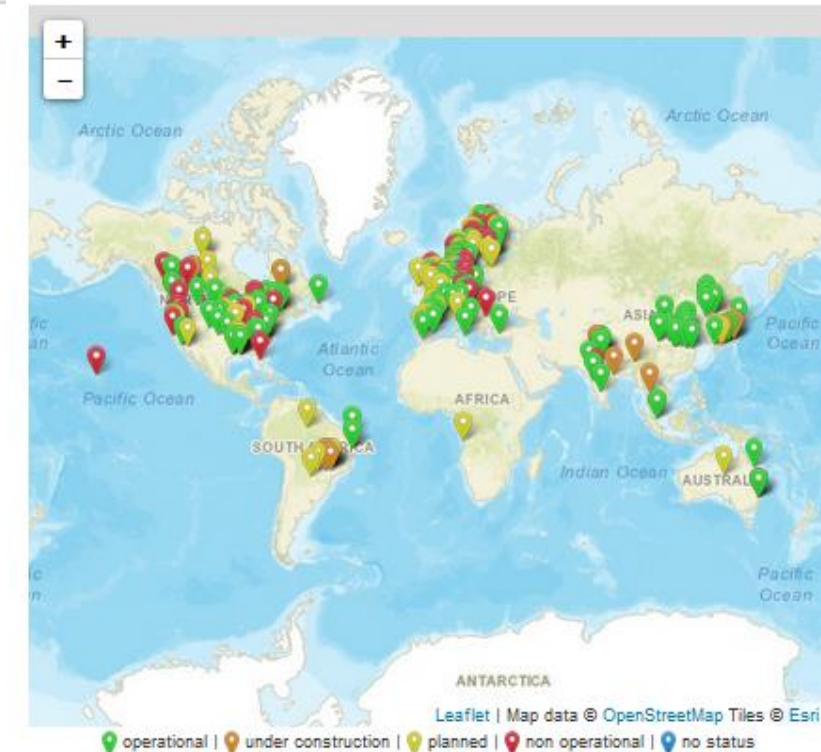
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Database on facilities for the production of advanced liquid and gaseous biofuels for transport


Filter Projects

- | Type | Technology | Status | Raw Material | Output | |
|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> TRL 1-3 Research | <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol-to-jet | <input type="checkbox"/> no status | <input type="checkbox"/> agricultural residues | <input type="checkbox"/> bio-oil | <input type="checkbox"/> heat |
| <input type="checkbox"/> TRL 4-5 Pilot | <input type="checkbox"/> E-Fuels Biomass Hybrids | <input type="checkbox"/> planned | <input type="checkbox"/> biomass / biomass coal blends | <input type="checkbox"/> biogas | <input type="checkbox"/> hydrogen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> TRL 6-7 Demonstration | <input type="checkbox"/> Fast Pyrolysis | <input type="checkbox"/> under construction | <input type="checkbox"/> forest residues | <input type="checkbox"/> butanol | <input type="checkbox"/> isobutene |
| <input type="checkbox"/> TRL 8 First-of-a-kind commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> Fermentation | <input type="checkbox"/> operational | <input type="checkbox"/> lignocellulosics | <input type="checkbox"/> clean syngas | <input type="checkbox"/> methanol |
| <input type="checkbox"/> TRL 9 Commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> Gasification | <input type="checkbox"/> non operational | <input type="checkbox"/> oilcrops, oils and fats | <input type="checkbox"/> diesel-type hydrocarbons | <input type="checkbox"/> other |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrothermal Liquefaction | <input type="checkbox"/> cancelled | <input type="checkbox"/> organic residues and waste streams | <input type="checkbox"/> diesel with biogenic content | <input type="checkbox"/> pyrolysis oil |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrotreatment | <input type="checkbox"/> idle | <input type="checkbox"/> other | <input type="checkbox"/> DME | <input type="checkbox"/> renewable diesel (HVO) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Lignin Depolymerisation | <input type="checkbox"/> on hold | <input type="checkbox"/> sugar and starch crops | <input type="checkbox"/> ethanol | <input type="checkbox"/> SNG |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Technology | | <input type="checkbox"/> unknown | <input type="checkbox"/> FT liquids | <input type="checkbox"/> sustainable aviation fuels SAF |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> waste gases | <input type="checkbox"/> gasoline-type fuels | |

Map



<https://demoplants.best-research.eu/>

This database has been elaborated and is maintained by  BEST
Bioenergy and Sustainable Technologies

Examples of demonstration facilities thermochemical technology routes

Pyrocell plant in Sweden

BTG-BTL pyrolysis technology

Production capacity:
25,000 t pyrolysis oil

Co-processing in existing refinery



BEST - Syngas Platform Vienna

Biomass gasification and FT-Synthesis

1 MW demonstration facility in Austria



Assessment of demonstration plants and commercialisation progress - recent development

- **Main technologies:** Fermentation, gasification, hydrotreatment and fast pyrolysis
- **Rising number of (planned) facilities**, many announcements also for sustainable aviation fuels
- **Diversification and combination of technologies** (including E-Fuels, Hybrid Systems, Co-processing, Retro-fitting oil refineries...)
- **Utilization of waste streams** and waste streams from non-biologic origin for advanced fuels production
- Increasing development in **emerging countries and Asia**
- **Commercialisation takes time** - slow progress for some technologies
- **BUT many set-backs in commercialisation process** (cancelled projects, announcements)

Sustainable Aviation Fuels production

Many plants with (planned) SAF capacity and many announcements

SAF is one of the possible products, SAF fraction can be increased

Technologies: **Hydrotreatment, Co-Processing, Alcohol-to-Jet, Power to Liquid, Gasification**

World Energy, Neste, Eni, Cepsa, TotalEnergies, BP, ...



Importance of demonstration and scale up

- **Validates feasibility and efficiency:** Demonstrating biofuel technology in real-world settings confirms its effectiveness beyond laboratory conditions and provides crucial performance data.
- **Variety of feedstock:** Demonstration of different technologies is important - to use different feedstocks and waste streams
- **Reduces production costs:** Scaling up allows for cost reductions through economies of scale,
- **Reach commercialisation is critical:** Commercialisation takes time (from announcement to operation) - BUT risk of scaling up too fast
- **Challenges for demonstration and scale up**

Implementation barriers / opportunities

- High production costs of fuel
- **Financial risks** of demonstration and First-of-its-kind facility
- Uncertainty of regulatory framework and **policies**
- Availability and sustainability of **Feedstock**
- **Policy focus** on other options



- Based on broad variety of biomass feedstocks - **diversification of energy supply**
- Biomass production provides **regional income**
- Applicable in current vehicles now - offer **immediate GHG emission reductions**
- **High energy density** - alternative solution for sectors that are **hard-to-electrify**
- Passenger cars → trucks, ships, planes



Take home messages

Drive commercialization forward - need of:

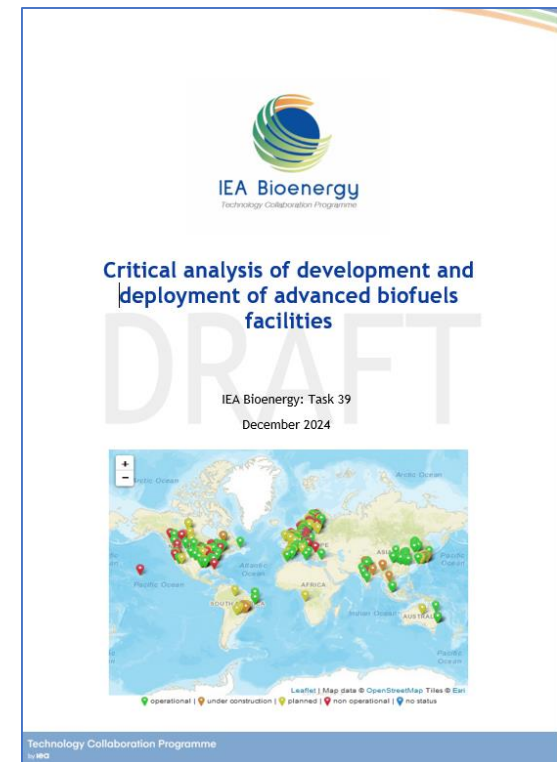
- Demonstration and scale-up of different technologies
- Reduction of costs and financial risks
- Long-term policies and comprehensive strategy

Positive development in emerging countries

Promising opportunity: long-distance transport

Variety of different technologies and new demonstration facilities

More information available in 2025 publication of IEA Bioenergy Task 39:



Thank you for your attention!



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<https://demoplants.best-research.eu>

<https://task39.ieabioenergy.com/>



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