

Bioenergy News

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Sustainable Biomass Availability and Mobilisation

IEA Bioenergy Workshop – Virtual, 17 June 2026

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How can sustainable biomass resources be mobilised at the scale required to support global net zero ambitions? This question was at the centre of the IEA Bioenergy workshop Sustainable Biomass Availability and Mobilisation, which was held online on 17 June 2026 and which was attended by around 540 participants.

The workshop brought together experts from the International Energy Agency (IEA), FAO's Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP), and the IEA Bioenergy network to explore future biomass availability, mobilisation strategies and the research priorities needed to support an expanding bioeconomy.

A key message from the workshop was that biomass remains an essential component of global decarbonisation pathways. According to the IEA's 2025 World Energy Outlook, modern bioenergy deployment could grow from around 40 EJ today to approximately 75 EJ by 2050. Importantly, biomass is expected to contribute across multiple sectors, including industry, transport, buildings and the production of bio-based materials.

Participants highlighted that the challenge is

increasingly shifting from simply estimating biomass potential to understanding how sustainable biomass can be effectively mobilised. While global assessments suggest substantial biomass resources exist, regional variations in availability, environmental impacts, logistics and market structures will strongly influence future deployment pathways.

The workshop reinforced that sustainability considerations must extend beyond greenhouse gas emissions and renewable energy targets. Future biomass systems will need to simultaneously support food and feed production, maintain biodiversity, protect soil health, strengthen rural communities and contribute to broader environmental objectives.

Several discussions focused on the importance of adopting a systems perspective. Participants noted that future assessments should better account for fossil-constrained scenarios, regional supply chain dynamics and the interactions between biomass, energy, materials and carbon management systems. There was strong support for complementing global modelling approaches with bottom-up regional analyses to better

understand practical mobilisation opportunities and constraints.

A recurring theme was the need to broaden the narrative from "bioenergy" to "biogenic carbon". Sustainable biomass provides a renewable carbon resource that can support the production of fuels, chemicals, materials and energy while enabling long-term carbon storage and circular economy outcomes. Improving carbon efficiency across these interconnected systems was identified as an important future research priority.

The workshop concluded that sustainable biomass resources can make a significant contribution to global climate and energy goals, but realising this potential will require continued innovation in resource mobilisation, supply chain design, sustainability assessment and policy development. These insights will help inform future activities across the IEA Bioenergy network as it advances research supporting the transition to a sustainable, circular and low-carbon bioeconomy.

All workshop materials (including presentations and video recordings) are available [here](#).



IEA Bioenergy
Technology Collaboration Programme

Accelerating to Net Zero

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From the Secretariat



Andrea Rossi
ExCo Secretary

In line with the recommendations to reduce the carbon footprint of IEA Bioenergy, the ExCo97 meeting was held virtually. The meeting consisted of three sessions, which took place on 26th, 27th and 29th May 2026, with Mark Brown as Chair, Birger Kerckow and Anna Malmström as Vice-chairs and Andrea Rossi as Secretary.

Changes to Executive Committee

There have been some changes in ExCo membership since the ExCo96 meeting, namely:

- Australia: New Alternate Member – Ben Leita.
- Denmark: New Alternate Member – Preben Birr-Pedersen.
- The Netherlands: New Alternate Member – Sofie Boom.
- Switzerland: New Member – Vanessa Burg.

Progress with Current Initiatives

In recent months, significant progress has been made in the implementation of the four Strategic projects that were established in 2025, namely:

- **BioCARBON: Biogenic Carbon for a Climate-Positive Future (BECCUS 3.0)**, which explores the understanding of the role of the various bioenergy concepts of different size, feedstock base and products for Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) and Carbon Capture and Utilization (CCU).
- **Bioeconomy Synergies across Energy, Materials and Food (BioSyn)**, which aims to enable an effective assessment and communication of the diverse economic, environmental, social, and organizational benefits of informed bioenergy decisions.
- **Expanding the Resource Base for Energy and Products**, which aims to increase knowledge about resources that can be used for bioenergy production or material recovery, focusing on the use of underutilized, low value residual streams in processes such as combustion, pyrolysis, and gasification.
- **Socio-economic Assessment of Bioenergy Value Chains**, which aims to assess socio-economic implications of bioenergy systems consistently within value chains (from feedstock production to end-use) as well as consistently across several value chains.

Furthermore, work has started under three additional Strategic projects that were approved at ExCo96 (November 2025). One of these projects aims to generate concise and effective dissemination materials on the climate impact of biogenic and fossil carbon; a second one deals with hybrid bioenergy systems and specifically anaerobic digestion integrated with gasification for circular energy; and a third project addresses compact decentralized energy systems.

Communication Strategy

The Communications Team has continued with regular online meetings to oversee communications' activities and review progress with ETA Florence. Three IEA Bioenergy webinars have been held since ExCo96 (November 2025) and these can be viewed along with all previous webinars [here](#). On the social media front, LinkedIn is being prioritized as the primary social media platform, with a steady month-on-month follower growth. In addition, IEA Bioenergy has recently opened a Blue Sky account. Regarding the website, traffic has seen a notable increase compared to 2025. In order to create a more modern, intuitive, and visually compelling platform that reflects the latest web standards while enhancing user experience and accessibility, IEA Bioenergy is launching an open Call for Tender for the redesign and maintenance of its [website](#).

Finally, to raise awareness about its work, IEA Bioenergy has recently produced a six-minute documentary (including a 60-second promotional trailer) and eleven brief task-specific videos, which are currently being released on the YouTube channel of IEA Bioenergy ([link](#)).

Collaboration with IEA and other Technology Collaboration Programmes

Collaboration with the International Energy Agency (IEA) and other IEA Technology Collaboration Programmes (TCPs) has continued.

To enhance knowledge sharing and cooperation on cross-cutting issues among TCPs, a number of TCP Coordination Groups have been established in recent years. IEA Bioenergy has been involved in five of these Groups, namely:

- TCP Coordination Group on Transport.
- TCP Coordination Group on Thermal Networks.
- TCP Coordination Group on Hydrogen.
- TCP Coordination Group on Energy System Flexibility.
- TCP Coordination Group on Carbon Management.

On 8-9 June 2026, the Secretary and one of the Vice-chairs attended the TCP Universal Meeting at the IEA Headquarters in Paris. The meeting, which brought representatives from most of the 38 Technology Collaboration Programmes that are currently active under the IEA, provided an excellent opportunity to share information and good practices among the TCPs, and to discuss further collaboration opportunities, building upon the successful experience with the aforementioned Coordination Groups.

In the past few months, the Technical Coordinator has presented IEA Bioenergy's work at the ExCo meetings of the Alternative Motor Fuels (AMF) and Advanced Materials for Transportation (AMT) TCPs. In addition, he has coordinated IEA Bioenergy's inputs to an IEA report on 'Renewables in District Heating Networks'.

The IEA Bioenergy TCP also continues to work closely with FAO, the Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP), UNIDO, the Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM) Biofuture Platform Initiative and the Mission Innovation (MI) Integrated Biorefineries to implement collaborative activities in the field of bioenergy and the broader bioeconomy.

Membership fee reductions for developing and small countries

As decided at ExCo97 (May 2026), new member countries meeting specific criteria in terms of total GDP and GDP per capita can apply for a package of membership fee reductions – including full waivers – during their first six years (two triennia) of participation.

Additional information regarding the membership process and the related fees are available [here](#).

Task Focus:

Indigenous-led Circular Bioeconomies: Key Lessons for Nature-Positive Development

Task 43¹ (Biomass Supply in a Nature Positive Circular Economy)

Two landmark reports on Indigenous-led circular bioeconomies have recently been published through IEA Bioenergy Task 43. This work seeks to improve understanding of the social and socio-economic impacts of nature-positive biomass supply within circular economies, including its contribution to local and regional value chains, economic development, and social acceptance.

The reports summarize workshops conducted with Indigenous Knowledge Keepers in Australia and Canada between May 2025 and January 2026. In Australia, workshops were led by the First Nations-led consultancy Gandan Yarnings (Tolita Davis-Angeles and Tim McBride), while the Canadian workshops were moderated by Dean Assinewe (Registered Professional Forester, Sagamok Anishnawbek). Together, the workshops explored how Indigenous communities understand and practice circular bioeconomies and the impacts these approaches have on community wellbeing, economic development, and environmental stewardship.

A key finding emerging from both countries is that Indigenous Peoples have been practicing

community connections are equally important indicators of success. This challenges conventional approaches to measuring bioeconomy outcomes and highlights the need for more holistic assessment frameworks.

Another strong theme was the critical role of intergenerational knowledge exchange. Knowledge Keepers described how traditional knowledge guides the responsible use, reuse, and regeneration of biological resources. Activities such as harvesting, land management, forestry, food production, medicine gathering, and cultural practices provide opportunities for Elders and Knowledge Keepers to share knowledge with younger generations while simultaneously supporting local livelihoods and community resilience.

Participants also demonstrated how Indigenous-led circular bioeconomies maximize benefits from biological resources through multiple, interconnected uses. Biomass may simultaneously support food systems, medicine, building materials, energy production, cultural practices, education, and ecosystem restoration.

Instead of focusing on a single end product, Indigenous approaches often look to balance environmental, social, cultural, and economic benefits across the entire system.

Environmental stewardship emerged as another unifying message. Across both Australia and Canada, participants emphasized that sustainable resource management is founded on respect, reciprocity, and long-term responsibility to future generations. Circular bioeconomies were therefore viewed not only as pathways for economic development, but also as mechanisms for maintaining healthy ecosystems, restoring landscapes, and strengthening community relationships with Country and traditional territories.

The workshops highlighted the importance of Indigenous leadership and self-determination in bioeconomy development. Participants highlighted that successful initiatives are embedded in local governance systems, cultural values, and community priorities. Indigenous-led planning, decision-making, and ownership were identified as essential for ensuring that economic opportunities generate lasting benefits for communities.

For further details, see the following reports:

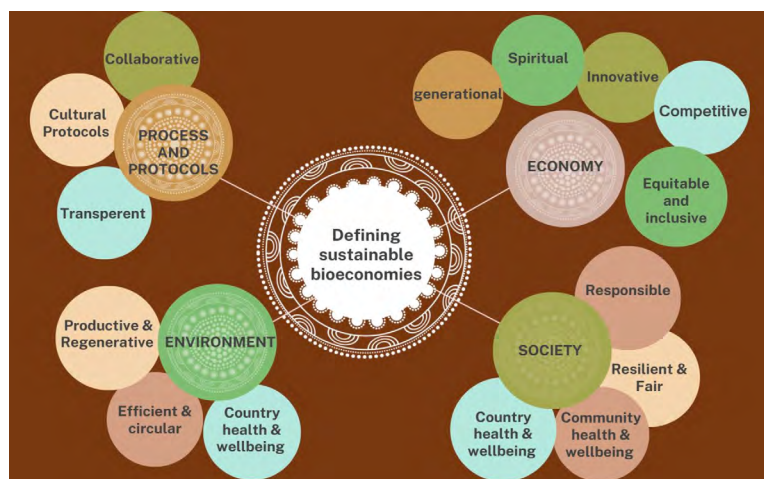
- Indigenous-led Circular Bioeconomies: Social and Economic Impacts and Social Perceptions [Australia] – [link](#).
- Circular Bioeconomy [Canada] – [link](#).
- Comparative Summary: Canadian & Australian Indigenous-Led Circular Bioeconomy Reports – [link](#).



Field trip to “Bush Uni” a First Nations education site on Country, Bunya Mountains, Queensland (Australia).

circular bioeconomies for millennia. Rather than being viewed as a new economic concept, circularity was described as a long-standing way of life grounded in reciprocal relationships between people, land, water, plants, animals, and future generations. Participants emphasized that economic activity cannot be separated from cultural responsibilities, stewardship obligations, and community wellbeing.

The workshops highlighted that Indigenous-led circular bioeconomies create value in ways that extend far beyond conventional economic measures. While employment, income generation, and business development remain important outcomes, participants stressed that cultural continuity, knowledge transmission, environmental health, and strengthened



¹Prepared by Heather MacDonald, with contributions from Tolita Davis-Angeles, Timothy McBride, Dean Assinewe and Isabell Souliere.

Notice board

Task 32 – Biomass Combustion

Low-emission residential stoves and boilers

Residential biomass combustion remains influencing the ambient air quality in some regions despite having reached a very mature level performance-wise. Task 32 presents a strong focus on topics that are relevant to mitigate harmful emissions from this sector.

- **Impact assessment:** The task is to conduct a survey where national experts are asked to point out which measures identified in our inventory they would deem most efficient.
- **Market surveillance:** The task is in collaboration with experts reporting how marketed appliances match the operational performance found in the type testing.
- **Technology development:** The task will continuously keep an eye on significant development trends in the member countries.
- **User behaviour/user training:** Ignorant use of combustion units is a significant source of harmful emissions. Task 32 will gather and disseminate experiences with user education and combustion operational licences that may increase the awareness of using the units according to the instructions to safeguard the low emission level.

Task 32 will digest findings into a policy recommendation.

Hybrid bioenergy heating systems

Task 32 focuses on how biomass combustion plants can be operated in combination with other renewables and additional technologies to increase flexibility and reduce the load on limited high quality biomass residues and thus making them available for other purposes. The task contributes to the Strategic Project on 'Decentral bioenergy systems' and describes options and cases where hybrid systems have been implemented successfully.

Industrial heat with flexible biomass solutions

Task 32 contributes to the Strategic project on 'Expanding the Resource Base for Energy and Products', and it contributes with a paper on agile bioenergy solutions for industrial flexibility. The paper is currently being drafted and provides a decision matrix that aims at assisting decisionmakers choosing a suitable fuel and a matching boiler solution to replace fossil fuels. The task also plans studying a new industry case featuring a dust fuelled boiler type.

Biomass combustion with CCS or biochar

Task 32 is contribution to the inter-task actions around carbon management and has finalised reports on BECCUS in large and small biomass combustion plants. One project modelled the

operational consequences in 2035 of full-scale implementation BECCUS on a large biomass combustion-based CHP plant in Denmark. The report can be seen [here](#). The report on options for small scale BECCUS is about to be published on the Task 32 website. While implementation of BECCS at large scale plants is finally progressing in more countries, the planned Task 32 study of implementation on smaller scale biomass plants is affected by an unexpected delay in such small-scale carbon capture projects. Biochar-producing biomass boiler concepts are being marketed, and Task 32 is working to study the viability and claims on net negative emissions. Task 32 has contributed to a workshop on the topic held as a side event to the CEBC in Graz on 21 January 2026 ([link](#)). Within the topic of emerging carbon capture technologies, Task 32 is preparing a paper on chemical looping. Furthermore, we plan to highlight potential benefits of oxyfuel biomass combustion.

The work of the Thermal Networks Coordination Group to describe the benefits of district heating as a key to decreased greenhouse gas emissions and resource efficiency where Task 32 has represented IEA Bioenergy, has now been used in a report that was recently released by the IEA on 'Renewables in District Heating Networks'.



Silkeborg District Heating in Denmark has just recently commissioned a hybrid plant where an advanced biomass boiler system and a large air-to-water heat pump system benefit from each other to increase their efficiency/COP. (Photo: Martin Schubert, Arkikon).



Participants at the IEA Bioenergy Task 33 and Supergen Bioenergy Hub joint workshop on BECCUS in Glasgow (UK).

Task 33 – Gasification of Biogenic and Waste Feedstocks for a Sustainable Future

On 12 May 2026, IEA Bioenergy Task 33 co-hosted a workshop with the Supergen Bioenergy Hub in Glasgow, UK, to explore the potential and practical realities of deploying Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage (BECCS) and Bioenergy with Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage (BECCUS) in biomass gasification systems. The event brought together researchers, industry representatives, technology developers, and policy experts to examine the role these technologies could play in achieving net-negative carbon dioxide emissions and supporting long-term climate mitigation goals.

The workshop featured presentations and discussions on the technical, economic, and policy dimensions of BECCS and BECCUS deployment. Participants explored the conditions under which biomass gasification systems can contribute to carbon dioxide removal, focusing on the influence of carbon removal pricing, investment requirements, and market incentives. Discussions also addressed key challenges related to system integration, operational performance, and the evolving regulatory landscape.

It was examined the role of BECCS and BECCUS in future energy systems and climate mitigation strategies, highlighting both their potential and their limitations. Particular attention was given to biochar as a promising option for long-term carbon storage and its complementary role alongside carbon capture and storage technologies in achieving durable carbon removal. The workshop provided valuable insights for the ongoing Task 33 project, Implementation Pathways for Biomass and Waste Gasification ([link](#)), particularly regarding strategies to overcome barriers to technology deployment and scale-up. It also contributed to the Inter-Task project Management of Biogenic CO₂: BECCUS Inter-Task Phase 3 ([link](#)), in which several

Task 33 members are actively involved. Overall, the discussions highlighted key actions needed to advance climate-positive biomass gasification systems and support their large-scale implementation.

Task 34 – Direct Thermochemical Liquefaction

Direct thermochemical liquefaction (DTL), primarily represented by fast pyrolysis (FP) and hydrothermal liquefaction (HTL), is one possible starting point for the production of advanced biofuels. Since the DTL oil obtained from these processes cannot directly be used as fuel, it can either be blended with existing fuels or further upgraded by a hydrotreatment process to obtain drop-in biofuels. Blending was covered in a previous report (see IEA Bioenergy Newsletter 37(2) and, for more details, the original report – [link](#)) and a follow-up technical report was recently published that focused on the latter, i.e. drop-in aviation and marine fuels.

When applying hydrotreatment to DTL oils, the quality of the resulting biofuels can be steered to a certain extent by the severity of hydrotreatment. Typically, three main products are obtained after distillation: naphtha, jet and marine, i.e. aviation and marine fuels are co-produced. In this case marine fuel is considered the residue after recovery of jetfuel.

While both FP- and HTL-derived jetfuels largely comply with the ASTM D7566 fuel quality specifications, none of the existing ASTM annexes are applicable to describe these new fuels which means that new annexes would need to be established for either FP and HTL derived jetfuels. Nitrogen management in HTL fuels and the high cyclo-paraffinic nature of FP fuels have been identified as specific challenges for successful certification. On the positive side, properties of FP jetfuels are complementary to e.g. HEFA and Fischer Tropsch based jetfuels and thus potentially open a pathway to 100% sustainable aviation fuel.

For the production of marine fuels it was found that basically all qualities (both distillates and residual) listed in ISO-8217 can be produced by hydrotreatment of FP bio-oil or HTL biocrude. Because the jetfuel production requires high severity hydrotreatment also the co-produced, residual marine fuel will be of high quality. Stand-alone production of marine fuel can target multiple fuel qualities by controlling the hydrotreatment severity.

The full report is available for download at this [link](#).

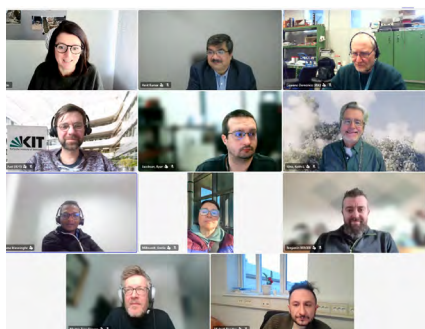
Task 36 – Material and Energy Valorisation of Waste in a Circular Economy

Task 36 is in full swing, with seven of the nine projects included in the current triennium programme now actively underway.

The year began with the kick-off of the Strategic project ‘Decentralized Energy Systems – A Part of the Global Energy Transition’. This initiative will present four implemented, well-functioning, and innovative decentralized energy systems that support the transition towards a more sustainable, resilient, and less fossil-dependent energy system. These cases are intended to serve as inspiration for strategic planning and policymaking. The project will be finalized in autumn 2026, and the case studies will be presented in an open webinar. This collaborative effort involves Task 32, Task 36, and Task 44, and is led by Task 36.

In February 2026, the kick-off of the Strategic

project ‘Expanding the Resource Base for Energy and Products’ ([link](#)) took place. This project aims to increase knowledge on underutilized, low-value residual streams and their potential application in thermochemical conversion processes—such as combustion, pyrolysis, and gasification—for bioenergy generation or material recovery. Participating Tasks include Task 32, Task 33, Task 34, Task 36, and Task 43, with Task 36 leading the initiative. The project is



Participants in the kick-off meeting of the Strategic Project ‘Expanding the Resource Base for Energy and Products’, February 2026.

scheduled to be completed by the end of 2027.

For this triennium, Task 36 has identified food waste and its management—including the use of smart and advanced technologies, as well as policy perspectives—as a key focus area. As a result, two reports on the use of advanced sorting technologies for food waste have been recently published. Both reports highlight that advanced and smart technologies play a crucial role in improving feedstock quality for further processing and enabling data-driven waste prevention and valorisation strategies. These approaches support EU and national food waste targets and strengthen integrated material and energy recovery systems within a circular bioeconomy. The reports are available here: German case studies ([link](#)) and Swedish case studies ([link](#)).

Looking ahead, Task 36 will continue its bi-monthly meetings and is planning its next in-person meeting for autumn 2026. Several publications will be released in the coming months, and participation in international conferences is also planned.

Stay tuned!

Task 37 – Energy from Biogas

The two recent publications from the Task are two case stories (3–5 pagers), which give example of interesting biogas plants or activities in brief. The first case story gives an example of break crop utilization in the UK and shows interesting reactor technology: “Towards carbon neutrality in on-farm biomethane production from break crops” ([link](#)).

The second case story shows one of the first examples of CCS (carbon capture and Storage) in combination with a biogas facility. In addition to wastewater treatment, the VEAS facility recovers energy in the form of heat and biogas, produces fertilizer and soil improver from sewage sludge, and captures biogenic CO₂ from its biogas upgrading process: “From anaerobic wastewater treatment to resource factory – VEAS, Norway’s largest wastewater treatment plant pioneers BECCS” ([link](#)). This case story is especially interesting to compare to a former



Speakers and moderators of the Joint Session of IEA Bioenergy Task 37 (Biogas) and Task 42 (Biorefining) on “Biogas meets Biorefinery” at the CEBC conference in Graz (Austria) (Photo: CEBC)

Task case story on Biogas and CCU: “Renewable CO₂ from food waste based Biogas – a case story from Switzerland” ([link](#)).

With regard to dissemination activity the Task organised a Webinar with the title “From Good to Great: How Methane Reduction Makes Biogas a Climate Champion” (19 February 2026). The main topic of this Webinar – methane emissions – can be reviewed in the corresponding Task report ([link](#)).

The first Task meeting in 2026 took place from 20 to 22 January 2026 in Austria. A highlight was the participation at the Central European Biomass Conference in Graz, during the last day of this event, where a joint conference session of Task 37 (Biogas) and Task 42 (Biorefining) on “biogas meets biorefinery” took place.

As an outlook to the future Task events, there will be a Webinar on “The role of biogas systems in industry” on 17 September 2026. In addition, the week of 13–15 October 2026 the next Task meeting will take place at the European Commission in Brussels, Belgium. There the Task will be having a session on “How science can help evidence-based policy and bankable projects” during the European Biomethane Week 2026.

Task 39 – Biofuels to Decarbonize Transport

IEA Bioenergy Task 39 has continued to strengthen its role as an international platform connecting policy, industry, and research communities around sustainable transport biofuels, with a key focus on hard-to-electrify sectors and sustainability. A key recent output is the publication of two new issues of the Task 39 Biofuel News Magazine, featuring country-focused profiles on biofuels production and development in Norway and Ireland. These issues show that biofuel deployment is not a single global pathway: it depends on national resource availability, industrial structure, transport demand, policy instruments, certification systems, and market readiness. They provide practical insights into how countries are translating decarbonization targets into opportunities for low-carbon fuels, drawing on the expertise of Task 39 local teams in these countries.

Task 39 is also advancing its contribution to the climate agenda through a structured pathway toward COP31. Based on discussions at the Task 39 physical business meeting in The Hague (The Netherlands) on 18 May 2026 (see photo below), the Task is developing an initiative centered on an Industry Hearing on Biofuels for Land Transport, a technical-policy white paper, and a concise COP31 synthesis statement. The initiative addresses one of the most urgent near-term

mitigation challenges: reducing fossil-carbon emissions in the existing and near-future land transport fleets, particularly in segments where full electrification may be slow or incomplete.

The planned Industry Hearing will bring together automotive equipment manufacturers, fuel producers, regulators, financiers, and researchers to examine fuel and engine compatibility, emissions mitigation, infrastructure, logistics, standards, policy, and financing instruments for the coming years. The key message emerging from this work is that sustainable biofuels can contribute not only to long-term technology options but also as immediately deployable solutions for land transport decarbonization. The event will combine country case studies, industry leader perspectives, and policy analysis. Task 39 aims to provide actionable recommendations for scaling up sustainable fuels and to inform climate discussions in the lead-up to COP31.

Task 40 – Deployment of Biogenic Value Chains and Carbon Management

In the first half of 2026, IEA Bioenergy Task 40 has been active with publications, conference contributions and collaborative projects related to biogenic value chains, carbon management and BECCUS, as well as hydrogen and biomass. The final report Synergies of Green Hydrogen and Biobased Value Chains Deployment synthesis report ([link](#)) completed this Strategic project (collaboration of Tasks 44, 45, 40, 33 and 34). Further on, two case studies about CCS implementation in Denmark ([link](#)) and CCS implementation in Canada ([link](#)), have been published together with Task 32 as part of the strategic project BECCUS 2.0. These publications explore how bioenergy systems, hydrogen integration and carbon management can support industrial defossilising and future renewable energy systems.

In January 2026, Task 40 and Task 45 jointly launched the strategic project “Carbon in Context – Visualizing and Messaging Climate Impacts.” The project focuses on improving communication around climate impacts and carbon flows, addressing the specifics of biogenic and fossil CO₂. It is running until the end of 2026. A new inter-task collaboration on Socio-economics of bioenergy (led by Task 43) had its kick-off in February 2026, Task 40 will contribute to the theme “Socio-economic assessment of bioenergy processes and value chains”.

A major focus during the last triennium was the Task 40 project Regional Transitions 2.0 ([link](#)). The project brought together several regional case studies, including analyses of cost-effective supply chain configurations for bioelectro- and electrofuels in Sweden ([link](#)) and renewable fuels from biomass and hydrogen in the North Sea region ([link](#)). The final synthesis report ([link](#)), published in May 2026, summarizes key findings on regional integration, cooperation and transition pathways.

Task 40 members have presented results at several international events. At the World Sustainable Energy Days 2026 in Wels, Austria,

contributions addressed BECCUS ([link](#)) as well as synergies and trade-offs between hydrogen demand, carbon and energy efficiency in advanced biofuel and bioelectrofuel pathways ([link](#)).

At the EUBCE 2026 in The Hague (The Netherlands), presentations focused on Biogenic CO₂ capture in Denmark ([link](#)), cascading wood use in BECCS systems ([link](#)), resilient commodity markets ([link](#)) and hydrogen-related trade-offs ([link](#)). Task 40 was invited to a European Commission expert workshop on future Energy Technologies, presenting BECCUS.

Inter-TCP collaboration has been strengthened during triennium 2022–24 with 1) a joint report on biomass and hydrogen ([link](#)) with the Hydrogen TCP and 2) an IETS TCP Workshop on national CCUS perspectives ([link](#)).

Scientific dissemination remained an important part of the work. In March 2026, a journal article on cascading wood use in bioenergy systems with carbon capture and storage ([link](#)) was published in Nature Communications Earth & Environment. Task 40 contributed a feature article on BECCUS to the IEA Bioenergy Annual Report 2025 ([link](#)) and published the Task 40 newsletter edition May 2026 ([link](#)).

Task 42 – Biorefining in a Circular Economy

In February 2026, RISE hosted a European cluster exchange within the BIO-INSPIRE project, where bioeconomy clusters gathered in Örnsköldsvik (Sweden), an industrial biorefinery symbiosis in



Group photo EU BIO-INSPIRE biorefinery cluster project meeting, Örnsköldsvik (Sweden), February 2026

practice ([link](#)).

The Task 42 activities were presented by Isabella de Bari from ENEA at Italy's IEA TCP Days, which were held in Rome on 29–30 April 2026 ([link](#)).

The Task 42 leader Richard Gosselink gave a plenary presentation entitled “Overview of current developments on biorefineries worldwide” (related report available [here](#)) and a Task 42 poster presentation during the 34th European Biomass Conference & Exhibition, 19–22 May 2026 in The Hague (The Netherlands). This presentation highlighted the worldwide developments of multi-product biorefineries. Recent developments were shown including opportunities and challenges. An actual overview of biorefineries is displayed in the Atlas portal for which updates are included on a regular basis



Presentation by Task 42 Leader Richard Gosselink at EUBCE 2026 in The Hague (The Netherlands), May 2026.

([link](#)).

Task 42 published a journal article entitled “Extraction of hemicellulosic sugars from coffee silverskin: process optimization, prospects, and sustainability assessment” ([link](#)). As discussed in this article, coffee silverskin, a major byproduct of the coffee industry that is often incinerated, has significant potential as a feedstock for sustainable biorefineries by conversion into valuable products such as ethanol, xylitol, and 2,3-butanediol, alongside electricity. Importantly, the work identifies the key economic and environmental bottlenecks limiting industrial implementation.

Task 43 – Biomass Supply in a Nature Positive Circular Economy

Indigenous Peoples have been practicing circular economies as a way of life for millennia. A series of seven workshops in Australia and Canada were completed from May 2025 to January 2026 to document social, economic, environmental, and cultural impacts of Indigenous-led circular bioeconomies. The Australian and Canadian workshops were complementary in nature, each adopting approaches that align with their unique national contexts, to gather information from Knowledge Keepers about two topics:

- Description of local circular bioeconomies including descriptions of multiple uses of biomass (e.g., for building, food/medicine, heat/energy, intergenerational cultural exchange, etc.).
- Community impacts of circular bioeconomies (e.g., social, environmental, economic development, jobs, community benefits).

Both the Australian and Canadian workshops highlighted that Indigenous-led circular bioeconomies extend beyond monetary value to include generational knowledge exchange and spiritual connections.

For further details, see the “Task Focus” section above.

Task 44 – Flexible Bioenergy and System Integration

IEA Bioenergy Task 44 convened a productive hybrid meeting at Luleå University of Technology (LTU), bringing together experts from Europe and beyond to advance work on flexible bioenergy and system integration. The three-day meeting focused on progress across all work packages,

including best practices in heat and power (WP1), flexibility in fuels and chemicals (WP2), system integration modelling and BECCUS (WP3), and policy monitoring and synthesis (WP4).

Key outcomes included agreement on next deliverables such as updated best-practice case studies, a comprehensive inventory of flexibility options in fuels and chemicals, and enhanced policy monitoring frameworks. Strategic projects on decentralized and hybrid bioenergy systems were further developed, alongside preparations for the next triennium (2028–2030) and strengthened inter-Task and inter-TCP collaboration. Dissemination activities and stakeholder engagement—including alignment with EUBCE—were also prioritized.

The meeting highlighted Task 44's maturation into its "system testing" phase (2025–2027), emphasizing integration, storage, and flexibilization as core pillars for delivering actionable insights to policy, industry, and



Task 44 dinner with the Luleå University of Technology committee, Luleå (Sweden).

modelling communities.

At the European Biomass Conference and Exhibition (EUBCE 2026), which was held in The Hague (The Netherlands) on 19–22 May 2026, Task 44 presented an innovative perspective on bioenergy system integration, shifting the narrative from complexity as a barrier to complexity as a driver of progress.

The presentation emphasized a key principle: "integration enables flexibility." By combining resources across time, space, and sectors, bioenergy systems can deliver not only operational flexibility but also broader societal value—supporting energy, materials, food systems, and emerging hydrogen and carbon economies.

A central message was the need to overcome persistent biases that frame the bioeconomy's diversity as a drawback. Instead, Task 44 highlighted how this diversity can become a strategic asset, enabling "sustainability security"—a concept that links resilience with resource efficiency through integrated and well-coordinated systems.

This reframing positions bioenergy and the bioeconomy as key enablers of future-proof food, material, water, and energy systems, where complexity is not reduced but actively harnessed to deliver flexibility, resilience, and long-term sustainability. The IEA Bioenergy Task44 offers guiding principles, planning tools, strategic, and operational expertise to unlock the bioeconomy integration powerhouse.

Task 45 – Climate and Sustainability Effects of Bioenergy within the Circular Bioeconomy

Task 45 has been active across multiple recent events and outputs, contributing to ongoing discussions and knowledge exchange on the role of bioenergy in net-zero and net-negative transitions.

At the 8th Central European Conference in Graz (Austria, 21–23 January 2026), Task 45 organized the workshop "Bioenergy towards Net-Zero/Net-Negative Futures". The workshop aimed to identify, synthesize, and share insights on critical issues shaping the role of bioenergy in transition pathways. Discussions focused on biomass resource availability, and on potential synergistic and competitive interactions between bioenergy systems, other energy systems, and land-based mitigation options. Participants also reflected on how current scientific studies address these topics. Workshop information and presentations



Workshop "Bioenergy towards Net-Zero/Net-Negative Futures" organized by Task 45 in Graz (Austria), January 2026

are available on the Task 45 website ([link](#)).

On 24 March 2026, Task 45 organized a webinar titled "Informing land-use decisions about consequences for biodiversity". The session focused on two complementary approaches for assessing biodiversity impacts of land-use decisions. The webinar linked to previous work, including the Task 45 report "Quantifying biodiversity impacts of bioenergy systems – Latest developments in the scope of LCA". Webinar materials and presentations, as well as the report, are available on the Task 45 website ([link](#)).

Members of Task 45 and Task 40 recently co-authored a paper published in Communications Earth & Environment on the climate benefits of bioenergy with carbon capture and storage (BECCS) applied to sawmill residues. Using dynamic life cycle assessment, the study explores climate impacts over time under an evolving energy and material system. Results highlight that cascading use of residues (e.g., particle board prior to energy use with CCS) can enhance short-term mitigation, while BECCS delivers sustained long-term cooling benefits even under conservative assumptions. The publication is available [here](#). This work was supported by the collaborative Strategic project BECCUS 2.0, and

is summarised on the IEA Bioenergy TCP website ([link](#)).

EUBCE 2026 took place in The Hague (Netherlands) on 19–22 May 2026, with strong participation from Task 45. Contributions included participation in the plenary session, organization of a session on "Practice and Experience with Sustainability Assessment and Certification of Biofuels", and two presentations on the Task 45 project 'Carbon Balances of the Forest-Based Bioeconomy' and one presentation on the "Policy instruments for an increasing cascading use of biomass". Finally, a new factsheet on particulate matter emissions from biomass combustion (Update 2025) was published by BEST – Bioenergy and Sustainable Technologies. The factsheet reviews emissions from small-scale biomass combustion in residential and commercial applications in Austria, based on the national Air Pollutant Inventory, and provides projections up to 2050. It highlights the continued relevance of small-scale biomass heating systems for climate strategies, while also addressing their impact on air quality. The findings are considered relevant for other countries where residential biomass heating plays an important role, including Germany, Italy, Sweden, and Finland. The factsheet is available [here](#).

Publications

ieabioenergy.com/iea-publications

Tracking Cellulosic Ethanol: Commercialization and Regional Insights

The study provides is published in the journal Biofuels, Bioproducts and Biorefining. The authors have used the Advanced Biofuels Demonstration Plants Database that is maintained and kept up to date by Task 39 (Transport Biofuels).



[Read more](#)

.Towards Carbon Neutrality in On-farm Biomethane Production from Break Crop

Apsley Farms is an innovative agricultural business in Hampshire, UK, combining traditional farming with modern bioenergy technology. This case study report is written by Task 37 (Energy from Biogas).



[Read more](#)

Advanced Sorting Technologies for Food Waste

This report by Task 36 (Waste) provides an overview of the food waste sorting technologies available in the market from mechanical systems to artificial intelligence (AI) applications.



[Read more](#)

Industrial Process Heat: Case Study 6

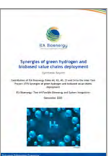
This case study report by Task 32 (Biomass Combustion) provides insight about the wood pallet production company Foresco Dongen.



[Read more](#)

Synergies of Green Hydrogen and Biobased Value Chains Deployment

To investigate the synergies of green hydrogen and biobased value chains, IEA Bioenergy set up a dedicated strategic inter-task project.



[Read more](#)

Renewable Fuels from Biomass and Hydrogen in the North Sea Region

This case study report by Task 40 (Biobased Deployment & Carbon Management) evaluates the North Sea region for its critical role as a major hub for energy-intensive industries and trade, and for its extensive energy



[Read more](#)

From Anaerobic Wastewater Treatment to Resource Factory – VEAS

This case study by IEA Bioenergy Task 37 (Energy from Biogas) highlights how Norway's VEAS wastewater treatment plant is turning essential infrastructure into a model of circular innovation.



[Read more](#)

Overview of CCU Technology Types Assessment Study for 1.5 MWth Biomass District Heating Plant in Ottawa, Ontario

In a series of three case study reports on biomass combustion with carbon capture and storage or utilisation, the strategic research programme on Bioenergy Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage (BECCUS) investigated the the most suitable options for a small biomass district heating demonstration plant.



[Read more](#)

Indigenous-led Circular Bioeconomies: Social and Economic Impacts and Social Perceptions

This report by Task 43 (Biomass supply) provides an in-depth analysis of First Nations-led circular bioeconomies in Australia, examining their social, economic, environmental, and cultural impacts.



[Read more](#)

Drop-in aviation and marine fuels from upgraded direct thermochemical liquefaction products

The report by IEA Bioenergy Task 34 (Direct Thermal Liquefaction) provides a comprehensive overview of the production, properties, and certification challenges of drop-in aviation (SAF) and marine fuels (SMF) derived from two DTL pathways: fast pyrolysis (FP) and hydrothermal liquefaction (HTL).



[Read more](#)

IEA Bioenergy Annual Report 2025

The IEA Bioenergy Annual Report 2025 includes a special feature article on 'BECCUS and Carbon Management: Status and Prospects' prepared by Task 40 (Biobased Deployment & Carbon Management).



[Read more](#)

Modelling full-scale implementation of CCUS at large wood chip fuelled CHP plant in Denmark

This Task 32 (Biomass Combustion) case study report analyses the implications of investing in Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) technology at the Skærbæk plant under three scenarios for a projected 2035 future.



[Read more](#)

IEA Bioenergy Events

Executive Committee

ExCo98, Brisbane (Australia), 12–13 October 2026

ExCo98 workshop “Scaling Regional Bioeconomies for Fuel Security and Net Zero”, Brisbane (Australia), 15 October 2026

Task Events

Task 32 (Combustion & emissions)

- Meeting, virtual, August 2026
- E-workshop on biomass combustion & CCS, virtual, Q4 2026
- Meeting, Wellington (New Zealand), 19–22 October 2026
- E-workshop on large scale wood chip combustion, virtual, Q4 2026

Task 33 (Gasification)

Meeting and workshop, Italy, November 2026

Task 36 (Waste & circular economy)

Meeting, virtual, Q4 2026

Task 37 (Anaerobic digestion / biogas)

- Webinar on “The role of biogas systems in industry”, 17 September 2026
- Meeting, Brussels (Belgium), 13–15 October 2026

Task 39 (Transport biofuels)

- Industry Hearing on Biofuels for Land Transport, São Paulo (Brazil), 8–10 September 2026
- Pre-COP webinar, October 2026
- Participation at COP31, Antalya (Türkiye), 9–20 November 2026 (tbc)

Task 40 (Biobased deployment & carbon management)

- Meeting, Leipzig (Germany), 15–16 September 2026
- Webinar on the international state of BECCUS deployment.

Task 42 (Biorefining)

Meeting, Sweden, November 2026 (tbc)

Other Events

25–27 August 2026

The International Conference on Thermochemical Conversion Science: Biomass and Waste to Fuels and Chemicals (Tcbiomass)
Denver, Colorado, USA

[Link](#)

30–31 July 2026

ICFE 2026: International Conference on Fluidization Engineering
Vienna, Austria

[Link](#)

28–30 October 2026

International Conference on Bioenergy & Bioeconomy
Seville, Spain

[Link](#)

15–17 September 2026

European Fuel Cells and Hydrogen, PIERO LUNGI CONFERENCE 2026
Capri, Naples, Italy

[Link](#)

12–16 October 2026

European Biomethane Week 2026
Brussels, Belgium

[Link](#)

3–5 November 2026

World Biofuels, Ethanol & Feedstocks Conference
Barcelona, Spain

[Link](#)

9–10 November 2026

BiodieselBR Conference 2026
São Paulo, Brazil

27–28 July 2026

4th International Conference & Expo on Biofuels and Bioenergy
Lisbon, Portugal

[Link](#)

10–11 November 2026

12th Cellulose Workshop 2026
Örnsköldsvik, Sweden

[Link](#)

14–15 September 2026

20th Global Summit and Expo on Biomass and Bioenergy
Rome, Italy

[Link](#)

16–18 September 2026

14th Asia-Pacific Biomass Expo
Guangzhou, China

[Link](#)

22–23 September 2026

SAF Global Summit
London, United Kingdom

[Link](#)

23–24 September 2026

6th Biofuels Forum
Brussels, Belgium

[Link](#)

20–22 October 2026

Argus Biofuels Europe Conference & Exhibition
London, United Kingdom

[Link](#)

20–21 October 2026

Global Bioeconomy Summit 2026
Dublin, Ireland

[Link](#)

28–30 October 2026

International Conference on Bioenergy and Bioeconomy
Seville, Spain

[Link](#)

23–25 November 2026

11th International Symposium on Energy from Biomass and Waste, Venice, Italy

[Link](#)

31 May – 2 June 2027

RRB 2027 – International Conference on Renewable Resources & Biorefineries, Kongens Lyngby, Denmark

[Link](#)

25–28 May 2027

EUBCE 2027
Reims, France

[Link](#)

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