

Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP)
Working Group on Capacity Building
Activity Group 3
Study tour for capacity building and training
Scope of Work

INTRODUCTION

In November 2011, the 12th GBEP Steering Committee (Tokyo meeting) approved the report "Sustainability Indicators in Bioenergy", developed by Partners and Observers through the GBEP Task Force on Sustainability, marking the completion of work begun in 2008. The report presents 24 indicators for sustainable production and use of bioenergy (8 of each of the three pillars of sustainability: economic, social and environmental). The indicators are intended to provide policymakers and other stakeholders with a tool to support the development of national policies and programs on bioenergy and monitor its impact, and to interpret and respond to environmental, social and economic impacts of their production and use.

The Working Group on Capacity Building (WGCB) was created during the Tokyo meeting of GBEP, with the objective of promoting the approved sustainability indicators and developing joint projects and activities for the promotion of bioenergy. The WGCB discussed several proposals for capacity building projects and activities to be undertaken, establishing three activity groups:

- West African Regional Forum on Sustainable Modern Bioenergy (proposed by the U.S. in cooperation with other members);
- Raising awareness and sharing of data and experiences from the implementation of the GBEP indicators (proposed by Germany and supported by other members); and
- Study tour for capacity building and training (proposed by Brazil and supported by other members).

The "Study tour for capacity building and training" was proposed by Brazil in order to help fostering sustainable biomass and biofuels deployment, particularly in developing countries where biomass use is prevalent. It consists of short courses with specific themes of sustainable production and use of bioenergy, where effective policy frameworks may be discussed, taking into account the 24 indicators approved by GBEP. The courses aim at fostering exchange of information, skills and technologies through bilateral and multilateral collaboration.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the "Study tour for capacity building and training" are:

- structure the cooperation between GBEP and developing countries in the area of bioenergy;
- rationalize the use of human and material resources of international cooperation in the field of renewable bioenergy, while improving the quality of cooperation in capacity building;
- provide developing countries with technical, regulatory and policy tools to develop the sustainable production and use of bioenergy.

PROGRAMME

The "Study tour for capacity building and training" (Mode I) are medium duration courses (1-2 weeks), with around 40 participants, on specific issues related to bioenergy. Different group of countries would participate in each edition, considering geographic and linguistic criteria. Each invited country would identify technical and public administrators (1-3 per country) related to the topic being discussed. For instance, Brazil is offering, as a first activity of this mode, to hold a "bioenergy week" in the first semester of 2013, for developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

PARTICIPANTS

Public policy formulators, from, for example:

- Ministries of Energy, Agriculture, Environment and others;
- Research and Development institutions;
- Regional and International Organizations;
- Bilateral and Multilateral Partners;
- Financial institutions.