

U.S.-Brazil Memorandum of Understanding to Advance Cooperation on Biofuels

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US-Brazil MoU on Biofuels

Signed in 2007 between the major biofuels producers and consumers, the US-Brazil Memorandum of Understanding to Advance Cooperation on Biofuels (MoU) has three pillars:

- **Bilateral cooperation:** it aims at fostering R&D in advanced biofuels, including those for aviation (in 2011, it was signed an addendum to the MoU, the “Partnership for the Development of Aviation Biofuels”);
- **Global cooperation:** it aims at establishing compatible or harmonized standards for biofuels, as well as cooperating in international fora such as GBEP to promote the sustainable production and use of biofuels;
- **Trilateral cooperation:** through feasibility studies and technical assistance on regulatory framework, it aims at fostering the production and use of biofuels in selected African, Central American and Caribbean countries.

US-Brazil MoU on Biofuels - Trilateral Cooperation

- Significant progress in the cooperation with third countries
- Feasibility studies were completed in Africa (Senegal) and in seven Central American and Caribbean countries: the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, and Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Technical assistance is also provided to discuss policy frameworks, implement blending laws, and develop domestic biofuels production capabilities.
- In Central America and the Caribbean, the cooperation is supported by the Organization of American States (OEA) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

US-Brazil MoU on Biofuels – feasibility studies

- The methodology for the feasibility studies combines the Brazilian expertise in developing sustainable biomass and food projects to promote key investments and accelerating sustainable development
- The studies performed by Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV) comprise the survey of climate, soil, social and environmental conditions, market infrastructure, the legal framework, among others aspects that may impact the sustainability and viability of bioenergy production
- The result is the identification of areas suitable for sustainable growing of the main raw materials used for the production of bioenergy, offering the best synergies in terms of development for local communities. The study also recommends business models for regions identified as suitable, such as pioneering projects in ethanol, bioelectricity, biodiesel, solid biomass, or any combination of the above modalities with the production of food
- The study may be developed and detailed in an executive project which can attract the participation of the private sector in investment opportunities for the production of food and energy in these countries

US-Brazil MoU on Biofuels - Central America and the Caribbean

- Policy framework are under discussion in El Salvador and Guatemala
- A pilot ethanol validation study planned in Guatemala
- In the Dominican Republic, the executive project of an ethanol distillery and of a elephant grass biomass plant were selected to develop the executive project

US-Brazil MoU on Biofuels - Central America and the Caribbean

- In 2013, OAS held a serie of seminars in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Jamaica and the Dominican Republic, focusing on the development of regulatory frameworks with a view to the development of domestic markets for ethanol and biodiesel

US-Brazil MoU on Biofuels - Africa

- In Senegal, the first phase of the feasibility study, conducted by FGV in 2010, recommended ethanol projects of sugarcane, sunflower and soybean oil and cottonseed oil.
- The Senegalese government prioritized the project of ethanol from sugarcane and biodiesel from cotton.
- Development awaits the approval of the regulatory framework in the country (Decree of biofuels).

US-Brazil MoU on Biofuels – trilateral cooperation

- **The trilateral cooperation** under the US-Brazil Memorandum on Biofuels is an important contribution to support developing countries in their sustainable production of biofuels, in line with GBEP sustainability indicators, and to create a global market for biofuels.

Thank you!

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