GBEP Bioenergy Week 2023

📅 24-27 October 2023
📍 Bangkok, Thailand

Organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in the context of the Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP)

Hosted by the Department of Alternative Energy Development and Efficiency (DEDE), Ministry of Energy, Thailand

With the contribution of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

CONCEPT NOTE
AND DRAFT AGENDA
Concept note

Background
Since 2013, GBEP has organized a Bioenergy Week every year, on a rotating basis, in a different region of the world, as part of its Working Group on Capacity Building, Activity Group 3 (AG3) “Study tour for capacity building and training”. In 2023, for its 10th edition, the Bioenergy Week will return to the Asia and Pacific region, with a 4 day-event in Bangkok, Thailand from 24 to 27 October 2023. The event is organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO-UN) in the context of the GBEP Programme of Work, kindly hosted by the government of Thailand, with the contribution of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

Objectives
The GBEP Bioenergy Week brings together a large network of bioenergy stakeholders, including international experts, decision makers and private sectors representatives to discuss current trends, future opportunities and challenges in the area of bioenergy. Previous editions of Bioenergy Weeks have successfully contributed to exchange views, best practices and lessons learned amongst officials and stakeholders on ways to improve agricultural productivity and yield, enhance feedstock logistics, and increase the use of modern conversion technologies.

The 2023 Bioenergy Week will enhance learning from positive experiences on sustainable production and use of bioenergy integrated within food production value chains, to support the design and implementation of bioenergy policies in Asia and the Pacific. 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.

Regional context
Asia is experiencing a significant rise in both the supply and demand for bioenergy, driven by robust incentivizing policies implemented in key countries within the region, such as India, Indonesia, and Malaysia. Wood energy, including fuelwood and charcoal, holds immense importance in Asia and is projected to remain a crucial energy source. Notably, Vietnam emerged as one of the top five wood pellet exporters in 2020. In many countries, wood accounts for a substantial portion of energy demand, ranging from 20 to 80 percent. While the utilization of woodfuel continues to increase, its growth rate is not as rapid as that of fossil fuels.

Within the Asia-Pacific region, there exists vast potential for the production of biogas and biomethane on a global scale, owing to the abundant availability of suitable feedstock and the recent surge in consumption and imports of natural gas. China, Thailand, and India stand as the largest producers of biogas in the region. Notably, China has recently introduced policies aimed at encouraging the installation of household-scale digesters in rural areas, aiming to enhance access to modern energy sources and clean cooking fuels.

The production of liquid biofuels in the region is poised to surpass that of Europe by 2026, as projected by the International Energy Agency (IEA) in 2021. Anticipated growth in demand amounts to approximately 10.8 billion litres per year between 2021 and 2026. Indonesia currently holds the highest biodiesel blending mandate globally, set at 35 percent. Moreover, India, which aims to achieve a 20 percent ethanol blending target by 2022, has recently established the Global Biofuel Alliance during its G20 presidency.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>24 October 2023</th>
<th>25 October 2023</th>
<th>26 October 2023</th>
<th>27 October 2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Opening and Welcome Remarks</strong></td>
<td><strong>Liquid and advanced biofuels</strong></td>
<td><strong>Bioenergy in the context of the broader bioeconomy</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global, regional and national policies: State of the art, challenges and lessons learned</td>
<td>Liquid biofuels roundtable: Discussion with policy makers, business sector and international financial institutions</td>
<td><strong>Solid biofuels: Improved and efficient management practices, feedstock and technologies for achieving environmental and climate targets.</strong></td>
<td>Field Visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong></td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gaseous biofuels: Biogas and biomethane</strong></td>
<td><strong>Liquid biofuels for clean cooking</strong></td>
<td><strong>Solid biofuels roundtable: Discussion with policy makers, business sector and international financial institutions</strong></td>
<td>Field Visit (cont’d)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presentation of GBEP Youth Award</td>
<td>Key messages and conclusions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Day 1 – Tuesday 24 October

08.30 – 09.00  Registration of participants

09.00 – 10.00  Opening and Welcome Remarks
- Representative of the Ministry of Energy, Thailand, tbc
- Kim Jong-Jin, Assistant Director-General/Regional Representative, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in APR, tbc
- Jaime Moll de Alba, Director, Division of Regional Bureaus and Field Offices and Officer-in-Charge, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) Regional Hub in Thailand
- Embassy of Italy in Bangkok, Thailand – Italy Co-Chair of the Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP)
- Embassy of Argentina in Bangkok, Thailand – Argentina Co-Chair of the Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP), tbc

10.00 – 10.15  Photo Session

10.15 – 10.45  Networking coffee break

10.45 – 12.45  Global, regional and national policies:
State of the art, challenges and lessons learned.
Moderator: tbd
- Bioenergy’s contribution to net zero
  IRENA
- FAO’s work on bioenergy – global and regional overview
  Maria Michela Morese, FAO
- Regional policies/strategy for bioenergy
  ASEAN, tbc
- The role of bioenergy in meeting SDG7 targets
  Michael Williamson, UN-ESCAP
- Promotion of Bioenergy in Thailand
  Ministry of Energy – Dept. of Alternative Energy Development and Efficiency (DEDE), Thailand, tbc
- Indonesia’s bioenergy development policy
  Maslan Lamria, Directorate General of New Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation, Indonesia
- Bioenergy Policies in Viet Nam
  Prof. Mai Văn Trịnh, Viet Nam Academy of Agricultural Sciences (VAAS)
- Bioenergy policies and strategies for the biogas sector in China
Prof. LONG Yan, Research Team for Strategies and Policies of Rural Biomass and Living Environment Development, Biogas Institute of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (BIOMA), China

- Moderated Q&A and discussion (30 minutes)

12.45 – 14.00  Lunch

14.00 – 15.30  Gaseous biofuels: Biogas and biomethane
Exchange of experiences and opportunities. Moderator: tbd

- Comparative study on biogas development in ASEAN
  Muhammad Abdul Kholiq, Indonesian Biogas Association, tbc

- Biogas for heat and power in Thailand: past, present and future
  Jutamanee Martchamadol, Energy and Innovative Cleantech Specialist

- Rice straw biogas in the Philippines
  Mirjam Roeder, Aston University, United Kingdom

- Lessons Learned from Indonesia: Biomethane Potential, Deployment Strategies, and Industry Outlook
  Ardian Candraputra, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Indonesia

- The experience of China
  Prof. ZHANG Mingming, Research Team for Strategies and Policies of Rural Biomass and Living Environment Development, Biogas Institute of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (BIOMA), China

- The biogas sector in Viet Nam
  Ho Thi Lan Huong, Secretary General of Vietnam Biogas Association, tbc

- Q&A session

15.30 – 16.00  Coffee break

16.00 – 17.00  Gaseous biofuels: Biogas and biomethane (cont.)
Moderator: tbd

- Converting waste into fuel using anaerobic digestion for a sustainable future
  Kunal Shah, Anaergia, tbc

- The Italian strategy for the valorization of biogas-biomethane energy chain
  Maria Valentina Lasorella, Council for Agricultural Research and Economics, Center for Policies and Bioeconomy (CREA - PB), Italy

- Experiences from Cambodia

- Experiences from other countries in the region, tbc

- Q&A session
Day 2 – Wednesday 25 October

09.00 – 10.30  Liquid and advanced biofuels:
Exchange of experiences and opportunities.

Moderator: Gerard Ostheimer, CEM Biofuture Campaign

- Biorefineries for food-fuel-fibre in Thailand
  Prof. Shabbir H. Gheewala, The Joint Graduate School of Energy and Environment
- The role of liquid biofuels in the clean energy transition
  Chris Markey, Assistant Regional Director, Southeast Asia & Oceania, U.S. Grains Council (USGC)
- Contribution of liquid biofuels to achieve SDGs in The Philippines
  Rosemarie Gumera, Executive Assistant for Industry Affairs, Confederation of Sugar Producers Association, Inc. (CONFED) and Former Representative of the Philippine Sugar Regulatory Administration to the National Biofuel Board
- Opportunities and challenges of ethanol production in Vietnam
  Prof. Vu Nguyen Thanh, Food Industries Research Institute (FIRI), Vietnam
- Experiences from Indonesia
- Experiences from India
- Experiences from countries in the region, tbc

10.30 – 11.00  Coffee break

11.00 – 12:30  Liquid biofuels roundtable
Discussion with policy makers, business sector and international financial institutions.

Moderator: Rosemarie Gumera

- Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats of the transition to renewable energy in the transport sector in Thailand
  Supalerk Tony Kanasook, UNIDO
- Gerard Ostheimer, CEM Biofuture Campaign
- Kittiphong Limswannarot, BBGI Public Company Limited, tbc
- Shishir Joshipura, Praj, tbc
- Samir Somaiya, Godavari biorefineries, tbc
- Sami Jauhiainen, Neste, tbc
- Kirsty Beavon, Manildra, tbc
- Alok Verma, Topsøe, tbc
• **Queenie Rojo, Ethanol Producers Association of the Philippines (EPAP), tbc**

12.30 – 14.00  **Networking Lunch on Liquid biofuels**

14.00 – 15.30  **Liquid biofuels for clean cooking**

  *Moderator: Tiziana Pirelli, FAO/GBEP*

  • Scaling ethanol clean cooking through *Council on Ethanol Clean Cooking* (CECC)  
    *Josy Thomas, Bioenergy Programme, UNIDO*

  • Safety standards and regulations for bioethanol for clean cooking. Lessons from Africa.  
    *Wubshet T. Tadele, Director of Gaia Clean Energy, Ethiopia*

  • Contribution of clean cooking to food security and nutrition  
    *Patrizia Fracassi, Food and Nutrition Division, FAO*

  • Experiences from countries in the region, tbc

15.30 – 16.00  **Coffee break**

16.00 – 17.00  **GBEP Youth Award 2023**

  *Moderator: UNICEF East Asia and Pacific, tbc*

  • The role of youth in promoting sustainable energy to achieve SDGs  
    *Jitsai Santaputra, SDG7 Global Youth Ambassador for Southeast Asia and Co-Founder, Youth4Energy Southeast Asia*

  • Presentation of GBEP Youth Award 2023

  • Design and development of a Smart Hybrid Anaerobic Digester  
    *Rakesh Godara, Sardar Swaran Singh National Institute of Bio-energy (SSS-NIBE), Punjab, India, GBEP Youth Award winner 2023*
Day 3 – Thursday 26 October

09.00 – 10.30  Bioenergy in the context of the broader bioeconomy

Moderator: tbd

- Supporting bio-based industries and sustainable development in Thailand
  *Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research, and Innovation (MHESI), tbc*

- Bioeconomy innovations in Thailand
  *Dr. Wonnap Visessanguan, Biotec, National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (NSDTDA), Thailand, tbc*

- Bioenergy in the context of a carbon neutral society in Japan
  *Yukihiko Matsumara, Hiroshima University, Japan*

- Integrating bioenergy and food security at landscape level
  *Ms. Artati, Yustina, CIFOR - ICRAF*

- Bioenergy and bioeconomy pathways in the global South: resources, strategies and governance
  *Francis X. Johnson, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) Asia*

10.30 – 11.00  Coffee break

11.00 – 12:30  Solid biofuels: Improved and efficient management practices, feedstock and technologies for achieving environmental and climate targets.

Exchange of experiences and opportunities.

Moderator: tbd

- Biomass to electricity in chicken farms in Thailand
  *Chatchawan Chaichana, Associate Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Chiang Mai University, Thailand*

- Japanese experience on woody biomass deployment: integration with domestic forestry and sustainable imports
  *Mr. Takanobu Aikawa, Renewable Energy Institute, Japan*

- Bamboo – A potential bioenergy feedstock at household, large and industrial scale: Experiences from China and India
  *Jayaraman Durai, Director, Global Programmes, International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation (INBAR), China*

- Revitalizing Biomass Resources: Strategies for Enhancing Supply and Sustainability
  *Jitesh Kumar, GIZ India*

- Improved cookstoves in India
  *Ms. Ketaki Kokil, Director, Ecosense Appliances Pvt Ltd, India*
12.30 – 14.00  Lunch

14.00 – 15.30  **Solid biofuels roundtable:**
Discussion with policy makers, business sector and international financial institutions.

*Moderator: Christian Rakos, President, World Bioenergy Association*

- Alan Sherrard, Bioenergy International
- Jayaraman Durai, INBAR
- Yasuhisa Okamota, Drax
- Suhas Baxi, BiofuelCircle, tbc
- Other stakeholders from the region, tbc

15.30 – 16.00  Coffee break

16.00 – 16.30  Conclusions and closing remarks

- Representative of the Ministry of Energy, Thailand
- Tiziana Pirelli, GBEP Coordinator

---

**Day 4 – Friday 27 October**

09.00 – 17.00  Field visit

---

Financially supported by the Italian Ministry of Environment and Energy Security