biofuture platform

Kickstarting a global, advanced bioeconomy

Press Release and invitation

Launch Event

November 16, 2016, 5 pm
Moroccan Pavilion,
(UNFCCC COP-22 Blue Zone)

Leading countries in clean energy are joining efforts in the Biofuture Platform, a new initiative to promote low carbon fuels and the advanced bioeconomy as an important part of the solution to reduce GHG emissions in transportation and industry.

PRESS RELEASE AND INVITATION

November, 8th, 2016.

Next November 16, at COP22, in Marrakech, a coalition of leading countries in the clean energy and the bioeconomy fields will announce the launching of the Biofuture Platform, a new collective effort to accelerate development and scale up deployment of modern sustainable low-carbon alternatives to fossil based solutions in transport fuels, industrial processes, chemicals, plastics and other sectors.

The Biofuture Platform follows-up on the commitments established by Rio+20, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Agreement. The initiative´s ultimate goals will be to help in the global fight against climate change, nurturing solutions that can aid countries in reaching their Nationally Determined Contribution targets (NDCs), as well as to contribute towards the SDGs.

The Biofuture Platform will, at launch, encompass some of the most relevant countries for the driving of markets and innovation in advanced biofuels and biomaterials. The list of participating countries so far includes Argentina, Brazil, China, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, India, Italy, Morocco, Paraguay, Sweden, the United States of America and Uruguay. A number of international organizations and mechanisms, such as IRENA, UNCTAD, IEA, FAO, and SE4ALL are supporting this initiative, as well as private sector associations and initiatives such as the WBCSD, ABBI, UNICA, and below50.

An important motivation for establishing the Biofuture Platform is the realization that there is an urgent need for sustainable, immediately scalable solutions to reduce carbon emissions in the transport sector. Transportation is the sector that has so far been one of the most challenging for mitigation, and it accounts for around 23% of the world's energy-related greenhouse gas emissions according to the IPCC. Low carbon transport fuels are the fastest alternative to reduce carbon intensity in the transport sector without waiting for fleet and infrastructure changes. Independent

assessments have indicated an up to 90% reduction in CO2 emissions for cellulosic biofuels, when compared to those of gasoline.

The Biofuture Platform will be geared to fill the attention gap in the transportation and industry sectors, raising bioeconomy solutions in the global agenda and promoting policy dialogue and collaboration among leading countries, organizations, academia and the private sector. Dispensing with heavy formal structures, Biofuture will be driven by its members by means of simple procedures, leveraging the work already being done by countries, organizations, and other stakeholders around the world in order to reach tangible outcomes in bioeconomy-related policies, investment facilitation, R&D, innovation, and sustainability practices.

The launch event will be held on November 16, from 5pm to 6h30pm, at the Morocco Pavilion at the UNFCCC COP-22 Blue Zone. The event will be co-hosted by the governments of Brazil and Morocco, with the presence of ministers, heads of delegation, and high-level representatives of the Biofuture Platform partner countries and international organizations. The accredited press is invited to attend. The launch event will be followed at 7pm by a press conference at a UNFCCC press conference room.

Additional information will be available by November 16 at www.biofutureplatform.org.

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