



UNITING ACADEMIA, INDUSTRY AND
GOVERNMENT TO UNLOCK THE FULL
POTENTIAL OF ADVANCED BIOFUELS.

About BioFuelNet Canada

BioFuelNet Canada is a national initiative designed to address the renewable fuel demands of the Canadian population. The development of the advanced biofuels sector in Canada will reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and dependency on fossil fuels, while minimizing negative environmental impacts.

BioFuelNet brings together much of the advanced biofuels research community in Canada, including academia, industry and government. The objective is to coordinate, harmonize and focus their activities to accelerate research and development, and address gaps that prevent commercialization of advanced biofuels, in order to effectively position developing technologies in the marketplace.

The network operates under a \$25 million grant over 5 years (2012 to 2017) through the Federal Networks of Centres of Excellence program.

BioFuelNet involves 27 post-secondary institutions and over 75 leading researchers. Collaborators include 100 organizations, which consist of 40 industrial partners, dozens of governmental and non-governmental organizations, and several international partnerships. By pooling research expertise and working with partners in industry and government, BioFuelNet identifies best practices and technologies, and guides policy, research and development.

The sustainable production and exploitation of biological resources will allow Canadians to produce more from less, while limiting and in some instances reducing negative impacts on the environment. Through BioFuelNet, Canada has converted a disparate sector into a unified network that drives the development of the advanced biofuels field into a sustainable fuel source for Canada.

Goals of the Network

Invest in advanced biofuel projects based at Canadian universities

Facilitate collaboration between academic researchers and industrial partners

Accelerate the commercialization of network supported innovation

Provide a forum for knowledge exchange amongst network members

Engage all levels of Canadian government on topics related to biofuels

Create partnerships with Canadian and international organizations

Train young professionals and provides career development opportunities



Research Themes

BioFuelNet focuses on solving the major bottlenecks of the biofuel production chain. These efforts are coordinated through BioFuelNet's four technology platforms, which have regional headquarters in the west, prairies, central and east of Canada. So far, BioFuelNet has funded over 65 unique projects. These projects fall within the network's four research themes:

Feedstock



Examining the source of the material used to create the biofuels and the ultimate limitation on how much biofuel can be produced.

Conversion



Conducting research into the manufacture of fuels and the current impediments to efficient, cost effective fuel production from non-food biomass.

Utilization



Focusing on the performance of advanced biofuels in engines, including power generation, and effects on engine performance and emissions.

SEES



(Social, Economic and Environmental Sustainability)
Informing the full value-chain regarding broader aspects of sustainability.

Advanced Biofuels



Advanced biofuels are produced from non-food materials, such as algae, agricultural waste, forestry byproducts and even municipal waste. Using wastes from forestry and farming systems reduces agricultural impacts and prevents conversion of natural habitats to farmland.

Advanced biofuels could provide us with sustainable, clean, home-grown fuel. However, advanced biofuels require more research and development before they can be commercialized. There is still a need for research into an effective large-scale chemical transformation process and production costs must be reduced.

How can my company become a partner of BioFuelNet Canada?

By supporting BioFuelNet's research projects, companies can work with Canada's top research scientists to find cutting-edge solutions to some of the bottlenecks to commercialization of advanced biofuels. Industry can also provide training opportunities for our Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP) to be leaders of tomorrow's advanced biofuels industry. Companies who wish to partner with BioFuelNet can join research projects at the initial call for proposals or can sometimes join existing projects.

How do I become involved?

Are you a university researcher, student or industry representative interested in becoming involved in our network? Please contact us at info@biofuelnet.ca



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