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Policy Initiatives - INDIA

Dear Readers,

By the time you read this issue, the 2010 FIFA World Cup would have begun after months of anticipation and excitement !!

Certainly FIFA will bring the world some breath-holding matches, sportsman spirit as well as cheers from excited audiences across the nine cities of South Africa. But it is also poised to reveal a never-seen-before face this time as it will position Africa differently on the global panorama through an exemplary trail of "greening". In the larger context, South Africa's Environment Ministry, along with electricity giant Eskom and Central Energy Fund will put significant efforts towards implementation of bio-energy and RE generation, energy efficiency practices as well as efficient waste management practices throughout the host cities.

Apart from these initiatives, a unique project that utilizes the World Cup platform to expand RE efforts is the World Future Council's (WFC) Power Kick for Africa program, which will primarily organize a solar-powered World Cup viewing in the Ghanaian village of Oboadaka - an area without access to the National Electricity Grid. In addition, the WFC will also host a workshop on RE policies for sustainable African development. Even more stunning is the fact that the FIFA Womens' World Cup 2010, to be held in Germany, will be climate-neutral.

At BECI, we wish all the participating teams of FIFA 2010 all the best !! It is exciting and heartening to see such a powerful, global platform providing a strong impetus to the global need of shifting towards sustainable development.

We thank you for your support and encouragement to the Bio-Energy Times and look forward to your valuable feedback and suggestions.

Thank You.

Please post your feedback on
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<http://www.bioenergyindia.org/frmsendnewsfeedback.aspx>

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States gear up for RECs

<http://www.business-standard.com/india/news/states-gearfor-renewable-energy-certificates/393850/>

Several states including Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Jharkhand, UP and MP have responded to the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission initiative to introduce an REC mechanism. Gujarat has notified the final regulations, while the rest are waiting to approve regulations drafted by the state commissions. To facilitate implementation, the state electricity regulatory commissions have been asked to provide an update from time-to-time. MNRE will provide financial assistance of Rs 9 crore over next 3 years towards developing relevant software and hardware and for providing manpower to both central and state agencies. This mechanism aims to achieve both environmental and energy security objectives.

US military at forefront of clean energy deployment: Pew Trust

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/energy_efficiency/us-military-at-forefront-of-clean-energy-deployment-says-pew-trust.html

According to the Pew Charitable Trust's Reenergizing America's Defense report, US defense forces are embracing clean energy sources but a strong policy framework is needed to put a price on carbon and help renewable technologies on a greater scale. US military uses 80% of all energy consumed by the US Govt, is leading in deployment of clean energy sources and has initiated ambitious clean energy programs. US Defense Secretary Robert Gates has previously identified energy as one of the military's top-25 transformational priorities, with a goal of producing or procuring 25% of its electric energy needs from RE sources by 2025. The US Department of Defense has an annual budget of \$20bn and incurs more than \$1.3bn in additional energy costs for every \$10 increase in oil barrel price.

Green India Mission to double afforestation efforts by 2020

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article438506.ece>

The Green India Mission, part of India's plan to fight climate change, proposes to double the area under afforestation and eco-restoration by 2020. The first draft projects an ambitious target of 20 mn hectares by 2020, at a cost of Rs. 44,000 crore. The nine sub-missions include targets for moderately dense/ degraded forests, degraded scrub and grasslands, mangroves, wetlands, urban forest lands and institutional areas with tree cover, degraded and fallow agricultural land, wildlife corridors, more efficient stoves and alternative energy devices for better fuel wood use, and enhanced livelihoods for communities dependent on biomass and non-timber forest produce.

Jairam Ramesh calls for convergence on reducing biodiversity loss

http://www.thaindian.com/newsportal/feature/jairam-ramesh-calls-for-convergence-on-reducing-biodiversity-loss_100368148.html

India wants legally binding treaty for sharing bio resources

<http://www.business-standard.com/india/news/%5Cindia-wants-legally-binding-treaty-for-sharing-bio-resources>

'India must focus on alternative fuels' : A P J Abdul Kalam

<http://expressbuzz.com/cities/chennai/%E2%80%98india-must-focus-on-alternative-fuels%E2%80%99/174900.html>

Policy Initiatives - GLOBAL

North America

DoE to fund \$37.5m over 5 years to US-China Clean Energy Research Center

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/energy_efficiency/doe-canvases-375m-over-five-years-for-us-chinese-clean-energy-research.html

Grantees will need to generate \$75m to support advanced technologies research for energy efficiency, clean vehicles and CCS. China will contribute \$75m to the CERC for a virtual research centre located in existing facilities in the US and China. DoE will provide one award each for building efficiency, clean vehicles and CCS for coal. Universities, national labs, private companies and other relevant entities are eligible to apply for grants until 14 May 2010, with the DoE expecting to select awardees this summer.

DoE & Masdar sign biofuels, cleantech accord

<http://biofuelsdigest.com/bdigest/2010/04/29/doe-and-uaes-masdar-sign-biofuels-cleantech-accord/>

The DoE and Masdar have signed an MoU to establish a framework for cooperation in 3 key areas – CCS, water and bio-fuels & building technology. The duo have agreed for scientific and technical exchanges and joint R&D on clean energy technologies.

Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company, University of Hawaii receive \$4m

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_region/north_america/hawaiian-commercial-sugar-company-and-the-university-of-hawaii-receive-4m-to-develop-biofuels.html

Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company (HC&S) will work with University of Hawaii and various federal agencies on new Hawaii-based research initiatives on biofuels. HC&S will receive annual dedicated federal funding of at least \$4m through 2 separate programmes: one, funded by the DoE (\$2 mn) and the other by the US Navy's Office of Naval Research (\$2mn). USDA will direct research and provide \$2m annually through 2015 to help Hawaii speed up sustainable biofuel feedstock production.

Pepco gets \$168m from US DoE

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/energy_efficiency/pepco-gets-168m-from-us-department-of-energy-to-develop-smart-grid.html

Pepco Holdings will receive \$168.1m DoE grant to develop smart grid projects. Out of the full grant, \$104.8m will go for smart grid projects in Maryland, \$44.6m will be used for Columbia and \$18.7 will be allocated to Atlantic City Electric for its smart grid projects.

Berkeley to build advanced biofuels facility

<http://www.thebioenergysite.com/news/5895/berkeley-to-build-doe-advanced-biofuels-facility>

The Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory will receive nearly \$18 mn from the Recovery Act to build an advanced biofuels process development facility that will help ease the commercialisation of next generation biofuels by providing industry-scale test beds.

ClearFuels Technology wins \$22.6M

http://www.starbulletin.com/business/20100416_Aiea_company_wins_226M_for_biomass_project.html

ClearFuels has won a \$22.6 mn grant from DoE and will receive an initial \$7.7 mn for the project to integrate ClearFuels' and Rentech's low-cost production technologies for renewable diesel & jet fuel from clean biomass. The project will be completed in late 2011.

NextCAT receives \$115,000 in total via Michigan Microloan Fund Program to commercialize heterogenous catalysts to produce biodiesel

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/biofuel_biomass/us-biofuel-developer-nextcat-receives-michigan-state-funding-to-commercialise-catalysts.html

RFA offers RFS2 checklist/guidelines

http://www.biomassmagazine.com/article.jsp?article_id=3637

Policy Initiatives - GLOBAL

New Rules for RE Programmes

<http://www.thebioenergysite.com/news/6000/new-rules-for-renewable-energy-programmes>

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has called for public comment on several proposed rules designed to increase the production of advanced biofuels and the development of biorefineries. Proposed rules affect the following 3 RE programs administered by USDA Rural Development:

Biorefinery Assistance Programme - *The maximum loan amount will be \$250 mn; there is no minimum amount. The amount of a loan guarantee for a project will not exceed 80% of total eligible project costs.*

Repowering Assistance Payments - *USDA Rural Development will propose procedures for eligible biorefineries to receive payment equal to 50% of cost of installing eligible systems, up to \$5 mn, whichever is less. There is no minimum payment amount. The initial payment would be a percentage of cost of installing eligible systems and the remaining payment would be based on the amount of energy produced from renewable biomass.*

Bioenergy Program for Advanced Biofuels - *USDA Rural Development is proposing to establish a payment programme for eligible producers of advanced biofuels. To be eligible for payments, advanced biofuels must be produced from renewable biomass, excluding corn kernel starch. USDA would enter into contracts with advanced biofuels producers to support and ensure an expanding production of advanced biofuels.*

USDA and Navy Encourage Use of RE

<http://www.thebioenergysite.com/news/5920/usda-and-navy-encourage-use-of-renewable-energy>

Agriculture Deputy Secretary Kathleen Merrigan and Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations & Environment Jackalyn Pfannenstiel have kicked off the first of several energy forums to help increase biofuels production and meet the Navy's RE needs. The forum follows the MoU between the USDA and the Department of the Navy (DON) to develop advanced biofuels and other RE systems. DON announced 5 ambitious energy targets for the Navy and Marine Corps and biofuels are a major component of four of those goals.

Biodiesel interests want retroactive extension of tax incentive

http://www.biomassmagazine.com/article.jsp?article_id=3656

Alberta extends Bioenergy Producer Credit programme till 2016 to meet its ERTs and to support agriculture and forestry sector

<http://www.thebioenergysite.com/news/5858/alberta-increases-support-for-clean-energy>

A bill to extend \$1-a-gallon Biofuels Tax Credit until 2016

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/biofuel_biomass/biofuels-tax-credit-bill-brought-before-us-gov-ernment.html

California launches \$35.2m Cash for Appliances Program

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/energy_efficiency/us-state-of-california-launches-352m-cash-for-appliances-programme.html

TDA seeks bioenergy proposals

http://www.biomassmagazine.com/article.jsp?article_id=3646

Texas Department of Agriculture is requesting proposals from entities to conduct a comprehensive bioenergy study to provide an in-depth review of the capabilities and challenges of its bio-energy industry. The study will include bioenergy feedstocks; logistical challenges related to production & transport and integration of bioenergy to meet state's energy demands.

Policy Initiatives - GLOBAL

EPA releases proposed MACT rule changes

http://www.biomassmagazine.com/article.jsp?article_id=3760

The U.S. EPA has released a set of proposed changes to the Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) rule that would reduce mercury emissions from industrial boilers, process heaters and solid waste incinerators by more than 50%.

Half of US energy utilities developing smart grid strategy, most dissatisfied with energy policy: Capgemini and Platts

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/energy_efficiency/half-of-us-energy-utilities-developing-smart-grid-strategy-most-dissatisfied-with-energy-policy.html

Green Products Innovation Institute launched in San Francisco, US to certify green manufacturing

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/solar-by_technology-new-news/green-products-innovation-institute-launches-in-us-to-certify-green-manufacturing.html

Africa source of growth for international emissions offset market: UNFCCC

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/solar-by_technology-new-news/africa-source-of-growth-for-international-emissions-offset-market-says-unfccc.html

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change says that Africa has seen a strong growth trend in the past few years in terms of registering CDM projects. There are now 122 CDM projects in Africa either registered or in the pipeline for validation or registration, up from 116 in 2009.

Europe

Italy must invest to hit RE targets: Bruno D'Onghia - President, EDF EN Italia

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/solar-by_technology-new-news/italy-must-invest-to-hit-renewable-energy-targets-expert-says.html

NAER provides "green tariff" license for biogas plants

<http://www.prlog.org/10684632-naer-provides-green-tariff-license-for-biogas-plants.html>

National Agency of Ukraine on ensuring of efficient use of energy recourses management (NAER) plans to avail "green tariff" to owners of biogas plants in the nearest future. The amendment to act on electricity will allow companies to sell electricity produced by biogas plants at the rate of 1.70 UAH for 1 KW with the ratio 2.5 of the tariff rate.

UK to miss 2022 carbon budget target: Cambridge Econometrics

<http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/alternative-energy-knowlege-bank/uk-to-miss-2020-carbon-budget-target-forecast-shows.html>

Planning approval For UK's largest AD plant, the plant to be up by 2012

<http://www.thebioenergysite.com/news/6267/planning-approval-for-uks-largest-ad-plant>

Scotland's largest anaerobic waste digestion plant to process all West Lothian's commercial, industrial and municipal waste has received planning permission for the £70 mn plant. It will handle around 105,000 tonnes of waste/year and power over 7,000 homes and provide heat to over 9,000 homes.

UK general election cannot afford to delay RE investment: REA

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/solar-by_technology-new-news/uk-general-election-cannot-afford-to-delay-renewable-energy-investment-says-rea.html

Policy Initiatives - GLOBAL

Ireland incentivizes biomass

http://www.biomassmagazine.com/article.jsp?article_id=3790

Ireland government is supporting biopower by announcing RE feed-in tariffs to support technologies including anaerobic digestion, CHP and biomass combustion.

- *The tariffs will be offered on a 15-year basis:*

- *AD CHP ≤ 500 kW: 15 cents/kWh; AD CHP > 500 kW: 13 cents/kWh*
- *AD (non CHP) ≤ 500 kW: 11 cents/kWh; AD (non CHP) > 500 kW: 10 cents/kWh*
- *Biomass CHP ≤ 1,500 kW: 14 cents/kWh; Biomass CHP > 1,500 kW: 12 cents/kWh*
- *Biomass combustion (including existing plants) using energy crops: 9.5 cents/kWh*
- *For all other biomass: 8.5 cents/kWh*

- *The legislation limits:*

- *Combustion to 30% of the maximum rated capacity co-firing in any plant until 2017, 40% between 2017 and 2019 & 50% thereafter.*
- *Each technology in terms of eligible MWs — AD is capped at 50 MW; biomass CHP at 100 MW; biomass combustion (including cofiring) at 160 MW until December 2015 and no limit from January 2016 on.*

- *About the program:*

- *Will support the establishment of around 5 to 15 depending on the mix of size ranges and costs submitted, to provide important information on the supply chain logistics and suitability of miscanthus as a boiler fuel in Ireland, as well as providing a solid basis to create market confidence.*
- *New prices will allow connection of more than 200 MW of renewable electricity to the national grid. (According to Ireland's Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources)*
- *A budget of €500,000 has been allocated to the program to provide a support level of upto 50% of a project's eligible cost.*

UK energy bill to focus on efficiency measures

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/energy_efficiency/norway-to-help-mexico-and-democratic-republic-of-congo-tackle-deforestation.htm

During the State Opening of Parliament, the Queen has introduced 22 bills that the UK coalition government will focus on in the next 18 months. The Energy Bill is expected to

- Provide energy efficiency measures to homes and business of the UK and put in place a framework to deliver a future with secure, low carbon energy supplies and fair competition in the energy markets.
- Contain measures to create a Green Investment Bank.
- Contain measures to regulate emissions from coal-fired power stations and reform energy markets.
- Provide a framework to develop a smart grid to revolutionize management of power supply & demand.

Norway to help Mexico and Democratic Republic of Congo to tackle deforestation; will pay \$2.1m to strengthen Africa's climate negotiations

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/energy_efficiency/norway-to-help-mexico-and-democratic-republic-of-congo-tackle-deforestation.htm

Turkey aims to generate 30% energy from renewable resources by 2020

http://www.worldbulletin.net/news_detail.php?id=59435

According to Turkey's Energy & Natural Resources Minister Taner Yildiz, Turkey's aim is to generate at least 30% of its energy from RE resources by 2020. Investments in clean energy are on the rise, and Turkey has an important place among G20 countries with 178% rise in clean energy in recent years. Turkey is also among the countries with a high five-year investment growth.

Policy Initiatives - GLOBAL

Carbon emissions from the UK's central government will be cut by 10% over the next 12 months

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/solar-by_technology-new-news/uk-government-pledges-to-cut-emissions-by-10-per-cent-as-it-promotes-green-policies.html

Turkey : Up to \$200 mn to boost investments in energy efficiency from EBRD

<http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=57421>

The EBRD is promoting energy efficiency projects in Turkey with a newly-launched Sustainable Energy Financing Facility (TurSEFF) worth up to \$200 mn, for on-lending to businesses and households via local partner banks. TurSEFF includes \$40 mn low cost funding from the Clean Technology Fund (CTF). Akbank, Garanti Bank and Vakifbank are the first Turkish banks who will take up the facility, each signing up for \$60 mn credit lines. The proceeds of the facility will be used to finance energy efficiency and small-scale RE investments implemented by Turkish businesses and households, helping them to cut their carbon footprint by reducing energy wastage. The proceeds of the sub-loans will be used to finance such investments as industrial energy efficiency, thermal rehabilitation of buildings, small scale renewable investments including biomass and biogas. Reducing energy intensity is amongst key priorities for Turkey, which relies on imports for 75% of its energy needs.

Latin America

Brazil pushes bioenergy initiative in Para region

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/biofuel_biomass/brazil-pushes-bioenergy-initiative-in-para-region.html

The Brazilian government has launched an initiative to plant palm trees in deforested parts of the Amazon for use in biofuel production. The 1.3 bn reais (\$702m) initiative will focus on the state of Para. 120,000 tonnes of palm oil biofuel will supply Brazil and Europe.

Africa

Libya hopes to reach its goal of generating 10% of RE by 2020

http://ae-africa.com/read_article.php?NID=2008

Angola favours bioenergy; urges biofuel policies

http://www.portalangop.co.ao/motiv/en_us/especiais/reconstrucao-nacional/2010/4/20/State-Secretary-admits-use-biomass-energy,6b832a3b-c5b1-4495-93e4-426da9468f48.html; http://ae-africa.com/read_article.php?NID=2022

EAC's hunt for a \$2.7M injection

http://ae-africa.com/read_article.php?NID=2004; http://ae-africa.com/read_article.php?NID=2010

Other Countries

Taiwan to invest \$1.4bn in green energy over next 5 years to cut carbon emissions by 45% by 2020

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/solar-by_technology-new-news/taiwan-to-invest-14bn-in-green-energy-over-next-five-years.html

Malaysia to introduce feed-in tariffs to stimulate RE

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/solar-by_technology-new-news/malaysia-to-introduce-feed-in-tariffs-to-stimulate-renewable-energy.html

IFC makes 1st loan of \$10 mn to Chinese company venturing into Africa's RE sector

http://ae-africa.com/read_article.php?NID=1997

Business & Markets - INDIA

Clenergen Corporation to commence commercial trials on 900 acres of land

http://www.marketwatch.com/story/clenergen-corporation-otcbb-crge-to-commence-commercial-trials-on-900-acres-of-land-under-agreement-in-india-ghana-guyana-and-philippines-2010-05-19?reflink=MW_news_stmp

Clenergen Corporation has scheduled 22,000 acres under 49-year lease agreements in India, Ghana, Guyana & Philippines, which are projected to yield over 880,000 tonnes of biomass/year by 2014 and provide fuel supply for 110MW/h of biopower plant capacity. The company intends to produce up to 200,000 saplings each week from tissue culture.

Haryana to have large scale biogas plants

http://www.ptinews.com/news/656496_Haryana-to-have-large-scale-biogas-plants

Haryana will soon have a large scale biogas plant and bottling facility for use in cooking, transport and fertilisers. The MNRE has sanctioned biogas fertiliser plant at Shri Haryana Goshala, Hansi, Hisar, which will cost at over Rs 1.8 crore. Rs 91.71 lakh would be provided by the MNRE. The plant will have high rate bio-methanation digester fitted with Induced Blanket Reactor developed by Utah State University.

Thermax in pact with Germany's Lambion for energy-from-waste technology

http://www.domain-b.com/companies/companies_t/Thermax/20100518_waste_technology.htm

A 5-year technology transfer agreement with Lambion Energy Solutions will enable Thermax to integrate new waste-to-energy technologies like high efficiency combustion systems for using biomass with high moisture content in its boilers and heaters with heat output ranging from 4 MW to 30 MW. Thermax will have an exclusive licence to market heating systems, equipped with the new technology in India, South East Asia, Middle East and Africa.

Second RE park at Nawarangpur, Orissa

<http://www.business-standard.com/india/news/second-renewable-energy-park-at-nawarangpur/395268/>

The proposed venture will showcase various aspects of RE generation and use. Estimated project cost Rs 1 crore. The state government will provide land and related infrastructure.

GHG emissions fell by 30% during 1994-2007

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article428638.ece>

Fast Facts



To undertake a major green initiative and reduce carbon emissions during the FIFA 2010 World Cup, The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the South African Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) has secured US\$1 mn in funding from the Global Environmental Facility Fund to conduct various projects in six host cities.

http://www.ens-newswire.com/ens/jun2010/2010-06-11-01.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzEmail&utm_content=556211&utm_campaign=Web



11 participating teams will offset the emissions caused by their participation in the event. The teams' carbon footprint that will be offset includes international flights to and from South Africa, domestic flights and coaches to and from group matches for teams and officials, and accommodation in hotels - a total of approximately 6,050 tonnes of GHG emissions.

http://www.ens-newswire.com/ens/jun2010/2010-06-11-01.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzEmail&utm_content=556211&utm_campaign=Web

Business & Markets - GLOBAL

North America

Kentucky Division of Air Quality issues air-emissions permit to EcoPower Generation LLC

<http://www.thebioenergysite.com/news/6194/planned-power-plant-gets-airquality-ok>

EcoPower plans to build a plant on a 125-acre site in Hazard and burn low-grade logs and wood waste to generate electricity, enough to power 30,000 homes. It will be a merchant plant, selling power on the wholesale market to other distributors.

Florida Public Service Commission approves renewable plant for Gainesville

<http://www.thebioenergysite.com/news/6259/florida-approves-renewable-plant-for-gainesville>

The 100MW Gainesville Renewable Energy Center is a project of Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU) and Gainesville Renewable Energy Center, LLC (GREC) and will be up at GRU's existing Deerhaven plant site in Alachua County.

Algenol & Valero: To commercialise direct-to-ethanol technology

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/biofuel_biomass/us-bioethanol-producer-algenol-partners-with-valero-to-commercialise-technology.html

Clean Power Concepts to expand green energy manufacturing

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/biofuel_biomass/clean-power-concepts-to-expand-green-energy-manufacturing-business.html

Excerpts - "Woody Biomass for Electricity in Florida: Bioeconomic Impacts Under A Proposed Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) Mandate" (March 1)

<http://www.tallahassee.com/article/20100502/OPINION05/5020306/1006/opinion>

- There is no single route to meet growing demand for alternative sources of energy, but woody biomass is a necessary component of any true RE program.
- A 7-% RPS (2% of which comes from woody biomass) is sustainable as long as urban wood waste and logging residues are utilized with merchantable timber and there is a vigorous reforestation program.

Each year renewable fuels add \$2.013bn to Canadian economy: Canadian Renewable Fuels Association

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/biofuel_biomass/biofuel-adds-2bn-a-year-to-canadian-economy-says-report.html

SLR Consulting joins with Maxis Energy Solutions to help Nova Scotia's Department of Energy in developing clean power sources

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/wind/environmental-consultancy-slr-wins-bid-to-help-develop-nova-scotia-e2%80%99s-renewable-energy.html

Europe

Finland's largest biomass plant opened

<http://www.ttjonline.com/story.asp?sectioncode=17&storycode=62813&c=2>

Kaukaan Voima Oy's power plant, located at UPM's Kaukas mill, has been fully up since November '09 with the cold winter making it possible to test the plant at maximum capacity. The €244m plant will annually use 20,000 truck-loads of bark, branches, tree tops, stumps, small dimension wood & peat. The plant will generate 385MW of thermal power & 12MW of electricity.

Business & Markets - GLOBAL

Wood pellets – a hot bioenergy source

http://newenergyfocus.com/do/ecco/view_item?listid=1&listcatid=32&listitemid=3940§ion=Bioenergy%20%26%20Waste

Pöyry Forest Industry Consulting shares its conclusions from its recent study 'Wood Pellets - The Bioenergy Feedstock Solution - Global market, players and trade to 2015.'

- Pöyry expects double digit growth in pellet markets by 2015. Global demand for wood pellets reached nearly 12 mn tonnes in 2008 and is worth approximately €2 bn. Europe and North America accounted for 97% of global demand. The market has grown rapidly; a CAGR of 27% in Europe and 17% in North America from 2005 to 2008. By 2015, global pellet demand will almost double, reaching approx 24 mn tonnes (CAGR of 10.5%).
- The current and future demand for wood pellets is strongly driven by the world's need to develop RE forms and reduce GHG emissions.

Imtech bags new Dutch energy orders

<http://frontierindia.net/cae/imtech-bags-new-dutch-energy-orders-and-a-worldwide-initiative-for-recharging-electric-cars/852/>

The orders concern the development of 'green' power supply for entire areas and completion of a wood-fired bio-power plant with total value of more than €20 mn. The 'Maasboulevard' project is being realised in the centre of Venlo, Netherlands, consisting 24,000 m² of conference, shopping and restaurant facilities, 140 luxury residences, and 550 underground parking spaces.

Bilfinger Berger to convert coal plant to biomass

<http://www.thebioenergysite.com/news/6167/bilfinger-berger-to-convert-coal-plant-to-biomass>

Bilfinger Berger will convert a coal-fired unit, a 180MW Rodenhuize power plant, operated by Electrabel, to use wood pellets as a feedstock. Excess blast furnace gas from a neighbouring steel plant will also be used for future power generation.

Packaging firm plans biomass plant

<http://www.thebioenergysite.com/news/6201/packaging-company-plans-biomass-plant>

Smurfit Kappa will invest in upgrading its bark boiler at a Spanish production facility near Pamplona to use biomass feedstock. It plans to invest €1.75 mn for the plant. It is planning a €7 mn investment in the paper production factory that produces 112,000 tonnes of paper, largely for corrugated packaging, a year.

Dalkia builds biomass boilers in Poland

<http://www.thebioenergysite.com/news/6182/dalkia-builds-biomass-boilers-in-poland>

Dalkia is building 2 biomass boilers at its co-gen plants in Łódź and Poznań increasing its RE to 18% with a green capacity of 67MWe. From end-2011, 700,000 metric tons of biomass, 80% of it from forests, will be used in place of coal. The €70 mn investment will generate an additional €364 mn in annual revenues. As from 2012, the project will avoid 460,000 metric tons of annual CO₂ emissions. Dalkia Polska is also eyeing the possibilities of converting domestic waste to energy, and can tap the expertise of Veolia Environment for future waste-to-energy projects in Poland's main cities.

Novozymes and Nedalco partner to bring cellulosic bioethanol to market

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/biofuel_biomass/europe%e2%80%99s-novozymes-and-nedalco-partner-to-bring-cellulosic-bioethanol-to-market.html

Forth Energy to build a biomass plant at Dundee, Scotland

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/wind/forth-energy-battles-local-opposition-to-develop-offshore-biomass-and-wind-unit-in-scotland.html

Business & Markets - GLOBAL

Slovakia-based Cheneco plans co-gen plants

<http://www.thebioenergysite.com/news/6237/bratislava-company-plans-cogeneration-plants>

Slovakian company plans to build 2 CHP units at the cost of €60 mn. It has submitted plans for the Environment Impact Assessment. Cheneco also plans to build a co-gen unit which would generate power from recovered waste heat at the plant of Kovohuty Krompachy and is waiting for a construction permit. Cheneco has also put forward plans to build a 3.6MW biogas power plant in Leopoldov, at a cost of €15 mn which will use a feedstock of a mixture of wood chips and rapeseed grit.

Chempolis brings biorefinery online in Finland

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/biofuel_biomass/biofuel-company-chempolis-brings-biorefinery-online-in-finland.htmlhttp://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/biofuel_biomass/chempolis-to-supply-three-biorefineries-to-china-under-e60m-contract.html

Chempolis will process non-food biomass in its Oulu - Finland based €20m 3rd-gen cellulosic ethanol biorefinery. The new biorefinery, capable of processing 25,000 tons per year of non-wood and non-food raw material and will also be used for further development and market testing. Chempolis will also supply 3 biorefineries to China under €60m licence and EPC agreement it has signed with Tianjin Jiuqian Paper.

Danish anaerobic digestion specialist Xergi to build UK plant

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/biofuel_biomass/danish-anaerobic-digestion-specialist-xergi-to-build-uk-plant.html

Denmark-based Xergi will build a processing plant in Scotland with UK-based Scottish and Southern Energy, which will process 80,000 tons of organic waste to generate 2MW of renewable power annually as well as methane gas and nitrogenous organic fertiliser.

Farm to turn food waste into energy

http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=18150&channel=0&title=Farm+to+turn+food+waste+into+energy

Smurfit Kappa will invest in upgrading its bark boiler at a Spanish production facility near Pamplona to use biomass feedstock. It plans to invest €1.75 mn for the plant. It is planning a €7 mn investment in the paper production factory that produces 112,000 tonnes of paper, largely for corrugated packaging, a year.

Turkey's biogas plant to begin production by Q1 2011

http://www.bioenergy-news.com/index.php?/Industry-News?item_id=2149

Turkey's new biogas plant will be launched in July this year and becomes fully operational at the beginning of 2011. The plant, which was built by Austria-based Enbasys GmbH, will use ENBAFERM multi-feedstock biogas technology to process around 55,000 tonnes of municipal and industrial waste annually. The biogas produced will be used to generate electricity and heat, as well as fertiliser, which is in high demand in Turkey.

The requirements for waste disposal in the region are becoming increasingly stringent and municipal waste is now gathered independently from other waste. This has resulted in an increase of waste availability that can be converted into biogas before supplying the public power network with electricity.

Oil and gas service provider Petrofac enters low carbon sector with CO2DeepStore acquisition

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/energy_storage/oil-and-gas-service-provider-petrofac-enters-low-carbon-sector-with-CO2deepstore-acquisition.html

Lufthansa to use biofuel on flights by 2012: CEO

http://www.dnaindia.com/world/report_lufthansa-to-use-biofuel-on-flights-by-2012-ceo_1381157

Business & Markets - GLOBAL

Waste-to-energy could meet half of UK's 2020 RE target

<http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/alternative-energy-knowledge-bank/waste-to-energy-could-meet-half-of-uk%E2%80%99s-2020-renewable-energy-target.html>

According to a survey, carried out by UK's Cranfield University,

The UK could meet half of its 2020 RE targets from waste-to-energy solutions. With strong investment and sufficient availability of suitable feedstock, the technology could provide 7.5% of the UK energy mix by 2020. The use of biomethane as a road transport fuel and small scale waste-to-energy deployments at the community level are among the key growth areas within the sector. The landfill tax which stood at £8 per tonne in 2008, increased to £14 in 2009, and is shortly expected to increase to £48, thereby driving increased take-up of waste treatment technologies across the UK.

UK companies to spend \$5.3bn on climate change efforts in 2010: Report

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/energy_storage/uk-companies-to-spend-53bn-on-climate-change-efforts-in-2010-says-report.html

A report titled "UK Climate Change & Sustainability" by Verdantix covers 457 UK companies and concludes that:

- The UK climate change and sustainability market will grow by 14% a year to reach \$8.4bn in 2013.
- The market in 2010 will grow by 8%. (David Metcalfe – Director, Verdantix)
- The market will grow by 13% in 2011 and by 18% in both 2012 and 2013. The biggest spending industry in 2010 will be retail at upto \$944m, and industrial goods and services at \$463m.
- On average large UK firms with annual revenues greater than \$1bn will spend an average of \$11.7m on their climate change and sustainability program.
- The most significant initiatives in 2010 will be building energy efficiency and sustainable product and service marketing.

Iberdrola spearheads \$3m energy crop project in Spain

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/biofuel_biomass/iberdrola-spearheads-3m-energy-crop-project-in-spain.html

To study ways to optimise the whole logistics chain for energy crops from genetic selection to power station delivery, Iberdrola will develop the Lignocrop initiative along with the Forest Research Centre, the Valencian Institute for Agricultural Research and the University of Castilla La Mancha. The project is subsidised by Spain's Ministry of Science and Innovation through its economic stimulus framework called Plan E, under which the country's government plans to promote and support major scientific and industrial initiatives.

Kirk Environmental to supply tanks for UK's first public anaerobic digestion facility

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/biofuel_biomass/kirk-environmental-to-supply-tanks-for-uk%E2%80%99s-first-public-anaerobic-digestion-facility.html

Google launches online smart metering tool and targets European renewables market

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/energy_efficiency/google-launches-online-smart-metering-tool-and-targets-european-renewables-market.html

Business & Markets - GLOBAL

Bioenergy surpassed oil as biggest source of energy in Sweden during 2009: Swedish Energy Agency

<http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/alternative-energy-knowledge-bank/bioenergy-use-tops-oil-in-sweden.html>

- Bioenergy accounted for 31.7% of the country's final energy use for the year compared to 30.8% oil. Final energy use covers all sectors of power consumption including industry, transport, residential and other services.
- Sweden is well ahead of the EU's RE directive's total RE share guidance of 49% in 2020. Swedish bioenergy business sector is in a phase of strong expansion. (Swedish Bioenergy Association, Svebio)
- Biomass is the primary energy source in the country's district heating sector, which supplies more than half of the total heat demand in the residential sector. The use of byproducts and residues in Sweden's forest industry is another major component. Bioelectricity has expanded with CHP plants in district heating and in the forest industry, with wood pellets playing a significant role in heating individual homes. More than 5% of the country's transport fuels are biofuels, bioethanol, biodiesel and biogas.

Latin America

Petrobras secures \$1.2bn ethanol deal with Tereos

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/biofuel_biomass/petrobras-secures-12bn-ethanol-deal-with-tereos-ahead-of-listing-plans.html

Bunge plans to continue investing in its sugar and bioenergy business

<http://www.flex-news-food.com/console/PageViewer.aspx?page=30198>

Africa

Biogas pilot project targeting small-scale farmers in Kenya

<http://www.thebioenergysite.com/news/6147/biogas-pilot-project-targeting-small-scale-farmers>

Hydropower, solar energy, and biofuels could create 300,000 jobs in 10 years: South Africa's Economic Development Minister Ebrahim Patel

http://ae-africa.com/read_article.php?NID=2044

Tanzania: Investment for energy sector needs billions

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201005191107.html>

NATIONAL Power System Master Plan requires an amount of US\$ 12bn for investments in the energy sector for the next 23 years (2010 -2033) at current price levels. The investment is for power generation, grid extension, off-grid electrification and transmission and distribution including rehabilitation. Currently, about 90% of energy consumed in Tanzania is in the form of traditional biomass, 8% is from imported petroleum products, 1.5% is in form of electricity generated by hydropower, natural gas, biomass co-generation, coal and other thermal power plants. Tanzania's Energy Policy of 2003 emphasizes on the availability of reliable and affordable energy supplies and their use in a rational and sustainable manner to support national development goals. Tanzania is keen to ensure an enabling environment for sustainable bio-energy including guidelines which are already in place. Bio-energy development in Tanzania is still at an infancy stage and a number of actors and developers are at various stages of developing or promoting bio-energy in the country. The country's quest is to move away from traditional biomass to modern biomass that includes liquid bio-fuels and biomass co-gen

Business & Markets - GLOBAL

Other Countries

DP CleanTech and Chant Group in CHP biomass project in Heilongjiang province, China

<http://www.thebioenergysite.com/news/6190/dp-cleantech-and-chant-group-in-chp-biomass-project>

The new co-gen plant will consume soft straw residues to provide an annual total of 1.8576×108 KWh of electricity to the China state national grid in addition to 571,000 GJ of energy for district heating.

China's state grid to buy energy from world's largest manure-biogas project

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/energy_efficiency/china%e2%80%99s-state-grid-to-buy-energy-from-world%e2%80%99s-largest-manure-biogas-project.html

Novozymes teams with Sinopec to commercialise cellulosic biofuel in China

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/biofuel_biomass/novozymes-teams-with-sinopec-to-commercialise-cellulosic-biofuel-in-china.html

China's first biofuel flight to launch this year

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/biofuel_biomass/china%e2%80%99s-first-biofuel-flight-to-launch-this-year.html

Bosch allocates S\$92m in Singapore for cleantech strategy

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/energy_efficiency/technology-giant-bosch-locates-clean-tech-base-in-singapore.html

Mitsubishi Electric to invest \$70m in testing smart grid technologies

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/wind/mitsubishi-electric-to-invest-70m-in-testing-smart-grid-technologies.html

Australia invests in bioenergy from its forestry resources

<http://www.teatronaturale.com/article/1850.html>

Under the Government's Forest Industries Climate Change Research Fund, the Government has offered funding to select entities to investigate opportunities for climate change mitigation in the forest industries of Australia.

- The CSIRO has been offered \$420,000 to assess environmental and economic opportunities for biofuel production from forest biomass resources in two regions of Australia, and to create a pathway for developing sustainable regional biofuel industries.
- \$248,700 has been offered to the RIRDC to examine biomass harvesting in planted forests and assess how new bioenergy agriforestry crops could be established.
- \$250,000 has been offered to the Department of Industry and Investment NSW to look at how growing pine plantations on agricultural land can affect soil carbon dynamics and potentially enhance soil quality and greenhouse reporting processes.
- \$255,671 is granted to Private Forests Tasmania to help farmers and regional communities to understand climate change impacts and emissions trading and how to invest in, grow and manage plantations as part of their own climate change management practices.

Finance & Investments - INDIA

PFC plans arm to fund green projects

<http://www.business-standard.com/india/storypage.php?autono=393284>

In 2010-11, PFC is expected to sanction Rs 1,500 crore and disburse Rs 350 crore for green projects. It has plans to incorporate a subsidiary to focus on RE sources including biomass projects. To increase the business in renewables, co-generation, energy saving projects and captive power plants, it has empanelled 31 business development associates. It has agreed with Gujarat Energy Development Agency (GEDA) to develop RE generation projects.

In 2009-10, it has sanctioned Rs 603 crore for RE projects and disbursed Rs 266 crore.

It is also expected to sanction Rs 9,000 crore and disburse Rs 2,500 crore in 2010-11 under the accelerated power development and reform programme.

Clenergen will float subsidiary on BSE

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/biofuel_biomass/us-biomass-company-clenergen-will-float-subsidary-on-bombay-stock-exchange.html

Clenergen has secured a licence for land in India for energy crops and a biomass plant that will enable it to float its subsidiary Clenergen India Private on the BSE SENSEX in March 2011. It hopes to raise \$67m in debt financing and \$31m in equity financing through the flotation.

Fresh carbon credits to swell India Inc's kitty by Rs 4,000 crore

<http://www.financialexpress.com/news/Fresh-carbon-credits-to-swell-India-Inc-s-kitty-by-Rs-4-000-crore/618017/>

According to a CRISIL Report,

- By December 2012, India is likely to earn Rs 4,000 crore from additional issuance of carbon credits.
- Number of carbon credits issued from registration of existing and new RE projects is expected to go up to 76 mn by December 2012. CRISIL assumes a conservative price of €10 for one CER.
- As of now, there are 1,846 renewable power projects in India, only 284 are recorded with the UNFCCC for carbon credits, CRISIL projects India's RE capacity to rise to 20000 MW by 2012, up from 15,542 MW at present, which creates an opportunity for earning more carbon credits.

Fast Facts



Only for South Africa, an SMS messaging campaign has been initiated in partnership with Business, viz., Fonerworx and KPMG to generate funds towards offsetting of the 2010 Carbon footprint.
http://www.ens-newswire.com/ens/jun2010/2010-06-11-01.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzEmail&utm_content=556211&utm_campaign=Web



Part of the South African government's National Greening Framework, officials involved in the greening effort intend to encourage municipalities to continue after the tournament to save energy consumption by adopting RE and energy efficiency practices.
http://www.ens-newswire.com/ens/jun2010/2010-06-11-01.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzEmail&utm_content=556211&utm_campaign=Web

Finance & Investments - GLOBAL

North America

Tony Blair to advice Vinod Khosla's VC Firm

<http://blogs.wsj.com/india-chief-mentor/2010/05/26/tony-blair-to-advice-vinod-khoslas-vc-firm/>

Over 30 nations pledge \$4.25bn to world's largest environmental fund, the Global Environment Facility

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/water/world%e2%80%99s-largest-environmental-fund-gef-gets-425bn-from-30-nations.html

EdeniQ closes a \$12.4m funding round led by DFJ to be invested in corn-to-cellulose migration program

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/biofuel_biomass/us-biofuel-company-edeniq-raises-124m.html

Earth Capital Partners launches Latin American ECP Forestry Fund One

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/energy_efficiency/earth-capital-partners-launches-latin-american-forestry-fund.html

The fund will target up to \$300m in timber plantations and related assets in Brazil and Latin America. 6 to 8 projects will see the investment, with returns from domestic and export markets for fibre, biomass and solid wood, with a 10-year maturity period.

Europe

UK-based Helveta raises £5m to support forestry sector expansion

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/energy_efficiency/uk-technology-developer-helveta-raises-5m-to-support-forestry-sector-expansion.html

Climate Change Capital invests £7.5m in Climate Energy

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/energy_efficiency/european-investor-climate-change-capital-invests-75m-in-portfolio-energy-efficiency-company-climate-energy.html

European development finance institutions to establish climate change fund

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/solar-by_technology-new-news/european-development-finance-institutions-to-establish-climate-change-fund.html

The fund will be set up by Agence Française de Développement, the European Investment Bank and European Development Finance Institutions. The group intends to invest in private sector climate change projects in Africa, the Caribbean and Pacific, Asia and Latin America before the end of 2010.

European investor Ambienta buys majority stake in Ecoteck

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/energy_efficiency/european-investor-ambienta-buys-majority-stake-in-ecoteck.html

Ambienta has closed the agreement for Ambienta I fund to invest alongside the Ravelli family in Ecoteck, which designs, produces and markets pellet-fed stoves, heaters and boilers. More than 900,000 pellet stoves are currently installed in Europe, a large portion of which are in Italy.

IFC makes \$10 mn loan to partnership of Mwalimu Nyerere Foundation & China's CRJE Estate

http://ae-africa.com/read_article.php?NID=1997

Alquity launches first Africa fund to invest in cleantech and RE

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/solar-by_technology-new-news/investment-manager-alquity-launches-first-in-range-of-africa-funds.html

R & D / Technology - GLOBAL

North America

Scientific breakthrough may allow bacteria to produce ethanol

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/biofuel_biomass/scientific-breakthrough-may-allow-bacteria-to-produce-ethanol.html

The J Craig Venter Institute along with Scientific Genomics and Exxon Mobil has created the world's first synthetic organism. The technology harnesses the reproductive power of bacteria to develop cells that can produce vast quantities of the material required to make ethanol.

VW, Delphi develop 'greenest' diesel system

http://www.biodieselmagazine.com/article.jsp?article_id=4174

Ben Franklin Technology Partners invests \$393,146 in local companies advancing innovative RE systems

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/energy_efficiency/pennsylvania-state-development-agency-ben-franklin-invests-in-renewable-energy-innovation.html

Europe

Intertek will build a new laboratory complex to test biofuels and biomass

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/biofuel_biomass/intertek-builds-bioenergy-laboratory-in-spain.html

Gene discovery potential for ethanol

<http://www.thebioenergysite.com/news/6227/gene-discovery-potential-for-cellulosic-ethanol>

Scientists at the US DoE's Oak Ridge National Laboratory are improving strains of microorganisms used to convert biomass into ethanol, including a recent modification that could improve the efficiency of the conversion process. Research has identified a key *Z. mobilis* gene for the first time and show the strain's improved efficiency and its potential use for more cost-effective biofuel production.

University of Illinois discovers algae growth device from computer parts

http://www.biomassmagazine.com/article.jsp?article_id=3782

Researchers generate electricity from biofuel cells implanted in rats: Reports

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/biofuel_biomass/researchers-generate-electricity-from-biofuel-cells-implanted-in-rats-reports-say.html

Novozymes and Ceres enter research collaboration to co-develop customized plant varieties and enzyme cocktails to produce biofuel

<http://www.thebioenergysite.com/news/6209/novozymes-and-ceres-partner-on-biofuel-crops>

Iberdrola heads energy crop project

<http://www.thebioenergysite.com/news/6124/iberdrola-heads-energy-crop-project>

Iberdrola Renovables is heading a €3 mn Lignocrop project, the most advanced initiative globally to improve the management and production of energy crops. Other partners include the Forest Research Centre, the Valencian Institute for Agricultural Research and the University of Castilla La Mancha. The project is subsidised by the Ministry of Science and Innovation through the Spanish Plan to Stimulate the Economy (Plan E), under which the Government hopes to promote and support major scientific and industrial initiatives.

R & D / Technology - GLOBAL

New labs to strengthen bioenergy research

<http://www.thebioenergysite.com/news/6176/new-labs-to-strengthen-bioenergy-research>

Aston University in Birmingham strengthens its research into bioenergy by opening a £650,000 engineering laboratory. Funded by The Royal Society and Wolfson Foundation, the 'Royal Society-Wolfson Advanced Biofuels and Bioenergy Laboratory' will focus on biomass conversion technologies - the process of transforming plant materials, oils and municipal and agricultural waste into useful and valuable forms of RE. Examples of bioenergy research projects currently involving Aston University include:

- A £6.2m SUPERGEN bioenergy project with 14 research organisations and 9 companies delivering a UK centre of excellence in bioenergy and biofuels R&D.
- A €3.73m research project to develop a renewable biofuel to help Europe and Latin America reduce imports of fossil fuels.
- A collaboration with Severn Trent Water company to transform sewage sludge into energy.
- A collaboration with Johnson Matthey to transform pyrolysis gases and synthesis gases into fuels for heat and power engines.
- A £3m project with the IIT- Delhi to develop mini power plants powered by renewable and waste sources in Birmingham and India.

Europe

Supercharged grasses for greener bioenergy

<http://www.thebioenergysite.com/news/6122/supercharged-grasses-for-greener-bioenergy>

According to Executive Director of BioSciences Research at the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) in Victoria, Australia, Professor German Spangenberg, the new technology reprogrammes the photosynthetic cells of grasses to produce and store more sugars known as fructans. By applying this technology to temperate grasses such as perennial ryegrass and tall fescue in glasshouse and field trials, significantly higher dry matter yields have been achieved.

Kiwi cleantech company in demand

<http://www.thebioenergysite.com/news/6136/kiwi-clean-tech-company-in-demand>

New Zealand-based Aquaflow Bionomic Corporation will collaborate with the United States Gas Technology Institute on a US\$3.1mn advanced biomass conversion technology program that will be part funded by the US DoE. Aquaflow will focus on expanding the algae biomass processing options. The project's initial phase will last 14 months. The project will demonstrate the conversion of algae biomass directly to gasoline and diesel fuel using integrated hydrolysis and hydroconversion technology.

Climate Change & Environment

India

Basic Countries: Legally binding climate change agreement

<http://www.duniyalive.com/?p=128754>

During the 3rd meeting of BASIC (Brazil, South Africa, India and China) ministers was concluded in Cape Town on April 25. The Basic Countries have called for finalising a legally binding treaty on reduction of carbon emission latest by 2011. According to the statement, the ministers feel that a legally binding outcome should be concluded during climate change meet at Cancun, Mexico in 2010, or at the latest in S. Africa by 2011

India toughens stand in runup to Mexico

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/environment/global-warming/India-toughens-stand-in-runup-to-Mexico/articleshow/5895196.cms>

India has made one of the strongest and most elaborate formal submissions for the climate change negotiations, hardening its stance ahead of the key meeting in Mexico in November. According to the submission by India,

The Copenhagen Accord is not to be treated as the basis of a negotiating text unless it is agreed and adopted by all the parties and that it should be used to facilitate the formal UN talks on Kyoto Protocol and a long-term agreement. 'Per capita accumulative emissions' should be the basis for sharing of the carbon space and this principle should be embedded in the reference to the global cap on emissions the Copenhagen Accord refers to when asking that temperature rise be limited to below 2° C from pre-industrial era. There should be a 2-track approach -- stronger Kyoto Protocol targets for developed countries and voluntary actions of the developing world.

India to study impact of global warming on coastal areas through a World Bank funded project – Integrated Coastal Zone Management

<http://economicstimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics/nation/India-to-study-impact-of-global-warming-on-coastal-areas/articleshow/5922262.cms>

States turning savvy, draft local plans

<http://www.livemint.com/2010/05/31225123/States-turning-savvy-draft-lo.html>

Europe

UNFCCC picks Christiana Figueres as new executive secretary

http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/renewable-energy-news/by_technology/energy_efficiency/unfcc-picks-christiana-figueres-as-new-executive-secretary.html

Oxfam called on climate negotiators in Bonn to report and deliver openly on the US\$100 bn climate financing

<http://www.mb.com.ph/articles/260224/longterm-solutions-climate-change-pushed>

Abbreviations Used

mn - Million | bn - Billion | RE - Renewable Energy | BTL - Biomass-To-Liquid | CDM - Clean Development Mechanism | CCS - Carbon Capture & Storage | BCAP - Biomass Crop Assistance Program