

IEA Bioenergy

WEBINAR SERIES

Decision Support Tools for Bioeconomy Transformation Strategies:

Introduction of Natural Resources Canada I-BIOREF Software Platform

October 17, 2018

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm Central European Summer Time
10:00 am - 11:00 am Eastern Daylight Time
2:00 p.m - 3:00 pm Greenwich Mean Time



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Presentation Summary:

The robustness of new biorefinery concepts depends on their ability to survive under uncertain future conditions, for example, biomass/feedstock prices, energy prices, bioproduct prices, policy instruments, changes in electricity production mix, and performance characteristics of novel processes (yields, efficiencies, etc.). Economic and environmental evaluations typically consider today's conditions, resulting in non-optimal decision-making. Decision support models and tools that address future scenarios in order to identify robust biorefinery strategies analysis are needed. Hence, decision-making is not a straightforward process, as complex problems involve numerous options or alternatives as well as an array of predefined criteria, which differ in nature and include technical, economic, environmental, market, social, policy and supply chain related aspects. In addition, decision makers today require quick, efficient, and integrated methods for comparing various alternatives for a wide range of investment scenarios. For this purpose, decision support tools usually provide computational support for implementing multi-criteria analysis as well as interpreting the results through numerical and visual graphic aids. From this standpoint, Natural Resources Canada provided the means to develop an integrative decision making platform, namely I-BIOREF, to help the forest industry make better informed and successful transition toward a low-carbon and sustainable economy, in addition to being correctly positioned to advance the next generation of transformation through biobased solutions.

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