

Bioenergy web resources analysis

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This brief overview of bioenergy-related web resources includes a spreadsheet with detailed observations as well as a list of 21 sites we recommend for each specific audience. Out of the 50 web sites reviewed, 35 were kept for the analysis.

Please note:

- Nearly half of the web sites target policy-makers, particularly those in the EU. They focus on offering relevant updates on news and events as well as reports and position papers and European affairs documents. Very few offer analysis based upon actual research and data/statistics and nearly all sites focus on quantity rather than quality.
- Nearly half of the web sites provide basic information explaining the different types and uses of bioenergy to the "general public" although only a few see this as their sole purpose.
- Two-thirds of the web sites reviewed provide docs, news and events but only one-third publishes analysis and four web sites provide some data.
- The field of bioenergy is quite broad and there are several sites supporting and promoting specific sectors of the bioenergy industry with respect to research and development (R&D) as well as policy-making. However, many of these sites are consulting firms and therefore do not share the information on which they base their services.

In conclusion:

- statistical information and data (at the national and sub-national levels) are lacking; although all the web sites have their own approach and target, they generally lack constructive analysis based on hard facts.
- biofuels are addressed more often than other bioenergy products (cooking, heating, power); there is also a lot more research on this topic than on the others.
- Re: the information itself: quality, format, ease of retrieving and update frequency could be improved considerably for most of these web resources.
- More time would be needed to search and extract from each web site reviewed its best information resources. For example, which statistics/data are publicly available, what are the major publications or latest R&D on a subject, etc.

Recommended web sites

Policy-making

<http://www.reeep.org>

<http://www.ren21.net>

<http://esa.un.org/un-energy>

EU policy-making

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/index_en.html

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/energy>

<http://www.energie-cites.org>

<http://www.fedarene.org>

Educational

<http://www.aboutbioenergy.info>

R&D

<http://www.ieabioenergy.com>

<http://www.nrel.gov>

<http://www.eurec.be>

<http://bioenergy.ornl.gov>

<http://www.worldenergy.org/wec-geis/default.asp>

Industry

<http://www.biofuelsjournal.com/>

R&D and Industry

<http://www.eubia.org>

<http://www1.eere.energy.gov/biomass>

Cooperation advances in Industry and Policy-making

<http://www.erec-renewables.org>

<http://www.aebiom.org>

Specialized links

<http://www.iphe.net>

<http://www.reegle.info>

<http://www.bioenergywiki.net/>