

Sustainable Bioenergy for the Energy Transition

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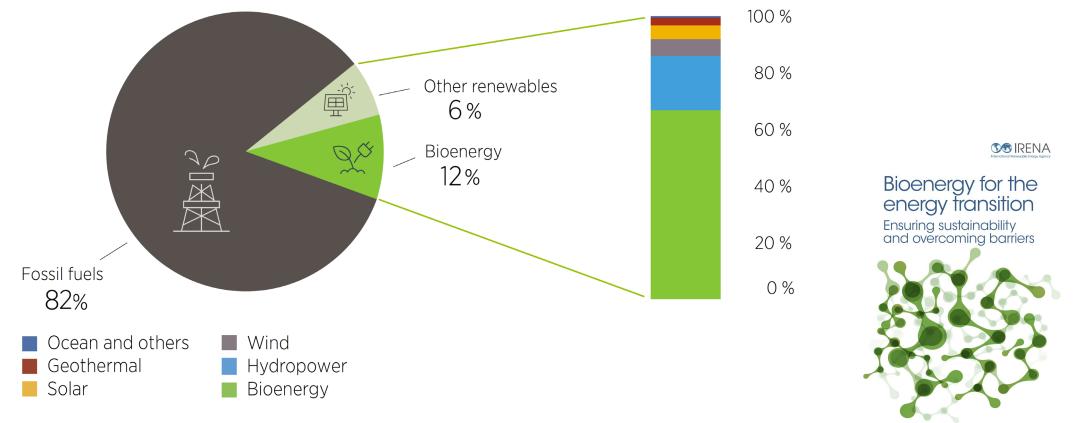
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Bioenergy contributes the largest share of renewable energy consumption



Share of bioenergy and other renewables in global total final energy consumption, 2019



Source: IEA, IRENA

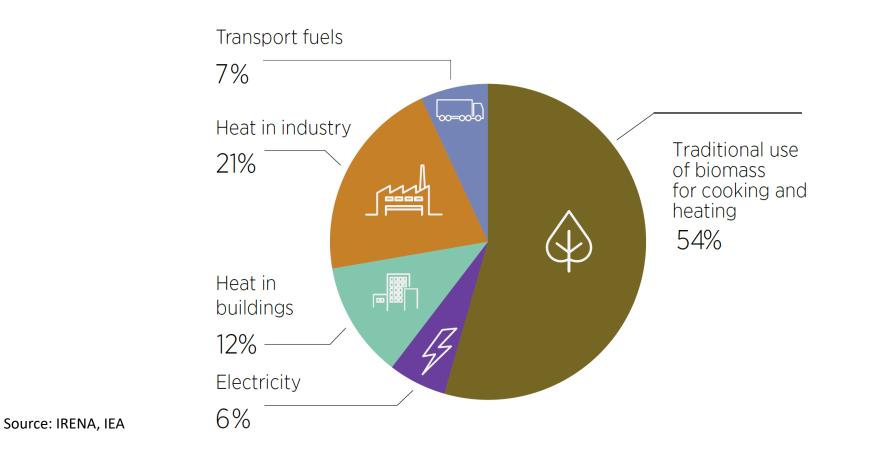
Bioenergy provided around 12% of global energy demand in 2019.

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Traditional use and heating are major end uses



Share of global bioenergy consumption by end use, 2020



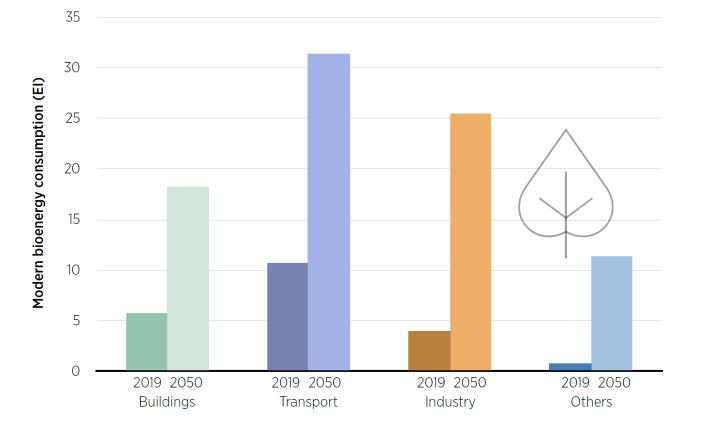
In 2020, more than 80% of bioenergy is used for cooking and heating in buildings and industry, providing 20% of total heat consumption.

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Modern bioenergy can support the decarbonisation of all sectors.

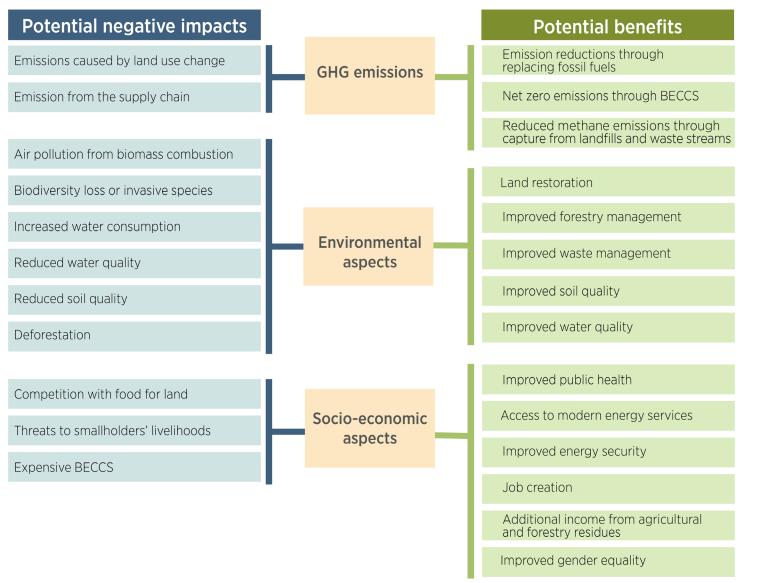
By 2050, it could provide 20% of total energy use in industry and is one of few renewable options for aviation.

Note: "Others" includes bioenergy for non-energy use and as chemical feedstock; EJ = exajoule. Source: IRENA





Potential aspects related to bioenergy sustainability



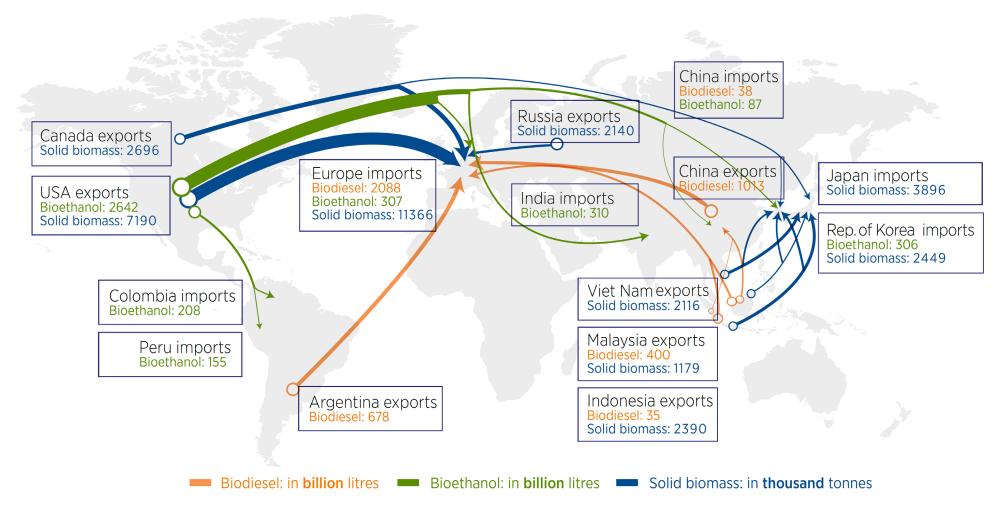
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Wood pellets, biodiesel and bioethanol are major bioenergy commodities



Global bioenergy trade in major markets, 2020



Note: The figure does not include all bioenergy trade due to limited data. Other international trade of bioenergy may exist but is not shown in this figure. Source: IRENA analysis based on Argus, Japanese Forestry Agency, UNComtrade, and USDA

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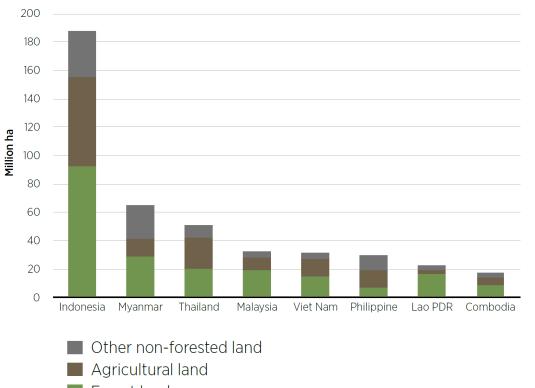




Case studies on Southeast Asia



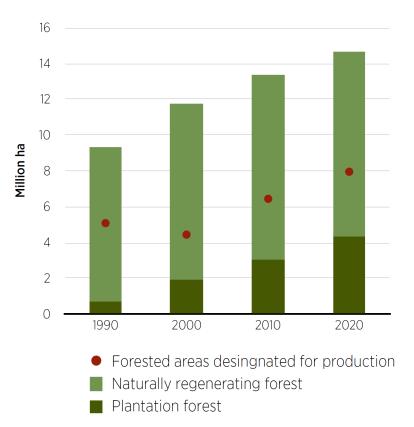
An overview of land use in some Southeast Asian countries



Forest land

Source: FAO

Changes in forested areas in Viet Nam in 1990-2020



Source: FAO

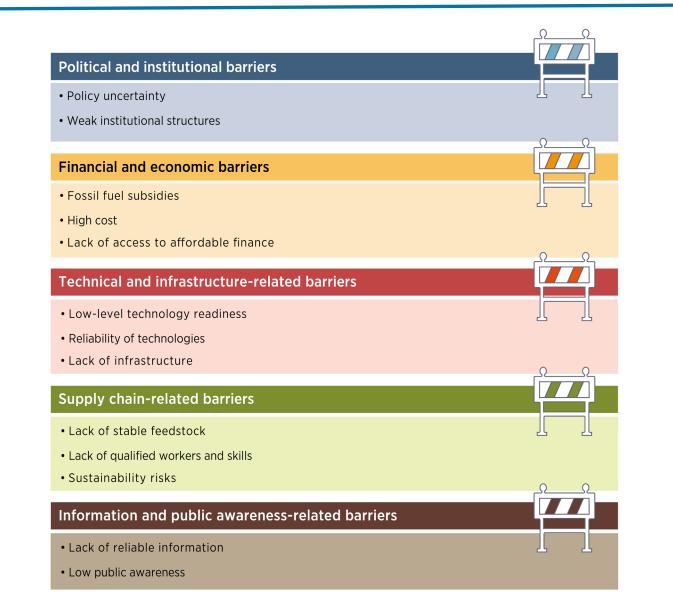
The agriculture and forestry sectors of Southeast Asia can generate a considerable volume of residues and waste.

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Policies and regulations are needed to tackle cross-cutting barriers





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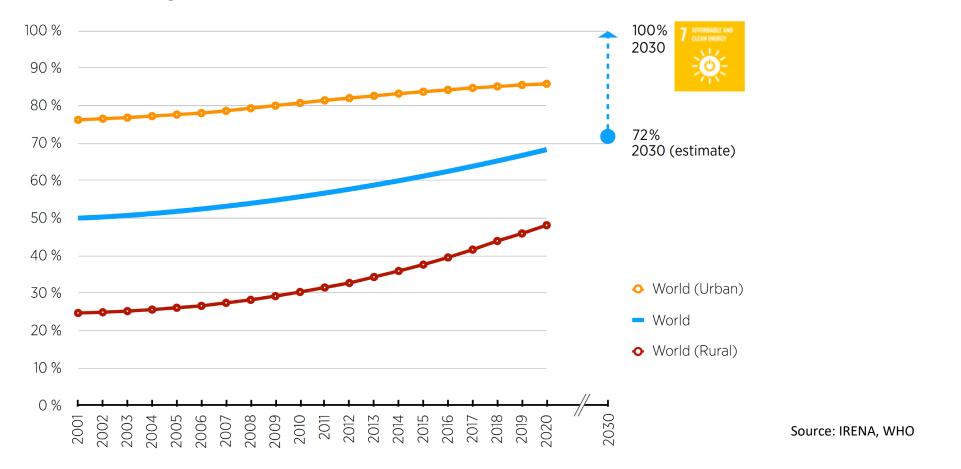
Policy uncertainty has been a main barrier to developing renewables, including bioenergy, due to the lack of long-term policy commitments and targets.

Weak supply chains are another major barrier for large-scale bioenergy projects. They also can be a reason for high production costs





Global clean cooking access rates from 2001 to 2020 and forecast to 2030

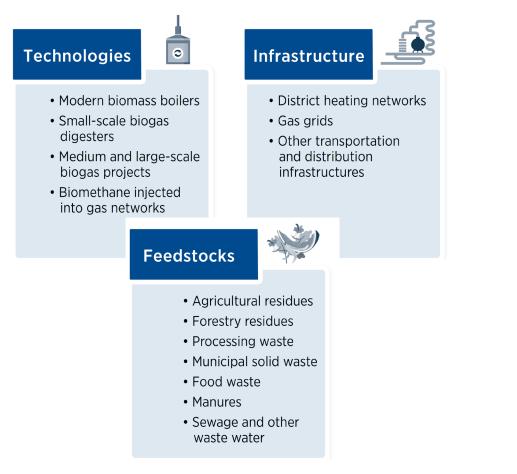


Biogas digesters have played a significant role in helping people transition from inefficient biomass to clean cooking solutions, with successful examples in China, India, Nepal and Viet Nam.

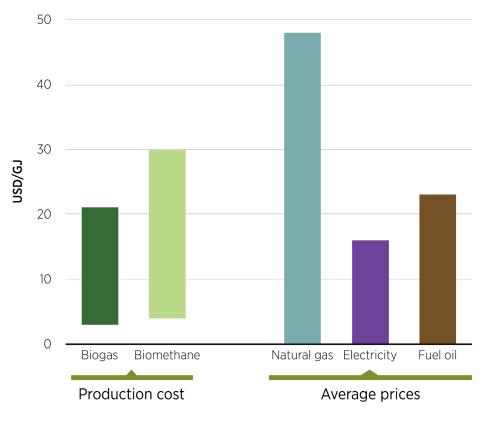
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Biogas and biomethane have potential to meet more heat demand in buildings IRENA

Major pathways for modern bioenergy use in buildings

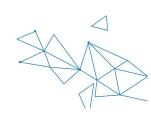


Biogas and biomethane production cost and average prices of natural gas, electricity and fuel oil for residential consumers in OECD countries, 2018



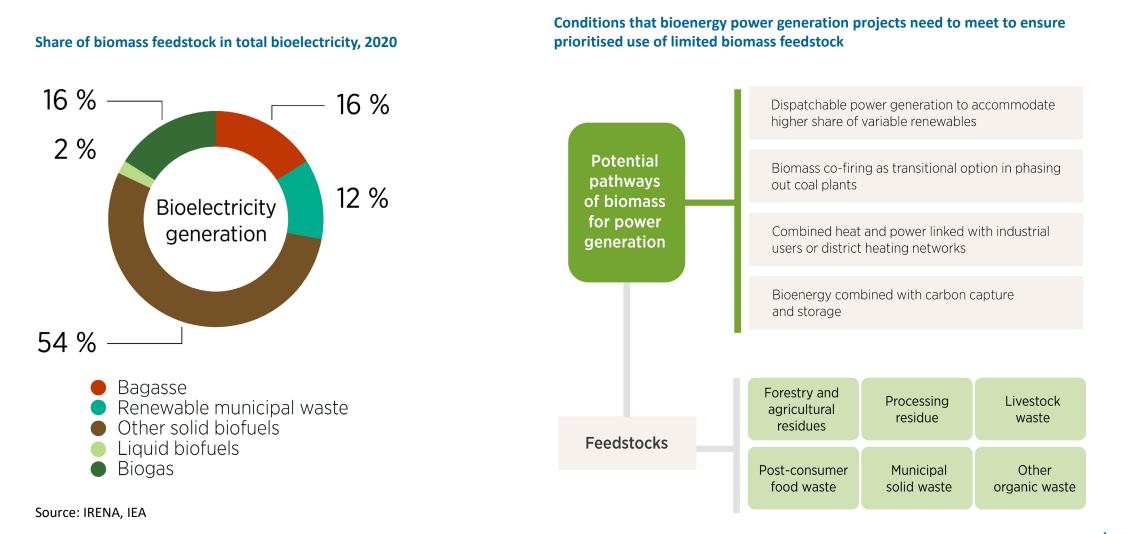
Source: IRENA, IEA, REN21

Biogas and biomethane-based heat can be competitive with fossil fuel options if low-cost feedstocks (*e.g.*, residues and waste) are available.



Bioenergy-based power generation must deliver multiple benefits



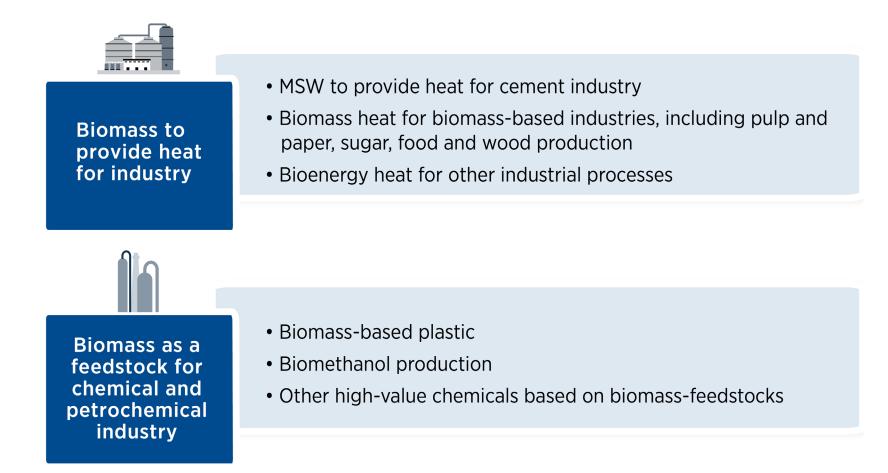


Bioelectricity projects should be limited to those using low-cost residues and waste, provide dispatchable electricity, combined with heat or BECCS, or some co-firing plants.

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Potential opportunities of bioenergy for industrial decarbonisation



Bioplastic will increase from less than 1% in 2020, to around 20% of global plastic production by 2050 in the 1.5°C Scenario.





Total energy demand in transport, by fuel, 2020

Overall policy framework for deployment of renewables in transport

91 %	Strategies and targets	Long term strategy and targets on renewables for transport					
	Sustainability	Sustainability governance, regulations and policies					
	Policies for deployment	Mandates	Renewable fuel standards	Financial and fiscal incentives	Support to RD&D	City-level policies	
 2 % Fossil oil Renewable electricity Biodiesel Non-renewable electricity Natural gas 	Energy efficiency and infrastructures	Avoid-Shift-Improve framework		Support to infrastructures		Energy efficiency measures	

Source: IEA, REN21

Bioenergy's role in the decarbonisation of transport will need to be co-ordinated with other options such as electric vehicles, green hydrogen or green ammonia.

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International Renewable Energy Agency

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