XIV Congreso Nacional de Biotecnología y Bioingeniería

THE EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL BIOENERGY INITIATIVE

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Key words: SET-Plan, Biofuels, EIBI, Second generation,

We are facing worldwide climate change, a situation which calls for an effective low-carbon policy and efficient energy technologies. The European Union (EU) is tackling the challenge through a policy whose target is nothing less than the transformation of the entire energy system. In short, we must make low-carbon technologies affordable and competitive. This is the core idea behind the European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan). The EU's approach focuses on the European Industrial Initiatives (EII). Industry-led, the EIIs aim to strengthen industrial participation in energy research and demonstration, boost innovation and accelerate deployment of low-carbon energy technologies. EIIs target sectors in which working at EU level adds most value, and technologies for which the barriers, the scale of the investment and the risk involved can be better tackled collectively.

Since bio-energy has to play a key role in the EU long term energy strategy for all applications and especially the transport sector, one of the European Industrial Initiatives is focused on bringing to commercial maturity the most promising technologies for sustainable production of advanced biofuels. Different bio-energy pathways are at various stages of maturity. For many, the most pressing need is to demonstrate the technology at the appropriate scale – pilot plants, pre-commercial demonstration or full industrial scale.

This presentation presents the current development of second biofuels technologies in Europe and describes the activities of the European Industrial Bioenergy Initiative in order to select, fund, build and operate demonstration projects for the most promising options ready for pre industrial and/or industrial deployment in Europe, especially those related with biochemical pathway technologies.