

PRESS RELEASE

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**BIOMASS AND CARBON NEUTRALITY****A Biomass System Perspective Framework for a Net-Zero Future**

**Montreal, June 16, 2025** - The Institut de l'énergie Trottier (IET) of Polytechnique Montréal is releasing this Thursday June 19<sup>th</sup> the final report of its [Biomass and Carbon Neutrality: Putting in place an evaluation framework](#) project. This project's main objective is to develop an evaluation and comparison grid for biomass uses in the context of Canada's transition to carbon neutrality. The project has led to the development of a decision-support tool, [Biomass System Perspective](#), which will also be presented during the launch webinar. This project is funded by the Transition Accelerator and funded by Environment and Climate Change Canada.

**Biomass : a strategic but complex sector**

Biomass resources can play a strategic role in Canada's energy transition as the country's vast forest and agriculture lands and the diversity of conversion technologies make biomass a key part of potential decarbonization pathways for several end-use sectors, such as industries, buildings, road transport, marine, rail or aviation. Biomass use, therefore, must be accurately assessed to ensure that projects will deliver the expected climate benefits and that we avoid situations where efforts to decarbonize different sectors could be counterproductive to climate change mitigation.

**Given the development of multiple conversion technologies, competing demands from various economic sectors and a limited supply, which pathways would best contribute to Canada's transition to net zero?**

It was this question that guided the project over the two years it ran. The IET researchers studied current practices and held discussions and workshops across Canada with stakeholders and experts, enabling them to co-develop an evaluation and comparison framework for biomass uses, keeping in mind Canada's commitment to achieve net zero emissions by 2050.

The final report presents the main characteristics of biomass in Canada, explaining the factors that impact their benefits in terms of climate change mitigation, as well as the methods used to assess these uses and those employed to track biogenic CO<sub>2</sub>.

**A system perspective framework and a decision-making tool**

It then presents a description of the proposed approach for project evaluation in Canada's transition to net zero, and also of the structure of the decision support tool developed by the researchers and available in open access, *Biomass System Perspective*.

Adopting a systemic perspective on biomass use when evaluating potential new projects shifts the focus from a project-level assessment to an analysis of the whole system, considering alternative options either for resource use and conversion, or for end-use decarbonization.

## Recommendations

The report also provides recommendations to ensure that biomass and bioenergy uses contribute to achieving Canada's climate objectives :

- 1) Improve **data availability** for biomass supply;
- 2) Impose **transparency** in carbon intensity reporting;
- 3) Put in place **measures** to ensure that the LULUCF (Land use, land-use change and forestry) sector reaches negative emissions;
- 4) Establish a Biomass **Strategy** compatible with Canada's Net-zero commitment.

**To attend the webinar :** [registration](#)  
Thursday June 19, 1pm-2pm (ET), Zoom

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## About the Institut de l'énergie Trottier (IET) of Polytechnique Montréal

The Institut de l'énergie Trottier (IET) was created in 2013 thanks to an exceptional donation from the Trottier Family Foundation to Polytechnique Montréal. Since then, it has been involved in every energy debate in the country. At the source of major collective reflections, the team mobilizes knowledge, analyzes data, popularizes issues and recommends fair and effective plans, simultaneously contributing to academic research and training. Its independence gives it the neutrality essential to the collaborative approach it advocates, facilitating work with the players most likely to advance the energy transition, while allowing it to be freely critical when relevant.

As the initial 10-year mandate came to an end, the Trottier Family Foundation decided to renew its confidence in the IET and made a new donation. Given the scope of the IET's activities and its status as a key player, its mandate was extended. The team will thus be able to continue offering science-based advice and enriching societal dialogue in order to advance the way we produce, convert, distribute and use energy.

## Project funding

To support the mandate of Canada's Net-Zero Advisory Body related to research, this project was undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada. Funding was provided through the Environmental Damages Funds' Climate Action and Awareness Fund, administered by Environment and Climate Change Canada.

The Transition Accelerator and the IET have also contributed.

## Media information :

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