The Business of Biochar is an online symposium focusing on the opportunities for growth, investment and the business development prospects for biochar.

Tuesday December 7, 2021

Day One: Scaling Biochar

Session 1a: Opportunities, Roadblocks, Policies
11:30 am – 12:00 pm ET (U.S.) / 16:30-17:00 UTC

SPEAKERS:
- Kathleen Draper, Chair, International Biochar Initiative
- Tom Miles, Executive Director, U.S. Biochar Initiative
- Rob Nooter, Executive Director, International Biochar Initiative

Session 1b: Academic Progress & Future Research Needs
12:00 pm – 1:15 pm ET (U.S.) / 17:00-18:15 UTC

Leading researchers will discuss the latest, most exciting research related to biochar and where it might lead the biochar industry particularly with respect to climate change.

SPEAKERS:
- Stephen Joseph, Professor, University of New South Wales, Australia
- Claudia Kammann*, Professor, Hochschule Geisenheim University, Germany
- Harn Wei Kua, Professor, National University of Singapore
- Johannes Lehmann, Professor, Cornell University, United States
- Genxing Pan, Professor, Nanjing Agricultural University, China

Networking Break
1:15 pm – 1:30 pm ET (U.S.) / 18:15-18:30 UTC

Session 1c: Commercial Status Around the Globe
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm ET (U.S.) / 18:30-19:30 UTC

Biochar markets are beginning to scale in different ways and different directions around the globe. Attendees will hear about current and future commercial opportunities in Australia, China, Europe, Latin America, and the U.S.

SPEAKERS:
- Harald Bier, European Biochar Industry Consortium
- Don Coyne, CEO, Australia New Zealand Biochar Industry Group
- Veronica Kitti, ASA Initiative, Ghana
- Brenton Mark Ladd, Universidad Científica del Sur, Peru
- Tom Miles, Executive Director, U.S. Biochar Initiative

*Invited
Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Day Two: Biochar Carbon Markets

Session 2a: Voluntary Carbon Markets
11:30 am – 12:30 pm ET (U.S.) / 16:30-17:30 UTC
The number of marketplaces that accept biochar as a carbon removal product is growing. Understanding the differences between the platforms, their biochar methodologies, their costs and biochar carbon pricing models can be time-consuming. We bring together representatives from Puro, Carbon Future, Verra, Climate Action Reserve and the C-Sink Tropical to discuss their marketplaces and the opportunities for biochar.

SPEAKERS:
• Stefan Jirka, Verra.org, United States
• Hannes Junginger, Carbonfuture, Germany
• Jon Remucal, Climate Action Reserve, United States
• Hans-Peter Schmidt, C-Sink Protocol, Ithaka Institute for Carbon Intelligence, United States
• Marianne Tikkanen, Puro, Finland

Networking Break
12:30 pm – 12:45 pm ET (U.S.) / 17:30-17:45 UTC

Session 2b: Demand Perspectives for Biochar-Based Carbon Removal Credits
12:45 pm – 1:45 pm ET (U.S.) / 17:45-18:45 UTC
Companies are increasingly committing to science-based emissions targets which necessitates that they offset emissions that they cannot reduce or eliminate. Carbon buyers are developing sophisticated criteria to compare, rank, price and purchase different types of carbon products. Biochar has been included in a growing number of companies’ offset and removal portfolios. This panel features carbon buyers that have already vetted biochar to share their perspectives, purchasing rationales and helpful recommendations for biochar producers.

SPEAKERS:
• Andrea Vera, Forliance
• Eftimiya Salo, Compensate
• Jacob Bourgeois, ClimatePartner
• Teresa Lang, South Pole
• *Louis Redshaw, Redshaw Advisors (*invited)

Videos
1:45 pm – 2:00 pm ET (U.S.) / 18:45-19:00 UTC

Session 2c: Sales Side Perspectives for Biochar-Based Carbon Removal Credits
2:00 pm – 2:30 pm ET (U.S.) / 19:00-19:30 UTC
Biochar producers, brokers or project developers that have or soon will have marketable biochar-based removal credits are invited to submit three-minute videos describing their company and their pitch to prospective carbon removal buyers. These videos should present their companies’ individual responses to at least three of the following topics of interest to carbon buyers: (i.) Additionality and baselines; (ii.) Carbon accounting methods used; (iii.) Co—benefits; (iv.) Environmental Justice and (v.) Leakage.

For additional information on each of these topics, please see https://carbon-direct.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Criteria-for-High-quality-Carbon-Dioxide-Removal_September-2021.pdf

SPEAKERS:
• Karl Strahl, Oregon Biochar Solutions
• Sampo Tukiainen, CarboFex
Thursday, December 9, 2021

Day Three: Char Tank!

Session 3a: Financing Biochar Opportunities
11:30 am – 12:30 pm ET (U.S.) / 16:30-17:30 UTC
Investor interest in funding biochar companies has gone from a trickle to a torrent over the past few years and is likely to keep increasing. This panel includes investors that have or are planning to invest in biochar opportunities. They will share what makes them invest or not invest in different types of companies. They will also discuss what biochar companies need to do in order to attract investments from various types of funders.

SPEAKERS:
- Hansjörg Lerchenmueller, Lerchenmueller Consulting
- Andy Mercy, Tam Brands LLC
- Thomas Casten, Casten Family Foundation

Networking Break
12:30 pm – 12:50 pm ET (U.S.) / 17:30-17:50 UTC

Session 3b: Biochar Start Ups Perspective on Investors Prospecting
12:50 pm – 1:50 pm ET (U.S.) / 17:50-18:50 UTC
Many biochar companies have started with high hopes and low budgets only to fold a few years later due to lack of capital. Recently a growing number of biochar companies are successfully raising needed funds for expansion. This panel features various biochar entrepreneurs who have gone through the venture capital vetting process and received funding. They will share their experiences and recommendations for other biochar start-ups looking for investors.

SPEAKERS:
- Hansjörg Lerchenmueller, Lerchenmueller Consulting, Germany
- Mike Woelk, Corigin, United States
- Allison Dring, Made of Air, Germany
- *Bryan Eagle, Glanris, United States (*invited)

Char Tank Videos
1:50 pm – 2:05 pm ET (U.S.) / 18:50-19:05 UTC

Session 3c: The Future of Biochar
2:05 pm – 2:30 pm ET (U.S.) / 19:05-19:30 UTC
Biochar start-ups that are looking to raise capital are invited to submit three-minute videos to prospective investors. Videos should include the following information:
- Overview of your company and offerings
- What feedstock you are using, volumes producing
- What co-products can be valorized
- What market you are addressing (i.e., who are your buyers, what needs are you filling)
- How you are getting your product to market
- How much money you are looking for and how will you use it
- Credibility of management team

SPEAKERS:
- Tom Miles, U.S. Biochar Initiative
- Kathleen Draper, International Biochar Initiative
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