**International Bioenergy Conferences in Japan**

**Background**

At the occasion of the annual assembly meeting of World Bioenergy Association(WBA) in May 2017, Renewable Energy Institute will host international conferences in Tokyo and Nagano. The conferences invite international experts on bioenergy to highlight global bioenergy developments and reinforce Japan’s future direction of renewables. Nagano conference will be held at the occasion of the International Wood Fair.

**Program of Tokyo conference (TBD)**

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| **Title** | Bioenergy as a strategy for decarbonized economy   * Latest findings from the European trends |
| **Organizer** | Renewable Energy Institute |
| **Co-organizer** | Embassy of Sweden, Tokyo, World Bioenergy Association |
| **Dates & Time** | Monday, 22nd May 2017 14:00-17:40 (13:30 venue open) |
| **Venue** | International House of Japan, Tokyo |
| **Target audience** | Policy makers, industries, academics, NGOs, media, |
| **Opening  14:00-14:30  10mins each** | Tomas Kåberger, Chair of Executive Board, Renewable Energy Institute  *Magnus Robach, Ambassador, Embassy of Sweden(TBC)*  Remigijius Lapinskas, President, WBA |
| **Keynotes 14:30-15:10**  **20mins each** | *Policy maker from Sweden (TBC)*  Minoru Kumazaki, Chairman, Japan Woody Bioenergy Association |
| **Break (20mins)** | |
| **Session1**  **15:30-16:30**  **15mins each+panel** | European policy development (Moderation: Mika Ohbayashi, Director, REI)   * Björn Forsberg, Chairman of the board, World Thermal Service AB (WTS) * Jean-Marc Jossart, European Biomass Association (AEBOIM) * Volker Lentz, German Biomass Research Center (DBFZ) |
| **Break(10mins)** | |
| **Session2 16:40-17:40**  **15mins each+panel** | Challenges in Japan (Moderation: Takanobu Aikawa, REI)   * Karin Haara, Executive Director, World Bioenergy Association * *Shingo Numa, President, Forest Energy (with a representative from Cortus?)* * Takanobu Aikawa, Senior researcher, Renewable Energy Institute |

**Program of Nagano conference (TBD)**

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| **Title** | Woody biomass transforming the local energy system   * Learning from global experiences |
| **Organizer** | Renewable Energy Institute |
| **Co-organizer** | World Bioenergy Association, Japan Woody Biomass Association (JWBA) |
| **Supporting** | Japan Woody Bioenergy Association (JWBA), Advantage Austria, Japan |
| **Dates & Time** | Wednesday, 24th May 2017 13:00-17:00 |
| **Venue** | Big hat, Nagano |
| **Target audience** | Biomass related industry and enterprises, local government, etc. |
| **Opening  13:00-13:30  10mins each** | Mika Ohbayashi, Renewable Energy Institute (REI)  Remigijius Lapinskas, WBA  Advantage Austria, Japan |
| **Keynotes 13:30-14:00** | Development history of biomass heat market: Heinz Kopetz, WBA |
| **Session 1:**  **14:00-15:15**  **20mins each+**  **15mins panel** | Development of woody bioenergy (Moderation: Takanobu Aikawa, REI)   * Hisashi Kajiyama, President, Bioenergy Research & Investment（BERI, WBA） * Volker Lentz, German Biomass Research Centre (DBFZ) * *Austria: Martin Noebauer (BMLFUW)\*invited by Austrian embassy* |
| **Break (15 mins)** | |
| **Session 2**  **15:30-16:45**  **15mins each**  **+15mins panel** | Global and local practices (Moderation: Takanobu Aikawa, REI)   * *TBC, Nagano prefecture* * Chiaki Ikeya, Lab forest, Japan * *Hironao Matsubara, ISEP, WBA, Japan* * *Kelvin Hong, Great Resources, China (TBC)* * *Geradine Kutas, UNICA, Brazil (TBC)* |
| **Closing 16:45-17:00** | Minoru Kumazaki, Chairman, Japan Woody Bioenergy Association |