



Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR) Mission

Mark Ackiewicz, Mission Director
U.S. Department of Energy

CDR Workshop, June 28, 2022



About the Mission

SCOPE:

Technological CDR approaches, including:

- Direct Air Capture (DAC)
- Enhanced mineralization
- Biomass with carbon removal and storage (BiCRS)

Emphasis on secure CO₂ storage and conversion into long-lived products.

Goal:

“100 in 10” – Enable CDR technologies to achieve a net reduction of 100 million metric tons of CO₂ per year globally by 2030.

Activities

- Methodologies for lifecycle analyses (LCAs) and technoeconomic analyses (TEAs)
- RD&D for CDR technologies
- Lessons learned from first-generation CDR projects and business models

Coalition:

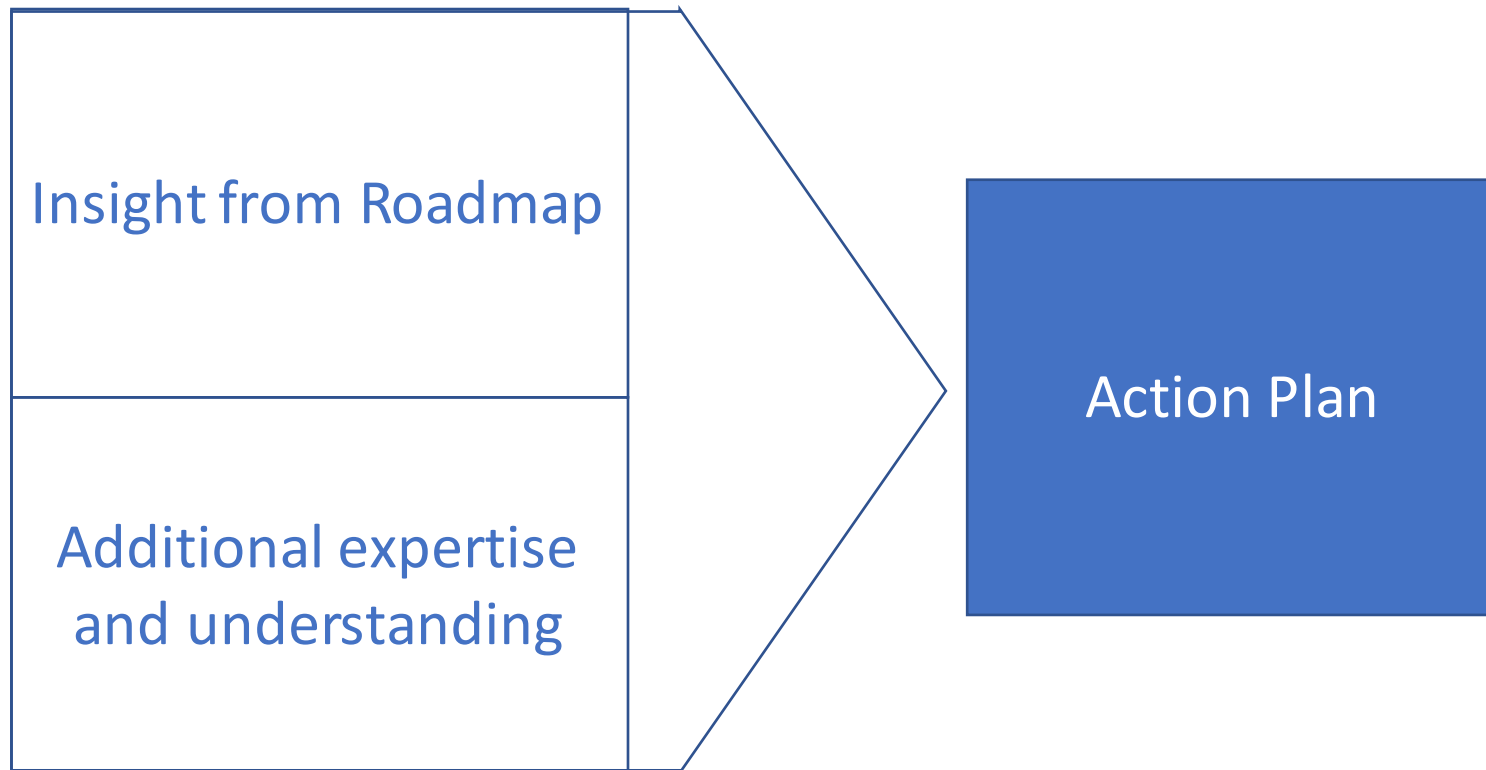
- Co-leads – Canada, Saudi Arabia, United States
- Members – Australia, EC, India, Japan, Norway, United Kingdom

Always open for additional members



Aim of Innovation Roadmap

Provide insight for the MI CDR Mission to develop an impactful Action Plan



DAC Technology Challenges and Innovation Gaps



CO₂ capture capacity

- Novel materials with high CO₂ capture flux
- Advanced packing materials with increased interactions with CO₂
- Materials that have minimal loss of CO₂ loading capacity in the presence of heat and oxidizing components
- Effect of elevation/altitude on the CO₂ capture performance

CO₂ capture and desorption

- Liquid phase mass transfer
- Engineered materials with pore sizes that span many scales (Sorbent)
- Effect of temperature and humidity
- Novel desorption approaches (e.g., electro-swing, microwave-swing, steam-swing, moisture-swing)
- Co-product generation (e.g., capturing the humidity in air)

Energy use

- Optimizing strength of chemical base for regeneration
- Lower specific heat capacity and higher thermal conductivity of capture material
- Contactor designs to reduce pressure drop
- Integration with existing airflow infrastructure (e.g., HVAC units and cooling towers)
- Passive transport of ambient air
- Development of materials that can capture CO₂ at low temperatures (e.g., -20 °C) and be regenerated under mild conditions (e.g., 25 °C)

Materials scale up

- Manufacturing supply chains with low cost, low emissions, and low environmental impact

BiCRS Technology Challenges and Innovation Gaps



Biomass Feedstocks

- Biomass optimized for life-cycle carbon removal
- Cultivation of macroalgae in marine waters at large scales while minimizing ecological risks
- Pretreatment techniques for heterogeneous biomass feedstocks

Biomass Conversion

- Fast pyrolysis among different feedstocks and process designs
- Gasification of heterogeneous biomass feedstocks for H₂
- Use of high temperature working fluids (>1,100°C)
- Engineering of microbes and bacteria to selectively convert biomass to products in biochemical pathways

CO₂ Capture

- Optimization of BioCCS facilities for variable feedstocks, capacity, and biomass availability
- Catalysts for removal of tar from bio-based gas products
- Extraction of valuable materials from residues of municipal solid waste

Utilization

- Development of long-lived bio-based products
- Understanding biochar impacts on agriculture
- Incorporating biomass in industrial applications

System Logistics

- Assessment of supply chain logistics for network configuration considering biomass resources
- Availability of biomass in competition with other uses

Enhanced Mineralization Technology Challenges and Innovation Gaps



Mineralization kinetics

- Rate limiting step of mineralization under different conditions
- Optimal reaction conditions
- Effect of mineral properties (e.g., size, shape) on reaction
- Dosage requirements (mass per land area) for achieving large scale CO₂ removal
- Enhanced mass transport of CO₂ via sparging, improved stirring, or other techniques
- Pre-treatment methods to improve reaction rates

Energy use, land use, and environmental impacts

- Optimization of particle size
- Reduced energy demand for rock mining, grinding and pre-treatment
- Preventing particulate matter, hazardous components in minerals and industrial wastes from entering the environment
- Reduced energy demand during metal oxide regeneration and recovery

Monitoring CO₂ uptake

- Methods for measuring flux of CO₂ in atmosphere and in groundwater

System logistics

- Optimization of rock source and dispersal locations
- Understand degradation rate of materials employed for repeated cycles of enhanced mineralization
- Recovery of critical materials as co-benefit

Next Steps

- A. Roadmap Workshop
Identify innovation priorities / short-list potential sprints. **Held last week.**

- B. Continued stakeholder engagement
Build on introductory calls with private sector actors and other international initiatives

- C. Finalize products for Global Clean Energy Action Forum
Innovation Roadmap • Mission Action Plan • Sprint(s). **Scheduled for September 21-23, 2022, Pittsburgh, PA, USA.**
<https://gceaf.org/>



Questions?

