

BDO Zone Summary

BDO Zones enable high potential “biomass-rich” communities to tap into the trillion-dollar bioenergy sector

Clean energy markets are growing at an unprecedented pace, with trillions of dollars of capital ready to be deployed into the energy transition.

Thousands of communities throughout North America have tremendous surpluses of sustainable biomass -- and many want to leverage those biomass assets to attract new clean fuels, renewable chemical and biogas projects, drive new biobased economic development, and create jobs.

However, a key barrier makes it difficult to unlock the value of regional biomass assets: local communities have no means to quantify and “signal” regional feedstock and infrastructure risk to clean energy stakeholders in a transparent, credible and efficient manner.

The unfortunate result is that many high potential communities are effectively “lost” to biobased economic development: the local economic benefit of the clean energy transition—investments in new plants, new machinery and new jobs-- fail to materialize, and the ability to benefit from the trillion-dollar global bioenergy sector is significantly reduced.

BDO Zone Ratings solve this problem by enabling **high potential “biomass-rich” communities** to be “found” by biobased developers and investors around the world.

By doing so, BDO Zone ratings enable communities to unlock their biomass and infrastructure resources assets, and leverage them as engines for economic development in the energy transition.



Creating project development “bulls-eyes” on the best areas for new bio-based plants

The BDO Zone Initiative (www.bdozone.org) is a regional biomass supply chain certification and rating program that gives economic development bodies the tools to rapidly accelerate biobased project development.

A BDO Zone rating is a technical risk assessment of biomass feedstock, supply chain, and infrastructure attributes of a region with respect to the feasibility and development potential of new biofuel, renewable chemical, biogas or bioproduct manufacturing plants.

BDO Zone Ratings send clear and powerful signals to biobased developers and investors worldwide that a specific region is shovel-ready for bio-based development. Ratings enable rated economic developers to credibly signal and promote key local biomass supply chain “success” characteristics to biobased developers and investors around the world.

‘AAA’, ‘AA’, ‘A’ and ‘BBB’ ratings put an internationally recognized, credible “bulls-eye” on the best areas in the country to build and operate new bio-based manufacturing plants.

Ratings fill a critical need for more credible financial tools that empower place-based bio-economy development by enabling local regions to gain attention at the international level to attract new biomass-based clean fuel projects, decarbonize, and create jobs.

Investment in projects located in BDO Zone-rated communities is powered by the *BDO Zone Investment Coalition*, made up of over 20 key bio-economy capital markets and investors, including Goldman Sachs and Citibank, which allocated \$1B of capital for investment in BDO Zones in 2021.

The goal of the BDO Zone Initiative is to catalyze development of the North American bioeconomy with 1000 BDO Zone Ratings over 4 years.

Want to know more?

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