Carbon Dioxide Removal Mission Launchpad

Introducing the CDR Launchpad

The Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR) Launchpad is a coalition of governments who have agreed to work together to accelerate the advancement of technologies that remove CO_2 directly from the air, by investing in demonstration projects and sharing data and experiences. It is the first "sprint" project of the CDR Mission.

Large-scale CO_2 removal demonstration projects are critical for driving down costs and scaling up CDR approaches. For example, demonstrations:

- Promote learning-by-doing cost reductions
- Prove emerging technologies and reduce technical risk
- Provide valuable data for scientists and engineers to optimize operations
- Can provide examples for constructive community engagement
- Illustrate potential co-benefits, such as water production and removing hazardous pollutants

The Launchpad focuses on a portfolio of CDR approaches including direct air capture with storage, enhanced mineralization, and biomass with carbon removal and storage. In time, this sprint could expand to include additional carbon removal approaches.

The Agreement

Launchpad members commit to:

1. Build at least one, 1,000+ tonne CO_2 per year CDR project by 2025. This can include commitments and projects already underway that have the potential to meet the target.
    - Share data and information from the projects, with the aim to improve databases for life cycle analysis (LCA), technoeconomic analysis and regulatory requirements

2. Contribute to a Launchpad goal of providing at least $100 million collectively by 2025 to support CDR pilots and demonstrations globally. This is flexible and can include current funding and private sector/organization funding.
3. Provide in-kind support to:
    - Advance robust measurement, reporting, and verification (MRV) efforts for CDR projects by supporting a new "CDR MRV working group" within the MI CDR Mission; and
    - Increase demand for CDR solutions by both:
        - Supporting efforts to link companies with climate goals (such as companies in the First Movers Coalition) to projects supplying early CDR credits (such as these pilots and demonstrations).
        - Providing the science and data (such as CDR mapping and LCA case studies) to inform policy efforts and share best practices.

Ministers and senior leadership at the COP27 announcement of the CDR Launchpad on November 17, 2022. Pictured from left to right: Japan Deputy Director-General for Environmental Affairs Shinichi Kihara; Denmark Head of Department in the Ministry of Climate, Energy and Utilities Asser Rasmussen Berling; Canada Assistant Deputy Minister for Environment and Climate Change Stephen de Boer; U.S. Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm; U.K. Minister for Climate Graham Stuart MP; Iceland Special Envoy for Climate Benedikt Höskuldsson. CDR Launchpad founding members not pictured: European Commission and Norway.

The Participants

First-wave members who have joined the Launchpad include Canada, the European Commission, Japan, Norway, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The Launchpad is a call to action and both Mission Innovation members and non-MI members are encouraged to join.

The Outcomes

Together, members of the Launchpad aim to increase the number of pilot-scale tests and demonstrations on CDR by ten times from 2022 levels within three years, and grow full-scale commercial CDR demonstrations to more than a dozen within six years.

The new coalition will bring many benefits, including:

- Provides a platform for countries to share experience and learnings to develop CDR projects faster and more effectively
- Helps ensure that standards and policies enable CDR technologies to develop swiftly, equitably, and responsibly
- Amplifies CDR investment to leverage the impact of government resources devoted to this effort

Implementation Plan

After the commencement of the CDR Launchpad in November 2022, members intend to take the following initial actions:

- Share and publish plans for 1,000+ tonne per year CDR demonstration projects by 2025, and share funding levels for investments supporting CDR demonstrations
- Develop and/or identify collaborative platforms or fora for openly sharing useful non-proprietary data and learnings from projects
- Report on Launchpad activities and progress via the MI CDR Mission website and other communications platforms as appropriate

- Apply lessons and insights gained from demonstration project activities toward support of MI CDR Mission's MRV Working Group, including input toward identifying priority actions
- Encourage additional members to participate in the Launchpad, adding to the wealth globally of insights from large scale CDR demonstration projects

Read more about the Carbon Dioxide Removal Mission here:
https://explore.mission-innovation.net/mission/carbon-dioxide-removal/