



Biochar for climate resilience, new jobs and a strong economy



Professor Ross Garnaut – ANZBIG Patron

A cutting-edge biochar industry in Australia would create thousands of new jobs in regional areas, transform millions of tonnes of wasted organic resources into a valuable product, and support a Net Zero future.

The Australia New Zealand Biochar Industry Group (ANZBIG) is on a mission to develop biochar into a billion-dollar industry and will launch the Australian Biochar Industry 2030 Roadmap at Old Parliament House in Canberra on June 21. A Biochar Products and Markets Workshop covering the many uses of biochar with industry leaders will be held the day before on Tuesday, June 20 at the University of Canberra.

What is biochar?

Biochar is a charcoal-like product made by heating any form of organic matter (biomass) in a controlled process with limited oxygen, called pyrolysis. This product is called biochar when it is used as a soil amendment, or for other uses that store the carbon in a durable form.

ANZBIG Chief Executive Officer, Don Coyne, said the new Roadmap outlines how biochar can be a game-changer for many industries, including agriculture, horticulture, building, construction, land rehabilitation, and water management.

“Biochar is an essential part of the next industrial revolution, creating a more sustainable future and positioning us for greater economic prosperity, increased job opportunities and continued quality of life for all of us,” he said.

Mr Coyne said with strong investment, education, legislative support and capacity building, the biochar industry could scale up to produce more than 20 mega-tonnes of biochar each year by 2030.

Australia currently wastes 50-100 million tonnes of biomass residues every year. Using this biomass to make biochar would have a dramatic impact on several industry sectors, strengthen the economy and contribute in a meaningful way to Net Zero.



“ANZBIG is delivering an overall strategic direction for the biochar industry,” Mr Coyne said.

The Regenerative Agriculture Alliance and Southern Cross University are proud to be the Media partners for the launch of the Roadmap.

As a farmer and Director of the Regenerative Agriculture Alliance, Lorraine Gordon strongly advocates for the benefits of biochar in the agriculture sector.

“Biochar is an important tool for the restoration of ecosystems. Adding biochar to soil increases water holding capacity and plant yields, and can support beneficial bacteria and fungi, reviving the balance of micro-flora and bringing land back to health,” she said.

“We can feed biochar to cattle, reducing methane emissions, and it can be used to increase soil carbon, improve soil microbial and earthworm activity and reduce nitrate runoff.

“This Roadmap will ensure Australia is at the cutting edge of this important industry.”

Leading economist, clean energy, and industry expert, Professor Ross Garnaut, is ANZBIG’s Patron. He says the Australian Biochar Industry 2030 Roadmap represents a call to action.

“ANZBIG’s Roadmap comes at an important time,” he said.

“Australia has the resources to strengthen its economy through zero-carbon development while removing its own emissions and contributing substantially to net zero carbon in the rest of the world. Biochar can make large contributions to these important outcomes in the years to 2030, and much more after that..

“The ANZBIG Roadmap shows us the contribution biochar can make to Australian economic and environmental goals. Community understanding of the Roadmap will drive the removal of barriers to the emergence of this new industry. High levels of investment will follow the introduction of policies that recognise the value of innovation in a new industry with the potential for large expansion and the value of reducing carbon in the atmosphere. I look forward to the biochar industry making a major contribution to the emergence of Australia as a Superpower of the zero-carbon world economy”.

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For media enquiries, or to arrange a media ticket for the official launch of the Australian Biochar Industry 2030 Roadmap, please contact ANZBIG CEO, Don Coyne: execdirect@anzbig.org

Editor’s notes: [ANZBIG](#) is a not for profit that assists companies, governments and institutions in the effective production and use of biochar. The industry group facilitates and streamlines biochar education, research, collaboration and commercialisation activities to provide better outcomes for the biochar sector in Australia and New Zealand. ANZBIG has developed the Code of Practice for the Safe and Sustainable Production and Use of Biochar in Australia and New Zealand.

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