The U.S. Grains Council (USGC) is developing partnerships around the globe to expand global ethanol use.

Ethanol trade totaled nearly 10 billion liters, or 2.5 billion gallons, in 2022 (TDM).

More than 60 countries have ethanol policies in place – a number that is rising as countries seek to capture the environmental, human health and economic benefits of ethanol.

To learn more about the U.S. Grains Council’s global ethanol market development efforts or access pricing and exporter information for U.S. ethanol, please visit www.grains.org/ethanol or contact grains@grains.org

A Global Network Of Influence & Innovation.

The U.S. Grains Council actively works with countries interested in developing or expanding ethanol policies and use. The Council operates programs in more than 50 countries and the European Union.

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Growing Global Ethanol Use

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Global Demand For Ethanol Is On The Rise

Global ethanol consumption has grown from more than 17 billion liters (4.5 billion gallons) in 2000 to more than 103 billion liters (27 billion gallons) in 2021. (IEA)

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH: As countries seek to meet their climate and Paris Agreement commitments, they are turning to ethanol to reduce the carbon intensity of their transportation fuels. According to the United States Department of Energy’s Argonne Laboratory, the current carbon intensity of ethanol is approximately 50% lower than gasoline, with some plants reaching an over 70% reduction. By utilizing technologies such as CCUS, the U.S. ethanol industry has pledged to reach net-zero or beyond by 2050. Ethanol presents an immediate solution in decarbonizing road transport as it is highly compatible with existing gasoline infrastructure and vehicle fleet. Ethanol also presents an opportunity to decarbonize hard to electrify sectors such as aviation, maritime, and heavy-duty transport.

HUMAN HEALTH: In addition to reducing the carbon intensity of fuels, ethanol replaces harmful aromatics and MTBE in the fuel mix. Using ethanol reduces particulate matter and toxic emissions, which are harmful to human health, and replaces MTBE, which can negatively impact groundwater.

ECONOMIC BENEFITS: Ethanol provides economic benefits to countries with or without the ability to produce biofuels feedstocks like corn, sugarcane and cassava. For countries with feedstock available, ethanol policies economically support feedstock producers and complementary industries, offering rural development and other benefits. Countries without local feedstock still benefit from blending ethanol by replacing costly aromatics and MTBE, creating savings throughout the value chain.

Total Production in 2021 is 103 billion liters. Nearly 10% of production is traded on the international market. That number is growing as ethanol production becomes more efficient and new capacity comes on line.

WORLD TOTAL IMPORTS
10 billion liters
(2.5 billion gallons)

EU | 21%
Rest of the World | 20%
Canada | 19%

United Kingdom | 11%
Japan | 9%
Philippines | 6%
South Korea | 6%
Brazil | 3%

Worldwide ethanol imports by country (2022)

Global ethanol market development efforts are country-specific and focus on:
• implementing successful local biofuels policies.
• the role for trade in meeting biofuels goals.
• environmental, human health and economic benefits of biofuels.
• technical information sharing and education.

E10, a 10 percent ethanol blend, is a starting point for countries developing ethanol policies.