

Date – Tuesday, 30 November 2010, 14:00 to 18:00

Location: Oeko-Institut, Berlin Office, Schicklerstr. 5-7, D- 10179 Berlin

public transport: S- or U-Bahn Jannowitzbrücke (S-Bahn = light rail, U-Bahn = Metro)

Aim

The aim of the workshop is to discuss progress on sustainability criteria for biomass and define how they affect future biomass streams from the agriculture & forestry sectors

Background

Within their report (February 2010) on sustainability requirements for the use of solid and gaseous biomass sources, the European Commission states that introducing binding criteria would impose 'substantial' costs on EU economic operators. This is based on the assumption that most biomass used in the EU is currently produced domestically. There are, therefore, two important assumptions upon which this conclusion is based: that production will remain domestic; and that EU production of biomass is already considered to comply with requirements for sustainability.

In the absence of EU rules on biomass, Member States may introduce their own national schemes. The Commission's report includes recommendations on how to introduce such schemes without creating requirements that limit intra-European trade in biomass. Indeed the Commission puts forward in essence recommended sustainability criteria, rather than binding ones. The Commission recommends the following criteria for inclusion into national schemes; however, Member States are under no obligation to adopt them.

- A general prohibition on the use of biomass from land converted from primary forest, other high carbon stock areas and highly biodiverse areas.
- A common greenhouse gas calculation methodology which could be used to ensure that minimum greenhouse gas savings from biomass are at least 35 per cent (rising to 50 per cent in 2017 and 60 per cent in 2018 for new installations) compared to the EU's fossil energy mix.
- A differentiation of national support schemes in favour of installations that achieve high-energy conversion efficiencies.
- Monitoring of the origin of biomass.

In the framework of the Biomass Futures project detailed analyses will be provided for the impact sustainability criteria will have per biomass feedstock; what sustainability considerations can actually be taken into account, and how these may constraint the availability.

The workshop aims to inform stakeholders on:

- the implications sustainability criteria may have to indigenous EU biomass supply & imports;
- provide information on biomass supply for different Member States; and
- present the current state of development for Germany, a Member State with important activity in the field.

See next page for the detailed agenda for the workshop.

To register, please confirm your participation by email to: u.draude@oeko.de & u.fritsche@oeko.de

BIOMASS FUTURES project (www.biomassfutures.eu)

The event is organised in cooperation with FNR

'Biomass Sustainability Criteria'

30th November 2010

Aim : To discuss progress on sustainability criteria for biomass and define how they affect future biomass streams from the agriculture & forestry sectors.

13.30 – 14.00 Tea/ Coffee

- 14.00 [Sustainability criteria for biomass.Implementation in an EU Member State](#)
Hans-Juergen Froese, German Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection
- 14.30 [Biomass sustainability criteria. Implications on indigenous supply and imports.](#)
Uwe Fritsche, Oeko
- 15.00 [How biomass supply will be affected by the implementation of the recent criteria? Supply curves in Member States.](#)
Berien Elbersen, Alterra
- 15.30 [Expanding sustainability criteria to other biomass uses than biofuels and bioliquids](#)
Martina Fleckenstein, WWF Germany
- 16.00 [GHG emissions of biomass: Consequence of modelling choices](#)
Heinz Stichnothe, von Thuenen Institute Braunschweig (vTI)
- 16.30 *Tea/ Coffee Break*
- 16.45 Discussion- Key factors affecting demand
- 17.30 Conclusions

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