

IEA Bioenergy Task 40 Newsletter – February 2010 - Issue 1

Introduction

IEA bioenergy Task 40 is an international working group under the IEA Bioenergy Implementing agreement. We conduct studies and organize events on various topics related to sustainable international bioenergy trade. We just started our 3rd triennium, and after a very busy 2009 (with 5 workshops in Belgium, USA, Germany, Canada and Japan) we are now planning a new set of workshops for the coming three years. The first one is going to be the Biomass Power and Trade conference held in Rotterdam on March 11-12th 2010, see for more details below. As of January 2010, Denmark has joined the Task 40 team, which means that now all Scandinavian countries are members of the Task.

To disseminate our work, we have launched this T40 newsletter, and we hope it provides you with useful information. Our intention is to send out two newsletters a year with an overview of recent studies and upcoming events.

This is the pdf version of the newsletter, which has probably been forwarded to you or downloaded from the Task 40 website. To subscribe to the newsletter, please go to the Task 40 website www.bioenergytrade.org, and click on the newsletter button on the top-right for further instructions. Also if you have any comments, suggestions or questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. With kind regards,

André Faaij, Peter-Paul Schouwenberg (task leaders) and [Martin Junginger](#) (main editor of the newsletter)

Past and future Task 40 Workshops and conferences

Biomass power and trade conference - 11-12 March 2010, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

On March 11 and 12 2010, task 40 is supporting the [biomass power and trade conference](#), in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. The conference aims to provide opportunities for future and existing biofuels and biomass industry stakeholders to network with other industry suppliers and technology providers, as well as utility executives, researchers, policy makers, investors and project developers. The Biomass Trade conference will provide insights on:

- EU's pending Bioenergy mandates
- Perspective and resolutions on sustainability and certification
- Biomass power generation growth in Europe
- Opportunities and barriers to global biomass trade network
- Identify gaps between technologies & capital investments

IEA Bioenergy Task 40 will be contributing a large number of speakers on the biomass trade situation in various Task 40 member countries, sustainability certification, torrefaction developments and other topics. The programme also includes amongst other a networking reception for speakers & delegates during a cruise to one of Rotterdam Port's Wood Pellet Terminals. To register for the conference, please use the link above, or go to the Task 40 website.

TASK 40 / ERIA workshop in Japan on Biomass trade in East and South East Asia

After the third task 40 meeting of the year on October 25 and 26th, IEA Bioenergy task 40 & ERIA jointly organized a workshop in Tsukuba, Japan on October 28-29 2009. The workshop, another major event, revealed that a lot of biomass trade is already going on in the region, especially solid biomass trade is taking off. In 2008, significant amounts of wood pellets have been exported from British Columbia to Japan for cofiring purposes, and also South Korea has set ambitious targets for increasing the use of wood pellets both for small-scale domestic heating and large-scale cofiring, which will require the import of large amounts of wood pellets in the years to come. South Korea has already made agreements with Indonesia and Cambodia to grow the feedstock for this demand. Also Australia is rapidly becoming an exporter of wood pellets. While the first pellets produced in 2009 have been shipped to Europe, Australian companies are also monitoring the developments in South East Asia with great interest. The liquid biofuels market is growing less rapidly at the moment, mainly due to high feedstock prices and sustainability concerns.



Presentations also highlighted the status of ethanol and biodiesel production and trade in amongst other Thailand, Malaysia, Japan and China. Especially in China, it is currently forbidden to use food crops for biofuel production, and local biodiesel production is limited to waste oil feedstocks. As there are also no subsidies for biofuels in China, no import of liquids biofuels (or feedstocks to produce biofuels) is currently taking place. Malaysia and Thailand on the other hand are monitoring the global market for opportunities to increase exports of respectively (palm oil for) biodiesel and ethanol in the future. Overall, the workshop provided a great opportunity for participants from the industry, academia and policy arenas to exchange information (and possibly make a few new deals for increased trade in the region as well). Task 40 certainly plans to keep an eye on this region and possibly organize similar events in the years to come.

All presentations of past workshops (up until December 2009) are available online at the Task 40 website www.bioenergytrade.org

Other workshops scheduled

For autumn 2010, a second workshop is scheduled in Italy. The topic, venue and timing will be decided at the next Task 40 meeting in Rotterdam in March 2010. For 2011, two further workshops have been scheduled. In February 2011, an activity on biomass torrefaction is planned in the first week of February in Graz, Austria to be organized jointly with IEA Bioenergy Task 32. Indirect land use change and impacts for biomass production and trade will be on the agenda for a joint workshop with IEA Bioenergy Task 38, planned for the second half of 2011 in Brazil. More details will be published in due time – please keep an eye on the Task 40 website for up-to-date information.

Task 40 publications (recently published and forthcoming)

All reports are available for free at the Task 40 website www.bioenergytrade.org

- The study “[2nd Generation Biofuels and Trade](#)” explores the potential supply and demand of 2nd generation biofuels up until 2030, and discusses various impacts on biofuel trade, ranging from cost advantages over shipping capacities and routes to policy impacts. It is an explorative study, highlighting the possible effects of large scale market penetration of lignocellulose-based transport fuels, but also highlights the large number of variables and uncertainties determining these developments. Also the impact of the global recession and the role of bio-refineries are briefly discussed.
- In between July and September 2009, all Task 40 member countries have published [updated country reports](#). These reports contain a wealth of information, amongst others state-of-the art overviews of domestic biomass resources, production potentials, policies, and especially international bioenergy trade.
- Task 40 commissioned a study on a [global overview of bio-oils \(vegetable and palm oil\)](#) to: i) assess major producers and consumers of vegetable oils, ii) main emerging markets, iii) analyze main policy drivers, iv) assess future trends (palm, soybean, rapeseed oils).
- The [bioenergy maritime shipping study](#) describes main properties of biofuels in relation to maritime shipping, examine current shipping lanes and major tradable biomass sources (including AR, BR, CA, MY, RU and Baltic States), capacities, costs and obstacles, together with other factors that will influence future biofuels shipping opportunities.
- Task 40 is currently investigating the opportunities and boundary conditions to set up a **bio-trade fund**. Such a bio-trade fund could potentially unlock sources of biomass and lay the groundwork to meaningfully increase biomass trade, while providing socio-economic benefits and lowering biomass prices. Publication is expected in March 2010.
- A study on **barriers and opportunities for bioenergy trade** is investigating the importance of tariff barriers, technical standards, sustainability criteria, underdeveloped logistics and other possible issues hampering or stimulating international bioenergy trade is currently being finalized. Also, we are currently finalizing a paper **comparing and analyzing ongoing biomass sustainability certification initiatives** (up until the end of 2009), and indicating differences and similarities between the various approaches. Both papers will be submitted for publication in a scientific journal.

Topics on the Task 40 agenda

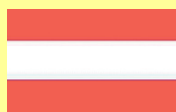
Currently, Task 40 is considering to investigate the following topics related to international bioenergy trade in detail:

- Assessment of the current status of torrefaction (technologies, market players, claimed advantages for trade etc.)
- Impact of policies (especially on renewable energy targets and climate policies; following Copenhagen) on trade and markets (supply and demand & structures)
- Current biomass business models (organization/actors/actions) and possibilities to optimize logistics & supplies and value chains
- Market developments in the (Northern Hemisphere) Forest and pulp & paper sectors
- Analyze and compare key certification paths for biomass: CEN, ISCC, ISO
- “New” biomass trading options: electricity, bio-methane and “new” commodities (such as coke, bio-char, biochemicals), wood chips (phytosanitary issues)
- Certification of equipment (ASME requirements, costing consequences, diverging requirement, harmonization, importance for which players)

We welcome an information (such as papers, statistics, ongoing other projects and events) to these topics.

Task leadership and overview of national team leaders

The Task is jointly led and coordinated by André Faaij (Copernicus Institute, Utrecht University) and Peter-Paul Schouwenberg (Nidera Handelscompagnie B.V.). Martin Junginger (Copernicus, UU) is assisting and logistically supporting the Task. Kees Kwant (SenterNovem) is Operating Agent for the Task.



Austria
Lukas Kranzl & Fritz Diesenreiter,
Vienna University of Technology
Tel: +43-1-58801 37351
Lukas.Kranzl@tuwien.ac.at



Italy
Alessandro Berti,
Api Nòva Energia I.
Tel: +39-06-8493351
Alessandro.berti@apinovaenergia.com

Michael Wild, - EBES AG
Tel: +43-1-879 99 57
wild@ebes.at

Maurizio Cocchi,
ETA - Renewable Energies
Tel: +39-055-5002174
Maurizio.cocchi@etaflorence.it



Belgium
Luc Pelkmans, VITO
Tel. +32-14-335830
luc.pelkmans@vito.be



Japan
Shinichi Goto and Mitsu Oguma, AIST
Tel: +81-29-861-7080
goto.s@aist.go.jp & mitsu.oguma@aist.go.jp

Didier Marchal, SPW
Tel : +32-81-335865
Didier.Marchal@spw.wallonie.be



Brazil
Arnaldo Walter and Paulo Dolzan,
State University of Campinas
Tel: +55-19-3521-3283
awalter@fem.unicamp.br



The Netherlands
Andre Faaij & Martin Junginger, Utrecht University
Tel: +31-30-2537643
a.p.c.faaij@uu.nl & h.m.junginger@uu.nl

Peter-Paul Schouwenberg,
NideraHandelscompagnie B.V.
Tel: +31-10-4301636
pschouwenberg@nidera.nl



Canada¹
Douglas Bradley
Climate Change Solutions
Tel: +1-613-321-2303
douglas.bradley@rogers.com



Norway
Øyvind Leistad, Enova
Tel: +47-73-190-430
oyvind.leistad@enova.no

Birger Solberg & Erik Trømborg,
Norwegian University of Life Sciences
Tel: +47-64-965728
birger.solberg@umb.no



Denmark
Lars Nikolaisen
Danish Technological Institute
Tel: +45 -7220- 1302
Lars.Nikolaisen@teknologisk.dk



Sweden
Bo Hektor (Representing Svebio),
First Bioenergy AB
Tel +46-8109915
bo.hektor@fbio.se

Thomas Bornerup
Energi Randers Supply A/S
Tel: +45 -4035- 6939
tbo@energiranders.dk



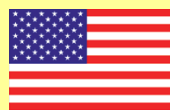
European Commission
Raphael Sauter, DG Environment
Tel: +32-2-2980094
Mihai.Tomescu@ec.europa.eu



United Kingdom
Frank Rosillo-Calle & Jeremy Woods
Imperial College London, CEP
Tel. + 44 - 0- 20 7594 7315
f.rosillo-calle@imperial.ac.uk



Finland
Tapio Ranta & Jussi Heinimö
Lappeenranta University
of Technology
Tel: +358-5-62111
tapio.ranta@lut.fi & jussi.heinimo@lut.fi



United States
J. Richard Hess, Idaho National Laboratory
Tel: +1- 208-526-0115
JRichard.Hess@inl.gov

Richard Nelson, Kansas State University
Tel: +1 -785-532-4999
RNelson@ksu.edu



Germany
Uwe R. Fritsche, Oeko-Institut
Tel +49-6151-8191-24
u.fritsche@oeko.de

Daniela Thraen, DBFZ
Tel. +49- 341- 2434-435
Daniela.Thraen@dbfz.de

Michael Deutmeyer
CHOREN Biomass GmbH
Tel: +49 -40 - 398156 30
Michael.Deutmeyer@choren.com

¹ Canada has resigned officially from Task 40 at the end of 2009. However, at the time of writing (January 2010), strong efforts are made by the Canadian Task leader to rejoin Task 40 as soon as possible in 2010.