

IEA Bioenergy

Task 40: Sustainable International Bioenergy trade

Introduction

First of all, the leaders of IEA Bioenergy Task 40 wish all of you a happy and successful new year! Task 40 is an international working group under the IEA Bioenergy Implementing agreement, and we conduct studies and organize events on various topics related to sustainable international bioenergy trade. This newsletter focusses on the three main events that Task 40 is (co-)organizing/supporting in 2011:

- A workshop providing a state-of-art overview of torrefaction technology development & impacts on international trade in Graz, Austria in 2,5 weeks
- The Biomass Trade & Power conference, highlighting solid biomass trade from the US to Europe in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, in 6 weeks
- A scientific workshop on quantifying and managing land use impacts of bioenergy in Campinas, Brazil in September 2011

With these three event (on three different continents!) we hope to provide industry, policy makers and scientists alike with information on the development of international bioenergy trade. For more details, see below - we hope to see many of you in Graz, Atlanta and/or Campinas! Best regards,

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

PS: in case you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please use this [link](#)

Upcoming workshop: Development of torrefaction technologies and impacts on global bioenergy use and international bioenergy trade

IEA Bioenergy Task 32 and Task 40 are jointly organizing a [workshop in Graz](#) on Friday the 28th of January 2011, as a side-event of the [Central European Biomass Conference \(CEBC\), Graz, Austria](#).

Torrefaction is an interesting pre-treatment technology for biomass before pelletisation and/or

combustion. It is a thermo-chemical process for the upgrading of biomass that is usually run at temperatures ranging from 200 to more than 300°C under the exclusion of oxygen and at ambient pressure. This workshop will give a comprehensive overview of fundamentals of torrefaction, the main advantages of and the challenges in producing torrefied biomass. Ongoing R&D activities will be shown, demonstration plants under construction or already in operation will be presented and the latest state-of-science in torrefaction will be discussed. Also, the possible implications of commercially available torrefaction technology for international bioenergy trade will be highlighted. Please download the [final program](#) which includes 12 speakers (of which 4 from front-running technology producers).

Upcoming conference: Biomass Trade & Power, Americas - updated program available!

IEA Bioenergy Task 40 is supporting the **Biomass Trade & Power Americas** conference, 23 – 24 February 2011, in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, organized by [CMT](#). A number of task 40 members will be speaking at this conference, which will be aiming to push forward solid biomass utilization & international trade. The conference covers the entire chain from feedstock sourcing and pellet production in the South-East of the US, all logistic steps up till the end users in Europe, and should therefore be of interest to industry representatives from both the US and Europe. Also US and EU policies regarding solid biomass (including sustainability certification) will be discussed. Please download the [updated program](#) and/or [register](#) directly!

Reasons & Benefits of attending CMT's Biomass Trade & Power Americas:

- Seek clarification from the US Department of Energy (DOE) on biomass utilization in energy/ utilities sectors
- Grasp current knowledge of the new programs and rulings from the actual authors
- Utilities stakeholders' perspectives on challenges/opportunities in the execution of biomass-based initiatives
- Evolving US & EU Biomass/ Renewable Energy Policies & Impact on Exports
- Latest updates on Sustainability Criteria & Certification Standards for Biomass Exports to Europe
- Find out from European utilities on the expectation for wood pellets imports & experience in large co-firing
- Unfold NEW Trade & Investment Opportunities in Southeast's biomass value chain
- Understand the Balancing Effort of the Emerging Bioenergy Industry with the Existing Wood Processing Sector in the Southeast
- Find out from Financing experts on criteria & funding options available for your projects
- Insights on Freight market & Economics of Shipping from Americas to Europe
- Evaluate and compare Wood Chips, Wood Pellets & Energy Crops for Export & Power generation
- Find out how Energy Crops can be utilized economically in biomass power generation
- Assess the benefits of Torrefaction amongst all other Pretreatment/ Densification Technologies
- Attain knowledge & experience sharing on Fuel Switching (e.g. Co-firing) & Pretreatment in the ONE day post conference workshop
- Enjoy more than 10 hours of Interaction & Networking Opportunities with key stakeholders from the Americas' biomass value chain, from raw material, financing, processing, logistics, shipping and regulatory representatives, etc.

Have you got a copy of the video cum slide presentation entitled "Sourcing of Sustainable Solid Biomass for large-scale co-firing in NW Europe" by Peter-Paul Schouwenberg, a Senior Officer, Regulatory Affairs, from

RWE Essent, and task leader of IEA Bioenergy Task 40? If not, simply [click here](#) to request for access today.



First workshop announcement & call for papers - Quantifying and managing land use impacts of bioenergy

Tasks 38, 40 and 43 are jointly organizing a workshop on land use impact of bioenergy in Campinas, Brazil on September 19-21 2011, hosted by [CTBE](#). This workshop aims to bring together state-of-the-art research assessing the impacts of the increasing allocation of land use to dedicated energy crops (e.g. land-use related GHG emissions, and impacts on biodiversity and environment), and providing strategies to mitigate them.

The workshop will address the following specific themes:

1. Quantifying direct (dLUC) and indirect land use change (iLUC) impacts of bioenergy:

- methods for estimating iLUC – economic models, other approaches
- area affected by dLUC and iLUC
- impacts on GHG balances, including significance of timing of emissions and removals;
- impacts on soil, water, biodiversity and environmental services

2. Recognizing land use impacts of bioenergy

- in GHG accounting,
- in climate change and renewable energy policies/programs

3. Minimizing land use impacts of bioenergy

- policy responses,
- standards and certification,
- integrated land use strategies

Please download the [full first announcement](#), including the invitation to **send us expressions of interest to present at the workshop!**

Past event: International trade of bioenergy commodities: Experiences with certification and setting up sustainable supply chains

EUBIONETIII and IEA Bioenergy Task 40 jointly organised a workshop in Rome, Italy on the 21st of October 2010. The aims of this workshop were:

- 1) To provide an overview of experiences and regarding sustainability certification, including the current status of legislation in the EU and elsewhere.
- 2) To show concrete case studies of ongoing sustainable international supply chains – both for solid and liquid biomass.
- 3) To identify and discuss both opportunities to develop sustainable international bioenergy supply chains and identify (policy) barriers to be overcome.

The morning session focussed on ongoing development of sustainability certification systems of solid and liquid bioenergy commodities and effects on international trade. In the afternoon session, a number of concrete case studies of sustainable biomass production were highlighted, as were numerous aspects regarding the implementation of sustainability certification systems.

All presentations and a comprehensive workshop summary are [available for download](#) for free.

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 (RWE Essent). Martin Junginger (Copernicus, UU) is assisting and logistically supporting the Task. Kees Kwant (Agentschap NL) is Operating Agent for the Task.

Austria

Lukas Kranzl and Julian Matzenberger

Vienna University of Technology

Tel: +43-1-58801 37351

Lukas.Kranzl@tuwien.ac.at



Michael Wild

Wild und Partner

Tel: +43 676 611 76 22

michael@wild.or.at

Belgium

Luc Pelkmans

VITO

Tel. +32-14-335830

luc.pelkmans@vito.be



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



Canada

Doug Bradley

Climate Change Solutions

Tel: +1-613-321-2303

douglas.bradley@rogers.com



Denmark

Lars Nikolaisen

Danish Technological Institute

Tel: +45 -7220- 1302

Lars.Nikolaisen@teknologisk.dk



Finland

Tapio Ranta & Jussi Heinimö

Lappeenranta University

of Technology

Tel: +358-5-62111

tapio.ranta@lut.fi & jussi.heinimo@lut.fi



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

The Netherlands

Andre Faaij & Martin Junginger, Utrecht University

Tel: +31-30-2537643

a.p.c.faij@uu.nl & h.m.junginger@uu.nl



Peter-Paul Schouwenberg,

RWE - Essent Corporate Affairs

peter-paul.schouwenberg@essent.nl

Italy

Alessandro Berti,

Api Nova Energia I.

Tel: +39-06-8493351

Alessandro.berti@apinovaenergia.com



Maurizio Cocchi,

ETA - Renewable Energies

Tel: +39-055-5002174

Maurizio.cocchi@etaflorence.it

Japan

Shinichi Goto and Mitsu Oguma

AIST

Tel: +81-29-861-7080

goto.s@aist.go.jp & mitsu.oguma@aist.go.jp



Yuji Iwasaki

NEDO

Tel: +81 44 520 5271

iwasakiyuj@nedo.go.jp

Norway**Øyvind Leistad and Roar Grønhaug**

Enova

Tel: +47-73-190-430

roar.gronhaug@enova.no

**Birger Solberg & Erik Trømborg,**

Norwegian University of Life Sciences

Tel: +47-64-965728

erik.tromborg@umb.no

Sweden**Bo Hektor (Representing Svebio)**

First Bioenergy AB

Tel +46-8109915

bo.hektor@fbio.se

**United Kingdom****Frank Rosillo-Calle & Jeremy Woods**

Imperial College London, CEP

Tel. + 44 - 0- 20 7594 7315

f.rosillo-calle@imperial.ac.uk

**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

Main editor: **Martin Junginger**, Utrecht University, h.m.junginger@uu.nl _
www.bioenergytrade.org

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