

# Task 40 Sustainable Bioenergy Trade

## IEA Bioenergy

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### ABOUT US

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. Follow us on <http://www.bioenergytrade.org>

The Task is jointly led and coordinated by André Faaij (Copernicus Institute, Utrecht University) and Peter-Paul Schouwenberg (RWE Essent). Martin Junginger and Chun Sheng Goh (Copernicus, UU) are assisting and logistically supporting the Task. Kees Kwant (NL Agency, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation) is Operating Agent for the Task.

### NATIONAL TEAM LEADER CONTACTS

Please contact your national team leader for more information and how you can get involved with Task 40.

Click [here](#) for detail contact information.

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## Upcoming events:

### Biomass and Bioenergy: An Investor's Perspective - Challenges and Opportunities for the Financial Community (20 June 2012)

Biomass trade will be essential for Europe to achieve renewable energy targets, the financial community needs detailed information to understand the risks and how to mitigate them, the sheer scope of options, and the multitude of lucrative investment opportunities available. Capital to develop biomass trade is difficult to find.

This event will provide the financial community with information on latest trends in the biomass and bioenergy industry, market perspectives for biomass, biofuels and bio-based chemicals, trade opportunities, options to mitigate risks, ensuring sustainability, and where to find profit. The workshop will look at investments to promote trade from the point of view of the investor and project proponents, and show examples of successful ventures. A final roundtable will provide a platform for interactive debate and the presentation of possible project proposals

Contact: **Maurizio Cocchi** (ETA Florence, Italy)

### Quebec Field Trip October 2012

It will be an event in the Quebec province, which will involve a mix of field visits and moderated discussions on sustainability of forest biomass for bioenergy, with the following objectives:

- inform about the state-of-the-art in forest biomass practices at international and state levels and Canadian provinces.
- present 'on-the-ground' examples of key features of Canadian forests and on-going research projects on the sustainability of forest biomass harvesting;
- discuss how science can inform policy-making and development of governance mechanisms;
- discuss how levels of governance from the local to the global level can interact to ensure both sustainability of forest management vitality of domestic and international biomass markets.

Contact: **Evelyne Thiffault** (NRCan - Laurentian Forestry Centre, Canada)

### IEA Bioenergy Conference 2012 (13 - 15 November 2012)

The [IEA Bioenergy Conference 2012](#) will provide to stakeholders in R & D, industry and policy an insight into the recent research

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and market developments in bioenergy. The conference includes all topics dealt with by IEA Bioenergy as well as by partner organizations like FAO, GBEP and UNDP. Presentations will address all stages in bioenergy systems: from growth of biomass, to conversion to energy carriers and, to use for energy services. Cross cutting topics like sustainability (GHG emissions), socio-economy and trade will also be discussed. Policy makers will benefit from the latest conclusions on policy recommendations based on a global scientific energy technology network. Participants will be presented the latest information on promising bioenergy technologies in the stimulating and enjoyable surroundings of the Vienna University of Technology. A pleasant social programme also provides opportunities for relaxation and networking.

### "Pacific Rim Bio-trade" (27-29 November 2012)

The Canadian Bioenergy Association is delivering its annual national conference and trade show in Vancouver Nov 27-29 with the theme "Canadian Bio-economy Summit", and is partnering with IEA Bioenergy Task 40 to deliver the theme "Pan-Pacific Bio-trade". In the latter the conference intends to draw key bioenergy professionals from Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, China, Japan, Malaysia and Korea to discuss strategies for increased biomass production for trade.

Contact: **Doug Bradley** (Climate Change Solutions, Canada)

### Media: "Wood Makes Comeback as a Fuel" - IHT New York Times

As interest in wood pellets is increasing, the Task 40 report, [Global Wood Pellet Industry Market and Trade Study](#) [6,186 KB], has attracted the attention of International Herald Tribune / New York times. The article "[Wood Makes Comeback as a Fuel](#)" published in IHT New York Time on 1 May has made extensive use of the Task 40 report, and IEA Bioenergy Task 40 was explicitly mentioned in the article. This article by Kate Galbraith also interviewed a few experts, including the Task Leader of IEA Task 40, [Dr. Martin Junginger](#).

## Reports:

### Global Wood Chip Trade for Energy

This [report](#) [1,064 KB] has been commissioned to identify and present global data on wood chip trade, to analyze the underlying trade patterns, and to conclude upon their interactions with bioenergy policies. At the centre of the analysis is direct trade of wood chips for modern bioenergy use in markets where respective policies are in place. Whereas associated trade flows where the initial reason is not directly related to energy usage, e.g., wood chips for pulp and paper of which a fraction ends up as black liquor and is used for energy (see ref [8] in the report for a distinction in the case of Finland) are outlined to put the energy related trade into perspective, but not investigated in detail.

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## 14 Country Reports

Country report 2011 for 14 Task 40 members - Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States are now available. These are the most up-to-date country reports written by all Task 40 members.

## Prospective study: Implementation of sustainability requirements for biofuels and bioenergy and related issues for markets and trade

With all public debate in the past years on potential unsustainable consequences of biomass use for energy (or biofuels), the growth of bioenergy currently goes together with the implementation of a variety of sustainability systems, both mandatory and voluntary. This report [1,002 KB] focuses on the implementation of mandatory sustainability requirements for biomass (liquid, solid and gaseous), and evaluates and summarises the experiences and issues seen or expected both for commercial and administrative actors on the basis of public information, partly provided by T40 members through a questionnaire.

Contact: **Luc Pelkmans** (VITO, Belgium)

## On-going work:

### Monitoring Sustainability Certification of Bioenergy

Within IEA Bioenergy a strategic study was initiated among Tasks 40, 43 and 38 to monitor the actual implementation process of sustainability certification of bioenergy, evaluate how stakeholders are affected by certification initiatives, quantify the anticipated impact on worldwide bioenergy trade, assess the level of coordination among schemes, and make recommendations to remove barriers which may depress markets and reduce sustainable trade. The study was started in January 2012 and stakeholders will be consulted in the coming months. First results will be presented at the European Biomass Conference in June.

Contact: **Luc Pelkmans** (VITO, Belgium)

### Study on torrefaction and biomass trade

The focus of this study is to examine briefly the status of the development of torrefaction technology, and - more importantly - assess what are the likely biomass sources and what impact the development of torrefied wood will have on global trade, in particular between now and 2020. The report will be available in July 2012.

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### IEA BIOENERGY TASK 40 COUNTRY REPORTS 2011

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## Health and Safety Aspects of Solid Biomass Storage, Transportation and Feeding

Task 40 will investigate various health and safety issues of different transportation modes, based on articles and other materials, collected from national sources and a few of interviews on a national level with those persons actively involved in these issues (port authorities, biomass transporting companies, etc.).

Contact: **Lars Nikolaisen** (Danish Technological Institute, Denmark)

## The potential role of biofuels in aviation - Biojetfuels

The key objectives of this study are: assess current the state-of-the-art to kerosene technical alternatives; expected production/supply in 2020; investigate the technical hurdles and how biofuels fit in the structure of aviation fuels; and provide detailed information on the two pathways and illustrate the main influencing factors for product quality. The report will be available in July 2012.

Contact: **Frank Rosillo-Calle** (Imperial College London, UK)

## Large industrial users of energy biomass

The objective of the study is to obtain a global overview of the biomass use in industrial applications and transport sectors. The study investigates data availability and challenges related to the identifying the largest industrial users of energy biomass. The aim is to compose list of world largest users of energy biomass. The study includes heat and power plants and biofuel plants.

Contact: **Esa Vakkilainen & Jussi Heinimö** (Lappeenranta University of Technology, Finland)

## Future perspectives of international bioenergy trade

This study aims to provide insight into "possible futures" of bioenergy trade and discuss implications and challenges related to different developments. The sub-objectives of this study include: investigate to which extent various global energy models and scenarios take into account bioenergy trade; identify the implications of different global bioenergy scenarios on bioenergy trade; and summarize the range of results into 3-5 storylines of future international bioenergy trade.

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