



Standardization and certification of sustainable biomass in the Netherlands

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History in the Netherlands

- Development of sustainability criteria ('Cramer' criteria) in six themes:
 - GHG emissions
 - Competition with food
 - Biodiversity
 - Environment
 - Economic aspects
 - Well-being
- Final report in 2007



History (2)

- Development of reporting obligation:
 - biofuels: overruled by EC
 - electricity: implemented in subsidy scheme
- Requests in Parliament: only subsidies for demonstrated sustainable biomass
- Need for certification at short notice



Standardization

International

- Dutch proposal to standardize Cramer criteria at European level
- CEN Technical Committee on “Sustainably produced biomass for energy applications”(CEN 383)

National

- Need for an agreement at short notice
=> CEN process is taking three years
- Development of a national standard (“Dutch Technical Agreement”) of the Cramer sustainability criteria (so-called NTA 8080)



Process

- Working group with 25 experts:
 - industry (biomass producers, processors, users)
 - NGO's
 - government
 - research
 - certification bodies
- Started in June 2008
- Nearly finalised (Forthcoming February 2009)



Content of NTA

- Sustainability criteria ('operational' Cramer criteria)
- Requirements for certification
- Requirement for 'chain of custody' and logo use

Next step

- Development of certification scheme
(in close cooperation with Biopec; a large consortium aiming at bringing certified biomass onto the market)



Implementation

- Proposed to include in the subsidy scheme for renewable electricity from 2010

Financial support for pilot projects

- Import of sustainable biomass:
 - developing countries (February 2009)
 - large producing countries (June 2009)

More information

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Information on standardization:
www.nen.nl