

IEA Bioenergy Task 40 - UPDATE MAY 2009

In 2008 and early 2009, IEA Bioenergy Task 40 (co-) organized four workshops on: **International bioenergy trade statistics** at IEA headquarters in February 2008 in Paris, France, to identify bottlenecks and to set-up strategies to develop meaningful statistics for international bioenergy trade; **The expected effects of more ambitious political targets**, visions and policy incentives **on bioenergy trade**, in Jönköping Sweden, in May 2008; **Forestry supply chains** during a joint workshop with Task 31 and Task 38, in September 2008 in Warwick, UK; **Sustainability certification for biofuels and bioenergy**, 29-30 January 2009 in Brussels, Belgium. Focus of the discussions was the actual implementation of sustainability schemes and criteria in practice in the EU and globally, and the implications for energy and biomass producers. All presentations are available for download at the IEA Bioenergy Task 40 website.

Task 40 recent publications (published and forthcoming, see also www.bioenergytrade.org) include:

- The August 2008 issue of Biomass and Bioenergy (Volume 32, Issue 8, Pages 657-814) was a **special issue** by Task 40, describing developments in international bioenergy trade & markets. This issue summarized the key results for the period 2004-2006, covering global bioenergy trade developments, trade in individual member countries (FI, NL, NO & UK), perspectives on fuel ethanol consumption and trade and an overview of recent developments in sustainable biomass certification.
- Task 40 members have compiled an **overview of bioenergy trade and bioenergy success stories**, covering ethanol and biodiesel in the US, wood pellets in Canada and Austria, and pyrolysis oil in Canada, including an analysis of important preconditions and drivers, barriers overcome, and possible future developments.
- Given the rapid increase in production and trade of biodiesel, task 40 has commissioned a study to prepare a **global overview of bio-oils (vegetable and palm oil)**. **The report highlights the wider implications of bio-oils with emphasis on biodiesel**. This study: i) assess the major producers and consumers of vegetable oils, ii) main emerging markets, iii) analyze main policy drivers, and iv) assess future trends, mainly for palm, soybean and rapeseed oils.

- The **bioenergy maritime shipping study** describes the main properties of biofuels in relation to maritime shipping, examine current shipping lanes and major tradable biomass sources (including Canada, Brazil, Argentina, Russia, Baltic States, and Malaysia), capacities, costs and obstacles, together with other factors that will influence future biofuels shipping opportunities.
- A large study on **barriers and opportunities for bioenergy trade** is investigating amongst other things, the importance of tariff barriers, technical standards, sustainability criteria and other possible issues hampering or stimulating international bioenergy trade. After two additional workshops, in May and July, (see also below), the final report will be published during the summer of 2009.
- In addition to existing country reports, in the summer of 2009, all Task 40 member countries will publish **updated country reports**, containing state-of-the art overviews of domestic biomass resources, production potentials, policies, and especially international bioenergy trade.

Four major events are also scheduled for the remainder of 2009:

- During the Symposium on Biotechnology for Biofuels and Chemicals, in San Francisco, May 5th 2009, a joint workshop is organized with Task 39 **on large-scale fuel supply chains for 2nd generation biofuel plants and their impacts on lignocellulose markets**. Speakers will include several Task 40 members. Additional contributions from Task 40 members will cover biomass sustainability and logistics, and an overview of ongoing biomass sustainability certification schemes.
- Task 40 will jointly organize a workshop with EUBIONET III at the 17th European Biomass conference in Hamburg, beginning of July 2009. IEA Bioenergy Task 40 (in cooperation with UNCTAD and UNIDO) aims to get an **up-to-date overview of what the market actors currently perceive as major opportunities and barriers for the current and future development of international bioenergy trade**, focusing especially on bio-ethanol, biodiesel and wood pellets, as trade in these commodities has increased rapidly in the past decade and further growth is expected. The aim of the workshop is to present and disseminate the first results of both projects, but also to get additional feedback from

industry, policy makers and science on how to further increase biomass utilization and trade in view of the current ambitious renewable energy and climate policy targets and the current economic crisis.

- During the “end-of-task” workshop in Vancouver August 25-26 2009, Task 40 will organize a half-day session on **sustainable international bioenergy trade**, including both speakers from Task 40 and other key experts.

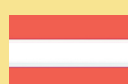
- Finally, the last Task 40 event in 2009 will be held in Japan on October 26 – 28th, and will highlight **developments in bioenergy trade (both solid and liquid) in the South-East Asian region.**

More and up-to-date information on the activities of IEA Bioenergy Task 40 is available at www.bioenergytrade.org; for general work of the IEA Bioenergy Implementing Agreement, visit www.ieabioenergy.com

Task 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.

National Team Leaders of IEA Bioenergy Task 40 as of May 2009



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