

## IEA Bioenergy Task 40 - UPDATE OCTOBER 2010

### Events (co-organized) or supported by Task 40 in 2010-2011

- In March 2010, IEA Bioenergy Task 40 supported the **Biomass power and trade conference** - 11-12 March 2010, Rotterdam, The Netherlands, organized by CMT. At this conference, decision-makers of biomass industry, regulators, traders and researchers from over 30 countries convened in Rotterdam to obtain industry updates and to exchange ideas and explore collaborations with key stakeholders in the global biomass industry. A full conference summary is available for download from the Task 40 website.
- **Joint workshop: International trade of bioenergy commodities: Experiences with certification and setting up sustainable supply chains.** EUBIONETIII and IEA Bioenergy Task 40 are jointly organizing a workshop in Rome, Italy on the 21st of October 2010. The workshop will:
  - (1) provide an overview of experiences and regarding sustainability certification, including the current status of legislation in the EU and elsewhere;
  - (2) show concrete case studies of ongoing sustainable international supply chains – both for solid and liquid biomass, and
  - (3) identify and discuss both opportunities to develop sustainable international bioenergy supply chains and identify (policy) barriers to be overcome.
- **Joint workshop: Development of torrefaction technologies and impacts on global bioenergy use and international bioenergy trade.** IEA Bioenergy Tasks 32 & 40 are organizing a workshop in Graz, 28th of January 2011. Torrefaction is an interesting pre-treatment technology for biomass before pelletisation and/or combustion. 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.

- Conference: **"Pushing Forward Biomass Utilization & International Trade"**, Biomass Trade & Power Americas, Atlanta, Georgia, USA, February 23-25, 2011, organized by CMT with support from Task 40. Topics include amongst others: DOE's direction on biomass utilization in energy/utilities sectors; US & European's utilities' expectations for biomass-based initiatives; Changes in renewable energy policy & impact on trade; Opportunities in Southeast's biomass to energy; Getting in the specifics of wood pellets & wood chips for export & co-firing; and Making economics from logistics & handling of biomass.
- Joint workshop with Tasks 38 & 43 on **Biomass production & trade and (in)direct land-use change**, Campinas, Brazil, proposed for mid-September 2011. Envisioned topics include
  - a) (i)LUC and GHG consequences (considering (i)LUC in methodology for calculating GHG balances and climate benefits of bioenergy systems, C accounting approaches, etc);
  - b) (i)LUC and international bioenergy trade (responding to concern of consumers and importing nations, (i)LUC in certification systems, etc), and
  - c) (i)LUC and feedstock production systems (influence of expanding different feedstock production systems on the evolving forestry/ agriculture landscape, strategies for mitigating (i)LUC risks connected to feedstock production, etc.).

### Task 40 publications published in 2010 (more are forthcoming in 2011)

- **Opportunities and barriers for international bioenergy trade.** The report provides an overview of what market actors currently perceive as major opportunities and barriers for the current and future development of international bioenergy trade, focusing on bioethanol, biodiesel and wood pellets.
- This 330 page (!) study provides an extensive **overview and update of almost 70 certification initiatives and systems relevant for biomass and bioenergy certification**, based on the year of 2009. Every initiative gives a description of the context, status and organization structure, followed by a description of its principles, criteria and indicators.

- The **World Bio-trade Equity Fund Study** explores the possibility for the creation of a Bio-trade Equity Fund, which could invest in projects that promote world trade in biomass while yielding a rate of return commensurate with risk. Envisioned Projects could include: improving ground-based biomass feedstock supply systems, building

biomass conversion plants, and enhancing bio-product transportation systems. The study concludes that such a fund could be feasible, and outlines a possible business plan, including the setup of the fund, a time schedule and example projects a fund could invest in.

## Task leadership and national team leaders as of October 2010

The Task is jointly led and coordinated by André Faaij (Copernicus Institute, Utrecht University) and Peter-Paul Schouwenberg (RWE/Essent). Martin Junginger (Utrecht University) is assisting and logistically supporting the Task. Kees Kwant (AgentschapNL) is Operating Agent for the Task. Please contact your national team leader for more information and how you can get involved with Task 40.



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**[www.bioenergytrade.org](http://www.bioenergytrade.org)**