



Sustainable Use of Biofuels

Working Group



Situation in countries

- Biofuel is hot topic in most countries
- Sustainability is on the background, behind feasibility, set-up of projects etc.
- Economy as main driver
- Main concerns: pressure on arable land

Special country-related problems?

- Climatic influence on yields (e.g. droughts) Serbia, Croatia
- Land use in terms of area can also be unproblematic (Ukraine)
- Standardisation, certification in Europe might become problematic in future
- Agricultural technology transfer needed (to increase yields, e.g. rapeseed)
- Infrastructure in agriculture not good, e.g. irrigation (investments needed)
- Water availability and quality (Serbia)

Existing policies in countries (I)

■ Croatia:

- High biofuel targets without thorough assessment; assessment of this strategy ongoing showing that targets were not reached;
- Sustainability of biofuels not implemented yet in strategy, might be included in the next updates.
- Also developed: water management strategies

■ Serbia:

- strategy natural resource use (? implemented)

■ Ukraine:

- Energy strategy until 2030 for all type of energy uses, implemented last year
- Energy strategy not focused on biofuels (developments just are at a start)

Existing policies in countries (II)

- Georgia:
 - early development stage, no national strategy
- Montenegro:
 - Energy strategy (until 2025) to be drafted
 - Biofuels/biomass will be included
- Turkey:
 - Energy strategy: increasing renewable capacities
 - Legislation to promote renewable energy
 - Financial mechanism
 - Targets for 2020 for renewable energy and energy efficiency
- Slovenia:
 - GHG reduction programme including renewable energy
 - Includes also sustainability issues



Summary: ongoing policy developments

- Some countries have developed energy strategies
- Some countries are still drafting strategies
- Use of renewable energy and biofuels not always prominently included, but sometimes are
- Kyoto protocol, EU directives, energy security are main drivers
- Sustainability is not clearly included in many strategies



Promoting 2nd generation strategies

- Different opinions on timing of 2nd generation capacity building:
 - Too early for promotion of 2nd generation biofuels
 - But still important to prepare for next phase, so that knowledge is available in the future

Needs for developing sustainable biofuels


- Strategy to include sustainability issues of biofuels (renewable energies) into national policies
- Capacity building
 - Awareness raising, information
 - Local competence centers (knowledge on technologies, agriculture, etc.)
 - Use of sustainability analysis tools, e.g. LCA
 - Language to be taken into account
- Technology transfer in e.g. agriculture
- Implementing of example projects
- Analysis of local issues


=> UNIDO and FAO offered support in capacity building



Is sustainability of biofuels an important topic in your countries?

- UNEP: 1st/2nd generation biofuels – developing criteria
- Spain: Private project development, for government sustainability important topic, but also developing companies
- FAO: Contribution of forestry to sustainable development, wood as an important source (more important shifting to renewable industry)
- Montenegro: Focus on wood biomass (forestry important), future plans also energy crops, liquid biofuel production. Process just started, as Montenegro is a new country
- Slovenia: Biofuel important issue in EU during presidency of Slovenia; problems with biofuels more present in public opinion

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- Serbia: Sustainability is concern, in national environmental policy, land available for energy crops, but yields not stable (droughts, rain-fed agriculture). Using arable land could therefore be problematic. 1st biodiesel plants
 - UNIDO (ICTS): Technology incentives important in work programme; also 2nd generation technologies; awareness raising to adopt best technologies also for 1st generation biofuel production
 - Croatia: dealing with practical problems of engine use
 - Turkey: Objective of promoting biodiesel
 - Georgia: NGO, working on digesters, also working on other renewable energy introduction

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- Ukraine: Technology transfer important issue, large potential for bio-fuels, large amounts of rapeseed currently grown (doubled this year); also sunflower and soy oil; plant oils are exported but not used within Ukraine; UNIDO and EU could help development of biofuels to use the potential; food security should not be endangered
 - Croatia (company): Glycerol use as fuel (together with wood) for process heat
 - UNIDO: network, partnership between CEE countries useful, question for needs of countries?; UNIDO as GEF implementing facility
 - Croatia (research): Sustainability has not been tackled in Croatia; phase is feasibility studies and setting up infrastructure; Sustainability should be addressed in this phase; also in Croatia agriculture vulnerable and pressure on arable land might be too high



■ FORESTRY

- Infrastructure for forestry very good in some countries (e.g. Slovenia)