

GBEP activities in the technology area – The way forward

In the framework of GBEP activities in the field of “Opportunities for Deployment of Technologies for Sustainable Bioenergy”, the following next steps are proposed for endorsement:

- Objective: task force establishment in 9th Steering Committee (May 2010 tbc)
- Endorsement of the ongoing tasks (1, 3 and 4)
- Endorsement of the timeline
- Endorsement of the simultaneous work on structure and content

This document is also intended to guide GBEP Partners and Observers through the three documents developed under the umbrella of the Technical Working Group (and circulated as background document to the next 8th Steering Committee meeting) to seek consensus on the way forward and possible extension of the work.

Through convening a wide range of national governments, international organisations and other stakeholders, GBEP can add value in the collection and sharing of information on work in the areas of bioenergy RD&D, production, use, policy development, and impacts of technologies on sustainability. Using this information to identify consensus, gaps in the development, deployment of technology (particularly in developing countries), examples of good practice and areas for collaboration will help to make the most of resources in seeking to find innovative solutions to global challenges.

At the 5th meeting of the GBEP Technical Working Group, it was agreed to start to gather and exchange information and experiences within the Group on the following:

- **Funding options for bioenergy projects.** The Secretariat gathered information, where accessible, for nationally and internationally funds available for bioenergy projects in developing countries and transition economies. Various information gaps to be filled have been identified, including difficulty in obtaining information about lessons learned by financing bodies in the financing of bioenergy.
 - *Once completed, do we want to publish this report as a GBEP product and/or make it available through the web in the form of an ‘alive’ reference database?*
 - *Shall we organise workshops or other forms of consultation in order to learn and share practical lessons about facilitating access to the identified funding options and include these lessons in a revised report on funding options?*
- **Analytical tools for sustainable bioenergy.** The work started by FAO and UNEP, in consultation with other Partners, collated analytical tools to build country capacity for assessing sustainable bioenergy potential and to devise and implement a strategy for realization of this potential.
 - *Do we want to include also resources of information (e.g. handbooks, databases) or just proper analytical tools?*
 - *Shall we go on to perform a comparative analysis of analytical tools that can be used by governments to develop their bioenergy strategies, involving technical experts where appropriate?*
 - *Shall we make preliminary preparations for workshops to share information about available tools with potential users (particularly developing country governments) and gain feedback on the kinds of tools they would consider useful?*

- **The report "Deployment of Technologies for Sustainable Bioenergy: Towards an Agenda for International Cooperation"** focuses on bioenergy technologies development status and their realisable potential in the future, underlining where international cooperation should focus to make it achievable, barriers to be removed and driving forces to be put in place. The report, developed by UNIDO, is still at a draft stage but it offers the opportunity to be expanded in a GBEP full scale report with country-specific information, based on Partners inputs. Other issues for consideration are highlighted in the report (see p.21) and would require a steer from GBEP for its future work in this area.
 - *Do we endorse the further development of this report by UNIDO, aiming at publishing its final version as a GBEP document based on consensus (otherwise it will be published as a UNIDO document)?*
 - *Do we endorse the organization of a workshop on the topic (to be hosted by UNIDO), with presentations from Partners and international experts, whose outputs will provide a contribution for a revised version of the report? The outcomes could also provide guidance to the revision of the scope and programme of work of a new Task Force.*

Proposed timeline

Does the SC agree to aim to establish a new Task Force on the deployment of technologies for sustainable bioenergy in the summer of 2010, with a scope and programme of work revised by UNIDO on the basis of comments from Partners and Observers and agreed according to the following timeline?

18 November 2009	The 8 th Steering Committee endorses activities undertaken by GBEP in the area of technology and aims to agree a scope and programme of work for a new Task Force in this area and establish the Task Force by May 2010;
25 January 2010	Partners and Observers are invited to send comments on the current version of the draft scope and programme of work v2 (1 May 2009) ¹ for a new GBEP Task Force on Deployment of Technology for Sustainable Bioenergy by this date; comments on the documents from 1, 3 and 4 are also expected by the same date;
1 March 2010	UNIDO, with the support of the Secretariat, will circulate a revised version of the proposed scope and programme of work to be discussed at the next TWG meeting;
March 2010 [tbc]	6 th TWG to agree scope and programme of work of new Task Force for recommendation to the Steering Committee; final drafts of the documents will also be discussed and approved for endorsement.
May 2010 [tbc]	The Steering Committee will consider endorsement of the scope and programme of work and decide about the formal establishment of a new Task Force.

¹ Available online at http://www.globalbioenergy.org/fileadmin/user_upload/gbep/docs/2009_events/7th_SC_NY/Draft_scope_and_programme_of_work_of_new_GBEP_TF_on_DTSTB_v2.pdf