

Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP)

GBEP work on sustainability criteria and indicators

**International trade of bioenergy commodities:
experience with certification and setting up
sustainable supply chains**

Rome, 21 October 2010

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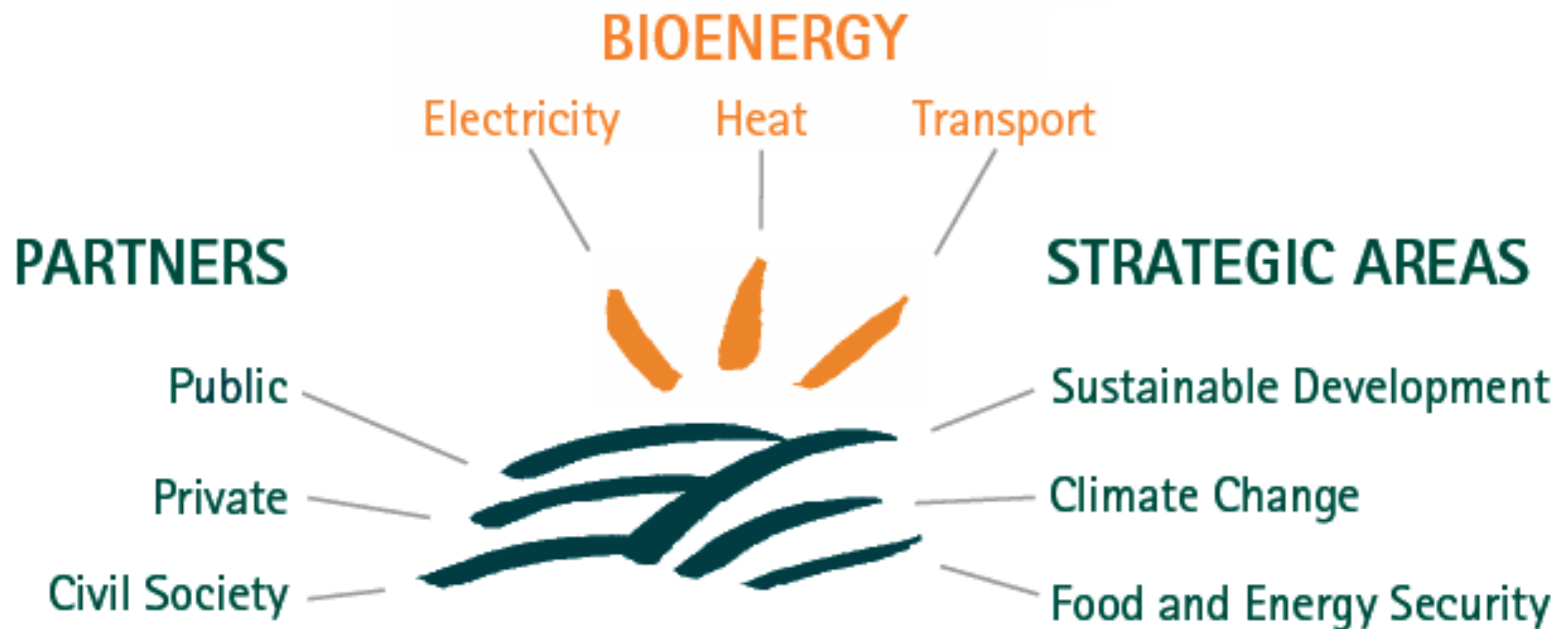
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THE GLOBAL BIOENERGY PARTNERSHIP



G8 COMMITMENTS AND MANDATES

2005 Gleneagles Plan of Action:

*“We (the G8) will promote the continued development and commercialisation of renewable energy by: [...] d) launching a **Global Bioenergy Partnership** to support wider, cost effective, biomass and biofuels deployment, particularly in developing countries where biomass use is prevalent”.*

2008 Hokkaido Toyako Summit:

*“We support the work of the **Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP)** and invite it to work with other relevant stakeholders to develop science-based benchmarks and indicators for biofuels production and use”*

2009 L’Aquila Summit:

*“We[...]invite **GBEP** to accelerate its work in developing science-based benchmarks and indicators for sustainable biofuel production and to boost technological cooperation and innovation in bioenergy”*

2010 Muskoka Summit:

*“We welcome the work of the **Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP)** and commit to facilitating swift adoption of voluntary sustainability criteria and indicators, as well as [agreement] on capacity building activities”*

GBEP PARTNERS AND OBSERVERS

33 Partners (22 governments – 11 organizations):

G8 Governments plus Argentina, Brazil, China, Colombia, Fiji Islands, Ghana, Mexico, Netherlands, Paraguay, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland and Tanzania, as well as EUBIA, FAO, IADB, IEA, UNDESA, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO, UN Foundation, and World Council for Renewable Energy.

33 Observers (22 governments – 11 organizations):

Angola, Australia, Austria, Chile, Egypt, Gambia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Laos, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Norway, Peru, Rwanda, South Africa, Thailand, Tunisia and Vietnam, along with the African Development Bank, Asian Development Bank, ECOWAS, ECLAC, European Commission, European Environment Agency, IFAD, IRENA, UEMOA, World Bank, and the WBCSD.

Italy and Brazil are currently Chair and co-Chair of the Partnership.

The Secretariat is hosted at the FAO in Rome.

GBEP PROGRAMME OF WORK

GBEP's current priorities are:

- 1. Facilitating the sustainable development of bioenergy** (Task Force on Sustainability);
- 2. Finalization and piloting of the GBEP Common methodological framework on GHG emission reduction measurement from the use of bioenergy** (Task Force on GHG Methodologies); and
- 3. Raising awareness and facilitating information exchange on bioenergy.**

GBEP is now discussing a potential new Task Force to facilitate **Capacity Building and Technology Cooperation for Sustainable Bioenergy.**

GBEP TF ON SUSTAINABILITY: BACKGROUND

Task Force established in June 2008 (led by the UK)

SCOPE

- **To provide relevant, practical, science-based, voluntary sustainability criteria and indicators to guide any analysis undertaken of bioenergy at the domestic level.**
- **To be used with a view to informing decision making and facilitating the sustainable development of bioenergy and not to be applied so as to limit trade in bioenergy in a manner inconsistent with multilateral trade obligations.**

WHAT MAKES THIS WORK UNIQUE

The uniqueness of the GBEP Task Force on Sustainability lies in the fact that :

- it is currently the only initiative seeking to **build consensus among a broad range of national governments and international institutions on the sustainability of bioenergy**;
- the emphasis is on providing **science-based measurements useful for informing national-level policy analysis and development** (in contrast to sustainability schemes recently developed by others, primarily designed for application at the project or economic operator level);
- **it doesn't have directions, thresholds or limits and do not constitute a standard; nor are they legally binding on GBEP Partners in any way.** Measured over time, the indicators will show progress towards or away from a sustainable development path as determined nationally;
- it addresses **all forms of bioenergy**, rather than just liquid biofuels.

PROGRESS

- In 2008, the Task Force provisionally agreed criteria and established three sub-groups to lead the work on indicators:
 - Environmental (co-led by Germany and UNEP),
 - Social (led by FAO) and
 - Economic and Energy Security (co-led by IEA and UN Foundation)
- Task Force held its 9th Meeting in Rome, 29 September - 1 October 2010
- Discussion to date has led to a high degree of provisional agreement on some indicators included in the Environmental, Social, and Economic and Energy Security baskets, while further discussion is still required on national legal, policy and institutional frameworks and other indicators.

ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS

Provisionally agreed indicators cover:

- lifecycle GHG emissions,
- soil quality,
- emissions of non-GHG pollutants,
- water use and efficiency,
- land use and land-use change related to bioenergy feedstock production.

Issues where there is willingness to reach a consensus but further discussion is still required:

- biological diversity,
- harvest levels of wood resources,
- water quality.

SOCIAL INDICATORS

Provisionally agreed indicators cover:

- net job creation,
- wages,
- change in unpaid time spent by women and children collecting biomass,
- bioenergy used to expand access to modern energy services,
- change in mortality and burden of disease attributable to indoor smoke from solid fuel use,
- incidence of occupational injury, illness and fatalities.

Issues where there is willingness to reach a consensus but further discussion is still required:

- food security,
- labour conditions,
- access to land, water and other natural resources, and
- household income.

ECONOMIC AND ENERGY SECURITY INDICATORS

Provisionally agreed indicators cover:

- productivity,
- net energy balance,
- total domestic consumption and production of bioenergy,
- training and re-qualification of the workforce,
- ✓ infrastructure and logistics for distribution of bioenergy,
- ✓ capacity and flexibility of use of bioenergy.

Issues where there is willingness to reach a consensus but further discussion is still required:

- change in foreign exchange reserves,
- value added,
- production costs,
- ✓ bioenergy in energy diversification.

TF ON SUSTAINABILITY - NEXT STEPS

The Task Force has achieved much in the last two years but there is still a large amount of work to do. In the coming months it will:

- seek **agreement on an initial set of indicators**;
- refine the supporting information for the indicators, such as **descriptions of methodological approaches** for their measurement;
- **prepare a report** that would include a set of indicators and supporting text;
- give further consideration to how the work can be **disseminated** by consulting a wide range of interested parties and stakeholders, including through further outreach activities; and
- **explore possibilities for piloting** the agreed indicators and identifying suitable examples of sustainable bioenergy in action, linked to the agreed indicators, for dissemination.

For further information

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