



## **Ensuring Access to Sustainable Bioenergy Globally**

*Time: 14:15 - 18:30, Monday 24 June 2013*

*Location: European Parliament - Room Number: JAN 6Q1*

*Event Size: Approximately 100 attendees*

*Hosted by MEP Maria Da Graça CARVALHO EPP/Portugal*

### **Background**

One of the goals of the EU Renewable Energy Directive is to achieve 10% renewable energy use in transport by 2020 and biofuels represents a big portion of that goal. During this spring, the EP will be discussing the new EC proposal to cap first generation biofuels at 5% in the Renewable Energy Directive.

For the 2013 edition of the EUSEW, PANGEA and GBEP (Global Bioenergy Partnership) are offering a forum to share information and lessons learned related to benefits and challenges of bioenergy in developing and emerging countries. GBEP will present its tools to facilitate the sustainable development of bioenergy and several case studies from three areas of the world - Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean - both for small-scale and large-scale projects will be showcased.

The development of bioenergy presents both opportunities and challenges for economic and social development, as well as for the environment. Sustainability is key.

### **The Benefits of Bioenergy**

Modern bioenergy can provide multiple benefits, including promoting rural economic development, increasing household income, mitigating climate change and providing access to modern energy services. On the other hand, fast-growing supply and demand of bioenergy could pose challenges. The evaluation of the benefits and challenges of bioenergy production and use should reflect the national context.

An established bioenergy production can reduce a country's dependence on expensive imported fossil fuels and improve domestic energy security, at the same time providing it with an in-demand good for export to the international market.

It also creates tangible job opportunities for the communities it involves, with the opportunity for many Africans, Latin Americans and Asians to be involved in the labour-



intensive cultivation of appropriate feedstocks, along with processing, storage, marketing and trade.

The sub-tropical climate of these regions is perfect for growing most biofuel feedstocks, with the regions' abundant arable land also providing a solution to the land-shortages that have proven so problematic across the developed world.

In short, bioenergy may offer very good opportunities if developed sustainably. A well-functioning bioenergy industry can leverage developing countries' economic growth on an international level, while at the same time improving the economic and social well-being of their inhabitants. This is a unique opportunity.

### **The Challenges of bioenergy**

Challenges, on the contrary, are related to land tenure systems, concerns about competition with food and the real benefits of producing bioenergy for the environment. Bioenergy can have significant impacts on the forestry sector, directly, through the use of wood for energy production, and indirectly, as a result of changes in land use. The impact of bioenergy on poverty alleviation in developing countries will depend on the opportunities for agricultural development, including income and employment generation, the potential to increase poor peoples' access to improved types of bioenergy; and the effects on energy and food prices.

Bioenergy can create opportunities for income and employment generation, and it can increase poor people's access to improved types of energy. But significant concerns remain about its effect on combating climate change and the environment; on agriculture, food security, and sustainable forest management; and on people, particularly the poor people in developing countries who will be affected by the changes in land use, land tenure, and land rights it will bring about.

***Join PANGEA and GBEP at this event to explore key case studies on bioenergy production from around the world showing best practices and highlighting the current opportunities and challenges facing the bioenergy sector.***



## Draft Programme

14.15 - 15.00 European Parliament Accreditation & Registration

### Setting the background

15.00 - 15.15 Introduction and Welcome by Dr. Maria Michela Morese, GBEP

15.15 - 15.30 Introduction and Welcome by Meghan Sapp, PANGEA

### Presentations - Sharing world bioenergy examples from the field: from small scale to large production

15.30 - 18.00 Moderator: Dr. Gerard Ostheimer, USDA-Foreign Agricultural Service

#### I - Experiences in Africa (15.30 - 16.00)

- Stefan Maard, Cleanstar Mozambique
- Cesar Cunha Campos, Fundação Getulio Vargas - FGV
- Discussion

#### II - Experiences in Asia (16.00 - 16.40)

- Amol Nisal, Praj Industries Ltd.
- Karim Tarraf, UNEP
- Patrick Worms, ICRAF
- Discussion

#### III - Experiences in Latin America (16.40 - 17.10)

- Emerson Kloss, MRE Brazil
- Giovanni Venturini Del Greco, Agroils
- Discussion

#### Overview of case studies from around the world (17.10 - 17.30)

- Dr. Rainer Janssen, WIP

17.30 - 18.00 Q&A and Discussion with the audience

### Closing ceremony

18.00 - 18.10 Hosting MEP Maria da Graça Carvalho

18.10 - 18.20 Mr Faouzi Bensarsa, DG Devco

18.20 - 18.30 Representative from ACP Secretariat (TBC)



### Attendees/Invitations:

PANGEA and GBEP would like to have representatives from the European Institutions, Industry and NGOs at the event

### About PANGEA

PANGEA promotes sustainable African bioenergy investment, policies and production. Part NGO, part Think-tank, part Trade Association, PANGEA acts as a unified voice for our diverse membership of European and African bioenergy companies, and we are at the fore-front of the evolving industry of the future for a continent too long ignored but with too much potential to be absent from the developing global bio-economy. PANGEA closely works with the African-Caribbean-Pacific (ACP) Group of States and regional/national governments in Africa to develop their biofuels strategies and facilitating their relations with the EU. PANGEA is partnering with both Bonsucro and RSB (Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels) to ensure biofuels production is carried out in a sustainable way. [www.pangealink.org](http://www.pangealink.org)

### About GBEP

In the 2005 Gleneagles Plan of Action, the G8 agreed to launch a Global Bioenergy Partnership to support wider, cost effective, biomass and biofuels deployment, particularly in developing countries. Following a consultation process among developing and developed countries, international agencies and the private sector, the Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP) was launched at the 14th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-14) in New York on 11 May 2006. From its establishment GBEP has received continuing support and renewed mandate from the G8 and the G20.

GBEP is actively working to advance bioenergy for sustainable development, climate change mitigation and food and energy security. To this end, GBEP has recently defined a set of voluntary, science-based sustainability indicators for bioenergy. GBEP has also developed a common methodological framework for use in measuring and reporting greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions from bioenergy, and is currently working on capacity building activities and projects for sustainable bioenergy. <http://www.globalbioenergy.org/>