

My Take Home Messages on Sustainable Bioenergy

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Message 1: Need to place bioenergy in the broader water-energy-food-climate “nexus”

Water-Energy-Food **Challenges:**

- 0.87 billion people are undernourished
- 1.3 billion people lack access to electricity
- 0.9 billion people lack access to safe drinking water and 2.6 billion to adequate sanitation

Exacerbating factors:

- Climate Change
- Nature's stress
- Population growth,
- Changing consumption patterns



Huge Nexus Challenge in the future

- Water-Energy-Food Nexus: 50% more food – **mostly from yield increase – hence a lot more energy**, 40% more water and 40% more energy in 2030
- Same exacerbating factors

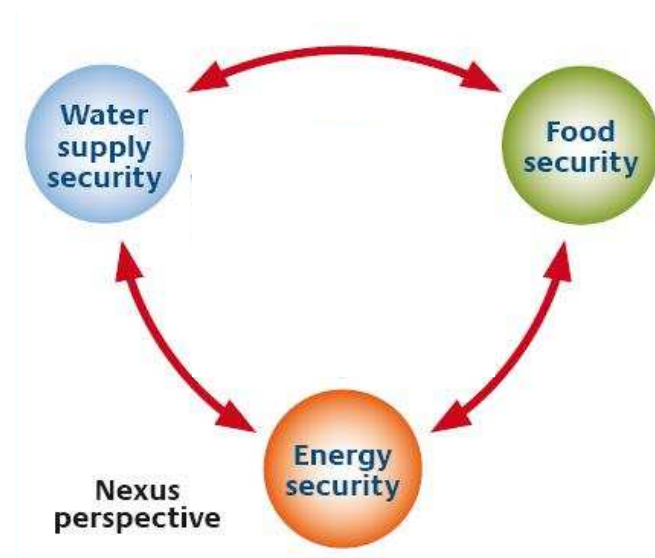
Need to “Do More with less” / “Save and Grow” and Be Innovative



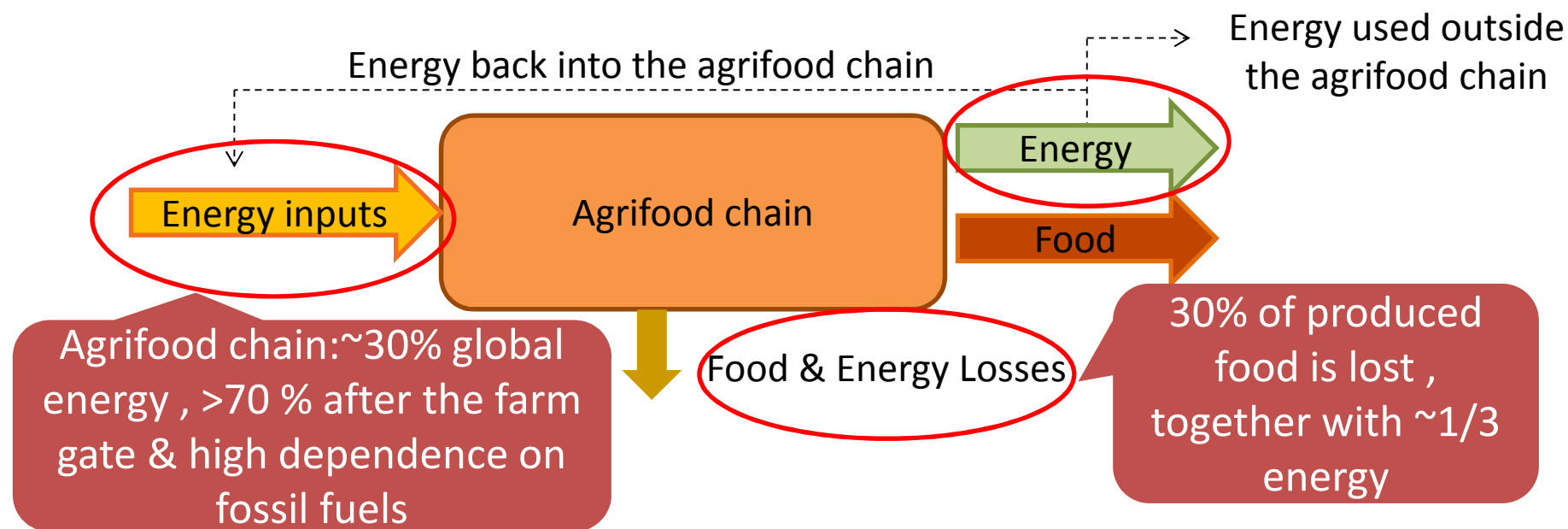
It's all about “Nexus”

A **nexus approach** can enhance **water, energy and food security** by:

- increasing efficiency
- addressing trade-offs
- building synergies
- improving governance across sectors



The Nexus applied to the agrifood chain: Energy FOR and FROM the Agrifood System



Need to become **“Energy-Smart”** in the agrifood chain :

1. **Improve energy efficiency**
2. Gradually use **more renewable energy**
3. **Improve access to modern energy services**, including through **integrated food and energy production**



Message 2: Bioenergy is not good or bad per se – It all depends

- **The issue is not about food feedstock bad and energy feedstock good** e.g. palm oil in Belem Bioenergia, soybean in Granol, sugarcane ethanol
- **Don't demonize wood fuel supply chain**, rather formalize it ! e.g. Rural Fuelwood Markets in Niger



Message 3: Start with a good assessment of needs and sustainable potential

- Don't develop policies and regulations without knowing our needs and sustainable potentials
- Cross sectoral coordination is key
- This assessment should be the basis for developing policies and regulations and select projects
- This assessment should be rapid but sound
- Tools exist to do it
- A Regional approach might help



Message 4: Evil (and Good) is in the details

Start from the reality , implement good practices
and let the others talk about complex issues

- **Prices** (check what happens at country and household level)
- **ILUC** (we know how to reduce the risk – e.g. agroecological zoning, integrated food energy systems, outgrower schemes, sustainable intensification)



Message 5: Diversification can be good for you and Nature

- Of **energy sources** (for cooking and productive uses)
- Of **farming systems** (for food security and the environment)
- Of **income** (through sale of energy)
- Of **cookstoves** (for a good meal with friends)



Message 7: Let's talk rubbish!

- Residues not waste but **commodities**
- But **not panacea** because possible competing uses



Message 8: Small is “*beautifuel*”, especially when combined with large

- Household versus district biogas farms in China (division of labour and scale)
- Outgrower schemes (Brazil social seal biodiesel programme)
- Small-scale farmers and urban population (Cleanstar in Mozambique)



Message 9: Bioenergy FOR people, WITH people, not always BY people

- People should always benefit
- People should be well involved into the process from the start
- Let farmers farm and others deal with energy matters



Message 9: It has a lot to do with governance

- Best feedstock, land, technologies , policies and regulations mean nothing without **good decision-making, implementation and enforcement mechanisms**
- But let's talk about **“good enough” governance** – Start with what we have, so long as there is commitment and means to progress



Message 10: Food and Fuel: It is possible and we know how to do it

Good bets include:

- Integrated food energy systems
- Yield increase
- Residue use

BUT

Need detailed analysis and good enough governance to make sure we get it right!



Overall message: Sustainable Bioenergy

- It can be done**
- We never said it was easy**
- But we have the knowledge and tools to make it happen**

So let's do it !



**Thank you for your
attention!**

**Thanks to the
Organisers!**

