Bioenergy production and use can make a valuable contribution to the sustainable development agenda. With careful management, various forms of bioenergy can help countries meet growing energy demand while concomitantly realizing carbon emissions reductions, climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts and improvements to citizens’ livelihoods. These benefits are best obtained through effective monitoring, research and information sharing as they support the development of comprehensive national bioenergy policies.

In this context, the sustainability of bioenergy has been approached in different ways and by different initiatives and organizations. In 2011 the Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP), an initiative composed by over 50 governments and 26 International Organizations, published a set of 24 sustainability indicators for bioenergy. The indicators contain descriptions and annotated methodologies to guide countries in assessing the sustainability of their domestic bioenergy production and use.

The GBEP indicators are currently in the implementation phase. As of March 2019, the GBEP indicators have been implemented in twelve countries (Argentina, Colombia, Egypt, Germany, Ghana, Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Netherlands, Paraguay and Vietnam) and Germany implemented the indicators for a second time. Four additional countries are currently in the process of implementing the indicators (Brazil, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uruguay). In light of the lessons learned, GBEP has developed an Implementation Guide on the use of the GBEP Sustainability Indicators for Bioenergy to improve their practicality and provide related guidance for users.

This side event will give the opportunity to share the experience of GBEP and other relevant international institutions regarding the joint effort towards sustainable development of bioenergy with a particular focus on Africa.

In this international context, IEA Bioenergy is working on the sustainability governance of the bioeconomy, and continuously contributed to respective GBEP activities over the last years. The work of the new IEA Bioenergy Task 45 (Climate and sustainability effects of bioenergy within the broader bioeconomy, see http://task45.ieabioenergy.com) will continue collaboration with GBEP, and thus contributes to this side event.

This event is organized in collaboration with:

IEA Bioenergy

etaflorence

renewable energies
13.30 – 13.45  Global vision on bioenergy  
Uwe R. Fritsche, IEA Bioenergy

13.45 – 14.05  The GBEP Sustainability Indicators for Bioenergy: lessons learned from their measurement and the release of the Implementation Guide  
Maria Michela Morese, Executive Secretary GBEP

14.05 – 14.25  Measurement of the GBEP Indicators in Kenya and links with the bioeconomy in Africa  
Rocio Diaz-Chavez, SEI, Kenya

14.25 – 14.45  The AFREC Bioenergy Database as a source of bioenergy data: opportunities and challenges  
Abdoulaye Oueddo, AFREC/African Union

14.45 – 15.50  Interactive Discussion – Addressing bioenergy data collection challenges in Africa  
Moderator: Uwe R. Fritsche, IEA Bioenergy (Task 40 and 45)  
Key note speakers will give a 5 minute speech on the experience of their organizations regarding how to address bioenergy data collection strategy in Africa. An interactive discussion involving all panelists will follow. Keynote speakers:
  • Some ways to track the development of bioenergy in FAO’s work,  
  Olivier Dubois, FAO
  • The experience in ECREEE/ECOWAS, Mahama Kappiah, Executive Director of ECREEE
  • GIZ bioenergy good practices, Charlie Moosmann, GIZ
  • Biomass resource assessment in Africa, Floor van der Hilst, Utrecht University, The Netherlands and IEA Bioenergy, Task 45
Interactive Discussion with all panelists.

15:50 – 16:00  Closing Remarks  
Maria Michela Morese, Executive Secretary GBEP