THE ROLE OF BIOENERGY IN EU ENERGY POLICY

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European Commission

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BIOENERGY IS THE MAIN RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCE: 10% OF EU FINAL ENERGY CONSUMPTION



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BIOENERGY WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY A KEY ROLE IN THE FUTURE, PICKING IN 2025 AND THEN DECREASING



EUCO30 Bioenergy Production Solid ktoe

Biomass Solid Imports ktoe



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Source: PRIMES EUCO scenarios

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MAJORITY OF FOREST BIOENERGY DELIVERS GHG BENEFITS, EVENT TAKING INTO ACCOUNT BIOGENIC EMISSIONS

Carbon impacts of forest bioenergy can var depending on:

- Forest management regimes
- Supply chain GHG emissions
- End-use efficiency
- Time horizon of assessment, contrafactual





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RED II REINFORCES THE EU BIOENERGY SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK

- ✓ Cover all **bioenergy uses** (biofuel, heat and power)
- Minimize risks of negative environmental impacts (e.g. deforestation, degradation, impacts on biodiversity and carbon stocks, ILUC)
- Deliver optimal greenhouse gas savings compared to fossil fuels
- Promote resource efficiency and avoid market distortions

Ensuring **proportionality** *and* **cost-effectiveness**, avoiding double regulation or excessive administrative burden for economic operators



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OVERVIEW OF THE EU BIOENERGY SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK POST-2020

Land criteria: feedstock based

Performance criteria

End-use based

1 AGRI BIOMASS

No go areas:

- with high carbon stocks and
- ✓ high biodiversity values

2. FOREST BIOMASS (risk-based)

Minimum requirement for:

- Forest regeneration
- Biodiversity and soil protection
- Long term productivity
- ✓ LULUCF accounting

3. GHG SAVINGS CRITERIA

> 70% for new biofuels/biogas for transport (all plants)

80% (85% in 2026) for biomass and biogas in heat and power (only for large plants with fuel capacity equal/above 20 MW)

4. CHP CRITERIA for bioelectricity

Applies to new bioelectricity plants (equal/above 20 MW); 3-year transition period after adoption of Directive + exceptions for national risks of security of electricity supply



NEW FOREST BIOMASS CRITERIA TO AVOID UNSUSTAINABLE FOREST HARVESTING AND ENSURING LULUC ACCOUNTING

- Economic operators can use two types of evidence for demonstrating compliance:
 - **Evidence** A. National or sub-national legislation related to the harvesting area
 - Evidence B. If evidence A not available, evidence from forest holding assessment

Benefits:

- Proportional: focus on risky biomass that is not subject to environmental safeguards, builds on national sustainable forest management policy
- ✓ Cost-effective: the 20 MW capacity threshold covers 75% of commercial forest biomass used for energy, only 16% of the installations

<u>'Only waste & residues'</u>: is it environmental desirable or technically feasible?





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END USE PERFORMANCE CRITERIA EXTENDED TO BIOMASS IN HEAT AND POWER (ABOVE 20 MW)

GHG saving criteria (heat and power)

- 80% GHG saving requirement for biomass for heat and power (85% in 2026)
- New GHG calculation methodology and default values for most common pathways

Benefits:

- ✓ Effective: promotes carbon efficiency along the bioenergy supply chain
- ✓ Efficient: operators can use default values or calculate project values

End-use efficiency criteria (bioelectricity only)

- Electricity from biomass must be produced in highly efficient CHP
- Transition period for plants starting operations after 3 years from the date of adoption of the directive, exceptions for security of electricity supply risks

Benefits:

- ✓ Effective: promotes end-use efficiency
- *Efficient: it does not impact already made/approved investments*





THANK YOU!

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http://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/topics/renewableenergy