Feedback from the workshop "Opportunities for new business concepts with the combined non-food chains under the KBBE umbrella"

BECOTEPS – Member States Meeting
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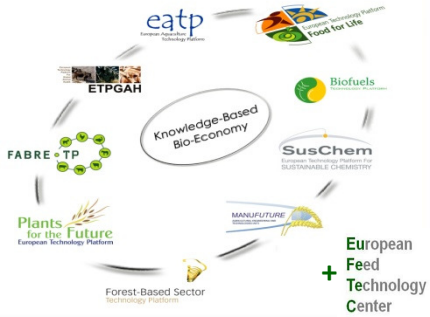


Workshop 1:
Opportunities for new business concepts with the combined non-food chains under the KBBE umbrella

Content of the presentation:

- ✓ Overall aim of the workshop
- ✓ Current state
- ✓ Threats and Opportunities
- ✓ Recommendations

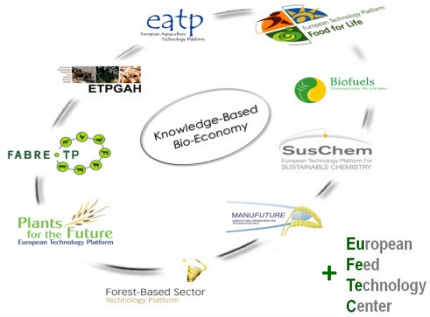
Speakers / Experts at the WS

- Udo Mantau (Uni Hamburg, Germany)
- Antti Asiakainen (Uni Joensuu, Finland)
- Johan Sanders (Uni Wageningen, The Netherlands)
- Melvyn F. Askew (Harper Adams University College, United Kingdom)
- Peter Axegard – (Innventia, Sweden)
- Frédérique Bertaud (CTP, France)
- Michael Deutmayer (Choren Biomass, Germany)
- Marten Grau (Uni Halle, Germany)
- Marcia Kilponen (John Deere, Finland)
- Michael Obersteiner (IIASA, Austria)
- Peter Pickel (John Deere, Germany)
- Andreas Pilzecker (European Commission DG Agri)
- Christophe Rupp-Dahlem (Roquette Bio-Hub, France)
- Manfred Wörgetter (HBLFA, Wieselburg, Austria)

Overall aim of the WS (I)

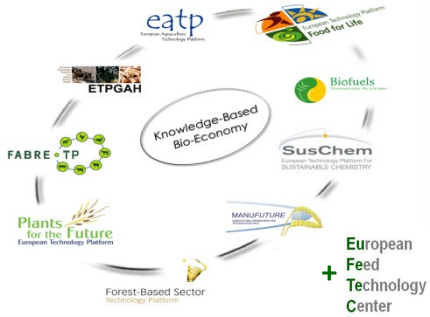
The overall aim is:

1. To bring together best knowledge in this field by experts from academia, industry (including SME) and other ETP stakeholders
2. To identify the potential(s) and limitation(s) of the combined use of various biomasses and intermediates / derivates & synergies between value chains
3. To facilitate collaboration and cooperation between stakeholders in the forest-based and agricultural biomass use in potential fields



Overall aim of the WS (II)

4. To support efficient combined use of sustainable managed biomass in new applications
5. To identify boundaries and hurdles that hinder combined biomass production and utilisation
6. To generate thoughts for (presently running) lead market initiatives
7. To increase the understanding of differences in primary production processes and logistics of the various biomass



Main discussions / findings (I)

Some key conclusions from the workshop's discussions:

1. Optimising Structural Value of Raw Biomass

Biomass is heterogeneous:

- ✓ Different types, species, properties, commercial potentials, scale of production, regional opportunities
- ✓ Strategy & uses need to be adopted per biomass type and region
- ✓ Not a single policy / R&D
- ✓ Specific attention should be given to waste (also) from other sectors as a raw material

Main discussions / findings (II)

2. Exploitation of synergies between food and non-food biomass (supply chains)

- ✓ Primary production – co-production on same land (rotation or combined agriculture – soil stability / nutrient & waste use)
- ✓ Primary processing – co-processing of biomass sources
- ✓ Logistics
- ✓ Waste management

Main discussions / findings (III)

3. Data gaps & limitations of existing data on modelling/analysis

- ✓ Balance of data collection and modelling needs to be redefined
- ✓ Funding should be much more 50:50 between data collection and analysis / modelling
- ✓ Modelling tools though necessary for projects can only be refined if checked against concrete data → balanced funding for RTD and data collection
- ✓ Involvement of micro-enterprises (parts of woodworking industries; farmers, etc that have less than 20 employees) and are not considered in the official available data (e.g. EUROSTAT) –> essential for future planning at EU level
- ✓ Understanding of real product / output of non-food biomass (e.g. wood/energy crops/straw)

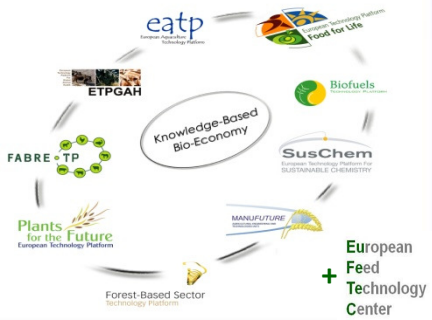
Main discussions / findings (IV)

4. A new concept of a biomass network / system?
   - ✓ Not focussing on a few crops / types of biomass, but considering the complex systems & exploiting of values
   - ✓ Integrated and synergistic networks are needed
   - ✓ System for agriculture and forestry with respect to biomass production, processing and value creation
   - ✓ poly-production
   - ✓ Biomass generated from a variety of sources
   - ✓ Maximising efficiency and optimising value
   - ✓ Municipal waste as a source (green and food biomass)

Main discussions / findings (V)

5. Need for new sustainable business models

- ✓ Demands of balancing sustainability priorities
- ✓ Integrating concept of poly-products in business models
- ✓ Adding value to biomass as key focus → flexibility; sustainability



Threats and Opportunities

Barriers

✓ Distorting policies towards energy

Opportunities

✓ Climate change / water availability

- e.g. Managed grasslands (soil erosion; grass raw material)

✓ Sustainable rural development

Recommendations (I)

What should be the core priorities of the EU for the use and role of BIOMASS?

NOT only:

- ✓ A single myopic focus on energy
- ✓ On achieving renewable energy targets by 2020

BUT:

- ✓ A holistic eco-system network approach
- ✓ exploring the synergies with the system between food and non-food biomass industry

The EU can not act in isolation

✓ Policies, interventions taken at EU level will have:

- global repercussions / effects
- a strong impact on the competitiveness of the economy and well being of the EU citizens.

Recommendations (II)

Education and Training

- ✓ New education and training schemes must be developed to match industry and research needs in future

Thank you for your attention

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