## ECOFYS

sustainable energy for everyone


# Biofuels <br> for sustainable transport 

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## Main messages

$>$ Biomass is necessary and suitable alternative to fossil resources
> Biofuels are needed for transport, alongside electrification and other solutions
$>$ There is increasing global interest, but role is currently modest
$>$ European policy and market prospects are unclear
> Many types of fuels can be produced from all kinds of feedstock
> The climate performance of biofuels continuously improves - by law
> Indirect Land Use Change: it's complex and relevant, but also manageable
$>$ Impact of biofuels on food prices is very small
> Biofuels' feedstock could be abundant - but this requires broader action

## Why biomass?

## Why biomass?

## > Renewable and sustainable

- Regrows
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions when replacing fossil resources
- (After initial carbon investment and payback period)
$>$ Versatile
- Can provide base and peak load electricity
- Complementary to other renewable energy sources
- Many different energy products: power, heat, fuels for transport
- Paves the road to biobased materials \& chemicals
- Only near term option for heavy transport, shipping, aviation
> Cost effective
- Competitive with other renewable energy sources and with fossil
- Works with existing infrastructure
- Connects to existing business
> Secures energy supply
- Many types of feedstock, including waste streams
- Locally and globally available, sometimes abundant
- Saves on oil import costs, diverts sourcing away from oil states
> Rural development
- Employment opportunities along supply chain

- Synergy with other agriculture

There's a need for sustainable biomass for "new" applications
$>$ Biopower / heat

$>$ Biofuels

> Biomaterials


## Role of bioenergy in WWF Energy Report



## \# 1 <br> Biomass is necessary and suitable alternative to fossil resources

## A possible scenario for the Netherlands

Ecofys study for 5 Environmental NGOs:
Een heldergroene visie op duurzame brandstoffen (2014)
(And some new calculations)

## The challenge

Business-as-usual: the demand for transport increases


## Energy use in transport in 2010 <br> Status in the Netherlands in 2010 (broad scope)



## Sustainable transport scenario (NGOs) <br> Development of final energy use and types (broad scope)



## Sustainable transport scenario (NGOs)

Final (tank-to-wheel) energy use (broad scope)


## Business-as-usual development

Well-to-wheel greenhouse gas emissions (broad scope)


## Sustainable transport scenario (NGOs)

Well-to-wheel greenhouse gas emissions (broad scope)


## Same scenario - but with more biofuels

Well-to-wheel greenhouse gas emissions (broad scope)


## \#2 <br> Biofuels are needed for transport, alongside electrification and other solutions

Global biofuel mandates / targets


## Aviation sector bets on biofuels, after 2025



## World biofuel production fourfolded in last decade


$>$ Ethanol represents 4\% of energy in transport
$>$ Biodiesel represents 1\% of energy in transport

## But remains still small compared to all energy

> Renewable Energy Share of Global Final Energy Consumption, 2014


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& \text { \#3 } \\
& \text { There is increasing global interest, } \\
& \text { but role is currently modest }
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## Biofuels in the EU - policy



## Biofuels in the EU - policy



$>$ Fuel Quality Directive (2009/30/EC)

## EU Renewable Energy Directive

$>10 \%$ target in 2020 "renewable energy in transport"

## 10\% = All Renewable Energy in all forms of transport <br> Petrol, diesel, biofuels, electricity <br> In road and rail transport In all transport

$>$ Electricity in road vehicles counts 2.5 times
$>$ Biofuels have to comply with sustainability criteria

- 35\% emission reduction, 50\% from 2018 onwards
- Not produced from land that was formerly high in carbon or biodiversity
> Biofuels from waste, residues, ..., counts twice


## EU Fuel Quality Directive

> Mandatory 6\% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from all energy used in transport for 2020 compared with 2010

- First 2\% by December 2015
- Another 2\% by December 2017
- Last 2\% by 2020
> By far most emissions result from final combustion
- Final emissions from fossil fuels are stoichiometric
- Difficult to improve exploration, transport and refining
> Emissions could be reduced by using biofuels
- 6\% reduction for the total pool, using fuels that perform $60 \%$ better then average, requires $10 \%$ of those fuels
- FQD and RED harmonised sustainability requirements
> This part of FQD is not yet implemented by MS
- Lack of instructions from EC


## EU Fuel Quality Directive



## EU ILUC Directive

> Addresses concerns related to Indirect Land Use Change (discussed later) and amends the Renewable Energy and Fuel Quality Directives
> Key changes:

| RED \& FQD | Biofuels produced from food crops and energy crops limited to $7 \%$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| RED \& FQD | Remainder of $10 \% / 6 \%$ should come from advanced biofuels, electricity <br> in transport, renewable fuels from non-biological origin or other savings <br> in the case of the FQD |
| RED | $0.5 \%$ non-binding subtarget for advanced biofuels in RED |
| RED \& FQD | RED \& FQD minimum required GHG saving threshold for biofuels is <br> increased to $60 \%$ |
| RED | RED: Contribution of electricity in rail transport is counted 2.5 times (was <br> once) the energy content of the input and electricity in road transport 5 <br> times (was 2.5 times); |
| RED \& FQD | introduction of a definition for 'low ILUC risk biofuels' |
| RED \& FQD | Increasing transparency of certification |
| RED \& FQD | Review of default emission values |

> (Furthermore, many detailed amendments)


Specific mandate for biodiesel

Mandate on biofuels

Mandate on emission reduction
No mandate (other stimulation)

Fuentes: RES Legal.eu; GAIN, 2016 Biofuel mandates in the EU by Member State

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& \text { \#4 } \\
& \text { European policy and market prospects } \\
& \text { are unclear }
\end{aligned}
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## Many possible production pathways



## Production of advanced biofuels



## Maturity of conversion technologies



## Feedstocks for biofuels

Sources of biomass (1) purpose grown


Sources of biomass (2) wood residues

Primary (e.g. agricultural and forestry residues)


Harvesting residues $\qquad$ $\longrightarrow$

Processing

Tertiary (e.g. waste wood)


End-of life

Sources of biomass (3) other residues


## Feedstock for biofuels sold in the Dutch market



Renewable fuels from non-biological origin

## Other novel fuels

> Hydrogen

- Electrolyse water to $\mathrm{H}_{2}$, then use
$>$ Power to liquids
- Electrolyse water to $\mathrm{H}_{2}$, then react with $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ to methanol
> Power to gas
- Electrolyse water to $\mathrm{H}_{2}$, then react with $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ to methane

$>$ Industrial waste gases to fuels
- Fermenting $\mathrm{CO}, \mathrm{CO}_{2}$ and $\mathrm{H}_{2}$


## LanzaTech

> Municipal Solid Waste to fuels

- Gasification, followed by Fischer-Tropsch synthesis

Fulcrum
SOLENA
Enerkem

# \#5 <br> Many types of fuels can be produced from all kinds of feedstock 

## How sustainable are biofuels?

## Biofuels have received much criticism



July 2006 Shell: "biofuels from food crops are morally inappropriate"
> April 2008 UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food: "Biofuels are a crime against humanity"
> April 2008 World Bank President: "While many worry about filling their gas tanks, many others around the world are struggling to fill their stomachs. And it's getting more and more difficult every day."
> April 2008 UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon: "We need to be concerned about the possibility of taking land or replacing arable land because of these biofuels [...] While I am very much conscious and aware of these problems, at the same time you need to constantly look at having creative sources of energy, including biofuels. Therefore, at this time, just criticising biofuel may not be a good solution. I would urge we need to address these issues in a comprehensive manner."

April 2014 IPCC: increased cultivation of biofuel crops may "exacerbate the already serious water scarcity" and may have "negative impacts on the lives of poor people"

[^0]Feedstock sustainability e.g. avoid biodiversity loss e.g. decrease local air pollution


## Chain sustainability

e.g. realise greenhouse gas savings

## Climate change \& <br> Greenhouse gas emissions

## Bioenergy is carbon neutral...



## ... well almost

> Energy is needed to drive the supply chain

- Harvesting, transport, processing, etc.
- Energy use leads to $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ emissions
$>$ Fertiliser production and application emits $\mathrm{N}_{2} \mathrm{O}$
> Land use change can decrease carbon stock


## ... although it could also be more

> Selected felling increases forest carbon uptake
$>$ Manure digestion avoids methane emissions (strong greenhouse gas)
$>$ Reduced tillage in agriculture can increase soil organic carbon
$>$ Biomass combined with CCS can remove $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ from atmosphere
> If done smart, bioenergy could contribute to carbon removal solutions


## Principles of greenhouse gas calculations <br> in the EU renewable energy directive

> Three key elements
> Typical and default factors

Standard rules for accounting

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E=e_{e c}+e_{l}+e_{p}+e_{t d}+e_{u}-e_{s c a}-e_{c c s}-e_{c c r}-e_{c c}
$$

Fossil comparator
$>$ RED methodology is a political concept, necessary to distinct between various supply chains in a pragmatic manner - but not suitable to draw conclusions on the real greenhouse gas impact from all biofuels together

## Default emissions

Specified by Renewable Energy Directive


## Biodiesel supply chain greenhouse gas emissions


\#6
The climate performance of biofuels continuously improves - by law

Emissions from Indirect Land Use Change (ILUC)

## Global agricultural land use

> World land area: 13 billion hectare
> Agricultural land: 5 billion hectare


Feedstock for biofuels in 2013 (24 Mha)

## ILUC concept: indirect land use change (simplistic explanation)



## ILUC concept: indirect land use change (simplistic explanation)



## ILUC concept

> Political concern:

- Increased consumption of biofuels require agricultural expansion at a global scale
- Marginal land use change causes high carbon emissions
- This limits greenhouse gas savings from biofuels application
> Policy makers want to understand the larger consequences of their decisions
> Biofuels industry feels unfair treatment - are not cause - have no influence
$>$ Models can shed some light on the land use impact of biofuels
> ILUC quantification:
For a certain biofuels development, the land use change is quantified worldwide, and compared to counterfactual, i.e. the world without that development



## Overview of modeling results



## Remarkable results

> ILUC is very much a local problem

- If peatland drainage in Indonesia and Malaysia were stopped, ILUC would reduce dramatically
> Foregone sequestration
- In absence of biofuels, EU cropland will decrease and partially becomes grassland or forest
- Use of abandoned land is not per se good, depends on counterfactual
- Biofuels produced on set-aside land before 2008 ILUC free?
$>$ Co-producing animal feed
- Leads to decreased soy production in Latin America
- Leads to increased palm oil production in South East Asia
- Overall LUC impacts decrease
> ILUC is largely paid back after 20 years - by definition (\& Fossil fuels emissions don't pay back!)


## ILUC can be avoided



## ILUC can be avoided



## \#7 <br> Indirect Land Use Change: it's complex and relevant, but also manageable

## Food security



## Food security

> Concern:

- Biofuels use food/feed crops as feedstock
- Additional demand $\rightarrow$ The poor face lower supplies and higher prices
$>$ Hunger in context
- 2010 crop production was enough to feed 12 billion people and the world can produce more
- Hunger and poverty continuously decrease
- Hunger is caused primarily by
- Suboptimal yields, wastes, absence of (organised) markets, inefficient infrastructure, lack of investments, conflicts, ...
- Not by a reduced supply from developed countries
$>$ The price of food crops mainly depends on the oil price


## Global price of products (normalised) and global biofuels volume (normalised)



## Global price of products (normalised)



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& \text { \#8 } \\
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The global biomass potential

## Ranges found in literature



## Developing countries:

improve farm practices and market operation


## Charcoal supply chain


> Sustainable wood
> Better conversion to charcoal
> More efficient use in improved stoves (also better for health)

## Smarter use of land

> Cane - cattle integration

> Multiple cropping


Herbs and vegetables can be grown in urban environment
> Berlin METRO supermarket Herb garden

> "Corn field" at Todmore's police station


## Precision farming and smart fertilisation


\#9
Biofuels' feedstock could be abundant - but this requires broader action

## Conclusion

> Sustainable biofuels are essential for sustainable transport, next to other solutions
> Many types of fuels can be produced from many types of feedstock
$>$ World bioenergy potential estimations range from <50 to >1000 EJ/yr

- Lower estimate considers bioenergy in isolation (only the leftovers)
- Higher estimate requires that all agriculture becomes more sustainable
> Stimulate synergy between food and fuel, improve the wider agricultural system
$>$ Then the potential for sustainable biofuels becomes very large
> Biofuels are not simply "Good" or "Bad"
$>$ The sustainability of biofuels is complex
> Many concerns are true
> Many concerns are exaggerated
> Many concerns can be avoided
> Mandatory sustainability requirements and certification helps



## sustainable energy <br> for everyone


[^0]:    [© misterhuyun/freeimages.com]

