IEA Bioenergy

Governing sustainability of bioenergy supply chains

Objective 2 Introduction

Inge Stupak and Tat Smith

Inter-Task project "Measuring, governing and gaining support for sustainable bioenergy supply chains"

Workshop, 18-19 May 2017, Gothenburg, Sweden

Photos, upper left and right: Johannes Ravn Jørgensen, University of Aarhus

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Bioenergy under scrutiny

https://weather.com/science/news/devastating-deforestation-in-borneo

Pictures that lay the ground for many people's concerns about sustainability

Abandon bioenergy?

Vincent Hendricks and Pelle Hansen (2016): What is viral is not necessarily true and what is true is not necessarily viral. Maximising votes does not require facts and voter maximisation does not add up to robust democracy.

If democracy does not have access to reliable sources of information and instead relies on narratives and social influence - then there is no way of distinguishing between junk evidence and facts.

Without the ability to make this distinction we may be welcoming the post-factual democracy.

In other words: we MUST insist that sound, democratic and effective governance institutions have a key role to play.

Why is there distrust in current governance institutions?

Not all stakeholders have equal voice, nor are all decisions sufficiently democratic

Gustave Courbet: “Deer in the Forest”

Gustave Courbet: “The Kill of the Deer”

Who decides on values and priorities?

Science disagrees and how can we know when standards are based on solid facts and sound assumptions

For example, how to agree on the facts about forests and their role in climate change mitigation?

Not all governance systems are effective

- Inadequate standards
- Unintended incentives
- Ineffective traceability and risk of mixing with unsustainable material
- Requirements are not adequately prescriptive, or they may be too prescriptive
- Auditing systems are too weak, for example when based on first or second party auditing
- Inadequate sampling strategies and frequencies
- Risk-based approaches are not enough
- Lack of consistency in implementation, leading to an uneven playing field
- Corruption and lack of capacity

Lots of room for improvement - the most critical issues differ among jurisdictions and systems

High quality documentation is not always available, and documentation is not always transparently communicated

Deadline	☐ Pre-condition to certificati ☐ 3 months from Issuance ☒ Next audit (surveillance c ☐ Other deadline (specify):
FSC Indicator:	6.5.f
Non-Conformity: A temporary stream crossing v constructed to minimize impacts on water quality. (e.g., perched) recycled pipes (rather than purpos surface water flow in drainages and an intermitter filters to prevent water running down the tempora The auditors deemed this occurrence to be an isc practices.	
Corrective Action Request: MN DNR must take temporary water crossing on timber permit B0119 minimize adverse impacts on water quality.	
FME response *(including any evidence submitted)*	The site in question is timber purchased on 5/29/2012 and constructed fall of 2012 with 2012/13. Wood that was cut brief period of additional fellin expected to be completed thi The temporary access route are intermittent stream crossi culverts (moving water under road is well constructed and The first intermittent stream with flanged ends. The pipe i stronger than a traditional cul culvert is placed at an approp is slightly perched based on perennial stream where fish to see the culvert placed dee culvert itself. The flanged out head cutting around the outle The other intermittent stream

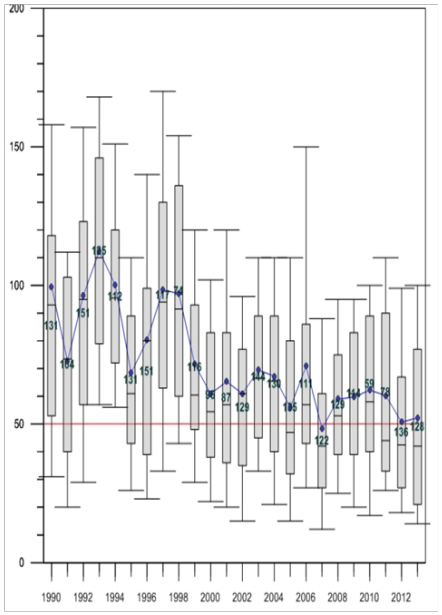
FSC auditing report and logo (performance and progress not clear)

Minnesota DNR 2014

	C1	C2
	Forest resources and global carbon stock	Health vitality
Russian Federation	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲
North Europe	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲
Central-West Europe	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲
Central-East Europe	🌲🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲
South-West Europe	🌲🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲
South-East Europe	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲

Forest Europe monitoring report (performance scoring based on monitoring, progress not clear)

Forest Europe 2012



Groundwater monitoring of nitrate in Denmark 1990-2013 (performance and progress is clear)

GEUS 2014

Lots of room for improvement for several issues….

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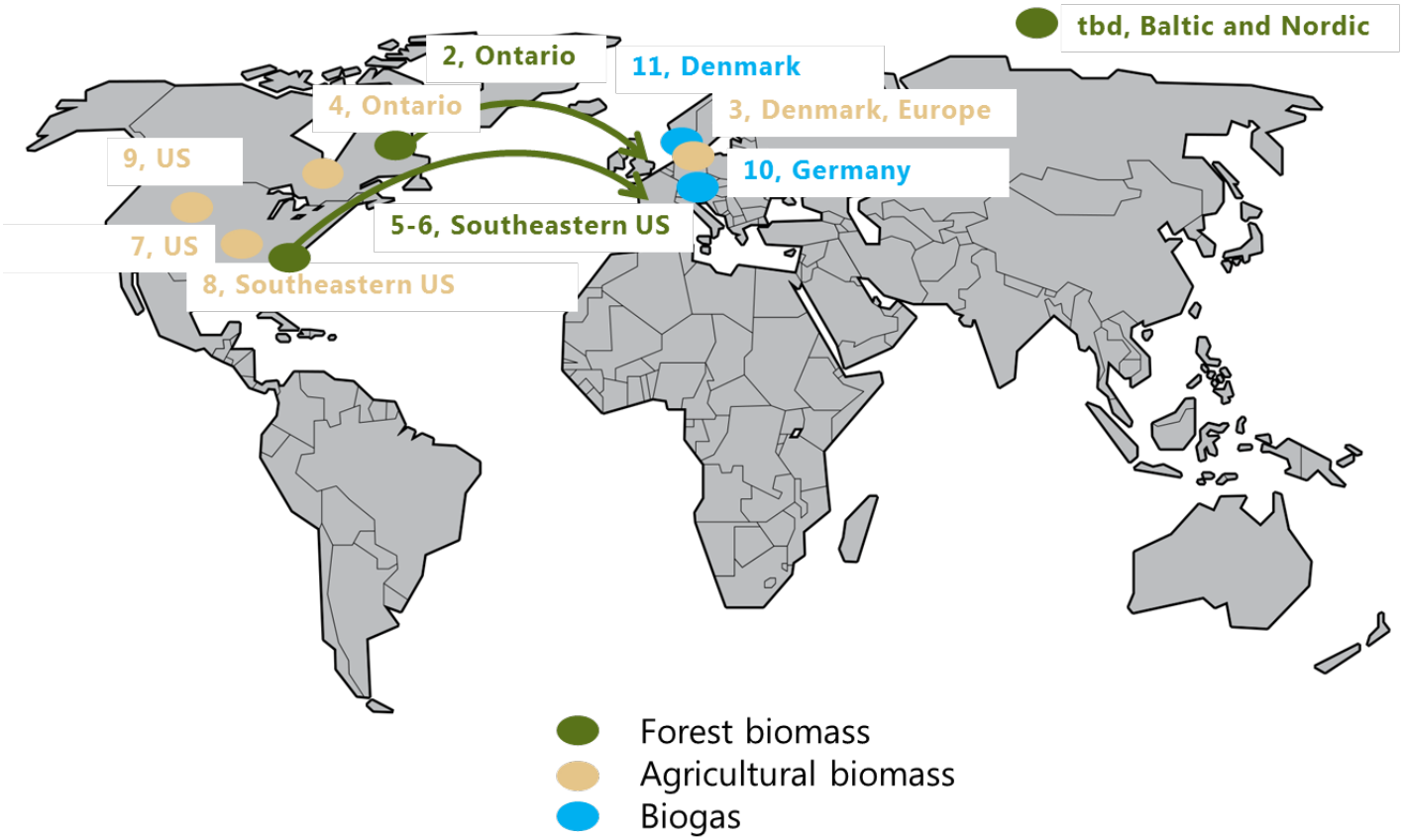
Aim of objective 2

- Developing theory for explaining how trust and legitimacy is created in association with practices underpinning sustainability claims throughout bioenergy supply chains.
- Assess and compare the legitimacy, effectiveness, efficiency, and transparency of a variety of approaches to govern and verify sustainability of biomass and bioenergy supply chains.

Twelve O2 studies

How can legitimacy and effectiveness of sustainability governance of bioenergy and the bioeconomy be improved?



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Thank you for any feedback today and tomorrow

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