

## Task 31: Biomass Production for Energy from Sustainable Forestry

### Background

IEA Bioenergy Task 31 aims to promote the market deployment of technologies and systems for sustainable energy production from biomass. Forest ecosystems constitute the world's largest accessible source of biomass, which may be available from forest management operations in multi-use forestry systems, and thus may be one of the most important potential suppliers of raw materials to the bioenergy industry. An important way to realize this potential is the integration of biomass production and harvesting of forest biomass for energy with forestry practices aimed at production of more traditional products such as lumber or pulpwood.

### Objective

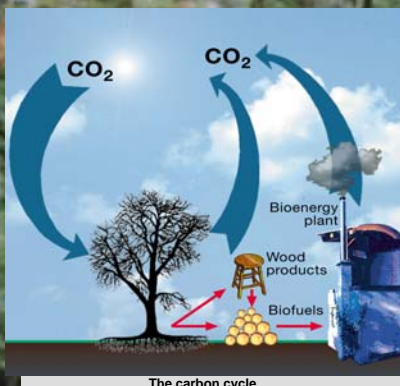
To share, analyse, synthesize, disseminate and promote scientific knowledge and technical information leading to the economically and environmentally sustainable production of biomass for energy from integrated forestry systems.



Energy plant

### Scope

- Involves criteria for sustainable forest management of bioenergy production systems in multi-use forestry with primary production of traditional forest products.
- World-wide scope, including boreal, temperate, subtropical and tropical forest regions.
- Includes sharing and synthesis of research information, analysis of policy relevance, and dissemination of this information to help promote the sustainable development goals of national programs in participating countries.
- Based on an integrated concept of biomass production systems incorporating biological, economic, environmental and social components.
- Multi-disciplinary partnerships of key research, government and industry stakeholders and policy-makers will be fostered in forest biomass production research, planning and operations.



The carbon cycle



Chipping of thinnings with farm tractor equipment



Spreading ash



Pre-commercially-thinned Pinus radiata plantation



Residue bundles (residue logs)

### Activities

- Annual international workshops and field study tours, for sharing of scientific and technical information and furthering the Task program, with published proceedings.
- Case studies, success stories and policy-oriented papers dealing with issues including (1) economic analyses of cost-effective, environmentally-friendly operational biomass recovery; (2) efficient and effective, integrated forest biomass supply chains; (3) availability of forest biomass in a world of increasing competition for resources; and (4) criteria for sustainable forest management of bioenergy production systems.
- Dissemination of new research knowledge, operational successes and technical information to research, government and industry stakeholders and policy-makers, through publications, presentations, electronic information technology and strategic alliances.
- Strong collaboration and information exchange with related IEA Bioenergy Tasks and other forestry and bioenergy organizations worldwide.

### Participating Countries 2007 - 09

Canada  
Denmark  
Finland  
Germany  
Norway  
Sweden  
The Netherlands  
United Kingdom  
USA

### Leadership

Task Leader: Jim Richardson, Canada  
Associate Task Leaders: Tat Smith, University of Toronto, Canada and Rolf Björheden, Skogforsk, Sweden  
Task Administration: Oana Popescu, Texas A&M University, USA  
Supported by National Team Leaders and a network of nearly 250 collaborators in participating countries

### How to participate

- Attend a workshop, present a paper or poster
- Share relevant research findings and technical knowledge with our network of collaborators
- Visit the website for current information on activities and publications
- Contact the Task Leader for further information, including names and addresses of National Team Leaders

### Contact

Jim Richardson  
Task Leader, IEA Bioenergy Task 31  
1876 Saunderson Drive  
Ottawa, Ontario  
Canada K1G2C5  
Phone: +1 613-521-1995  
Fax: +1 613-521-1997  
E-mail: jrichardson@on.aibn.com  
Website: <http://www.ieabioenergytask31.org>