

How to Account for Biogenic Carbon of Forest Biomass?

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The Carbon Neutrality of Forest Products

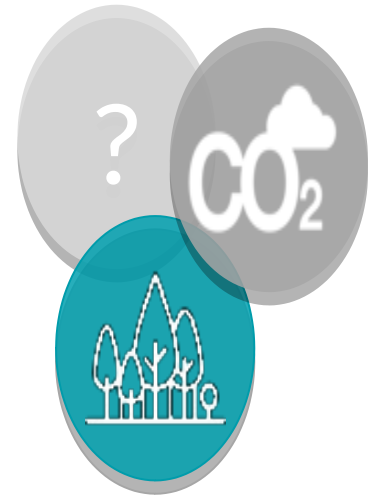
IPCC reports forest-related emissions under AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) sector and reflects zero for biomass in Energy sector

This has been interpreted by forest products industry that *biomass is “carbon neutral”*

Reporting – trying to get a handle on the full picture, usually at national scale

Accounting – trying to understand how much is “my fault”?

There is a **disconnect between these two systems** and a gap to achieve reconciliation



R¹

Product perspective

R²

Focus on forest products

Key criteria of WWF
for carbon accounting methods

R³

All relevant biogenic carbon
emissions and sinks considered

R⁴

Dynamic modelling of carbon fluxes
and impacts

Huge impact on forestry sector

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✉ pulp & paper:
low carbon intensity



✉ GHG mitigation potential
biofuels:



incorrect carbon accounting = wrong incentives

✉ food and consumer goods:
reduce land use impacts



✉ certification:
accepted GHG reduction



A sound approach for carbon accounting of forest products is key for achieving our climate mitigation goals

A shift to forest-based fuels can further increase greenhouse gases in the short term (10-30 y)

Science is there to integrate GWPbio into carbon accounting

In a 50y time horizon, burning forest products is carbon neutral but not climate neutral

There is not the ultimate method. New scientific findings have to be included in the future (change in albedo) but we need an global harmonized approach soon...

Correct carbon accounting has to be included in all sustainability certification

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