APPENDIX 3

Observations/lessons in terms of IEA Bioenergy communication actions

Luc Pelkmans, 31 January 2018

Task output/reports:

- Need for a (condense) communication strategy per Task output, with a reflection on the main audience and messages from the beginning (technical focus or societal relevance?).
 Important for preparations next triennium.
- 2p summaries are picked up. Mostly focused on text, probably because 2 pages are short to include all conclusions.
- Short new release + key highlights seems difficult to get, while I feel this is crucial for increasing outreach. (now titles are tweeted)

Launching of reports:

- We now have 4 occasions where attention is drawn to certain reports: (1) when publishing the report, (2) when publishing the 2p summary, (3) when announcing a webinar on the topic, (4) when retweeting existing reports. In case of launch, a number of these are combined. Better together, or separate to have maximum impact?
- Uncertainty in delivery dates of reports. Final editing takes time. => difficult to plan launchings.
- Need press release and use of the (press) contact list in case of launching (now only used once when we wanted to contribute to the media debate for the Chatham House reaction).
 More efforts needed to send in texts to e.g. Biofuel Digest (see before, need for short news release).

Webinars:

- Webinars are picking up, is clearly appreciated by the audience.
- Poster input always on the late side => distribute 'save-the-date' before?
- More attention for broad announcement. Is twitter & mailing sufficient? Can we use multiplier organizations? Also important that ExCo members distribute at national level.
- Suggest to have separate subpage on website per webinar for easier traceability.
- Consider webinar registration, or will this block people for joining?

FAQ/blogs:

- FAQ: now two topics (bioenergy & agriculture, woody biomass & climate)
 - Timing & needs depends on public / policy debate
 - How add topics in systematic way? (maybe link with upcoming reports/workshops)
 - How draw attention?
- Some cautious start of blogs in 'bulletins' (e.g. conclusions of iLUC workshop). Should we do that more often, pay more attention to FAQ/certain topics through bulletins?
- Include interviews/videos? (would require more professional help)

Twitter:

- Picking up; almost 1300 followers.
- Better framework/structuring would help (Hootsuite), as most tweeting now is ad-hoc.

- Weekly country focus + involvement of ExCo members. Will this work? probably someone central needs to lead.
- Retweeting existing reports at regular times (e.g. every few months). We have a good pool of reports (see library) maybe differentiate by topic (some every few months, others once per year; outdated reports not)?

Searchable library:

- Starts getting filled.
- More visible on website?
- Combine 2p summaries with main reports? (maybe also related webinars)

Workshops:

• More actions needed to announce IEA Bioenergy workshops? (supporting Tasks in this)

Newsletters:

• Also support spreading Task newsletters? (or only via Twitter)

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