



WORKSHOP AGENDA

ADDRESSING INVESTMENT BARRIERS BY IMPROVING DOCUMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE BIOMASS RESOURCES

May 8, 2025

Specific aims of this workshop are to

- a) Provide a briefing on the status of the global dataset and data sharing platform; and discuss how participants and other interested parties can access and utilize the data.
- b) Review proposed next steps (below) and prioritize them based on criteria including the needs of users, available resources, complementary projects, and workshop participant perspectives.
- c) Discuss how IEA Bioenergy Task 43 member nations, workshop participants, and others, can contribute to complete the activities planned in the Task's work package on sustainable global biomass availability.
- d) Identify additional potential partners (e.g., representatives from regional or national governments, private sector, or other organizations) who may be able to contribute to achieving mutual goals related to improving access to information about available biomass resources.

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- 13:30 Registration and refreshments
- 14:00 Welcome and Introductions (Mark Brown, University of the Sunshine Coast)
- 14:10 Review of workshop agenda and goals (Keith Kline, Oak Ridge National Laboratory)
- 14:20 Global Biomass Resource Assessment – status, access, purpose, and the next steps currently planned for improvements (listed below) (Ryan Jacobson, Oak Ridge National Laboratory)
- Participants will use their personal devices to explore the dataset
- 14:40 Q&A and discussion: data access, qualities, queries and other topics
- Identify specific updates and improvements that are needed
 - Input on terminology, units, and conversion issues
 - Brainstorm best approaches to achieve improvements
 - Identify points of contact and sources of information to enable updates
- 15:30 Participant input on goals and priorities (Keith Kline, facilitator)
- Is the original goal still valid? I.e., can we effectively address the question, “Is there enough biomass available that complies with regulatory requirements?” And is the information adequate to inform investment decisions?
 - Who are the most likely users of these data? What are their needs?
 - Which improvements are high priorities to enable achievement of objectives and meet user needs?
- 16:10 Voting on priorities for next steps – based on participant input and the list of actions below



- 16:15 Health break
- 16:30 Review vote results and organize small breakout groups to discuss next steps for priority actions.
- 16:40 Breakout Tables. Each breakout group will select a scribe to summarize recommendations including:
- 1) Are we on the right track? If not, what approach would be most effective to address the question: "Is there enough biomass available that complies with regulatory requirements and is the information adequate to inform investment decisions?"
 - 2) For at least one priority action, recommend a strategy for effective implementation that is responsive to user needs.
 - a) A strategy typically specifies what, who, when, and how to complete the action.
 - b) Consider how Task 43 member nations, workshop participants can contribute to achieving this and other priority actions.
 - c) Are there additional parties (organizations and points of contact) who could help achieve these actions?
- 17:10 Report back from each table and group discussion on strategies per bullet points above
- 17:40 Discussion of next steps and opportunities to continue the work
- 17:50 Closing remarks and announcements (Mark Brown)

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Preliminary actions identified for improving the data set and portal

1. Clarify criteria used to determine if biomass feedstock should be classified as sourced from forestry or agriculture (e.g., how should short-rotation woody crops on arable or former croplands be classified?)
2. Define and apply criteria to classify all biomass consistently as primary, secondary, or tertiary. E.g., when classifying harvest residues, sawmill residues, pre-commercial forest thinning, wildfire risk reduction removals involving round wood, etc.
3. Clarify and apply criteria to sort reported supply estimates into bins corresponding to:
 - a. how much of reported supply is already being used for bioenergy;
 - b. how much of reported supply is being used for non-bioenergy purposes;
 - c. how much of reported supply is accessible with current technologies and incentive programs (e.g., can be made available in the near term); and
 - d. how much of reported supply is future potential that requires investments for mobilization but can be made available in the future under appropriate policy and regulatory conditions



4. Build capacity for the data to be sorted to indicate what shares of reported supplies are expected to comply with specific existing regulatory frameworks and market access requirements (RED-3, LCFS, ICAO, IMO, etc.)
5. Improve data quality for selected nations already in the data base focusing on systematic approach to clarify assumptions and criteria applied to define sustainability
6. Fill gaps in data: Prioritize and work to identify ways to fill the largest national data gaps in terms of likely biomass potential (identify data sources or reports to fill as many large gaps as possible).
7. Make data portal more user-friendly: make it easier to select, sort, and visualize the data, including abilities to select or sort data by selected criteria (location, type of biomass, source etc.)
8. Define methods for more systematic inclusion of social and economic impacts associated with reported supplies.
9. Collaborate with FAO to develop a draft "FAO Info Brief" to improve understanding of issues and potential solutions related to inconsistencies in biomass terms.
10. Develop a standard reporting template and supporting instructions with a glossary of clear, practical terms and definitions to enable consistent classification of biomass supplies that can be cross-referenced with international trade classification codes and other domains and facilitate machine-readability.
11. Identify a long-term institutional home to host data sharing portal in future and provide support as needed to transfer data and operations of the data portal.
12. _____
13. _____
14. ... Others based on input from participants and stakeholders [suggestions welcome]