



# European Commission

## JRC - Institute for Energy

Jean-Pierre Schosger & David Baxter





# Contents of Presentation

## Policy and Legislative Activities

- Developments in Biofuels
- Biofuels Public Consultation
- Biowaste LCA
- EU SET Plan

Other Topics - not presented at this meeting

Biomass Action Plan

European Climate Change Programme II

Well-to-Wheels Study - next version (3) expected in mid-2008



## Developments in Biofuels

- Amount of land farmers to receive the €45 per hectare (ha) subsidy for planting energy crops (e.g. rapeseed & sugar beet for biofuel production or biomass for heating or electricity) to be reduced after the scheme proved too popular.
- Programme introduced in 2004 to stimulate the European biofuels sector (part of the reformed Common Agricultural Policy).
- In 2004, only 0.31 million hectares were devoted to biofuel crops:
  - Commission target was 2.0 million hectares in 2007
  - Applications reached 2.84 million hectares this year
  - EU's €90 million budget is unable to cope



## Developments in Biofuels

- EU Agriculture Commissioner Mariann Fischer Boel questions continuing the subsidy given the binding target for biofuels (10% by 2020) and a healthy marketplace
- EU's push to develop biofuels under fire from all quarters. Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) called on EU to phase out support schemes of this sort
- Rush to biofuels blamed for overstretching the EU's land availability and causing sharp price increases in basic food commodities
- Set-aside for 2008 provisionally put at 0% owing to poor harvests worldwide



## Developments in Biofuels

### Green Paper on Urban Transport COM(2007)551 (draft 28.09.07)

The new Green Paper on Urban Transport outlines a large range of potential solutions and areas where the EU could take action to tackle the growing congestion, pollution and safety problems in Europe's cities.

Aim is to create "free-flowing and greener cities, smarter urban mobility and an urban transport which is accessible, safe and secure for all European citizens".

Paper suggests a number of means to achieve these goals, including:

- supporting the introduction of clean and energy-efficient vehicles through 'green public procurement', which could mean including life-cycle costs for energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> and other pollutant emissions in the award criteria in addition to the vehicle's price;
- setting harmonised minimum performance standards for the operation of vehicles.

[http://ec.europa.eu/transport/clean/green\\_paper\\_urban\\_transport/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/transport/clean/green_paper_urban_transport/index_en.htm)



## Developments in Biofuels

### European Parliament (EP) push for compulsory certification of biofuels (10/07)

- EP passed a resolution on the 18 September supporting mandatory blend of biofuels at European pumps.
- EP supports the 10% biofuel objective for 2020, provided the biofuels are produced sustainably.
- To monitor sustainable aspects of biofuels, lobbying under way for compulsory certification, which also takes account of water stocks, biodiversity, carbon reserves (due to a changing land use) and social problems, such as rising food prices and the relocation of local populations. Although they would not be classified as being "bad" biofuels, they could never benefit from tax exemptions or European funds.



## Public consultation on "Biofuel issues in the new legislation on the promotion of renewable energy"

On 10<sup>th</sup> January 2007 the European Commission made proposals for a new [Energy Policy for Europe](#). These included a renewable energy roadmap proposing:

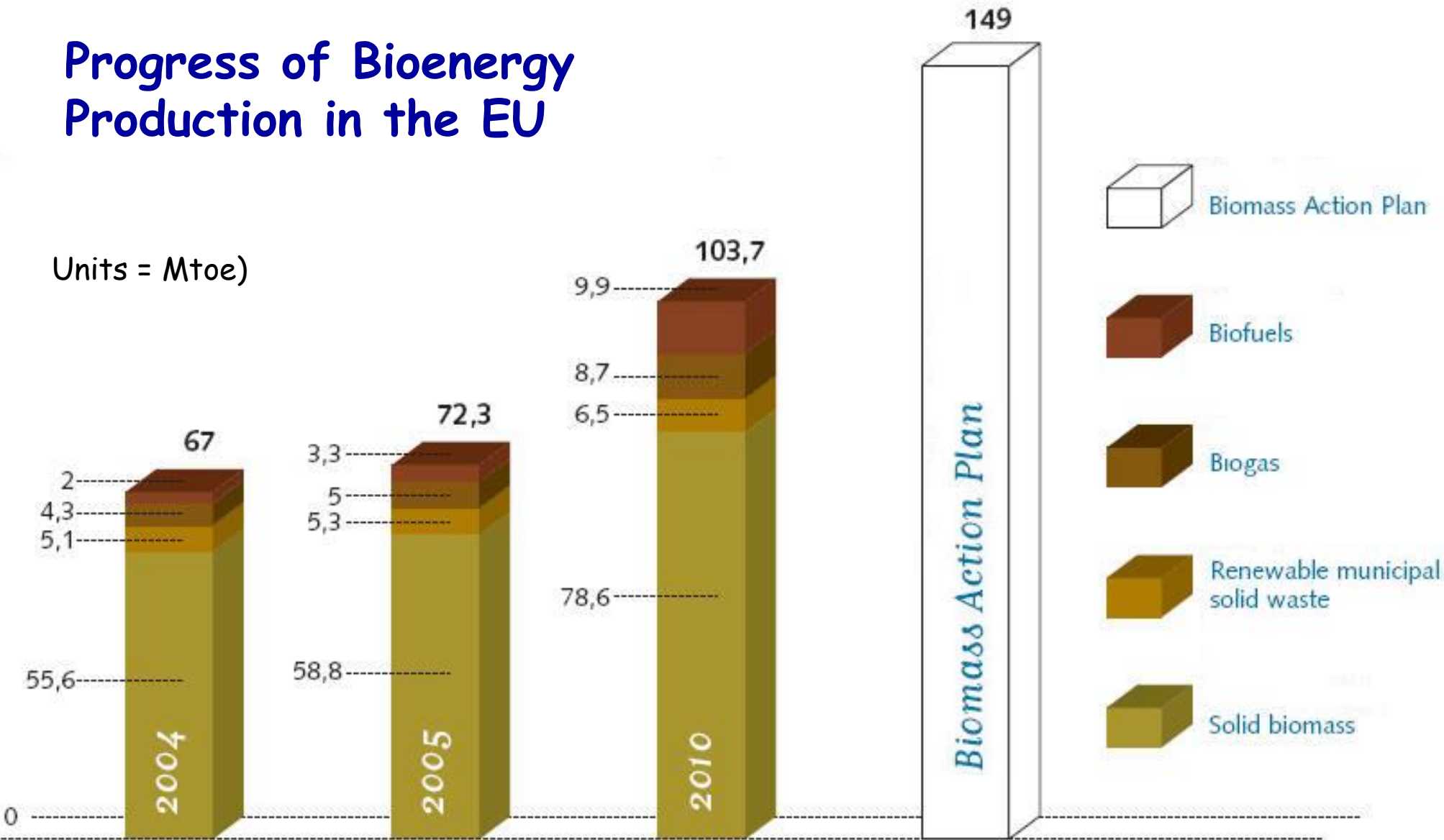
- a binding 20% target for the overall share of renewable energy in 2020 - the effort to be shared in an appropriate way between Member States;
- a binding 10% target for the share of biofuels in petrol and diesel in each Member State in 2020, to be accompanied by the introduction of a sustainability scheme for biofuels.

The Commission is now drafting proposals to incorporate these targets in legislation.



# Progress of Bioenergy Production in the EU

Units = Mtoe)



Slide Courtesy of J.Riesgo: EC-DG TREN





## Biowaste

### Development of "European Life Cycle Thinking Guidelines" for the Management of Municipal Biodegradable waste"

As foreseen in Communication COM(2005)666 on the Thematic Strategy on the prevention and recycling of waste Commission is preparing guidelines on the application of life cycle thinking to biowaste management policies. Stakeholder consultation expected in 2007/8

If you want to be kept informed, please register at [lca-waste@jrc.it](mailto:lca-waste@jrc.it)

See also:

[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/pdf/tor\\_biowaste\\_guidelines.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/pdf/tor_biowaste_guidelines.pdf)



## SET Plan Public Consultation

### Strategic Energy Technologies Plan

Public consultation report: published on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2007

Main points:

- technologies for biomass conversion to energy/biofuels are key to meeting renewable objectives
- up to 2020, 1<sup>st</sup> generation biofuels and natural gas (NG) vehicles are considered priorities for growth
- for the period 2020-2050, 2<sup>nd</sup> generation biofuels and H2 considered to lead the way - NG vehicles considered to be very low importance - noted that nuclear fusion should be significant contributor to energy needs !!!!
- needs for better energy storage at all times in the future



## Useful Contact Details and References

- **Biomass Action Plan:**  
[http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/res/biomass\\_action\\_plan/green\\_electricity\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/res/biomass_action_plan/green_electricity_en.htm)
- **Best Available Techniques REFerence Documents:**  
<http://eippcb.jrc.es/pages/Fmembers.htm>
- **Euro Barometer: June 2005:**  
[http://www.energies-renouvelables.org/observ-er/stat\\_baro/comm/baro167a.pdf](http://www.energies-renouvelables.org/observ-er/stat_baro/comm/baro167a.pdf)
- **DG Energy and Transport web site:**  
[http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/index\\_en.html](http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/index_en.html)
- **Contact Point for Waste and Biomass Related Activities at JRC-Institute for Energy:** <http://ie.jrc.cec.eu.int/>  
**David.Baxter@jrc.nl - Tel/Fax: (+31) 22456-5227/5626**



Thank you