

**MANDATE  
ON  
THE PROVISION OF DATA AND ANALYSIS ON BIOMASS SUPPLY AND DEMAND  
BY THE JRC ON A LONG-TERM BASIS**

## **POLICY CONTEXT**

The European Union uses biomass to meet its needs for food and feed, energy, and materials. The demand for and supply of biomass have economic, environmental and social impacts.

Understanding biomass supply, demand, costs and their associated impacts is particularly important for relevant EU policy areas, in order to facilitate solid and evidence-based policy making.

As the Commission's in-house science service, DG Joint Research Centre's role is to provide EU policies with independent, evidence-based, scientific and technical support throughout the whole policy cycle, thereby contributing to coherent policies.

## **1 - OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE**

1.1.1 In order to provide a sound scientific basis for well-prepared EC policy making, the JRC is hereby requested by Commission services YYY<sup>[1]</sup> (hereafter referred to as 'the Customer DGs') to periodically provide data, processed information, models and analysis on EU and global biomass supply and demand and its sustainability. All this will be assessed with a perspective to implement policy measures at short-term (2020), medium-term (2030) and long-term (2050).

1.2 The scope of this work will include:

- Creating a knowledge-base on biomass relevant issues to EU policy.
- Developing instruments to assess the supply, demand and flows of biomass, the direct and indirect sustainability (environmental, social and economic) impacts linked to the production and use of biomass, and competition between sectors for biomass resources, as well as synergies.
- Ensuring that the work provides elements relevant for future impact assessments.
- Ensuring that the work will also inform of assumptions and uncertainties, as well as data gaps, and whether they can be filled or not.
- Covering all sources of biomass.
- Working both at EU and global scale with a level of detail according to the needs of the policies involved.
- Taking into account relevant studies commissioned by other DGs and provided to the JRC, as well as outside studies and literature.

1.3 The work should be designed in a way that can be updated as needed, and can provide assistance during the policy process (e.g. in evaluating policy options).

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<sup>[1]</sup> Clarification footnote added to the Mandate: The DGs involved are AGRI, CLIMA, DEVCO, ENER, ENV, GROW, MARE, MOVE, REGIO, RTD, SG and TRADE.

- 1.4 The work described in these terms of references will be closely coordinated with existing JRC work, such as the establishment of the European Bioeconomy Observatory.
- 1.5 The technical details regarding the implementation of the work will be defined by the inter-service Group referred to in paragraph 4 below (hereafter referred to as 'the Inter-service Group'), and will be added as an Annex to this Mandate.  
In any event, these will include:
- Carrying out a detailed stocktaking to compile existing work on biomass supply and demand, including the work commissioned by different DGs, the setting-up of the knowledge base for all those data-sets on a long-term basis, and the identification of possible gaps for future work.
  - Complementing data collection (through, for example, remote sensing) and integrating the knowledge base with its modelling capacity, including from other relevant sources.
  - Analysing scenarios for biomass supply and demand, and their respective impacts, with short-term (2020), medium-term (2030) and long-term (2050) perspectives.

## **2 – IMPLEMENTATION**

- 2.1 The details of the implementation of the work will be provided in an Annex to this Mandate.
- 2.2 The Annex will be developed by the Inter-service Group and attached to this Mandate upon agreement by the Steering Committee referred to in paragraph 4 (hereafter referred to as 'the Steering Committee').
- 2.3. The JRC will ensure that the work is kept updated in order to provide upon the request of the steering committee, the necessary information and analysis to support their work on various EU policies.

## **3 – MONITORING OF PROGRESS, QUALITY CONTROL AND REVIEW**

- 3.1 The monitoring of progress will be carried out within the Inter-service Group, which will report to the Steering Committee.
- 3.2. Quality control procedures will be developed within the Inter-service Group.

## **4 – GOVERNANCE**

- 4.1 The JRC will carry out the work in a close dialogue with the Customer DGs, so that their policy needs are addressed in a joined-up way, as well as to ensure quality control and the respect of time-tables.
- 4.2 This dialogue will be achieved via a double governance structure:
- A policy-level Steering Committee formed by the Customer DGs. Meetings of the Steering Committee will be held as needed. The Steering Committee will decide on the person to chair its meetings as well as the meetings of the Inter-service Group.

- An operational-level, Inter-service group formed by staff from the various Customer DGs, which will be in charge of the definition of the technical work, of its implementation through the collective permanent cooperation and dialogue with the JRC, and the preparation of the work of the Steering Committee. Meetings of the Inter-service Group should take place as often as required.

4.3. During the completion of this work, the aim will be to provide transparency and dialogue with relevant stakeholders.

## **5 – SCHEDULE**

5.1. The following deliverables are agreed upon:

- An Interim Report, will be issued mid-2015, the content of which will be agreed by the inter-service group.
- A first Comprehensive Report will be delivered by the end of 2016, to be periodically developed and updated.

## **6 – FUNDING AND OWNERSHIP**

6.1 This work will be inscribed in the institutional Work Programme of DG JRC and will be funded accordingly.

6.2 When the work falls outside of DG JRC's core business (e.g. subcontracting of work or the funding of expert networks to support work requested by the Customer DGs), the JRC may request the Customer DGs to provide support for funding such specific activities. The provision of such support will require the agreement of the individual DGs.

6.3 The Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) of work generated by DG JRC belongs to the EU and shall be protected and exploited by DG JRC in line with its mandate to manage the Commission's intellectual property portfolio.

6.4 Any reference, presentation or publication of reports, results or other forms of intellectual property developed by DG JRC within the context of this work should be labelled in a manner acknowledging that they are the result of work undertaken by the JRC.