

R&D topics on sustainability of biofuels

Key messages from the SRA update

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Policy recommendations: sustainability of biofuels

- **Greater EU regulatory clarity and coherence across member states is necessary**
- **Continued dialogue at international level is needed to achieve compatible standards**
- **Ensure sustainability criteria shall apply across all biomass uses to allow a level playing field and avoid poor sustainability performances in some sectors.**

R&D recommendations: sustainability of biofuels (1)

- **Practical implementation of sustainability requirements in the legislation and in the market place must be based on relevant, transparent and science based data and tools.**
- **Since sustainability of biofuels is still a loosely defined topic from a scientific point of view, it is essential to accelerate the development of science based, rational and transparent:**
 - **criteria, indicators, methodology (LCA and others) and data**
 - **across the full value chain (from feedstock to end uses)**
 - **for EU relevant geographies, for both domestic and imported feedstocks or biofuels**
 - **for the three dimensions of sustainability:**
 - **environmental: GHG (CO₂, N₂, CH₄..), water, biodiversity, local emissions, soil ...**
 - **social**
 - **economic**

R&D recommendations: sustainability of biofuels (2)

- **models, monitoring and impact assessment tools**
 - to help assess implementation of enacted legislation
 - to prepare public (policy) and private (investment) decisions
 - to better assess the issues around direct and indirect land use change
 - to help manage the issues of competing uses of arable land and biomass

- **A better understanding of sustainability aspects of biofuel full value chain versus other economic “value chains” as well as non market “common goods” is needed, in particular to assess systemic impacts over short versus long term timelines.**

- **Sustainability related tools and data should be a priority for public funded R&D at EU and national level.**