



Supporting Sustainable Energy Production from Biomass from  
Landscape Conservation and Maintenance Work

MINUTES OF THE FIRST meeting  
Stakeholders' Working Group (SWG) 3  
“Policy, Finance and Public Participation”

Date: Session 1: 04 February 2016  
Session 2: 11 February 2016

Organisation: Federico De Filippi, SOGESCA

AGENDA:

10.00-10.15:	Connection, welcoming and registration of participants	
10.15-10.30:	Introduction to greenGain, purpose of the SWG	SOGESCA
10.30-11.00:	Self-presentation of participants (3 min. each): Profile of the organization/role in the organization Activities and interests in the field of LCMW Interests in the SWG	ALL
11.00-11.20:	greenGain findings about national and regional policies and support schemes for feedstock harvesting, transporting, storage and conversion to energy.	SOGESCA
11.20-12.00	Discussion forum: Do you agree with the cardinal points (strengths and weaknesses) identified by greenGain for LCMW policies and legal framework in your country?  What are, in your vision, the drivers and support schemes that should be adopted by the EU and the Member States for the LCMW value chain development?	ALL

Participants:

Part 1

- David Butler Manning: German NCP for Life Sciences in Horizon 2020; Project Manager Juelich (previously coordinator of the project AgroForNet)
- Christoph Schurr: Head of Department Forest, Nature and Waste Management in Bautzen County Administration, Saxony, DE
- Marie Bergmann: Project Coordinator greenGain, Fachagentur Nachwachsende Rohstoffe e.V. (FNR)
- Aline Clalüna: Project Manager greenGain, section forestry, Chamber of Agriculture Lower Saxony (COALS)
- Federico De Filippi: Project Manager, SOGESCA srl

Part 2

- Rainer Zenthöfer: Chief Executive Officer International Cooperation and Sales, Artec Biotechnologie GmbH
- Marie Bergmann: Project Coordinator greenGain, Fachagentur Nachwachsende Rohstoffe e.V. (FNR)
- Aline Claluena Project Manager greenGain, section forestry, Chamber of Agriculture Lower Saxony (COALS)
- Federico De Filippi: Project Manager, SOGESCA srl

Moderation and minute taker: Federico De Filippi

## Public available summary of SWG results

SWG	Policy, Finance and Public Participation
Date of the conference	Session 1: 04 February 2016 Session 2: 11 February 2016
Participants	<p>Session 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- David Butler Manning, AgroForNet</li> <li>- Christoph Schurr, Bautzen County Administration, Saxony, DE</li> <li>- Aline Clalüna, COALS</li> <li>- Marie Bergmann, FNR</li> <li>- Federico De Filippi, SOGESCA srl</li> </ul> <p>Session 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rainer Zenthöfer, Artec Biotechnologie GmbH</li> <li>- Marie Bergmann, FNR</li> <li>- Aline Clalüna, COALS</li> <li>- Federico De Filippi, SOGESCA srl</li> </ul>
Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Introduction to greenGain, purpose of the SWG</li> <li>- Self-presentation of participants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Profile of the organization/role in the organization</li> <li>o Activities and interests in the field of LCMW</li> <li>o Interests in the SWG</li> </ul> </li> <li>- greenGain findings about national and regional policies and support schemes for LCMW feedstock harvesting, transporting, storage and conversion pathways to energy</li> <li>- Discussion forum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Do you agree with the cardinal points (strengths and weaknesses) identified by greenGain for LCMW policies and legal framework in your country?</li> <li>o What are, in your vision, the drivers and support schemes that should be adopted by the EU and the Member States for the LCMW value chain development?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Summary	<p>The first meeting of the greenGain Stakeholder Working Group 3 (SWG3) “Policy, Finance and Public Participation” was held in two separate sessions with the same topics due to the unavailability of all participants at once.</p> <p>The introduction to the discussion concerned policies and supporting schemes currently implemented in the EU in particular was on two issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The different feed-in-tariffs that biomasses can receive for power production according to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o the classification of the biomass – dedicated biomass/crop, by-product or waste</li> <li>o the size and technology adopted for the plant</li> </ul> </li> <li>- The analysis of the situation in which LCMW biomass is to be considered as waste or as landscaping material</li> </ul> <p>In Session 2 the presentation included also some best practices regarding governance and public acceptance of biomass projects.</p>

## Session 1

Both in Italy and Germany, biomasses coming from households and private activities gardens must be considered as waste, and therefore compulsorily delivered to the municipalities. In the waste management activities there are a lot of limitations and the actors that collect, treat and eventually valorise the waste must have the appropriate authorizations for waste management. The procedures and authorizations needed for waste management are much more demanding than the authorizations for landscaping material management, and the management costs (especially for final treatment such as composting, incinerating or landfilling) are higher. Therefore the range of actors which can obtain them is restricted. In Italy until May 2015 landscaping material in urban public areas (i.e. from public gardens, roadsides, waterways) was to be considered as waste, thus entailing management and treatment costs for municipalities. In May 2015 the Ministry of Environment has issued a communication in which it states that such biomasses must be considered as by-products, thus simplifying the management and increasing the profitability of its use by public institutions which own the biomasses.

Anyway, the perception of the participants is that the access to LCMW biomasses is the main problem. The fragmentation of biomass resources entails high transaction costs: it means that before getting to the management of biomass, there is a large demand for information about private and public rights, owners, borders, dealing, modelling etc. This is the first barrier to achieve LCMW biomass full utilization and this barrier results more influencing on biomass management rather than the public support through incentives and subsidies and more than the limitations set by the eventual classification of the biomasses as waste. There are a lot of small owners that collect small amounts of biomass, therefore control and access rights are very scattered and it is difficult to develop a supply chain based on this feedstock. A lot of actors have competences on the interested areas, all together creating an excessive fragmentation of the value chain and making the LCMW biomass management quite difficult. Strategies for bundling the biomass feedstock are needed for making them more economically profitable and manageable.

Short rotation coppice could be a source of LCMW biomass under the condition that it is used as a landscape element and not as a wood production source. Particularly it could be considered for the regeneration of the strips along ways and roads in agricultural areas which were falsely ploughed by farmers in the past years.

## Session 2

Mr Zenthöfer presented the Hydro Thermal Carbonization (HTC) technology for transforming biomass into charcoal and the HTC plant they have installed in Halle (Germany). The experiences about public acceptance of biomass plants (composting plants, transformation of leafs into briquettes, use of biogas plants for the anaerobic digestion of grass) were briefly discussed. Possibilities of the HTC technology in the framework of the greenGain project were explored and Mr. Zenthöfer expressed his interest in participating to the project activities.