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Bioenergy and Food
Security Projects

Implementing biofuels sustainability schemes – Coverage of socio-economic sustainability issues and limitations

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Main socio-economic dimensions that may be affected by bioenergy development

- Access to land
- Employment, wages and labour conditions
- Income generation and inclusion of smallholders
- Local food security
- Community development
- Energy security and local access to energy
- Gender equity



Factors determining socio-economic impacts of bioenergy production

- The local socio-economic context
- the regional, national and local policy environment
- the types of bioenergy, feedstocks and processing technologies
- the way production (especially feedstock production) is managed
- the scale and ownership of production
- the types of business models found along the bioenergy supply chain

Bioenergy policies and socio-economic sustainability



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Voluntary standards and socio-economic sustainability



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Coverage of socio-economic sustainability: overview



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Socio-economic sustainability: coverage and limitations

- Relatively broad set of socio-economic sustainability issues covered by voluntary standards (beyond requirements of regulatory frameworks)
- But, in most cases, lack of specific compliance indicators, benchmarks and thresholds, especially with regard to food security



BEFS Operator Level Food Security Assessment Tool



Key environmental and socioeconomic issues to consider in assessing operator level impacts on food security:

- 1. Change in the supply** of food (crops and livestock) to the domestic market
- 2. Resource availability and efficiency** of use (land, water and fertilizers)
- 3. Physical displacement, change in access to resources, compensation and income generation**

BEFS Operator Level Food Security Assessment Tool



For each indicator, specific **benchmarks** and **thresholds** are included to allow for a desk level assessment of a planned or existing project's impact on food security:

- **Potential Benefit for Food Security**
- **No Significant Influence on Food Security**
- **Potential Risk to Food Security**

www.fao.org/bioenergy/foodsecurity/befsci/operator-tool



THANK YOU!

<http://www.fao.org/bioenergy/foodsecurity/befs>

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