

A Cooperative Audit on Biofuels?

9th EUROSAI WGEA meeting
Stockholm, Sweden, October 2011



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Why biofuels?

Biofuels – fuel derived from biomass



- Transport sector represent one third of EU greenhouse gas emissions (98 % of EU transport fuel is fossil fuels)
- 28 % growth in transport emissions 1990-2007



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Primary objectives of EU biofuels policies

- **Greenhouse Gas Saving** – reduce GHG emissions from the transport sector
- **Energy Security** – reduce reliance on imported fossil fuels
- **New markets** – open new markets and create opportunities for the biofuels sector



EU Timeline - Biofuels

- **2007:** 10% of transport fuel by 2020 – Biofuels Directive
- **Dec. 2008:** New target for 'green fuels' (2020) includes biofuels along other renewable energies
- **Summer 2011:** Commission strategy expected to tackle unwanted side-effects of biofuels production.
- **2012:** EU countries to submit first report on national measures taken to respect the sustainability criteria for biofuels.
- **By Dec. 2014:** Commission to review greenhouse gas emission saving thresholds for biofuels, taking available technologies into account.
- **2018:** Commission to present renewable energy roadmap for post-2020 period.
- **2020:** Transport sector mandated to source 10% of its energy needs from renewable energy, including sustainable biofuels and others.



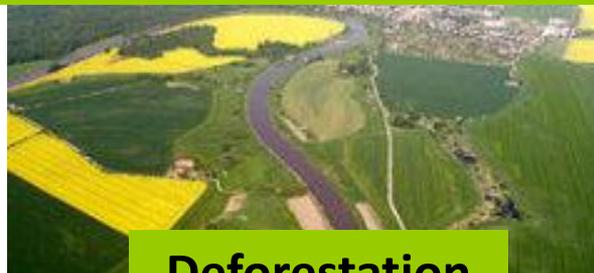


Transport

Indirect Land use change



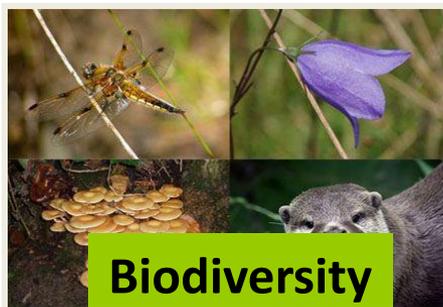
Water shortage



Deforestation



Food shortage



Biodiversity



A cooperative audit on biofuels?



- EUROSAI WGEA strategic goals are to initiate and implement unilateral/cooperative audits within the area of climate change and sustainability
- Cooperation among SAIs is essential to effectively address challenges arising from the implementation of EU environmental law
- Joint audit reports are relevant for international and national institutions, i.e. may have increased impact

International audit criteria



- UNFCCC (1992) and Kyoto Protocol (1997)
 - Reduction of GHG emissions



- EU
 - Biofuels Directive 2003/30/EC
 - 2005: 2 % biofuel
 - 2010: 5,75 % biofuel
 - 2020: 10 % biofuel
 - Renewable Energy Directive 2009/28/EC
 - 2020: 10 %
 - Fuel Quality Directive 98/70/EC



Possible audit topics



- Target achievement and compliance with EU directives and national policies



- Sustainability and environmental effectiveness of production and use of biofuels



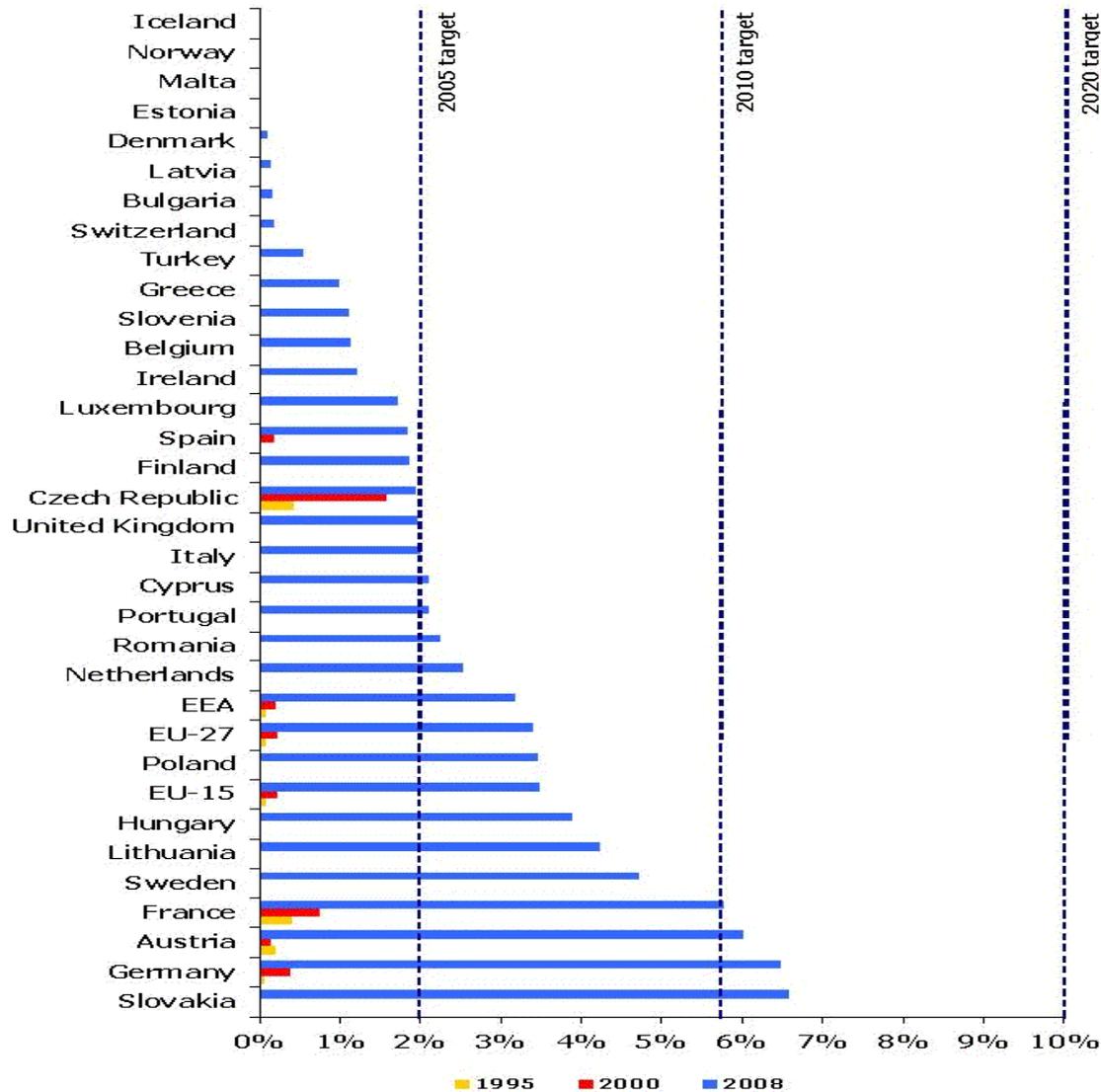
- Efficiency and effectiveness of policy instruments



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Share of biofuels in transport



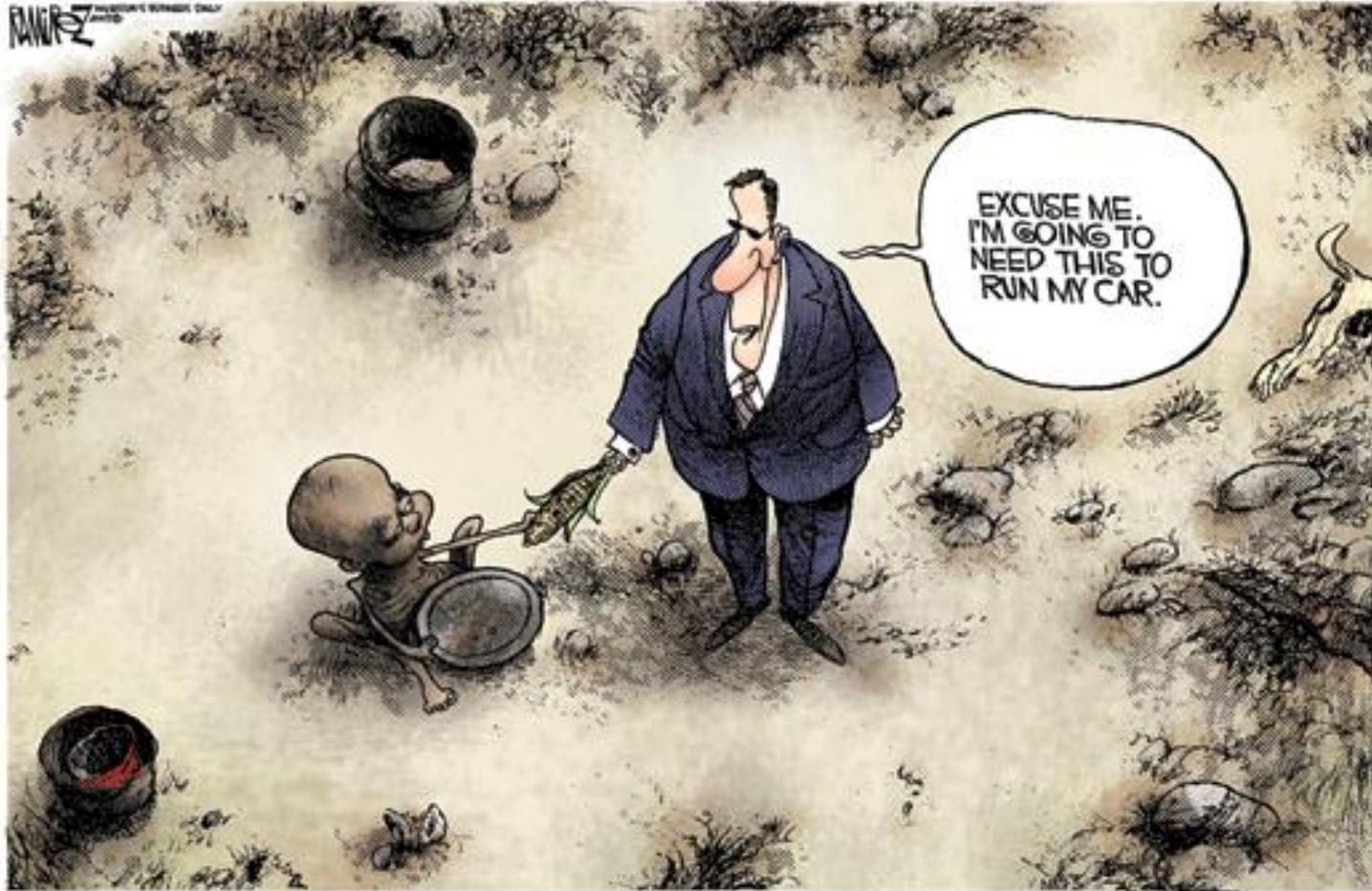
Expected outcome of a coordinated audit on biofuels?



- Best practice/lessons learned in the implementation of biofuels in national transport sectors
- Identification of shared challenges and barriers for the sustainable production and use of biofuels in the EU
- Influence policy development and implementation at national and international level



Timing



www.editorials.com/cartoons



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SAI audits/activities



- *Biofuels for a Better Climate – How does the tax relief work?* **Sweden, 2011**
- *Bioenergy's contribution to the EU Action on Climate Change.* Preliminary study presented at EUROSAI WGEA Seminar on climate change, 2010. **ECA, 2010**
- *Renewable Energy Sources and Energy Efficiency.* **Malta, 2009**
- *Transport and the environment: options for scrutiny.* NAO review for the Environmental Audit Committee. **UK, 2008**
- *Biofuel Programme is being implemented.* **Lithuania, 2009**
- *Handling of issues related to rape and bio-diesel fuel by the Government.* **Estonia, 2006**



References



- **IEA (2011)**, Technology Roadmap: Biofuels for Transport.
- **UNEP (2009)**: Assessing biofuels: towards sustainable production and use of resources
- **OECD (2008)**: Biofuel Support Policies: An Economic Assessment
- **EEA (2006)**: How much bioenergy can Europe produce without harming the environment? EEA Report No 7/2006



Thank you for your attention!



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