

1 **Sustainability impacts of increased forest biomass feedstock supply – a**
2 **comparative assessment of technological solutions**

3 Diana Tuomasjukka^{li}, Salvatore Martire^{lii}, Marcus Lindner¹, Dimitris
4 Athanassiadis², Martin Kühmaier³, Jan Tumajer⁴, Martijn Vis⁵, Raffaele
5 Spinelli⁶, Matthias Dees⁷, Robert Prinz⁸, Johanna Routa⁸, Antti Asikainen⁸

6 ¹Diana Tuomasjukka¹, Salvatore Martire², Marcus Lindner, European Forest Institute (EFI),
7 Yliopistokatu 6, 80100 Joensuu, Finland; +358-50-7734320; diana.tuomasjukka@efi.int.
8 marcus.lindner@efi.int

9 ²Dimitris Athanasiadis, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), 901 83 Umeå,
10 Sweden; +46-90-7868304; dimitris.athanassiadis@slu.se

11 ³Martin Kühmaier, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Peter-Jordan-
12 Straße 82, 1190 Wien, Austria; +43-1-47654-91518; martin.kuehmaier@boku.ac.at

13 ⁴Jan Tumajer, Institute of Forest Ecosystem Research (IFER), Czech Republic, +420-2-4195
14 0607; jan.tumajer@ifer.cz

15 ⁵Martijn Vis, Biomass Technology Group (BTG), Postbus 835, 7500 AV Enschede,
16 Netherlands; +31-53-4861186; vis@btgworld.com

17 ⁶Raffaele Spinelli, National Research Council of Italy (IVALSA), Via Madonna del Piano 10,
18 50019 Sesto Fiorentino, Italy; +39-55-522564; spinelli@ivalsa.cnr.it.

19 ⁷Matthias Dees, FELIS, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Tennenbacherstr. 4, 79106
20 Freiburg; Germany; +49-761-203-3697; matthias.dees@felis.uni-freiburg.de

21 ⁸Robert Prinz, Johanna Routa, Antti Asikainen, Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke),
22 Yliopistokatu 6, 80100 Joensuu, Finland; robert.prinz@luke.fi, johanna.routa@luke.fi;
23 antti.asikainen@luke.fi

¹ corresponding author

² Independent researcher: salvo.martire@gmail.com

24 ***Acknowledgements:***

25 This work was supported by research of the INFRES project (www.infres.eu) which received funding
26 from the European Union Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2012-2015) under grant agreement
27 n°311881, and from S2Biom project which is co-funded by the European Commission in the Seventh
28 Framework Programme (Project No. FP7-608622), as well as from the Bio Based Industries Joint
29 Undertaking under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant
30 agreement No 20757 "TECH4EFFECT". Special thanks to Olalla Díaz-Yáñez for providing the
31 background data of her paper and Hans Verkerk for EFISCEN runs.

32 **Sustainability impacts of increased forest biomass feedstock supply – a** 33 **comparative assessment of technological solutions**

34 Sustainably managed forests provide renewable raw material, which can be used for
35 primary/secondary conversion products and as biomass for energy generation. The
36 potentially available amounts of timber, which are still lower than annual increments,
37 have been published earlier. Access to this timber can be challenging for small-
38 dimensioned assortments, however, technologically improved value chains can make
39 them accessible while fulfilling economic and environment criteria. This paper evaluates
40 the economic, environmental and social sustainability impacts of making the potentially
41 available timber available with current and with technologically improved value chains.
42 This paper focusses on increasing the biomass feedstock supply for energy generation.
43 Quantified impact assessments show which improvements in terms of costs, employment,
44 fuel and energy use, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions can be expected if better
45 mechanized machines than before are provided. Comparative results for current and
46 innovative machine solutions in terms of fuel use, energy use, and greenhouse gas
47 emissions have been calculated using three different methods. This was done in order to
48 quantify not only the impact of the technology choice but also the effect of the choice of
49 the assessment method. Absolute stand-alone values can be misleading in analyses and
50 the use of different impact calculation approaches in parallel is clarifying the limits of
51 using LCA-based approaches. Impacts are calculated using three methods: Sustainability
52 Impacts Assessment (SIA), Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) and Emission Saving Criteria
53 (ESC). The ESC has been discussed for the recast of the Renewable Energy Directive.
54 Potential EU-wide results are presented.

55 Keywords: bioenergy, technological innovations, value chains, sustainability,
56 Renewable Energy Directive targets

57 **Introduction**

58 The energy market is changing substantially towards renewable materials and energy.
59 Securing reliable domestic energy supply sources, maintaining economic growth and
60 addressing environmental concerns have led to EU policies that place increasing reliance on

61 renewable energy while striving to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This tendency was
62 manifested by European policy makers in Renewable Energy Directive (RED) 20-20-20 in the
63 EU energy targets for 2020 climate and energy policy, including 20 % reduction of CO₂
64 emissions, 20 % of energy coming from renewables and 20 % increase in energy efficiency
65 till 2020 (European Parliament 2009). Its recast is currently under discussion at EU level as a
66 part of the EU Climate and Energy framework 2030. This leads to a policy-driven trend of
67 increasing biomass use from forests, to national and regional policy goals and programmes to
68 increase the share and amount of renewable energy in an effort to combat climate change
69 (Gerssen-Gondelach et al. 2014) as well as ensuring energy security and supporting rural
70 development through the efficient use of availability of local resources. In Europe, wood is a
71 major renewable resource with still underused potential (UNECE and FAO 2011; Díaz-Yanez
72 et al. 2013). Its use for energy does not conflict with ethical issues of competition in land use
73 for food production (Harvey and Pilgrim 2011).

74 The future market for forest bioenergy is expected to grow steadily. The willingness of
75 (private) forest owners to produce and deliver wood for energy depends on the market
76 conditions (Blennow et al. 2014; Aguilar et al. 2014). The return on investment is therefore
77 largely influenced by market prices, but also the costs and energy efficiency of harvesting
78 bioenergy. Harvest residues are harvested usually as part of silvicultural tending measures or
79 as part of harvesting operations. The extraction of harvest residues is practiced in European
80 countries under very favourable conditions and vary in intensity and extend (Díaz-Yáñez et al.
81 2013; Walsh & Strandgard 2014), as biomass harvest operations are expensive and energy
82 consuming. In many cases, the combined cost of logistics will exceed the delivered value of
83 the resource by a substantial margin (Keefe et al. 2014).

84 However, the recent changes of energy carriers and technologies for the use of wood

85 can make some currently neglected practices sustainable and highly desirable in the near
86 future (Anerud et al. 2011, Walmsley & Golbold 2010). For example, the use of wood for
87 combined heat and power, for co-firing and in modern direct heating stoves are all already
88 substantially increasing. This allows the use of low-quality and small-dimensioned
89 assortments of wood, such as from thinnings. As a result, an increase of the demand for wood
90 in form of woodchips and pellets on the EU market, particularly from European sources, is to
91 be expected.

92 Theoretically available biomass volumes (UNECE and FAO 2011; Vis and Dees
93 2011; Lindner et al. (2017)) do not guarantee practical availability, even if the market demand
94 exists or is increasing. Biomass availability is limited by technological and economic factors
95 such as:

- 96 • Technical feasibility and capacity of existing harvesting and transport technologies
97 suitable for forest biomass assortments of small dimensions (Lindroos, 2010)
- 98 • Difficulties to access remote places and/or rough terrain, as well as to obtain
99 enough bulk material of biomass as a side product of regular fellings for
100 roundwood (Routa et al., 2013, Díaz-Yáñez et al., 2013).
- 101 • Sustainability considerations such as nutrient depletion and soil protection (Routa
102 et al., 2013),
- 103 • Small-sized, fragmented forests in private ownership that fail to produce
104 significant volumes or tonegotiate contracts with forest industry, (Díaz-Yáñez et
105 al., 2013)
- 106 • Furthermore, forest wood chains (FWC) need to be competitive in terms of
107 economic and energy balance (Laitila & Väätäinen 2012).

108 The objective of this study is to assess the efficiency and sustainability impacts of
109 selected innovative technology solutions as suggested by Alakangas et al. (2015) for biomass
110 harvesting for energy at EU level: What are the impacts of the technology innovations on
111 greenhouse gas emissions, energy use and energy savings, turnover (=calculated as value
112 added) and employment? How much can these improved technologies contribute towards the
113 EU energy targets in comparison with current mechanization choices?

114 To do this, material flows related to biomass harvesting and processing chains were
115 designed for four distinct European regions. Moreover, the potential impact of modern
116 technologies was compared. For better transparency, three impact assessment methods were
117 used in comparison to calculate energy use, greenhouse gas emissions and savings as
118 explained as a method in Tuomasjukka et al. (2017): Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA)
119 (Lindner et al. 2012), Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) (International Organization for
120 Standardization 2006) and Emission Saving Criteria (ESC)³.

121 **Material and Methods**

122 *Current value chains and Technical improvements*

123 Typical value chains for harvesting primary domestic biomass (i.e. no import) have been
124 modelled for four EU regions, and namely: Northern EU (NEU), Central EU (CEU), Southern
125 EU (SEU) and Eastern EU (EEU).

- 126 • NEU: Sweden, Finland, UK, Ireland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania
- 127 • CEU: Austria, Benelux, Denmark, France, Germany

³ In Tuomasjukka et al (2017) the calculation of ESC is explained. In difference to this paper however, it is referred to in that paper as “European Sustainability Criteria” as they were under discussion in that form at the time of the paper. The calculation method has not changed, only the name.

- 128 • SEU: Bulgaria, Romania, Italy, Portugal, Spain, (no data available for Cyprus, Greece,
129 Malta)
- 130 • EEU: Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovak Republic, Slovenia

131 This study focuses on small-dimension timber (SDT⁴) supply chains producing harvest
132 residues (tops, branches, full-trees below 8cm diameter at breast height (DBH)) and forest
133 chips from pre-commercial thinnings, commercial thinnings, final harvests and stump
134 extraction. The basic “business as usual” forest bioenergy supply chains were calculated
135 based on volume weighted average chains. The input data was difficult to get as the used
136 systems and the respective shares of the used systems are not necessarily part of the national
137 reporting. There are also major differences in reporting practices between different countries.
138 The input information reflecting dominant forest biomass supply chains was collected from
139 scientific literature (Díaz-Yáñez et al. 2013; Asikainen et al. 2015; Szewczyk and Wojtala
140 2010; Kent et al. 2011; Murphy et al. 2014), as well as from statistics (FAOSTAT, Lithuania,
141 Finland, Sweden). In addition, information from a joint questionnaire of the INFRES and
142 S2Biom projects to the leading experts in forest operations throughout Europe was used. The
143 harmonized results are presented in Annex 2, Table 17, and are the currently best available
144 characterisation of typical national value chains.

145 *Choice of scenarios*

146 All scenarios on potential harvests and removals are based on “Baseline 2010” which
147 compiles the felling and potential volumes of 2010. The scenarios were investigated with
148 focus on: a) increased volumes of harvesting timber and resulting additional biomass

⁴ The authors are aware that stumps are not necessarily small. However, as they get processed to chips in the end, they were included under SDT assortments.

149 (compare Annex 1 and 2), and b) a shift in technology towards more mechanisation and
150 carefully selected technological innovations. These scenarios were compared to the baseline.
151 The following scenarios were all calculated but only the ones in black are presented in this
152 paper:

- 153 • B2 reference 2010 (removal) – this is the baseline.
- 154 • B2 Wood energy 2010 (potential)
- 155 • B2 Wood energy potential (2015)
- 156 • B2 Wood energy+ removal (2015)
- 157 • B2 Wood energy potential (2020)
- 158 • B2 Wood energy+ removal (2020)
- 159 • B2 Wood energy potential (2025)
- 160 • B2 Wood energy+ removal (2025)
- 161 • B2 Wood energy potential (2030)
- 162 • B2 Wood energy+ removal (2030)

163 Volumes of additional material supply (see next section) as well as economic, environmental
164 and social indicators were calculated for the most common value chains per country and for
165 selected new value chains with technological improvements (see technological scenarios). All
166 values are aggregated based on volume-weighted averages throughout Europe (for details see
167 Annex 2).

168 *a) Increased biomass material flow and assumptions*

169 The potential for available biomass, i.e. maximum which can be harvested in a given year

170 without exceeding annual increments, was obtained from the European Forest Information
171 SCENario Model (EFISCEN) results for the European Forest Sector Outlook Study II
172 (EFSOS II) (UNECE and FAO 2011) for removals in 2010, 2015, 2020, 2030 and for
173 potentials for the same years (however only values for 2010 and 2030 are presented in this
174 paper. In the raw data, for 2010 EFSOS II “B2 reference removals” and “B2 reference
175 potentials”, for potentials 2015 to 2030 “B2 Promoting wood energy potential” and for
176 removals 2015 to 2030 “B2 wood energy removal” were used with the following adjustments:

- 177 • *EFSOS II EFISCEN data for potentials* has modeled volumes for: stemwood and
178 biomass from pre-commercial thinning, stemwood, residues and stumps from
179 thinning, and stemwood, residues and stumps from final harvest.
- 180 • *EFSOS II EFISCEN data for removals* has modelled volumes for: stemwood, residues
181 and stumps from thinning, and stemwood, residues and stumps from final harvest.

182 As this paper focuses on SDT, the raw data mentioned above was adjusted as follows:

- 183 • *Potentials* include pre-commercial materials (i.e. stemwood and biomass from pre-
184 commercial thinning), residues from thinning and final felling, stumps (only from
185 final felling and for coniferous trees in Finland, Sweden, UK), and stemwood from
186 thinnings and final harvest.
- 187 • *Removals* include residues from thinning and final felling, stumps (only from final
188 felling and for coniferous trees in Finland, Sweden, UK), and stemwood from
189 thinnings and final harvest, plus 66.6% of the potential volume resulting from pre-
190 commercial thinnings (see Annex 2c for removal and potential volumes for 2010,
191 2015, 2020, 2030).

192 *2010 Reference:*

193 Basis for “2010 potential” is the “Real Forest B2 Reference potential” from EFSOS II (2010
194 constraints). It includes the harvestable amount of material based on constraints in 2010, such
195 as the exclusion of protected areas, peatlands and poor sites, and technical constraints such as
196 max. 66% of available harvest residues. Stemwood from thinning and final fellings is
197 included, but not advocated to be used for bioenergy.

198 Table 1: Biomass potentials according to EFSOS-II (B2 Reference 2010) per assortment,
199 aggregated per country group and for EU, with comments on current utilization and
200 assumptions.

201 *2010, 2015, 2020, 2030 B2 Wood energy+ scenario for potential and removals:*

202 For modelling these years, the calculated “B2 Wood energy+ potentials” were based on the
203 “B2 Promoting wood energy potential: High mobilisation scenario” from EFSOS II with the
204 adjustment to include pre-commercial volumes in the potential.

205 For the “B2 Wood energy+ removal” only 2/3 of potential volumes from pre-commercial
206 thinning were added. This amount reflects the technical harvestable amount of slash, and is
207 the same share as for harvest residues.

208 Figure 1: Comparison of 2010 reference and 2030 Wood energy forest potential (pale bars),
209 against B2 reference 2010 removal (solid bar) as well as B2 Wood Energy removals for 2010,
210 2015, 2020, 2030 (solid bars).

211 Upon closer inspection, the following volumes [in 1000 m³] can be expected from
212 European forests for 2010 and 2030 (see Fig 2):

213 Figure 2: Overview of potential and removal from 2010 to 2030: a) Forest harvestable
214 potential by assortments; b) 2010 B2 removal reference+ and B2 removal Wood energy+:

215 Removal Wood energy by compartment, assuming that 2/3 of pre-commercial thinning can be
216 harvested and extracted. These volumes are additional material for removal from thinning and
217 final fellings.

218 *Technological innovations*

219 In addition to increasing harvesting volumes (within sustainable limits) with a focus on
220 biomass from SDT, changes in scenarios focus on a shift in technology towards increased
221 mechanisation (Annex 3) and carefully selected technological innovations (Table 3) from time
222 studies which were conducted within the INFRES project (Asikainen et al. 2015; Spinelli [ed]
223 2015).

224 In particular, changing from chainsaws to harvesters would allow a significant
225 increase in operator productivity, as well as a dramatic improvement in operator safety.
226 Furthermore, forwarder extraction is faster and safer. With boogie bands and higher number
227 of axels it is lighter on the soil than extraction performed with a skidder or with adapted
228 farming equipment due to better load distribution. Forwarder extraction is also less expensive
229 than cable extraction, when new technology, like winch-assist harvesters and forwarders,
230 allow implementing mechanized cut-to-length harvesting on steep terrain. Finally, chipping at
231 roadside allows accruing the benefits of size reduction (e.g. lower transport costs) earlier on
232 along the supply chain.

233 Higher transportation efficiency is expected from larger trucks – such as the Swedish
234 High Capacity Vehicle (HCV) or the Antti Ranta trailers – due to their increased payload. On
235 a similar note, enlarged-space forwarders may offer increased extraction efficiency, due to
236 their larger payload. Feller-bunchers (Naarva) and harvesters (MAMA) with multi-tree
237 handling capability allow a substantial increase of felling productivity when engaged with
238 small-trees. The use of a hybrid chipper results in significant diesel fuel savings, whereas

239 resorting to a high-mobility mountain chipper (Pezzolato) allows overcoming access
240 constraints and taking size reduction as close to the forest as possible, with significant
241 benefits on subsequent handling and transportation.

242 Table 2: Final selection of machine innovations and their potential for application across EU.

243 *Economic, environmental and social impact evaluation*

244 In this study we used three relevant methods to calculate and compare economic,
245 environmental and social impacts of alternative bioenergy chains in an extension of indicators
246 for the ToSIA method (Lindner et al. 2012) as described in Tuomasjukka et al. (2017). The
247 methods were:

- 248 • Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA) using ToSIA (Tool for Sustainability Impact
249 Assessment) method (Lindner et al. 2012). ToSIA was used because it allows a
250 comparative and quantitative assessment of economic, environmental and social
251 impacts. This method is well suited to assess impacts of changes in biomass value
252 chains (Martire et al. 2015) such as in this case driven by machine innovations. It is
253 data driven and proved to be open for including new indicators. It has been applied
254 also to compare biomass value chains with fossil oil chains⁵ (den Herder et al. 2012,

⁵ Fossil oil chain: This chain includes extraction, transportation and refining of crude oil to heavy fuel oil and light heating oil. Heavy fuel oil is used for heat and electricity production in district heating and power plants and light heating oil is generally used to heat residential homes, farms, schools and other private and public buildings which are not connected to a district heating network (den Herder et al. 2012). Tuomasjukka et al. (2017) explains in detail a method of comparing renewable value chains to a standard fossil chain in energy savings: “The Commission staff working document SWD(2014)259 (European Commission 2014) provides updated fossil fuel comparator data that are needed to calculate the GHG savings of a biomass conversion chain compared to the fossil fuel alternative. The recent proposal (European Commission 2016) contains obligatory sustainability criteria for solid biomass combustion plants with an input capacity of more than 20 MW. These criteria also provide a relevant framework for voluntary, and possibly future obligatory sustainability certification of bioenergy plants with lower input capacities. As the ESC method (over)simplifies the emission reduction calculation, this method was also compared with a SIA- and a LCA-based method. Relevant ESC have been identified and expressed as indicators used in ToSIA.”

255 Tuomasjukka et al. 2017).

256 Sustainability Impact assessments in ToSIA compare relative impacts (eg

257 EUR/process unit) and absolute impacts (eg relative impacts per process multiplied

258 with the material flow in that process, and summed up for all processes within the

259 chain) between alternative value chains. Most studies so far have only calculated

260 direct impacts of each process (Lindner et al., 2010; Berg et al., 2014; den Herder et

261 al., 2012; Lindner et al., 2012). The following indicators were calculated according to

262 practices laid down in Berg (2011): value added in EUR⁶, energy use in kWh,

263 greenhouse gas emission in CO₂ equivalents, and employment in fulltime equivalents

264 (FTE). Details on economic calculations are detailed explicitly for all value chains in

265 Prinz et al (2015) and for economic, environmental and social impacts for all value

266 chains in Tuomasjukka et al (2015).

267 In addition to direct impacts, in this study we successfully investigated the possibility

268 to expand the method to also develop greenhouse gas emission indicators for LCA-

269 based methods to be included in the comparison of impacts as described in

270 Tuomasjukka et al (2017) and below.

- 271 • Life cycle assessment (LCA) is a tool to evaluate the environmental aspects of a
- 272 product or service through all stages of its life cycle. LCA has been standardized
- 273 through ISO 14040 and 14044. An LCA-based (Life Cycle Assessment) approach
- 274 (Swedish Environmental Management Council 2000) was added to the ToSIA method
- 275 in form of energy use and greenhouse gas emission indicators reflecting direct and

⁶ “Value added” is calculated as the “Value (=price) of timber raw material at road site” plus the “Value of services”. The latter is calculated based on the indicator “Wages and salaries” and interpreted as the value (=price) of the service provided by an entrepreneur for forest operations.

276 indirect impacts. LCA is one of the oldest approaches for environmental assessments
277 and it is ISO standardized (ISO 14040).

278 ● An approach adopting European Sustainability Criteria for minimum greenhouse gas
279 savings, here called Emission Saving Criteria (ESC) as in discussion for the revision
280 of the Renewable Energy Directive (European Commission 2017) was further added
281 to ToSIA. ESC is an indicator comparing value chain impacts in terms of greenhouse
282 gas emissions to a fixed fossil-fuel comparator (FFC) reflecting the emission of a
283 standard fossil fuel value chain (Tuomasjukka et al. 2017).

284

285 **Results**

286 *Annual supply of forest biomass:*

287 The amount and share of forest biomass assortments normally used for energy purposes such
288 as materials from pre-commercial thinning, harvest residues and stumps, could be
289 considerably increased from the currently used 25-30 million m³ and available 40.6 million
290 m³ in 2010, to available 161.5 million m³ in 2020, and available 168.6 million m³ in 2030 (see
291 Table 3). The increase in forest biomass for energy is due to better residue recovery and
292 increasing stemwood harvesting. Even if stemwood is not used for bioenergy purposes in our
293 calculations, it is a source for further forest biomass assortments.

294 Table 3: Improving harvesting technologies, as well as storage and mill operations: increased
295 supply of forest biomass.

296 ***Turnover in feedstock supply***

297 Volume weighted average of forest biomass for energy is presented in Table 4.

298 Table 4: Value of forest biomass for energy supply chains per scenario

299 ***Reduction in fuel consumption***

300 *Harvesting:*

301 The fuel reductions in harvesting were most pronounced for the following systems: most
302 successful was the introduction of the NARVA and the MAMA harvesting system in pre-
303 commercial and commercial thinning operations. They replaced the conventional single-grip
304 harvester, with its productivity of 6.5 m³/h and fuel consumption of 1.7 l/m³. The NARVA
305 multistem-head has reached a productivity of 7.4 m³/h and a fuel consumption of 1.5 l/m³
306 (12% reduction), and the MAMA felling head a productivity of 8.2 m³/h and a fuel
307 consumption of 1.3 l/m³ (24% reduction).

308 The use of harvesters (6.5 m³/h at 1.7 l/m³) instead of chainsaw fellings (0.7 m³/h at
309 0.8 l/m³) in pre-commercial thinning is less expensive but (depending on productivity) more
310 fuel intensive. At chainsaw productivity rates of up to 0.3 m³ per hour with a fuel
311 consumption of 1.8 l/m³, fuel consumption is approximately the same as for mechanised
312 felling systems. However, below this productivity rate, mechanised fellings are superior in
313 terms of fuel consumption. Motor-manual operations are very widely spread in CEU, SEU
314 and especially EEU.

315 Therefore, the calculated potential fuel reductions for the suggested innovations in the
316 field of harvesting range from 12 % to 24 %.

317 *Chipping*

318 A mixture of harvest residues, logs and tops was the basis for conventional chipping (average
319 productivity of 20 m³/h and 1.15 l/m³ fuel use) and for chipping with the new Pezzolato
320 chipper and Kesla hybrid chipper. Chipping trials with the Pezzolato chipper were successful,
321 with productivity reaching to 37.5 (solid equivalent) m³/h (up to 46%) and fuel use dropping
322 as low as 1.06 l/m³ (solid equivalent) (up to 8 %). These fuel use reductions have the same
323 trend in reducing GHG emissions.

324 Initial results of the Kesla Hybrid chipper are an exception to the rule of increasing
325 productivity equalling a decrease in fuel consumption, as in this case a completely new
326 technology (hybrid engine) was used. In this case, the productivity increase of the prototype
327 machine was 39 % from average 20 (solid equivalent) m³/h to 33.3 (solid equivalent) m³/h.
328 This fuel reduction was up to 18 % for mixed assortments from average 1.15 l/m³ (solid
329 equivalent) to 0.94 l/m³ (solid equivalent). The very initial results of the prototype hybrid
330 chipper are promising, and further improvements are to be expected as the technology and
331 operation matures.

332 *Transportation*

333 Improvements in transportation were mainly tested for Finland and Sweden with special
334 permits of exceeding the legal maximum load of 60 t with the following trucks: Antti Ranta
335 truck with optimized load volume (69 t), High Capacity Transport (HCT) vehicles (74 t), and
336 tilting container truck and megaliner for logs (90 t). A 74 t chip truck has a payload of 55t
337 compared with a conventional payload of 44 t (for a 60 t truck, used as the representative
338 basis for the Finnish trials; see Laitila et al. 2016). This reduces energy consumption by about

339 15 % from conventional 0.023 l/t km to 0.020 l/t km. A 69 t chip truck has a payload of 44.5 t
340 compared with a conventional payload of 39.8 t (for a 60 t truck, used as the representative
341 basis for the Swedish trials). Reductions in fuel consumption were about 12 % from the
342 conventional 0.013 l/tkm to 0.012 l/tkm. A 90 t timber truck has a payload of 66t compared
343 with a conventional payload of ca 38 t. Fuel reductions of about 19% from the conventional
344 0.019 l/t km to 0.016 l/t km have been shown in earlier studies (Löfroth and Svenson, 2012).

345 Productivities are expected to improve with longer distances for the chip trucks, than
346 shown for the 22 km (for 74 t) and 40 km (for 69 t) distances in the trials. In general, current
347 reduction in fuel use was between 12 % and 19 %, with potential for further optimisation.

348 *Calculation of direct and indirect Impacts (LCA)*

349 Table 5 shows the direct and indirect energy use when selected, innovative technical solutions
350 are used in the harvesting and chipping of the feedstock. The direct energy use for the
351 reference cases (conventional harvester and chipper) were 1.69 and 1.15 liters/m³ respectively
352 (grey), while the direct and indirect energy use were 1.96 and 1.33 liters/m³ respectively
353 (black). The calculation method is detailed in Tuomasjukka (2017), supply costs are presented
354 in Prinz et al (2015) and impacts for value chains in Tuomasjukka et al (2015).

355 Table 5: Energy use of selected innovations

356 Table 6 and Table 7 reveal the contribution of each operation in the direct and indirect
357 energy use and resulting emissions of GHG for the whole supply chain. The results show that
358 the most energy consuming (and thus higher emissions of GHG) phases are within the
359 harvesting and transport chain. A decrease in energy use and emissions is observed when the
360 innovative technical solutions are utilized. The highest effect (decrease of energy use and

361 emissions) was observed when the MAMA or the NaarvaGrip EH28 head were used instead
362 of a conventional head in harvesting operations.

363 Table 6: Direct and Indirect energy use of selected supply systems

364 Table 7: kgCO₂eq from Direct and Indirect energy use of selected supply systems

365

366 *Calculation of RED greenhouse gas emission reduction*

367 The technical improvements decrease the fossil fuel consumption, which leads to reductions
368 of greenhouse gas emission in the supply chain. Table 8 shows the reduction in energy
369 consumption of selected technological innovations, leading to a similar emission reduction
370 compared with standard equipment.

371 Table 8: Fuel consumption reduction of selected innovations

372 Table 9 shows the emissions of the technological improvements on the total supply
373 chain. Data on the reference supply chain was obtained from ToSIA. The ToSIA reference
374 emissions of the supply chain are roughly in line with the standard greenhouse gas emissions
375 associated with stemwood use as shown in JRC (2014). The selected technological
376 innovations result in an emission reduction in the total supply chain by 1-7 %.

377 Table 9: GHG emissions in the wood supply chain (g CO₂-eq/MJ wood)

378 Table 10 GHG emission reduction calculated as ESC compared to a fixed fossil-fuel
379 comparator (FFC) reflecting the emission of a standard fossil fuel value chain, as in
380 discussion for the revision of the Renewable Energy Directive (European Commission 2017)

381 In Table 11 the supply chain emissions for residues have been calculated in a similar
382 way as above for whole trees (undelimited small trees). Hybrid chippers and Pezzolato
383 chippers have emission reductions of 10 and 8 %, respectively, compared with the reference

384 chipper, making the whole residue to chips supply chain 2-3 % more carbon efficient.

385 Table 11: GHG emission reduction calculated according to COM(2010)11 and
386 SWD(2014)259

387 In the context of the GHG emission reduction calculation, in which the emissions of
388 the wood supply chain are compared with a fossil reference, these innovations result in only a
389 minor improvement of total greenhouse gas savings of 0.04-0.06 %, simply because the fossil
390 reference emissions are quite high (80 gCO₂/MJ) compared to the already very low emissions
391 of the wood residue supply chain (1.32-1.37 g CO₂/MJ).

392 *Increase in manpower*

393 Relative additional employment for forest biomass for energy supply chains, measured as full-
394 time employment (FTE) per m³, is 0.00097 FTE/m³ for pre-commercial thinning, 0.00069
395 FTE/m³ for harvest residue supply chains, and 0.00018 FTE/m³ for stump supply chains.
396 “Additional” here means on top of the traditional roundwood forest wood chains: pre-
397 commercial thinning by harvester, forwarding of harvest residues, pre-commercial thinning
398 whole trees and stumps, chipping of the same assortments, and transport of chips to heat
399 plant. These relative impacts of FTE per m³ are multiplied with the material passing through
400 those chains (compare to Table 8, volumes in million m³ for forest biomass for energy). As a
401 result, depending on the amount of additionally mobilized biomass modelled for 2010 to
402 2030, the increment in full-time workers for increased biomass harvesting could reach 10054
403 FTE in 2010, 18434 FTE in 2015, 23230 FTE in 2020 and finally 23266 FTE in 2030 (see
404 Table 12). Table 12: Increase in manpower needs in EU for increased biomass harvesting
405 (potential)

406 **Discussion:**

407 *What additional feedstock supply for forest biomass for energy can be*
408 *mobilized through innovative technology and what is the additional economic*

409 *value added of those supply chains?*

410 Modelled feedstock supply changes can vary greatly across the specific European countries
411 included in this study, both in volumes of biomass and in economic value. There are several
412 reasons for that. The development of the annual supply volumes can be restricted by several
413 socio-economic constraints such as forest ownership structure and market development
414 including the demand and price of energy biomass (Orazio et al 2017). In addition, the
415 physical location of biomass sources in relation to the demand points can reduce sourcing due
416 to increasing transport costs. These constraints were not explicitly modelled in the
417 construction of the supply scenarios. However, large part of the theoretical supply volumes
418 was not included in the potential supply to reflect the impact of these potential barriers on
419 wood mobilization.

420 There are great regional differences across European countries and regions, not only in
421 the economic, but also in natural conditions, which limits the use of certain technologies. The
422 presented average data about economic profitability and value added in feedstock supply must
423 be considered with caution both for the price that can be obtained for the feedstock itself
424 (=value of timber) as well as for the income to supply chain operators for offering their work
425 as a service (=value of service). Economic feasibility differs strongly from country by to
426 country, based on local conditions.

427 The values calculated in this study indicate a potential hypothetical economic value
428 added of up to 5731 million EUR. This value reflects the hypothetical increase in biomass
429 supply as value of the additional timber based on timber price and the hypothetical broad
430 application of the modelled technological innovations for most common supply chains per
431 country, which leads to additional entrepreneurial activity with the subsequent economic

432 turnover of providing harvesting operations as a service. The additional feedstock supply and
433 connected turnover from the value chains were aggregated based on volume-weighted
434 averages for four major European regions. Therefore, these values do give a theoretical
435 average indication, but as explained, the variations are quite wide.

436 As a limitation of this study, the calculated costs and value added should be seen as
437 estimates with some uncertainties which are based on a number of assumptions, when using
438 the results from this study.

439 It should be noted, that there are cost differences within country groups. Especially
440 within the Nordic country group, cost differences are large (Nordic vs Baltic countries) and
441 therefore the results concerning country groups are only suitable for drawing a general picture
442 of supply costs in the EU. Similar observations can be made for the differences between
443 Central and Eastern Europe.

444 The presented theoretical cost supply calculations take new innovative machinery into
445 account and are based on trials and prototype demonstrations presented and documented
446 within the INFRES project (compare INFRES Demo reports 1-23, Alakangas et al. 2015). As
447 these machines were mainly prototypes or new systems, the values should be understood as
448 estimates. These estimates will be reached only in the case of widespread adoption, which is not
449 the case yet, as this amount of machines or trained workers are not necessarily available at a
450 large scale. Furthermore, investments into building and further developing these innovative
451 machine systems are not included in the calculation.

452 The main challenge of this study lies in the data availability and data input. Ideally, the
453 input data for the estimation of supply costs should come from statistics, or from earlier
454 studies (Díaz-Yáñez et al. 2013). Unfortunately, many of the parameters are such that i) no
455 statistics exist at all, ii) there is almost full coverage of data but not exactly for the right

456 parameters, or iii) data exists of for the right parameters, but not for all the countries.
457 Therefore, the authors conducted a survey among leading European experts in the field of
458 forest bioenergy supply chains, in order to determine dominant supply chains per country, and
459 estimates of supply costs per operation. This survey approach has its own limitations, which
460 include a typically low reply rate and the fact that the answers can include “educated guesses”
461 by the experts. The “educated guesses/expert opinions” were further aggregated to the most
462 dominant forest biomass supply chain per country with average productivity. It should be
463 noted however that productivity varies largely between and within countries. This effect is
464 well known as the effect of an operator on productivity and it is large (e.g. Purfürst & Erler
465 2011). This especially applies for innovative machine systems where only one or two studies
466 of a completely new system where available. That impacts the accuracy and
467 representativeness of the chosen systems and the accuracy of the attached data. We can
468 however state that Table 2 represents the currently best (available) data for European
469 bioenergy systems in use.

470 In summary, forest biomass from STD assortments has a potential to contribute
471 towards the RED targets, and technological solutions can make the harvest and hauling cost
472 accessible. Even more, the potential economic value of supplying SDT biomass for energy
473 has a considerable economic value for forest operation entrepreneurs to provide as a service,
474 as well as for forest owner in terms of sales of timber from tending operations which mainly
475 serve silvicultural goals.

476 ***Can innovative supply chains reduce environmental impacts in comparison***
477 ***with current ones?***

478 Increased production generally means increased impacts in absolute terms for the

479 same value chain. However, when looking at the larger picture, what counts with respect to
480 sustainability risks is a) how much fossil fuel can be replaced by renewables, b) how much
481 more efficient in terms of reduced emissions and energy use these bioenergy chains are in
482 comparison with current ones (energy use vs energy generation), and c) if forest production
483 remains sustainable, and d) co-benefits of using low-quality wood assortments as the
484 possibility in indirectly supporting forest management operations to improve forest stand
485 quality.

486 Following the Emission Saving Criteria (ESC), the emissions of the supply chain can
487 be compared with the Fossil Fuel Comparator (FFC) that represents the average carbon
488 emissions of the fossil supply chain that are replaced by bioenergy. According to European
489 Commission (2014) the FCC of fossil heat production is 80 gCO₂/MJ. Table 11 shows that the
490 reference supply chain already results in an emission reduction of 98.3% compared with the
491 fossil reference situation. The selected technological innovations result in an additional
492 emission reduction of 0.04-0.06%. This means that the above described innovations have a
493 limited role in achieving the total emission reductions derived from by the use of wood
494 energy replacing wood energy for fossil fuels forin heat generation.

495 In this study ToSIA and LCA methods were used side by side to assess the energy use
496 and greenhouse gas emissions of a conventional forest harvesting, system as well as of
497 harvesting systems that include technological innovations. The results showed that systems
498 that included technological innovations had lower energy use and consequently lower CO₂
499 emissions than conventional systems. The calculations were based on average fuel
500 consumption and productivity values of the involved machinery and could show some
501 variation depending mainly on stand conditions and operator experience.

502 To answer the questions on if and how much more efficient the new harvesting

503 technologies are in terms of energy use and greenhouse gas emission in comparison to the
504 current value chains and in comparison to fossil supply chains, the authors expanded on the
505 restrictions of sustainable harvesting levels (harvesting less than the annual increment per
506 country with consideration to site productivity), to include a comparison of direct impacts of
507 replacing current machines with recommended innovations and to calculate direct plus
508 indirect impacts.

509 The results for direct impacts showed a difference between 219.7 MJ/m³ for direct
510 impact to 254.9 MJ/m³ for LCA-approach. As indirect impacts are connected to the direct
511 impacts, a similar trend can be observed between direct impacts versus direct plus indirect
512 impacts for the scenario options. This comparison works very well for energy use and for
513 greenhouse gas emissions. A current limitation of the LCA-method is that only indirect
514 impacts for the procurement of fossil fuel to run the machine exists (Lindholm et al. 2010).
515 However, data on other parts of upstream chains such as maintenance of road network,
516 production of machinery or resource extraction to machinery is missing (Berg & Karjalainen
517 2003). GWP and GHG emission calculation are very similar, with the main difference that for
518 GWP calculations not only the GWP of CO₂ is included (72 g/MJ) but also of N₂O and CH₄
519 with according lifetime factors, which account for an additional 1.098 g/MJ.

520 In order to get some comparison to the energy saving potential with reference to fossil
521 oil chains⁷, the ESC method was applied. The emission reductions shown by using the method

⁷ Tuomasjukka et al. (2017) explains in detail a method of comparing renewable value chains to a standard fossil chain in energy savings: “The Commission staff working document SWD(2014)259 (European Commission 2014) provides updated fossil fuel comparator data that are needed to calculate the GHG savings of a biomass conversion chain compared to the fossil fuel alternative. The recent proposal (European Commission 2016) contains obligatory sustainability criteria for solid biomass combustion plants with an input capacity of more than 20 MW. These criteria also provide a relevant framework for voluntary, and possibly future obligatory sustainability certification of bioenergy plants with lower input capacities. As the ESC method (over)simplifies the emission reduction calculation, this method was also compared with a SIA- and a LCA-based method. Relevant ESC have been identified and expressed as indicators used in ToSIA.”

522 as presented by European Commission (2010) depend on (1) the emissions of the supply
523 chain (nominator) and (2) the fossil fuel comparator that represents the supply chain for fossil
524 heat and or electricity production. The emissions of the supply chains have been calculated
525 with a reasonable degree of accuracy, although actual supply chains will vary from case to
526 case. In case of the European GHG emission calculation method, the fossil fuel comparator is
527 a fixed reference value that can be used throughout the EU. This makes the calculation
528 method transparent and easy to use. However, in reality the use of biomass leads to higher
529 emission reductions if coal is replaced (for instance in Czech Republic) than if natural gas is
530 replaced (for example in the Netherlands). The use of site-specific emission factors for the
531 fossil fuel emissions can therefore show a substantially different emission reduction than
532 when using the fixed fossil fuel comparator:, however an average EU value is reflecting
533 average EU level emission savings. The emission value of natural gas for instance is 56
534 gCO₂/MJ, which is 30% below the fossil fuel comparator of 80 g CO₂/MJ; while the value of
535 coal is 95 g CO₂/MJ, which is 19% higher than the fossil fuel comparator.

536 As a disclaimer for all three methods used, most of the machine innovations tested
537 within this study are in the “introduction to the market” phase, and it is expected that their
538 environmental performance will improve even more when they are established in the field
539 (Lindholm 2005). Furthermore, other factors play a role in the energy efficiency of forest
540 wood supply chains such as transportation distance. In this study only rough average transport
541 distances were used. With an increase in distance also CO₂ emissions increase. Ranta et al
542 (2006) mentioned the importance of the location of the comminution phase as it defines the
543 form of material for the following supply chain step, i.e. transportation. Depending on the

544 end-using facilities there are varying roadside costs and transportation costs as a consequence
545 of their locations and the effects on transportation distances.

546 *What does increased bioenergy harvest mean in terms of employment and*
547 *regional development in Europe?*

548 Based on EUROSTAT data, there has been a continuous increase in the number of employees
549 in the field of forestry and logging since 2009. In 2014, the estimated number of people
550 working in these professions exceeded 525 thousands (in EU28). Moreover, more than 2.8
551 million of employees work in professions which are dependent on forest products – e.g.
552 manufacture of furniture, paper and other wood-based materials. Asikainen et al (2011)
553 estimated employment in forest harvesting operation for increased biomass for energy
554 harvesting with a total of 40 000 persons.

555 This study contributes to the work force and work demand estimation at EU level. The
556 modelled increase in the amount of bioenergy harvesting can bring on the opportunity (and
557 probably even the need) to enlarge the number of employed persons in the field of forestry by
558 up to 23266 fulltime employed persons by 2030 for the modelled value chains and harvesting
559 volumes. As already mentioned above, additional employment in forest biomass for energy
560 supply chains comparing traditional approach varies between 0.00018 and 0.00097 FTE/m³
561 depending on the harvesting technology. Expected increase in removals from current 27
562 million m³ to 169 million m³ in 2030 can provide from 25500 to 137700 new FTEs till by
563 2030.

564 Depending on how fast the increase in harvesting volume for bioenergy actually will
565 be happening, there will be also a demand for suitable workers. If and how fast markets can

566 react to this demand in training skilled and qualified operators is outside the scope of this
567 study. The possible bottleneck of skilled workers to meet the market demands of biomass
568 production was already highlighted by Routa et al (2013).

569 A significant part of the operation costs are salaries and social costs. With an increase
570 of work and thus employment in forest operations, rural areas are strengthened with work
571 opportunities. The salaries obtained from these operations contributes to the purchasing power
572 of rural areas.

573 **Conclusion**

574 This paper takes into account a variety of geographic and operational conditions of wood
575 harvesting scenarios throughout Europe to suggest a full range of innovative solutions that
576 can be adapted to the majority of EU countries. The assessed technology innovations are
577 mostly prototypes or early machine systems, but still within the reach of most logging
578 contractors and biomass supply companies in Europe. They are neither more complicated nor
579 significantly more costly than the current technology options they are meant to replace.

580 This paper provides the quantified impact assessment on which improvements in
581 terms of costs, employment, fuel and energy use, and reduced Greenhouse gas emission can
582 be expected with better-mechanized tools than were available before. However, the practical
583 applicability of different modern technologies is highly variable over Europe due to factors
584 including forest stand structure, topography, economic, environmental and legislative
585 constraints. It would be desirable to investigate, which are the optimal solutions for each
586 region/operating environment. The most ambitious improvement is to replace motor-manual
587 felling with mechanized multi-tree felling. This technology shift results in very large benefits
588 in terms of productivity, cost and safety. For this reason it is already taking place throughout

589 most of Europe, in locations where motor-manual felling is still popular.

590 Expanding biomass use without improved technologies would be likely to result in
591 adverse sustainability impacts and not be feasible to cover in terms of costs, energy use or
592 would be simply technologically impossible. The suggested technological improvements can
593 help to mitigate those adverse impacts as presented in the paper.

594 Comparative results for the current and innovative machine solutions in terms of fuel
595 use, energy use, and greenhouse gas emissions were calculated by means of three different
596 methods integrated into one as explained in Tuomasjukka et al. (2017). As a result the effect
597 of choosing an impact assessment method over another was quantified and reported as part of
598 the environmental impact calculation. The effect of different machine choices becomes
599 obvious separately and more transparently in the comparison, Absolute stand-alone values for
600 environmental impacts, such as greenhouse gas emission, energy use and energy saving, can
601 be misleading. For this reason a more holistic approach which explicitly quantifies direct
602 impacts and the magnitude of direct plus indirect impacts is clarifying and recommended by
603 the authors. In this study, SIA plus LCA extension as separate indicators, shone a light on
604 assumptions of indirect impacts included in LCA methods and the magnitude of those. The
605 ESC based method was a useful extension to the integrated SIA and LCA indicators, as here a
606 renewable value chain was pitched against a standard Fossil Fuel Comparison factor, and thus
607 highlights estimated saving potentials against a benchmark. If the ESC method will be
608 introduced in the recast of the RED, it will become a very relevant indicator for solid biomass
609 applications too. If the GHG reduction threshold is not met, the bioenergy does not count to
610 the EU targets. As one of the main purposes of increasing bioenergy is to provide competitive
611 and renewable energy, cost- and energy efficiency are crucial to any new technological
612 development to be successful on the EU market. This study highlighted the potential of the

613 most promising technologies for EU-wide application.

614

615 **References**

- 616 Anerud E, Jirjis R. 2011. Fuel quality of Norway spruce stumps - influence of harvesting
617 technique and storage method. *Scand J Forest Res*, 26:257–266.
- 618 EUROSTAT Database (2015). European Commission. available at
619 <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/main/home>
- 620 Aguilar F X, Ca, Z, D'Amato A.W, 2014. Non-industrial private forest owner's willingness-
621 to-harvest: How higher timber prices influence woody biomass supply. *Biomass and*
622 *Bioenergy*, 71, pp.202–215. Available at:
623 <http://linkinghub.elsevier.com/retrieve/pii/S0961953414004589>.
- 624 Alakangas E, Routa J, Asikainen A, Nordfjell T (Ed.) 2015. Innovative, effective and
625 sustainable technology and logistics for forest residual biomass. Natural Resources
626 Institute Finland, Joensuu, Finland. 40 p.
- 627 Asikainen A, Routa J., Laitila J., Riala M., Prinz R, Stampfer K, Holzleitner F, Kanzian C,
628 Erber G, Dees M, Spinelli R, Tuomasjukka D, Athanasiadis D, Bergstrom D,
629 Rodriguez J. 2015. Innovative, effective and sustainable technology and logistics for
630 residual forest biomass: summary of the INFRES project results. Jyväskylä, Finland.
631 40 p.
- 632 Asikainen A, Anttila P, Verkerk H, Diaz O, Röser D. Development of forest machinery and
633 labour in the EU in 2010-2030. Formec Austria 2011, Pushing the Boundaries with
634 Research and Innovation in Forest Engineering. Conference proceedings in cd, 2011.
- 635 Asikainen A, Ilvesniemi H, Sievänen R, Vapaavuori E, Muhonen T, editors. 2012.
636 *Bioenergia, ilmastonmuutos ja Suomen metsät. Metlan työraportteja / Working Papers*
637 *of the Finnish Forest Research Institute 240.* 211 p. ISBN 978-951-40-2378-1 (PDF).
638 Saatavissa Available at:
639 <http://www.metla.fi/julkaisut/workingpapers/2012/mwp240.htm>.
- 640 Berg S [ed]. 2011. Tools for Sustainability Impact Assessment Manual for data collection for
641 Regional and European cases. EFI Technical Report. Joensuu. 36. pp113
- 642 Berg S, Schweier J, Brüchert F, Lindner M, Valinger E. 2014. Economic, environmental and
643 social impact of alternative forest management in Baden-Württemberg (Germany) and
644 Västerbotten (Sweden). *Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research*, (June), pp.1–14.
645 Available at: <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/02827581.2014.927913>.

646 Berg S, Karjalainen T, 2003. Comparison of greenhouse gas emissions from forest operations
647 in Finland and Sweden. *Forestry*, 76(3), pp.271–284.

648 Blennow K, Persson E, Lindner M, Faias S P, Hanewinkel M, 2014. Forest owner motivations
649 and attitudes towards supplying biomass for energy in Europe. *Biomass and*
650 *Bioenergy*, 67, pp.223–230.

651 Den Herder M, Kolström M, Lidner M, Suominen, T, Tuomasjukka D, Pekkanen M, 2012.
652 *Energies* 2012, 5(11), 4870-4891

653 Díaz-Yáñez O, Mola-Yudego B, Anttila P, Röser D, Asikainen A, 2013. Forest chips for
654 energy in Europe: Current procurement methods and potentials. *Renewable and*
655 *Sustainable Energy Reviews*, 21, pp.562–571.

656 European Commission. 2010. Report from the Commission to the council and the European
657 Parliament on sustainability requirements for the use of solid and gaseous biomass
658 sources in electricity, heating and cooling. COM(2010)11 final. Brussels

659 European Commission. 2014. Commission staff working document: State of play on the
660 sustainability of solid and gaseous biomass used for electricity, heating and cooling in
661 the EU. SWD(2014) 259. Brussels

662 European Commission. 2017. Proposal for a DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN
663 PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on the promotion of the use of energy
664 from renewable sources (recast). Brussels. 116p.

665 European Parliament, 2009. Directive 2009/28/EC of the European Parliament and of the
666 Council of 23 April 2009. *Official Journal of the European Union*, 140(16), pp.16–62.

667 Gerssen-Gondelach S, Saygin D, Wicke B, Faaij A, 2014. Competing uses of biomass -
668 Assessment and comparison of the performance of bio-based heat, power, fuels and
669 materials. *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*, 40(April), pp.964–998.
670 Available at: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.rser.2014.07.197>.

671 Harvey M, Pilgrim S, 2011. The new competition for land: Food, energy, and climate change.
672 *Food Policy*, 36(SUPPL. 1), pp.S40–S51. Available at:
673 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.foodpol.2010.11.009>.

674 den Herder M, Kolström M, Lindner M, Suominen T, Tuomasjukka D, Pekkanen M. 2012.
675 Sustainability impact assessment on the production and use of different wood and
676 fossil fuels employed for energy production in North Karelia, Finland. *Energies*.

677 5:4870–4891. <http://dx.doi.org/10.3390/en5114870>

678 International Organization for Standardization. 2006. ISO 14040 Environmental management
679 – life cycle assessment – principles and framework. Geneva. p. 20.

680 Keefe R, Anderson N, Hogland J, Muhlenfeld K, 2014. Woody Biomass Logistics. In D.
681 Karlen, ed. Cellulosic Energy Cropping Systems. John Wiley & Sons, Ltd., p. 398.

682 Kent T, Kofman P D, Coates E, 2011. Harvesting wood for energy. Cost-effective woodfuel
683 supply chains in Irish forestry,

684 Laitila J, Väätäinen K., 2012. Truck Transportation and Chipping Productivity of Whole
685 Trees and Delimbed Energy Wood in Finland. Croatian Journal of Forest Engineering,
686 33(2), pp.199–210.

687 Laitila J, Asikainen A, Ranta T. 2016. Cost analysis of transporting forest chips and forest
688 industry by-products with large truck-trailers in Finland. Biomass and Bioenergy.
689 90:252–261. Available from: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.biombioe.2016.04.011>

690 Lindholm E., 2005. Virkesfordonens bränsleförbrukning kan minskas. (23).

691 Lindholm E, Berg S, Hansson P, 2010. Energy efficiency and the environmental impact of
692 harvesting stumps and logging residues. European Journal of Forest Research, 129(6),
693 pp.1223–1235.

694 Lindner M, Werhahn-Mees W, Suominen T, Vötter D, Zudin S, Pekkanen M, Päivinen R,
695 Roubalova M, Kneblík P, Brüchert F, et al. 2012. Conducting sustainability impact
696 assessments of forestry-wood chains: Examples of ToSIA applications. Eur J For Res.
697 131:21–34. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10342-011-0483-7>

698 Lindner M, Werhahn-Mees W, Suominen T, Vötter D, Zudin S, Pekkanen M, Päivinen R,
699 Roubalova M, Kneblík P, Brüchert F, et al. 2012. Conducting sustainability impact
700 assessments of forestry-wood chains: Examples of ToSIA applications. European
701 Journal of Forest Research. 131:21–34.

702 Lindner M, Suominen T, Palosuo T, Garcia-Gonzalo J, Verweij P, Zudin S, Päivinen R. 2010.
703 ToSIA-A tool for sustainability impact assessment of forest-wood-chains. Ecol
704 Modell. 221:2197–2205. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolmodel.2009.08.006>

705 Lindner, M., Dees, M.G., Anttila, P., Verkerk, P.J., Fitzgerald, J., Datta, P., Glavonjic, B.,
706 Prinz, R., Zudin, S., 2017. Assessing Lignocellulosic Biomass Potentials from Forests
707 and Industry. In: Panoutsou, C. (Ed.), Modeling and Optimization of Biomass Supply

708 Chains. 1st Edition. Top-Down and Bottom-up Assessment for Agricultural, Forest
709 and Waste Feedstock. Academic Press, pp. 127-167.

710 Lindroos O, 2010. Scrutinizing the Theory of Comparative Time Studies with Operator as a
711 Block Effect. *International Journal of Forest Engineering*, 21(1), pp.20–30.

712 Löfroth C, Svenson G. 2012. ETT - Modulsystem för skogstransporter - En Trave Till (ETT)
713 och Större Travar (ST). Skogforsk Arbetsrapport. 758: 2012, Uppsala. p 152.

714 Martire S, Tuomasjukka D, Lindner M, Fitzgerald J, Castellani V, 2015. Biomass and
715 Bioenergy Sustainability impact assessment for local energy supplies' development:
716 The case of the alpine area of Lake Como , Italy. *Biomass and Bioenergy*, 83, pp.60–
717 76. Available at: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.biombioe.2015.08.020>.

718 Murphy F, Devlin G, McDonnell K, 2014. Forest biomass supply chains in Ireland: A life
719 cycle assessment of GHG emissions and primary energy balances. *Applied Energy*,
720 116, pp.1–8. Available at: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2013.11.041>.

721 Orazio, C., Kies, U., & Edwards. D. 2017. Handbook for wood mobilization in Europe.
722 Measures for increasing wood supply from sustainably managed forests. European
723 Forest Institute. 112 p.

724 Prinz R, Anttila P, Asikainen A. 2015. Biomass from forests - cost estimation of complete
725 supply chains [Internet]. Joensuu. Available from:
726 http://forestenergy.org/observer:get_page/observer/action/details/itemid/689

727 Ranta T., Rinne S., 2006. The profitability of transporting uncomminuted raw materials in
728 Finland. *Biomass and Bioenergy* 30(3): 231–237.
729 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.biombioe.2005.11.012>.

730 Routa J, Asikainen A, Björheden R, Laitila J, Röser D, 2013. Forest energy procurement:
731 State of the art in Finland and Sweden. *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Energy and*
732 *Environment*, 2(6), pp.602–613.

733 Swedish Environmental Management Council, 2000. Requirements for Environmental
734 products declarations, EPD.

735 Szewczyk G, Wojtala L, 2010. The cost of timber harvesting with a harvester in stands under
736 rebuilding with the use of partial cutting. In: FORMEC 2010.

737 Tuomasjukka D, Fitzgerald J, Simunovic N, Lind T, Athanassiadis D, Kühmaier M, Tumajer
738 J, Vis M, Prinz R, Asikainen A. 2015. Report documenting sustainability impacts of

739 scenarios for different fuel sources and procurement [Internet]. Joensuu. Available
740 from: http://forestenergy.org/observer:get_page/observer/action/details/itemid/689
741 Tuomasjukka D, Athanassiadis D, Vis M. 2017. Threefold Sustainability Impact Assessment
742 method comparison for renewable energy value chains. *International Journal of Forest*
743 *Engineering*. 28:116–122.

744 UNECE, FAO (Eds.), 2011. *The European Forest Sector Outlook Study II. 2010-2030*,
745 Vis, M., Dees, M. (Eds.), 2011. *Biomass Resource Assessment Handbook: Harmonisation of*
746 *Biomass Resource Assessments, Best Practices and Methods Handbook*. VDM Verlag
747 Dr. Müller, Saarbrücken.

748 Walsh D, Strandgard M, 2014. Productivity and cost of harvesting a stemwood biomass
749 product from integrated cut-to-length harvest operations in Australian *Pinus radiata*
750 plantations. *Biomass and Bioenergy*, (66), pp.93–102.

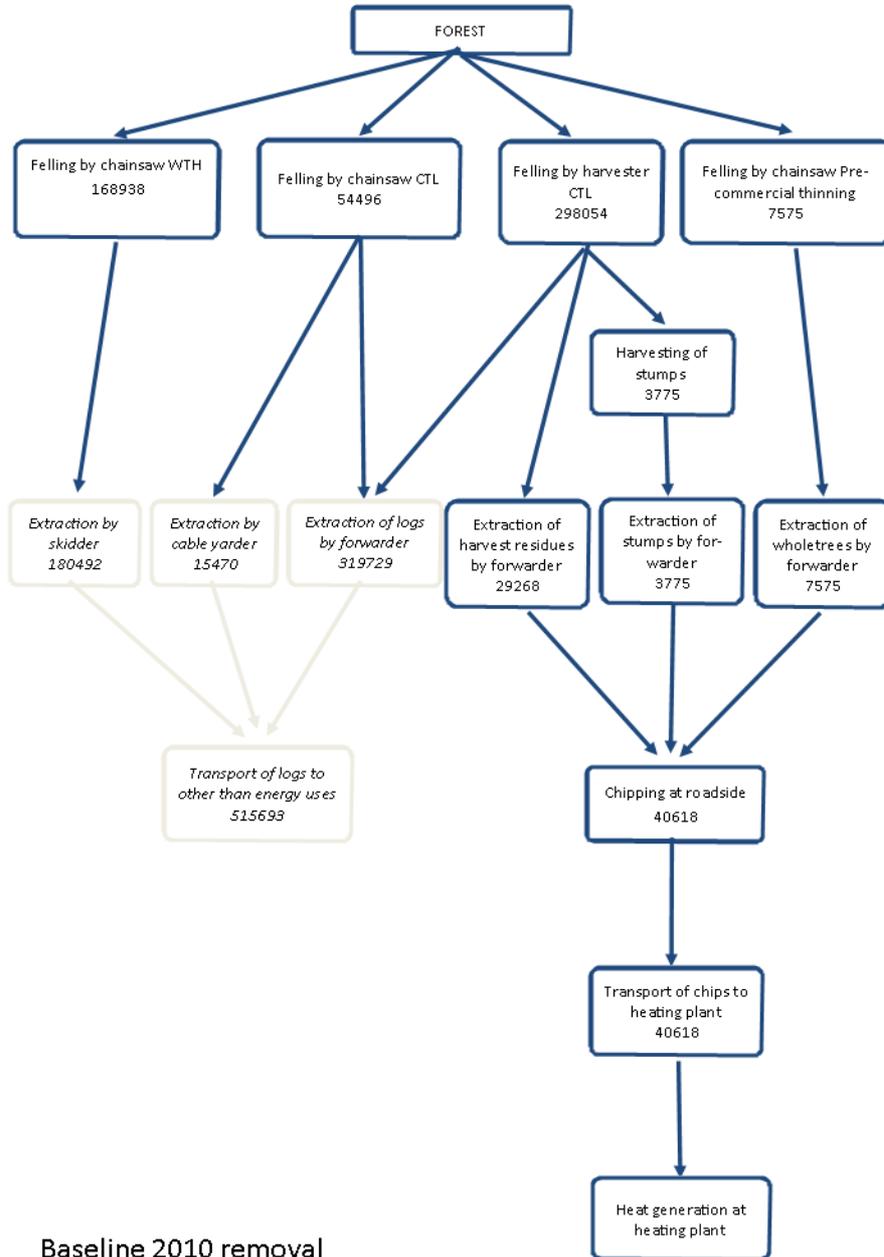
751 Walmsley J , Godbold D L, 2010. Stump harvesting for Bioenergy—a review of the
752 environmental impacts. *Forestry*, 83:17–38.

753 Walsh D, Strandgard M. 2014. Productivity and cost of harvesting a stemwood biomass
754 product from integrated cut-to-length harvest operations in Australian *Pinus radiata*
755 plantations. *Biomass and Bioenergy* 66:93-102.

756

757 **Annex:**

758 Annex 1: Baseline of typical current (2010) forest wood chain (FWC) in Europe. The focus is
 759 on bioenergy supply chains. Grey process (*italic font*) were not further followed as they
 760 are outside the field of interest. Blue processes (plain font) where calculated. WTS is a
 761 harvesting method where trees are felled with a cut at the base. CTL is a harvesting
 762 method where trees are felled, delimbed and cross-cut into various assortments directly
 763 at the felling site. This baseline is the basis for comparison with scenarios described in
 764 Figure 5 and in Table 3. Volumes per process are given as 1000 m³



Baseline 2010 removal

765

767 a) Removal 2010 (EFISCEN)

768 Forest operation systems in use across Europe per country (harvesting – blue and
 769 marked with *, extraction – green and marked with #, transport distance – red and
 770 marked with ~), and EFISCEN 2010 removal per assortment (yellow and marked with
 771 ^) excluding pre commercial thinning. This percentage per operation type reflects the
 772 current situation of harvesting operations in the EU. WTS is a harvesting method
 773 where trees are felled with a cut at the base. CTL is a harvesting method where trees
 774 are felled, delimited and cross-cut into various assortments directly at the felling site.

Country	^EFISCEN [2010] [1000m3]	^roundwood [2010] [1000m3]	^harvest residues [2010] [1000m3]	^precom thin tree [2010] [1000m3]	^stumps [2010] [1000m3]	*motsaw CTL [%]	*motsaw WTS [%]	*harvester CTL [%]	*harvester WTS [%]	#forwarder CTL [%]	#skidding WTS [%]	#cableyarding [%]	~Transport distance to incineration [km]
Austria	28 850	27 065	1 785		0	26	56	18	0	33	45	22	60
Bulgaria	6 925	6 405	521		0	0	100	0	0	0	100	0	20
Czech Republic	19 967	18 728	1 238		0	9	60	31	0	31	68	1	25
Denmark	3 042	2 778	264		0	0	10	90	0	95	5	0	150
Estonia	8 902	8 729	173		0	0	5	95	0	100	0	0	100
Finland	72 054	67 464	3 281		1 309	0	0	100	0	100	0	0	
Germany	78 245	72 255	5 990		0	0	53	47	0	47	50	3	
Ireland	2 330	2 289	42		0	0	5	95	0	95	5	0	58
Italy	10 194	9 770	425		0	85	0	15	0	40	45	15	100
Latvia	8 566	8 057	510		0	0	25	75	0	100	0	0	
Lithuania	15 520	14 864	656		0	71	0	29	0	100	0	0	
Netherla nds	1 397	1 361	35		0	0	20	80	0	80	20		
Poland	47 456	44 686	2 771		0	0	95	5	0	15	85	0	250
Portugal	9 262	8 689	573		0	90	0	10	0	80	20	0	25
Romania	20 666	19 855	811		0	0	98	2	0		99	1	30
Slovakia	10 083	9 369	714		0	100	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
Slovenia	4 304	4 159	145		0	88	0	12	0	12	68	20	100
Spain	21 235	19 923	1 312		0	0	65	35	0	30	60	10	60
Sweden	96 933	89 335	5 246		2 352	5	0	95	0	100	0	0	93
United Kingdom	10 735	10 277	343		114	0	0	100	0	100	0	0	
EU 2010 Removal Total	476 667	94	6	0	1	10	31	54	0	62	35	3	95
CEU	111 533	93	7	0	0	7	52	41	0	45	47	8	69
SEU	47 617	94	6	0	0	15	19	9	0	38	55	8	56
EEU	102 476	94	6	0	0	15	75	9	0	13	85	1	145
NEU	215 041	93	5	0	2	7	1	91	0	100	0	0	93

775
776

777
778
779
780
781
782
783
784

b) Potencial 2010 (EFISCEN)

Forest operation systems in use across Europe per country (harvesting – blue and marked with *, extraction – green and marked with #, transport distance – red and marked with ~), and EFISCEN 2010 B2 Potential per assortment (yellow and marked with ^). This percentage per operation type reflects the current situation of harvesting operations in the EU. WTS is a harvesting method where trees are felled with a cut at the base. CTL is a harvesting method where trees are felled, delimbed and cross-cut into various assortments directly at the felling site.

Country	^ EFISCEN [2010] [1000 m3]	^ roundwood [2010] [1000 m3]	^ harvest residues [2010] [1000 m3]	^ precom thin tree [2010] [1000 m3]	^ stumps [2010] [1000 m3]	* motorsaw CTL [%]	* motorsaw WTS [%]	* harvester CTL [%]	* harvester WTS [%]	# forwarder CTL [%]	# skidding WTS [%]	# cableyarding [%]	~ Transport distance to incineration [km]
Austria	322 958	278 382	43 475	1 102	0	26	56	18	0	33	45	22	60
Bulgaria	8 128	6 409	1 596	123	0	0	100	0	0	0	100	0	20
Czech Republic	25 111	21 228	3 279	604	0	9	60	31	0	31	68	1	25
Denmark	3 971	3 316	578	77	0	0	10	90	0	95	5	0	150
Estonia	13 122	11 995	805	321	0	0	5	95	0	100	0	0	100
Finland	85 508	70 810	9 491	1 651	3 556	0	0	100	0	100	0	0	
Germany	103 242	84 365	16 151	2 727	0	0	53	47	0	47	50	3	
Ireland	3 123	2 833	239	51	0	0	5	95	0	95	5	0	58
Italy	26 742	23 179	3 526	36	0	85	0	15	0	40	45	15	100
Latvia	18 390	15 742	2 427	221	0	0	25	75	0	100	0	0	
Lithuania	10 543	8 959	1 377	208	0	71	0	29	0	100	0	0	
Netherlands	1 482	1 362	98	23	0	0	20	80	0	80	20	0	
Poland	58 414	50 529	6 973	912	0	0	95	5	0	15	85	0	250
Portugal	10 802	8 760	1 843	199	0	90	0	10	0	80	20	0	25
Romania	32 536	28 215	3 642	678	0	0	98	2	0	0	99	1	30
Slovakia	11 384	9 368	1 557	459	0	100	0	0	0	0	100	0	
Slovenia	8 433	7 713	612	108	0	88	0	12	0	12	68	20	100
Spain	24 791	19 923	4 299	569	0	0	65	35	0	30	60	10	60
Sweden	111 915	91 456	13 573	1 351	5 535	5	0	95	0	100	0	0	93
United Kingdom	15 455	13 220	1 648	279	308	0	0	100	0	100	0	0	
EU 2010 Removal Total	896 051	85	13	1	1	10	31	54	0	62	35	3	95
CEU	427 683	93	7	0	0	7	52	41	0	45	47	8	69
SEU	70 462	94	6	0	0	15	19	9	0	38	55	8	56
EEU	135 878	94	6	0	0	15	75	9	0	13	85	1	145
NEU	262 028	93	5	0	2	7	1	91	0	100	0	0	93

785
786

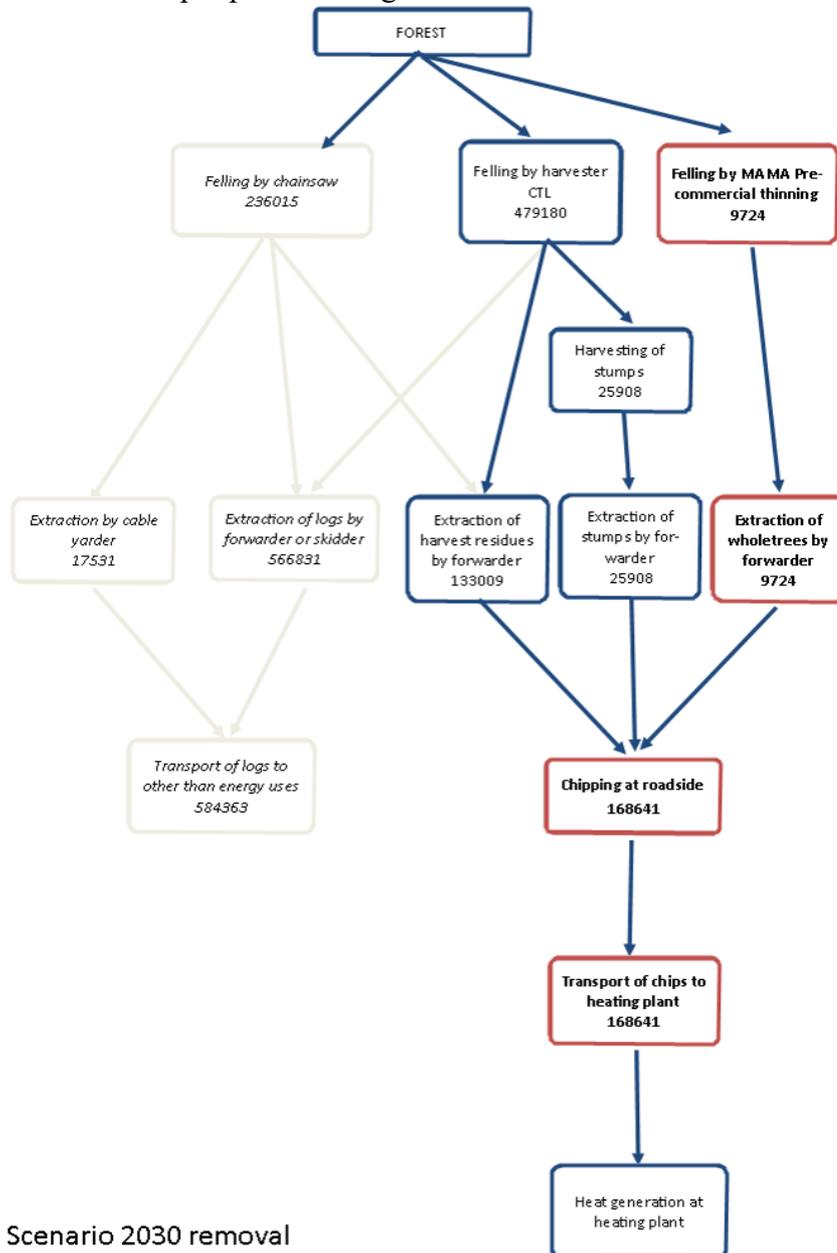
787
788

c) Overview of potentials and removal volumes at EU level for study per assortment for 2010, 2015, 2020, 2030 in 1000m³

Volumes at EU level [1000 m3]	Pre-commercial	Harvest Residues	Stumps	Stemwood	Total removal
2010 B2 EFISCEN reference removal		29268	3775	515693	548735
2010 B2 potential	11362	91985	9398	601404	714150
2010 B2 removal	7575	29268	3775	515693	556311
2015 B2 Promoting wood energy potential	14361	117328	17794	615758	765241
2015 B2 wood energy+ removal	9574	88781	16262	544598	649641
2020 B2 Promoting wood energy potential	15539	138026	25254	610420	789239
2020 B2 wood energy+ removal	10359	126310	24843	562471	713624
2030 B2 Promoting wood energy potential	14586	141832	22986	617965	797368
2030 B2 wood energy+ removal	9724	133009	25908	584363	743280

789

790 Annex 3: Scenario of typical technologically improved forest wood chain (FWC) in
 791 comparison to baseline. Grey process (*italic font*) were not further followed as they are
 792 outside the field of interest. Blue processes (plain font) were calculated with increased
 793 volumes (**bold font**) and a shift to more mechanisation for harvesting bioenergy
 794 assortments. Red processes were in additionally compared on replacing current with
 795 technological innovations as explained in Table 3. WTS is a harvesting method where
 796 trees are felled with a cut at the base. CTL is a harvesting method where trees are
 797 felled, delimbed and cross-cut into various assortments directly at the felling
 798 site. Volumes per process are given as 1000 m³.



Scenario 2030 removal

799

800 TABLES

801 Table 1:

Country group	Total potential volume [1000 m ³]	Pre-commercial [1000 m ³]	Stemwood [1000 m ³]	(Harvestable) Harvest Residues [1000 m ³]	Stumps [1000 m ³]
CEU	522000	3299	201905	33734	0
EEU	146693	3054	126213	17426	0
NEU	262028	4082	215016	29560	9398
SEU	70462	928	58270	11264	0
EU	1001183	11362	601404	91985	9398
Comments		Currently not/ little utilized	This equals 97% of annual increment	66% of all tops and branches were considered technically harvestable. Currently partially utilized	Only Finland, Sweden and UK were considered to harvest stumps in final fellings

802

803 Table 2:

Scenarios/machines	NEU	CEU	SEU	EEU
Antti Ranta, enlarged truck space (69t)	x			
Swedish HCV (74t and 90t) (Skogforsk)	x (Swe, Fin)			
Pezzolato (chipper)	x	x	x	x
Narva EF28 multitree harvester head	x	x	x	x
Press-collector: extended space forwarder	x	x	x	x
MAMA felling head	x	x	x	x
Kesla hybrid chipper	x	x	x	x

804

805 Table 3:

Forest biomass for energy assortments [million m³]	Stemwood for other uses [million m³]	Total [million m³]	Scenario
41	516	557	B2 reference 2010 (removal)
115	545	660	B2 Wood energy+ 2015 (removal) EU
162	563	724	B2 wood energy+ 2020 (removal)
169	585	753	B2 wood energy+ 2030 (removal)

806

807 Table 4:

Scenario	Forest biomass for energy [million m³]	Value of raw material [million EUR]	Value of services [million EUR]	Total value [million EUR]
B2 reference 2010 (removal)	40.6	1379	0.9	1380
B2 Wood energy+ 2015 (removal)	114.6	3892	2.5	3895
B2 wood energy+ 2020 (removal)	161.5	5485	3.4	5488
B2 wood energy+ 2030 (removal)	168.6	5727	3.6	5731

808

809 Table 5:

Forest operation	Direct fuel consumption innovative solution (litres/m ³)	Direct and Indirect fuel consumption (LCA) (innovative solution (litres/m ³))
CEU Thinning with harvester with MAMA head in CTL system ^a	1.30	1.51
CEU Clearcutting with harvester with NaarvaGrip EH28 head in CTL system	1.50	1.74
Chipping with Hybrid chipper	1.02	1.18
Chipping with Pezzolato chipper	1.06	1.23

810 ^a A harvesting method where trees are felled, delimbed and cross-cut into various assortments
 811 directly at the felling site

812 Table 6:

Forest operation	Reference		Direct and Indirect Energy use of Scenarios with innovations			
	Direct Energy Use (reference case)	Direct and Indirect Energy use (LCA) (reference case)	CEU Thinning with harvester with MAMA head in CTL system	CEU Clearcutting with harvester with NaarvaGrip EH28 head in CTL system	Chipping with Hybrid chipper	Chipping with Pezzolato chipper
Harvesting	60.4	70.1	53.8	53.6	70.1	70.1
Forwarding	27.2	31.6	31.6	31.6	31.6	31.6
Chipping	41.1	47.6	47.6	47.6	42.2	43.9
Transportation of whole tree	54.1	62.8	62.8	62.8	62.8	62.8
Transportation of chips	36.9	42.8	42.8	42.8	42.8	42.8
Sum	219.7	254.9	238.6	238.4	249.5	251.2

813

814 Table 7:

Forest operation	Reference		Emissions from Direct and Indirect Energy use of Scenarios with innovations			
	Emissions for Reference case with only direct Energy use	Emissions for Direct and Indirect Energy use (LCA) (reference case)	CEU Thinning with harvester with MAMA head in CTL system	CEU Clearcutting with harvester with NaarvaGrip EH28 head in CTL system	Chipping with Hybrid chipper	Chipping with Pezzolato chipper
Harvesting	4.4	5.1	3.9	3.9	5.1	5.1
Forwarding	2.0	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
Chipping	3.0	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.1	3.2
Transportation of whole tree	4.0	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6
Transportation of chips	2.7	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1
Sum	16.1	18.6	17.4	17.4	18.2	18.4

815

816 Table 8:

Innovation	Fuel consumption reference case (litres/m ³)	Fuel consumption innovative solution (litres/m ³)	Fuel consumption reduction, emission reduction (%)
CEU Thinning with harvester with MAMA head in CTL system	1.69	1.30	23
CEU Clearcutting with harvester with NaarvaGrip EH28 head in CTL system	1.69	1.50	11
Chipping with Hybrid chipper	1.15	1.02	11
Chipping with Pezzolato chipper	1.15	1.06	8

817

818 Table 9:

Forest operation	Reference	Scenarios with technological innovations				
	Whole tree	CEU Thinning with harvester with MAMA head in CTL system	CEU Clearcutting with harvester with NaarvaGrip EH28 head in CTL system	Chipping with Hybrid chipper	Chipping with Pezzolato chipper	Average improvement combi harvester and chipper
Harvesting	0.59	0.45	0.52	0.59	0.59	0.49
Forwarding	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.27
Chipping	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.36	0.37	0.36
Transport whole tree	0.53	0.53	0.53	0.53	0.53	0.53
Transport chips	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36
Sum	2.15	2.01	2.08	2.10	2.12	2.01
Emission reduction compared to baseline		6%	3%	2%	1%	7%

819

820 Table 10:

Impacts	Reference	Scenarios with innovations				
	Whole tree	CEU Thinning with harvester with MAMA head in CTL system	CEU Clearcutting with harvester with NaarvaGrip EH28 head in CTL system	Chipping with Hybrid chipper	Chipping with Pezzolato chipper	Average improvement combi harvester and chipper
Emissions supply chain (gCO ₂ /MJ) ^{a)}	2.15	2.01	2.08	2.10	2.12	2.01
Fossil fuel comp. heat (gCO ₂ /MJ)	80.0	80.0	80.0	80.0	80.0	80.0
Emission reduction supply chain	97.31%	97.48%	97.40%	97.37%	97.35%	97.49%
Improvement compared to baseline		0.15%	0.08%	0.05%	0.04%	0.16%

821

822 Table 11:

Impacts		Residues – baseline	Scenario - chipping with Hybrid chipper	Scenario - chipping with Pezzolato chipper
Impacts per process [in gCO₂eq/MJ]	Forwarding	0.33	0.33	0.33
	Chipping	0.40	0.36	0.37
	Transportation residues	0.64	0.64	0.64
	Transport chips	0.00	0.00	0.00
Impacts for whole chain (aggregation of the processes above)	Total emission	1.37	1.32	1.34
	Reduction compared to baseline		3%	2%
	GHG emission reduction calculation			
	Emissions supply chain	1.37	1.32	1.34
	Fossil fuel comparator (heat)	80	80	80
	Emission reduction supply chain	98.29%	98.35%	98.33%
	Improvement compared to baseline		0.06%	0.04%

823

824 Table 12:

	2010	2015	2020	2030
Increased manpower from additional volumes and improved harvesting technology	10054 FTE	+184340 FTE	+23230 FTE	+23266 FTE

825

826 **FIGURE Captions**

827 Figure 1: Comparison of 2010 reference and 2030 Wood energy forest potential (pale bars),
828 against B2 reference 2010 removal (solid bar) as well as B2 Wood Energy removals for 2010,
829 2015, 2020, 2030 (solid bars). The removals do not include volumes from pre-commercial
830 thinning. Potentials do include volumes from pre-commercial thinning.

831 Figure 2: Overview of potential and removal of volumes from 2010 to 2030: a) Forest
832 harvestable potential by assortments; b) B2 removal reference+ and B2 removal Wood
833 energy+: Removal Wood energy by compartment. Assuming that 2/3 of pre-commercial
834 thinning can be harvested and extracted. These volumes are additional material for removal
835 from thinning and final fellings

Figure 1

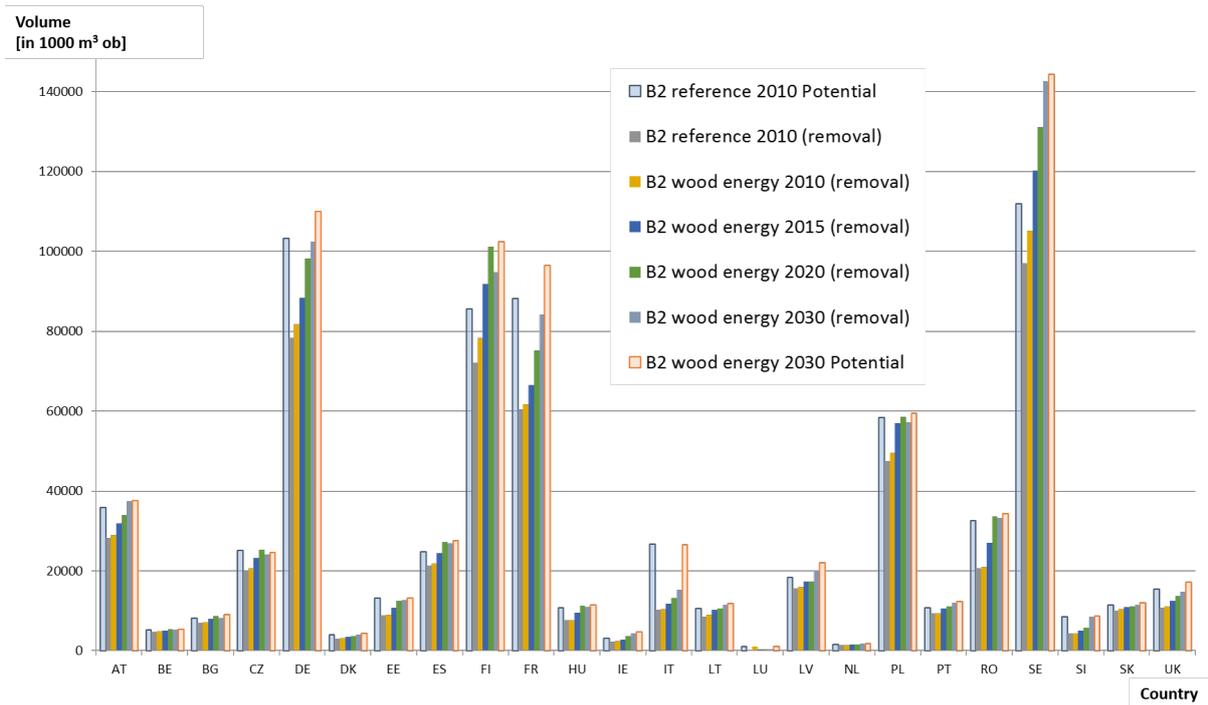


Figure 2a

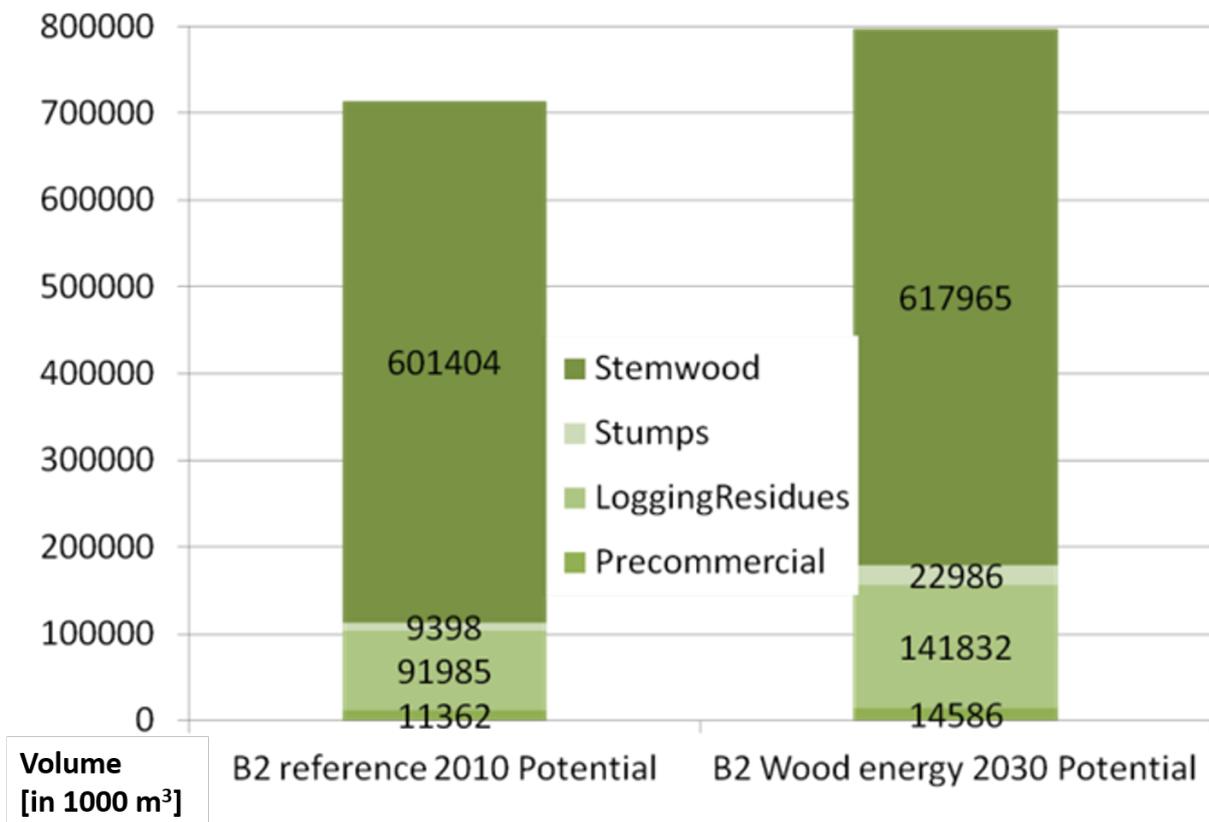


Figure 2b

