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GBEP AG6: Good examples of bioenergy-water relationships

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Presentation at the workshop "The world needs more land use change"
June 7, 2016 at the 24th EUBCE, Amsterdam

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GBEP WGCC Activity Group 6: Overview

- Activity Group 6 (AG6) on "Bioenergy and Water" was established in 2015 under the GBEP Working Group on Capacity Building
- AG6 goal: identify and disseminate ways of integrating bioenergy systems into agriculture and forestry landscapes to improve sustainable management of water resources, including waste water
- AG6 held a workshop in August 2015 in Stockholm which presented examples, report published in February 2016

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Activity Group 6 Vision

Good management of resources - benefiting from complementarity of different land use systems - can deliver food, materials and bioenergy AND improve the state of water



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Stockholm Workshop: excellent presentations, productive discussions, and more...



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Stockholm Workshop Structure

Session I: Bioremediation and Riparian Buffer Zones

- Bioremediation of industrial drainage water - Egypt
- Bioenergy crop buffer zone - USA

Session II: 'Waste' to Energy and Water-Smart Processes

- Livestock waste to biogas – Italy & China
- Waste-to-bioenergy – Argentina; ethanol water challenges - Brazil

Session III: Agroforestry, Inter- and Rotational Cropping

- Impacts of switchgrass intercropping in traditional pine forests on hydrology and water quality – USA
- SRC strips integrated with site-typical crop rotation - Germany
- Integrated woody biomass cropping for salinity control in dryland agriculture - Australia
- Perennial biomass crops on environmentally sensitive land - USA

Session IV: Controlling Growth of Invasive Species

- Producing electricity from biomass from invasive alien plants - South Africa
- Improving water quality by harvesting water plants for biomass - Germany

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Stockholm Workshop Global Coverage



The workshop brought together examples from 11 countries across 6 continents: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, China, Egypt, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Paraguay, South Africa and the USA

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Key Messages from the Workshop

- Presenters showed an **encouraging variety** of water-efficient and even positive-water-balance bioenergy options, both in terms of supply/feedstocks, and geographical distribution
- There **are significant barriers** to “mainstream” such practices, though
- A prerequisite seems an easily accessible repository of data on these practices by “**trusted**” actors. GBEP may have a role here

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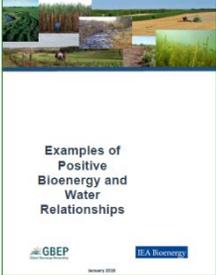
Key Messages (II)

- **Capacity building** is needed with regard to farmers and NGOs “in the field”, addressing the socioeconomic dimension, and broad diversity of farmers
- Water is an important issue at political level – more dialogue should be sought
- Most of the best practices presented are “bottom-up”, but many policy makers view issues “top-down”: **translate** key issues into more acceptable language, and highlight potential of economic instruments in fostering sustainable bioenergy-water systems

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Stockholm Workshop Outcome Report



Freely available:

http://www.globalbioenergy.org/fileadmin/user_upload/gbep/docs/2015_events/AG6_workshop_25-26_August_2015/AG6_Examples_of_Positive_Bioenergy_and_Water_Relationships_Final.pdf

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Dissemination: webinars



April 24, 2016



May 25, 2016

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More Information & Contact

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