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# **Biofuels sustainability in the European policy**

**Ariane de Dominicis  
DG Environment  
European Commission**

European Biofuel Technology Platform  
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# The review of the fuel quality directive

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- **Dir. 98/70 - technical specifications for fuels**
- **Jan 07: revision proposal by EC**
  - Reporting on lifecycle GHG emissions (2009)
  - Mandatory obligation to reduce emissions from 2011
  - Reduction obligation of 1%/yr (10MtCO<sub>2</sub>/yr) until 2020
- **Technology neutral”, based on CO<sub>2</sub>**
- **Biofuels expected to play an important role**
- **Incentive for better-performing biofuels**
- **Parallel initiative in the US (California)**



# Biofuels in the directive on renewable energy sources

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- **10% biofuels for each member state**
- **Biofuels must respect sustainability criteria in order to:**
  - **Count towards the 10% target/National targets**
  - **Receive financial support**
- **Imports and domestic production treated equally**
- **Criteria also applying to « bioliquids », extension to biomass to be analysed by 2010**



# Sustainability criteria in the directive on renewable energy sources

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- **Sustainability criteria for biofuels :**
  - **GHG savings – minimum of 35%**
  - **No raw material from undisturbed forests, biodiverse grassland, nature protection areas (unless taken harmlessly)**
  - **No conversion of wetlands and continuously forested areas for biofuel production**
  - **All EU biofuels must meet “cross compliance” environmental rules**



# Sustainability criteria in the directive on renewable energy sources

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- **Verification of compliance:**
  - **Responsibility of Member States**
  - **To reduce the administrative burden, Commission can decide that “certification schemes” give reliable proof of compliance**
  - **If so, all Member States have to accept these certificates as proof**



# Monitoring and reporting by the Commission

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- **Every 2 years, analysis on:**
  - Land use changes
  - Commodity price changes / availability of foodstuff
  - Cost/benefit of different biofuels, import policy
  - Sustainability and development issues
- **Corrective action to be taken if appropriate**



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**Thank you for your attention**