



Bioeconomy & Protection of climate and resources – Regulating Paths of Action”

Summary: Study of Prof. Dr. habil. Uwe Lahl on behalf of NABU (Naturschutzbund Deutschland e.V.)

This study gives an as-is analysis of existing studies and papers of important actors of the bioeconomy sector regarding opportunities of handling with problems and conflicts. On the other hand the author creates groundwork for the discussion of specific options, dealing with decrease of biodiversity, climate change and increasing growth of the world population concerning limited available areas.

Bioeconomy – a complex field

The term bioeconomy describes a wide and complex field, often narrowed on bioenergy, because of the important role of biomass utilization in Germany and worldwide.

But regarding the limited availability of effective area on the planet, renewable energies need to be regulated. Using biomass prospectively the following questions need to be discussed:

- In which sector using biomass is indispensable and in which it can be replaced?
- How and in which extent utilization of biomass can harm other sections?
- Which are the conflicts between different global aims of protection, for example saving biodiversity, and biomass use and in which range could they block each other?
- Which factors and guidelines could harmonize these conflicts?

Controversal Solutions

This issue has clear trade offs mentioned by almost all analyses. However approaches how to achieve solution are controversial. Some institutions name research and innovation to solve the problems. Others mention Sufficiency and Efficiency.

Although all the evaluated references analyze the trade offs, they fail to deliver clear options of consistent regulations. Many papers give concrete recommendation of technical applications. A technology fixed approach cannot replace elementary political decisions.



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Biomass seems to be an essential source in future too and the huge advantages of biomass utilization compared to fossil fuels remain unquestioned.

Due to a huge variation of basic data and results, future scenarios and clear result are difficult to create.

The aim of the study is initiating and creating a discussion based on different described approaches. New questions came up and many research issues are still not answered. More research is necessary to find answers to: Who is responsible? At which persons or institutions elaborated demands need to be addressed? How could a monitoring program be designed and realized?

This study wants to support the way to transformation in society for a sustainable world.



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