

# **Towards a new EU policy for sustainable bioenergy**

## **The role of forest biomass for climate change mitigation and adaption**

**10 October 2017**

**08:00-09:30**

**Member's Saloon**

**European Parliament, Brussels**

Hosted by:

**Marijana Petir MEP**

Member of the EP Committee on *"Agriculture and Rural Development"*, and *"Environment, Public Health, and Food Safety"*

**Hannu Takkula MEP**

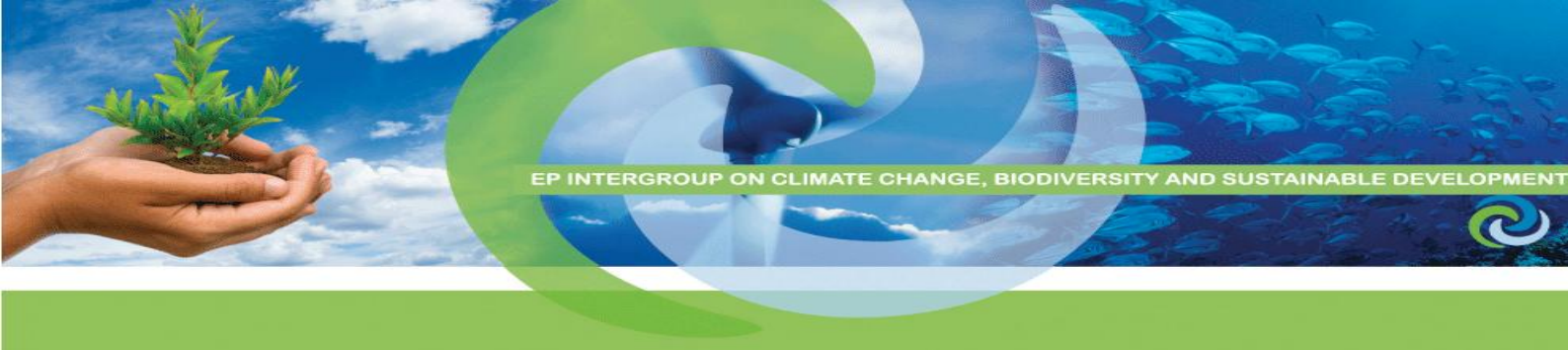
Member of the EP Committee on *"Agriculture and Rural Development"*

Forest biomass covers a large share of renewable energy sources. Biomass for energy can be directly supplied from forests or as a by-product from industry. There is further potential for increasing the mobilization of domestically sourced biomass from sustainably managed forests by, among others, increasing market demand for lower quality assortments, thereby making more efficient use of low quality wood and forest residues. Thus, the resilience and vitality of forest ecosystems and the economic performance of forestry and the forest-based sector as a part of bio-economy would be improved and strengthened.

European forests are sustainably managed regardless of the functions they fulfill and the end use of the biomass produced. This is ensured by Sustainable Forest Management principles developed by the European countries and the EU in the framework of the FOREST EUROPE process and incorporated into national forest and environmental regulations of the EU Member States. The sustainability of forest management and forest-based products is further confirmed by various voluntary systems, such as certification schemes for forest management.

Sustainably managed forests and their products can play a central role for decarbonizing the EU by promoting the bioeconomy and the use of domestically sourced bioenergy and raw materials. EU Policy needs to recognize this role and promote the use of forest biomass for energy and other goods.

This event will gather policy makers, stakeholders and scientists to discuss the role of forest biomass in combating climate change and the impact of the new Commission proposal for forest biomass sustainability criteria as part of the RED Recast.



## DRAFT AGENDA

- 08:00-08:05** Welcome and introduction by **Marijana Petir MEP**
- 08:05-08:15** **Giulio Volpi**, Bioenergy policy coordinator, Renewables and CCS policy Unit, DG ENER, European Commission: The new EU bioenergy sustainability criteria in the revised Renewable Energy Directive
- 08:15-08:25** **Prof. Tomas Lundmark**, Department of Forest Ecology and Management, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU): “The role of bioenergy for forestry and for climate change mitigation and adaptation”
- 08:25-08:35** **Bernhard Budil**, Secretary General, Land & Forst Betriebe Austria, member of CEPF (Confederation of European Forest Owners)
- 08:35-08:45** **Ilga Anita Bērzkalne**, Head of Development, LVM (Latvia State Forests), member of EUSTAFOR (European State Forest Association)
- 08:45-08:55** **Linde Zuidema**, Bioenergy campaigner, FERN
- 08:55-09:15** Exchange of views with **MEPs**
- 09:15- 09:25** Questions and discussion with the audience
- 09:25-09:30** Concluding remarks by **Hannu Takkula MEP**