Supergen Bioenergy

SUSTAINABLE BIOENERGY SYSTEMS FOR OUR LOW-CARBON FUTURE

Aston University BIRMINGHAM UK

EBRI Energy & Bioproducts Research Institute

Towards a biomass sustainability framework: Trees, crops and carbon

Mirjam Röder, Dan Taylor and Freya Horsfield

Supergen Bioenergy Impact Hub
Energy and Bioproducts Research Institute
Aston University

UKRI Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council

UKRI Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council

Purpose and overview of the webinar

Make research around biomass sustainability widely available to support stakeholders in their responses to the UK Government's Common Biomass Sustainability Framework Consultation.

The Supergen Bioenergy Impact Hub is running two webinars :

Towards a biomass sustainability framework: Feedstocks and products

By **Supergen Bioenergy Hub** Follow

Online event

Jan 20 from 12pm to 1pm GMT

Towards a biomass sustainability framework: Trees, crops and carbon

By **Supergen Bioenergy Hub** Follow

Online event

Jan 27 from 12pm to 1pm GMT

Exploring some of the questions around biomass as a **sustainable feedstock for energy and products** and highlight the role of **biomass in carbon regulation and the practicalities of growing and trading biomass**.

Topics and speakers for today's session

Introduction to forest carbon
Carly Whittaker, Forest Research

Biomass sustainability research @UKCEH
Jeanette Whitaker, UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology

Practicalities of making a living growing carbon-friendly crops
Jamie Rickerby, Willow Energy

Practicalities of sustainability reporting in international supply chains
Fiona Matthews, Hawkins Wright

Q&A session
Chaired by Freya Horsfield and Dan Taylor

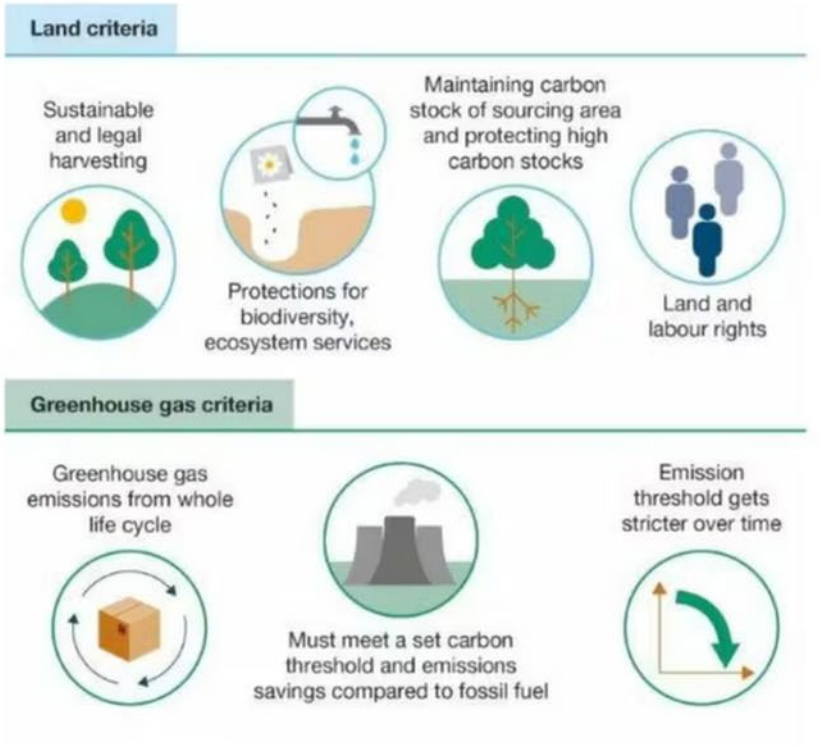
Department for Energy Security & Net Zero

Biomass sustainability: overview

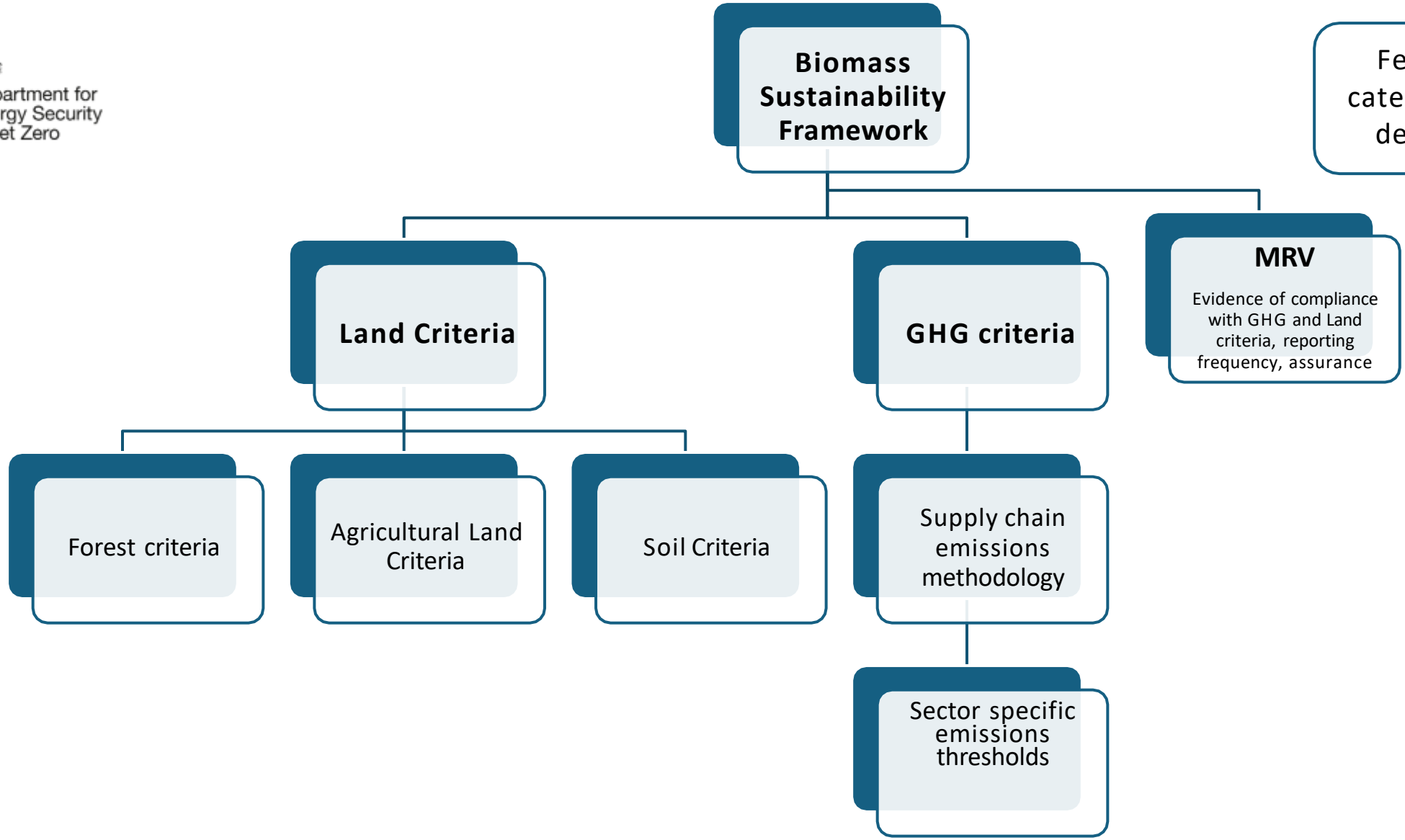
UK Government

Common Biomass Sustainability Framework Consultation

- Only sustainable biomass can be considered to be low carbon.
- The UK only supports biomass that meets sustainability criteria across the economy in power, heat and transport.
- Sustainability criteria cover the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of the supply chain and environmental protections (land criteria).
- Current requirements vary across the UK subsidy schemes.



Department for Energy Security & Net Zero



Purpose and aim of the Common Biomass Sustainability Framework

UK Government
Common Biomass Sustainability Framework Consultation

- To be **delivered as a policy document** to inform legislation or contractual arrangements for individual schemes (rather than additional legislation).
- Applied to any biomass feedstocks that are sourced domestically or internationally and **used for bioenergy that is subject to a government support mechanism in the UK**.
- **May also be used as guidance by the unsubsidised market** on a voluntary basis to develop their own sustainability criteria.
- To be **reviewed regularly, and updates published** every 5 years.

UK Government
Common Biomass Sustainability Framework Consultation

Overarching principles for developing sustainability criteria

- **Maximise carbon benefits** from bioenergy use.
- **Minimise wider environmental harm** associated with bioenergy supply chains e.g. biodiversity and ecosystem services.
- **Alignment with wider government objectives** and policies for related sectors.
- **Alignment with criteria used in other countries** or regions e.g. EU Renewable Energy Directive (RED).
- **Deliverability**.
- **Costs** to government, businesses and consumers.

What's next?

1. All stakeholders: Visit page on Supergen website with links & resources

https://www.supergen-bioenergy.net/common-biomass-sustainability-framework/

2. Researchers: Researchers who wish to share with Supergen Bioenergy Hub research insights relevant to specific consultation questions may complete this **short MS Form:** https://bit.ly/4pIdNdn *Closing date Friday 6 February*

Policy and research partnership contact: supergen-policy@aston.ac.uk

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