Presentation 3.1: Report on energy efficient technologies and CO_2 reduction potentials in the pulp and paper industry

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Abstract

A summary will be given of the workshop on Energy Efficient Technologies and CO_2 Reduction Potentials in the Pulp and Paper Industry, which took place on 9 October 2006, at the International Energy Agency in Paris. The goal of the workshop is to better quantify the global potential for energy efficiency and CO2 emissions reduction in the Pulp & Paper sector and to discuss various approaches to overcome the barriers to improvements.

Important differences in energy use of pulp and paper making exist between countries. They can be explained by a range of factors such as product mix, typical processes used, plant size, technology, plant age, feedstock quality, fuel prices and management attention for energy efficiency. The goal of our indicators analysis is not benchmarking on a plant or machine level, but a cross country comparison of energy intensity.

Energy costs, energy supply and climate change are amongst the core issues impacting on the future of the forest products industry. They will have impacts on manufacturing costs, as well as on the allocation of investments around the globe. The increasing focus on biomass as an energy source may on the one hand increase wood prices for existing industries, but on the other hand open new markets to other parts of the forest cluster. Co-production of pulp and other biomass products may result in new business models and high overall energy efficiency.

The pulp and paper industry is in a unique position, both in terms of improving energy efficiency and reducing CO_2 emissions. The sector has the ability to become a net supplier of a range of energy products and it can become an important actor in removing CO_2 from the atmosphere. However this vision will not happen overnight, and it will imply a fundamental rethinking of the sector's strategy.













































