



4 (b) Thematic focus: Wood energy – Update by secretariat

Joint Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics
and Management, May 31-2 June 2023



Item 4 (b) Wood energy – Update by secretariat

Outline

- **Wood energy in the media**
- **Data and assessment related to wood energy**
- **Classifications**
- **Cross-sectoral cooperation**
- **Capacity building**



Wood energy in the media

Joint Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics
and Management, May 31-2 June 2023



Wood energy in the media

"Europe Is Sacrificing Its Ancient Forests for Energy - Governments bet billions on burning timber for green power". (The New York Times, September 2022)

"UK energy crisis sparks rush for firewood despite air pollution fears" (newscientist, September 2022)

" 'Drax: UK power station owner cuts down primary forests in Canada" (BBC, October 2022)

"Time to stop counting forest biomass as 'renewable energy'" (Euractive, November 2022)

" 'Eco' wood burners produce 450 times more pollution than gas heating" (The Guardian, December 2022)

"Germany's Energy Crisis Is a Cue to Chop Wood and Stock Up - The high cost of natural gas and electricity is prompting many to prepare for outages and shortages. For some, it's been a way of life for years. " (The New York Times, December 2022)

"Up in smoke: Cities grapple with run on wood-burning stoves - The smoky emissions from burning wood have serious health impacts – particularly in dense urban areas. (Politico, February 2023)



Data and assessment related to wood energy

Joint Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management, May 31-2 June 2023



Data and assessment related to wood energy

Keeping the website on the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry up to date (<https://unece.org/forests/joint-wood-energy-enquiry>):

- [Finalization of the JWEE2019 information on the UNECE website](#)
 - Fact sheet
 - Country profiles
 - Flat file
 - INForest (pending)
- [Chapter on wood energy in the FPAMR](#)
- [Market Discussion \(UNECE Committee on Forests\)](#)
- [Press release \(“Wood energy on the rise in Europe”\)](#)



Classifications

Joint Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management, May 31-2 June 2023



Classifications

United Nations Statistics Division is coordinating a revision and harmonization of global statistical classifications:

- Standard international trade classification (SITC)
- Central Product Classification (CPC)

Consultation with group of energy data collecting entities (Interenerstat) regarding possible harmonization with Standard International Energy Product Classification (SIEC)

- Secretariat invited to attend (due to JWEE experience)
- Proposed inclusion of solid wood residues (similar to black liquor)
- Renewable municipal waste under discussion



Cross-sectoral cooperation

Joint Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics
and Management, May 31-2 June 2023



Cross-sectoral cooperation

The secretariat worked with the following institutions in 2022/2023:

- UNSD Energy Statistics – e.g. IRES revision
- International Energy Agency (IEA) – e.g. data access for JWEE
- International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) – correspondents
- Energy Community – household survey experts
- Eurostat (Energy) – solid biomass questionnaire
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) – MICCS / household surveys
- **(Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP))** – statement on making 11 May the international day on sustainable bioenergy



Capacity building

Joint Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management, May 31-2 June 2023



Capacity building

Joint Wood Energy Enquiry online webinars

44 participants
(of which 18 female)
18 countries
represented

27 April 2023

[Module 3: "Discussion with secretariat and among peers"](#)

Recordings of
modules 1 & 2
available upon
request

20 April 2023

[Module 2: "Detailed structure & data collection"](#)

17 April 2023

[Module 1: "Overview session – Introduction"](#)

Canada provided financial support to the Joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section to organize a series of webinars for national correspondents on the data collection for the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry (JWEE).

Key points for consideration

The Joint Working Party is invited to:

- (i) Provide feedback on the data collection on wood energy, including timing, planning, related capacity-building activities and presentation of results of the JWEE.
- (ii) Provide guidance on whether the JWEE should be made an annual exercise and consider providing relevant resources to the secretariat (financial or in-kind).
- (iii) Consider submitting a complete dataset of the JWEE if not done, yet.
- (iv) Discuss and provide feedback on the proposed new set of additional wood energy indicators;
- (v) Inform the Joint Section about information needs.
- (vi) Provide guidance to the Joint Section on how to further strengthen cross-sectoral cooperation on wood energy.



Thank you for your attention!

Contact: florian.steierer@un.org

Joint Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics
and Management, May 31-2 June 2023

