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Working Group II

issues

- Opening up of new lines of credit
 - Access to investment or exclusion - e.g. IDB scorecard
 - Hand-holding to enable compliance
 - Auditing – evolution in quality rather than inspection
- Cost
 - Special requirements for smallholders? / Group certification
- Smallholders (issues in terms of quality if different products are produced in a region)
 - Risk of penalising smallholders (financial burden)
 - Ag extension services to help teach smallholders best practices to comply with quality standards
 - If too difficult to comply with the standards, this may force them to associate themselves with larger producers
- Proliferation of standards
 - ISO (very thorough but lengthy process; very respected; but take into account the work that has been done so far?)
 - Meta-standard
 - Quantitative vs. Process indicators (e.g. LCA)
 - Harmonisation of methodologies

issues continued

- Market access or market barrier?
- Sustainability certification / fuel quality certification
- Supporting measures for developing countries
- Stakeholder engagement is important, but is the attempt to involve all stakeholders feasible?

- Covering all sustainability issues
 - experience exists for a number of environmental issues, but to a lesser extent on social issues
- Regional protocols
- Differentiation by feedstock

action

- Gradual introduction of sustainability certification
 - indicating steady improvement
 - allowing a greater number of producers to participate from the start
 - cover all issues, but start with medium level
- Where EIAs exist already as a legal requirement, complement them with rules covering biofuel / feedstock specificities and social issues (if not yet covered in labour laws); promote implementation of EIAs; ensure monitoring and apply sanctions if needed
- Public extension services to support smallholders to use best practices that would also enable them to comply with sustainability standards
- Audits by government authorities
- Calculate cost of certification