

# InnoFuels | Innovationsschwerpunkt Nachhaltigkeit



Gefördert durch:



Koordiniert durch:



Projektträger:



aufgrund eines Beschlusses  
des Deutschen Bundestages

Workshop: „Degraded/marginal Lands: Do they offer a way to diversify our resources for biofuels and reduce our dependence on imports? – Portrayal of relevant studies and discussion,,

15.04.2026 | Online-Workshop

# Agenda

Time	Program Points
14:00	<b>Opening &amp; Welcome</b> <b>The role of non-food crops from degraded/marginal lands in the transport sector and other parts of the bioeconomy</b> Karl-Friedrich Cyffka   DBFZ
14:15	<b>Midas marginal land mapping results</b> Berien Elbersen   Wageningen University & Research
14:30	<b>Camelina oil for sustainable aviation fuel production: A scenario assessment for recovering European degraded soils</b> Maria Giovanna Sessa   University of Bologna
14:45	<b>Certification criteria for degraded and marginal lands</b> Katharina Heidrich   ISCC
15:00	<b>A spatial approach to assessing land degradation in agricultural areas: Development of a high-resolution global data product</b> Fabian Sittaro   DBFZ
15:15	<b>Discussion Round on Further Relevant Aspects</b> Moderation   Jasmin Kalcher
15:55	<b>Conclusion and Farewell</b>

# InnoFuels | Innovationsschwerpunkt Nachhaltigkeit



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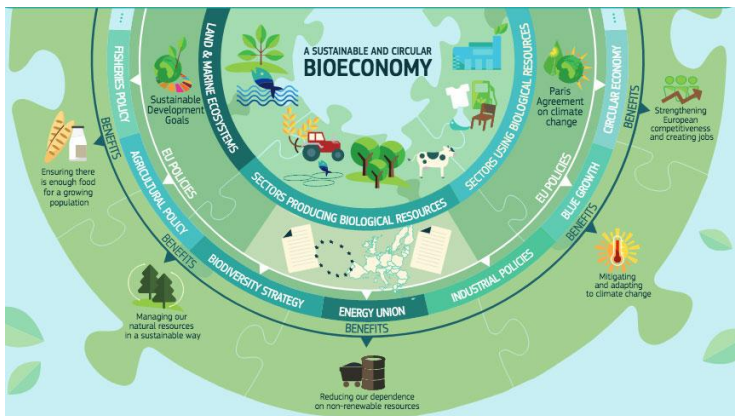
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## The role of non-food crops from degraded/marginal lands in the transport sector and other parts of the bioeconomy

Karl-Friedrich Cyffka | Workshop: „Degraded/marginal Lands: Do they offer a way to diversify our resources for biofuels and reduce our dependence on imports? – Portrayal of relevant studies and discussion, | 15.04.2026 | Leipzig

# The big picture & context

## Novel EU Bioeconomy Strategy

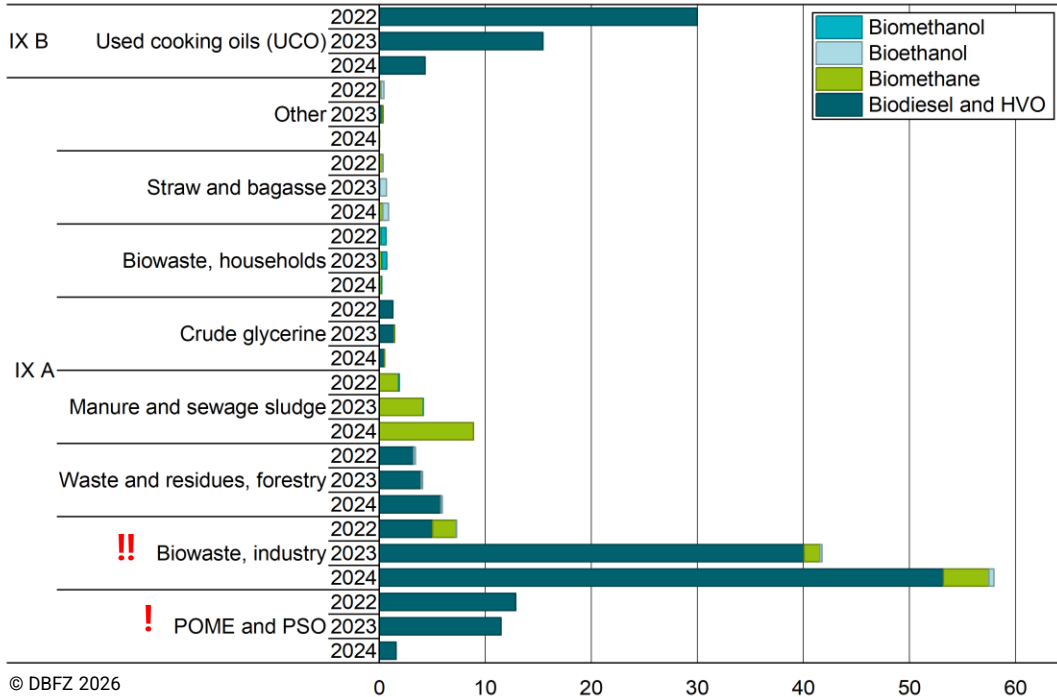


- » By **reducing strategic dependencies** on fossil and **imported raw materials**, by **diversifying supply** chains built on **renewable and circular resources**, the bioeconomy will reinforce Europe’s **economic and resource security** and **resilience**
- » Strong **focus on added value**: “The bioeconomy is defined as the activities that deliver sustainable solutions based on biological resources to create added value.”
- » Building **new lead markets** (e.g. construction materials, biochemicals, textiles, fertilisers and plant protection products and plastics) for bio-based materials and technologies
  - **Biorefineries as multi-product-plants**: Peat substitutes (PaplGas) in expanding global growing media market & chemicals (CapUp) from biogas plants
- » Use of biomass most effective in hard-to-electrify & hard-to-abate sectors, among named transport sectors: (non-long-haul) heavy duty vehicles in agriculture/forestry missing (KTBL)
- » Scaling innovations and investment by **removing/reducing barriers** and **regulatory complexity**

# Use and demand for (advanced) biofuels (focus on biogenic residues and wastes) in Germany and the EU

# Feedstock composition of used biofuels

## Advanced (A) and waste-based (B) biofuels in PJ – 2022 until 2024



### Origin advanced feedstocks/biofuels in 2024 (2023):

From Germany

Raw materials: 21% (15%)

Product origin: 25% (19%)

From Asia

Raw materials: 38% (62%)

mainly China (Indonesia and Malaysia)

From China

Product origin: 29% (52%)

### For raw materials with a high risk of fraud (EU Commission assessment):

- On-site checks at the raw material level necessary
- See the [DBFZ statement on the draft proposal](#) for the further development of the GHG quota (in German):



Around 90% of advanced biofuels produced from industrial waste in 2023 will be biodiesel (FAME) derived from:

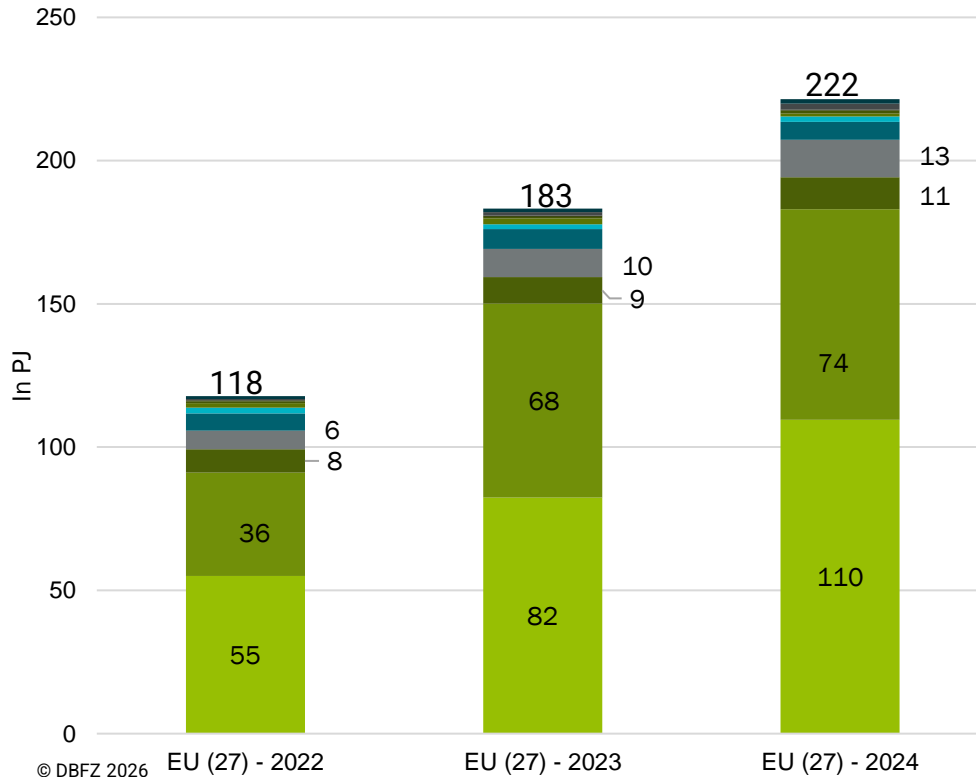
- Waste from the manufacture, preparation, distribution and use of fats, lubricants and soaps;
- Sewage sludge from the preparation and processing of fruit, vegetables and cereals – contents of grease traps and floatates from establishments that process animal products but use only vegetable fats/oils;
- Sludge from the preparation and processing of edible oil;
- Waste arising from the manufacture, formulation, supply and use of basic organic chemicals – free fatty acids (FFA), residues from transesterification;
- Waste oils, fats or fatty acids, separated from the contents of grease traps by specialised treatment plants and re-esterified prior to processing; not waste oils, fats or fatty acids from the sewerage system.

Source: Naumann, K.; Cyffka, K.-F.; Müller-Langer, F. (2024): [BACKGROUND PAPER German GHG quota](#) | Quota fulfilment 2023.

Data: BLE 2026 requested data; BLE 2025: Erfahrungsbericht 2022-2024

# Feedstock composition of used biofuels

## Advanced (Annex IX a) biofuels in PJ – 2022 until 2024



- Sum of other part A biofuels
- Part A (p) - from other non-food cellulosic material
- Part A (e) - from straw
- Part A (b) - from biomass in mixed municipal waste
- Part A (i) - from crude glycerine
- Part A (k) - from grape marcs and wine lees
- Part A (o) - wastes and residues from forestry and forest-based industries
- Part A (f) - from animal manure and sewage sludge
- Part A (c) - from biowaste
- Part A (g) - from palm oil effluent and empty palm fruit bunches
- Part A (d) - from biomass in industrial waste

→ Import surplus biodiesel & bioethanol [all types]:

→ 2022: 193%; 2023: 73%; 2024: 58%; 2025: 134%;

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# EU feedstock demand for aviation and maritime

## High demand for (non-food) crops

	2030				2050			
	Air transport		Maritime shipping		Air transport		Maritime shipping	
	MIN	MAX	MIN	MAX	MIN	MAX	MIN	MAX
<b>Advanced biomass (Annex IX A)</b>								
Energy crops, perennial <sup>a</sup>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3 <sup>a</sup>	35.4 <sup>a</sup>	6.3	7.7
Energy crops, annual			0.3	0.3			33.6	40.8
Forestry products	0.5	0.0	3.1	3.2	1.7	5.0	14.4	18.4
Forestry residues			1.4	1.5			11.7	14.7
Waste wood			1.8	1.8			6.7	8.0
Agricultural residues	0.0	5.5	1.5	1.5	5.4	22.0	15.4	18.6
Slurry			1.2	1.2			2.8	3.3
<b>Waste biomass (Annex IX B)</b>								
Used cooking oils (UCO)	0.7	1.1	0.8	0.8	1.7	2.8	1.4	1.8

<sup>a</sup> for example: miscanthus, willow, poplar

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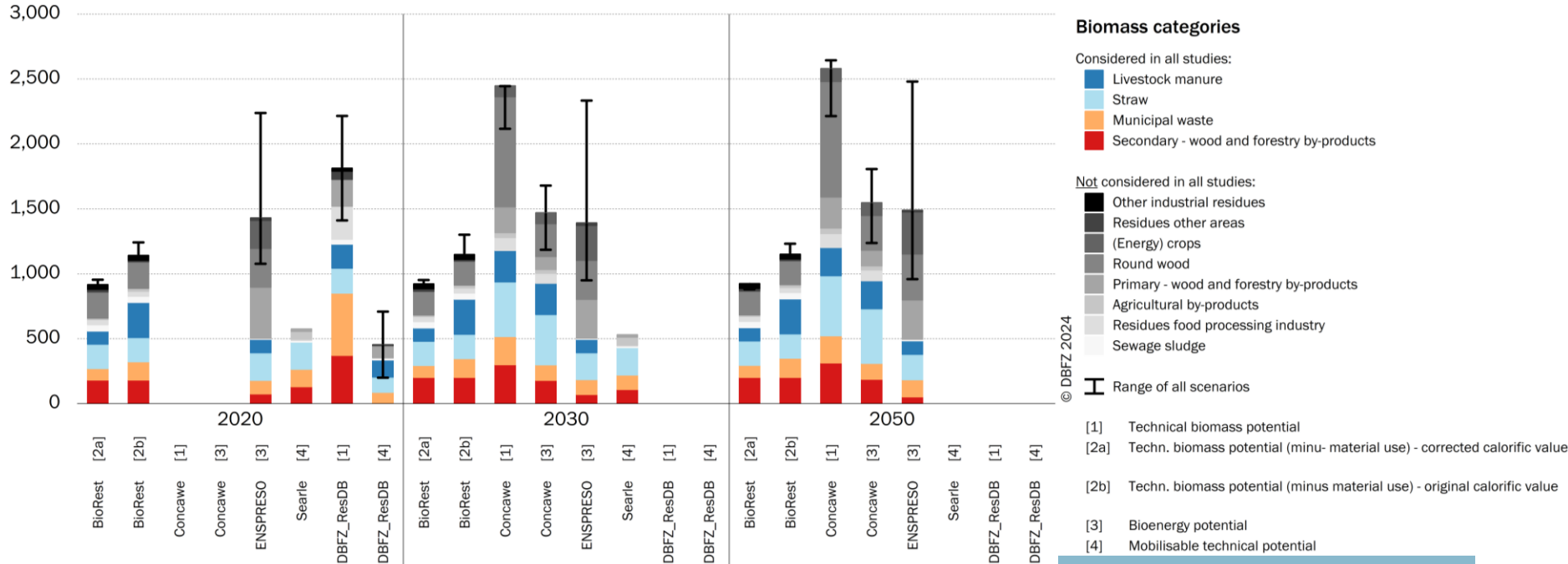
- **High demand** (up to ~80 million tonnes by 2050) **for non-food crops** (grown on degraded land) according to Impact Assessments of ReFuelEU Aviation & FuelEU Maritime
- Large quantities of woody biomass
- Biomass demand of novel lead markets not fully considered in modelling

# Biomass potentials (focus on biogenic residues and wastes) in Germany and the EU

# Biomass as carbon source

## Significant differences in biomass potentials

 Biomass potentials [all types of biomass] in PJ scenario = medium



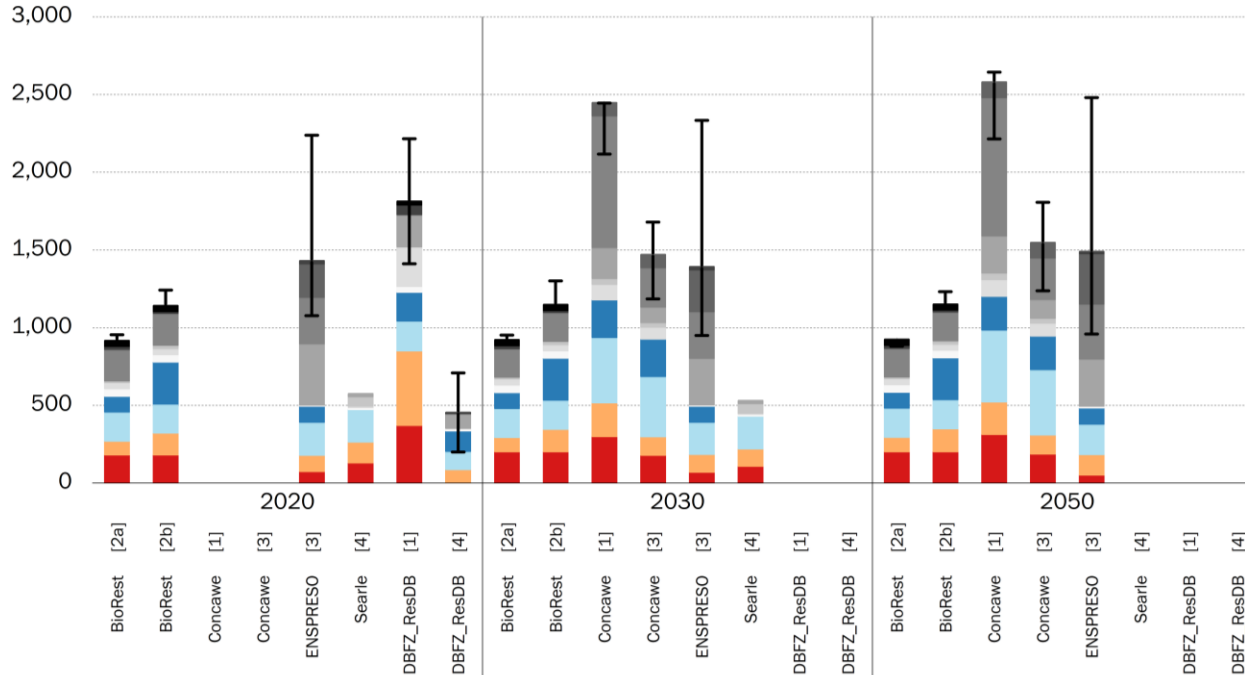
Sources: Naumann, K.; Cyffka, K.-F.; Karras, T. (2024): Bio2x - Vergleichende Analyse zu nachhaltigen Biomasse- und Substitutionspotenzialen, DBFZ Hintergrundpapier, [https://www.dbfz.de/fileadmin/user\\_upload/Referenzen/Statements/Hintergrundpapier\\_Bio2x\\_Okt\\_2024.pdf](https://www.dbfz.de/fileadmin/user_upload/Referenzen/Statements/Hintergrundpapier_Bio2x_Okt_2024.pdf); Naumann, K.; Cyffka, K.-F.; Costa de Paiva, G.; Nieß, S.; Neuling, U.; Zitscher, T. (2026): Resources for the production of renewable fuels. DOI: 10.48480/w11j-9w27

+ about 13 Mt biobased CO<sub>2</sub> from ethanol, biogas and biomethane

# Biomass as carbon source

## Significant differences in biomass potentials

 Biomass potentials [all types of biomass] in PJ scenario = medium



- Significant differences between studies:**
- Number of **biomass types** included varies (19–77)
  - Note: **new Annex IX feedstocks not included**
  - **Bandwidths** of potentials **very large**
  - **Time horizons** and **potential levels vary**
  - The proportion of **oil-containing biomass is relatively low**, while the proportion of digestible biomass is high.

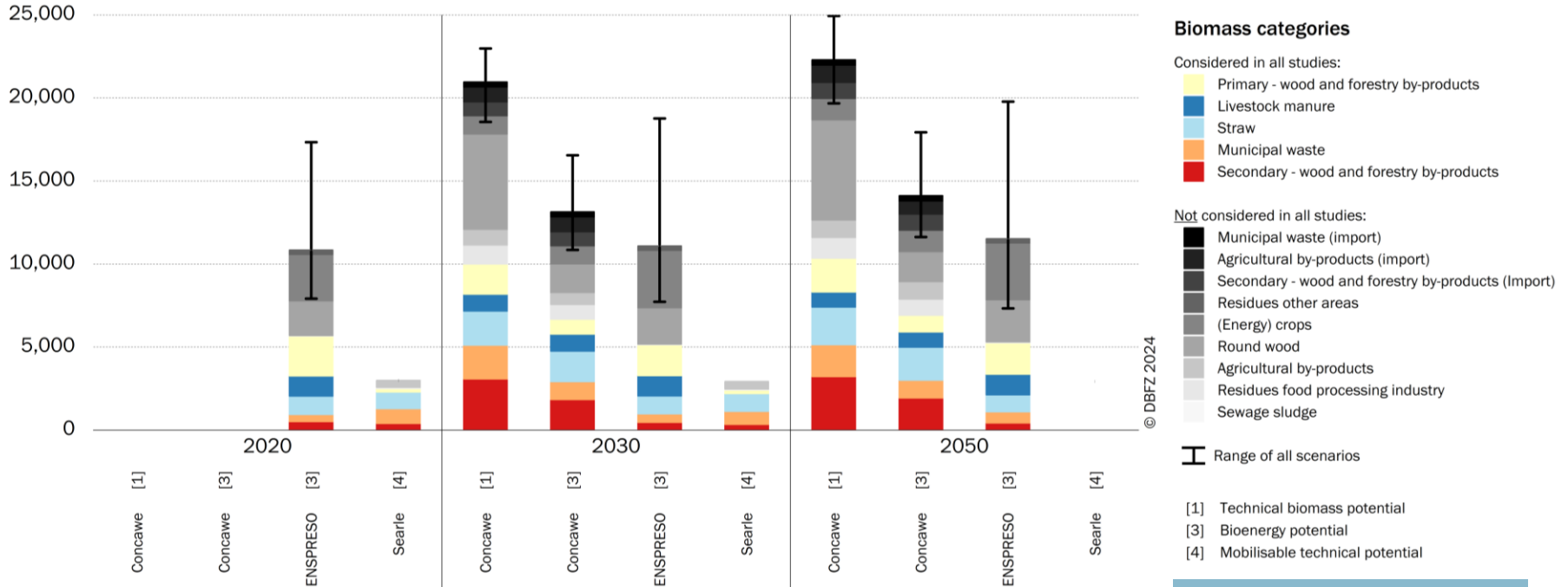
Sources: Naumann, K.; Cyffka, K.-F.; Karras, T. (2024): Bio2x - Vergleichende Analyse zu nachhaltigen Biomasse- und Substitutionspotenzialen, DBFZ Hintergrundpapier, [https://www.dbfz.de/fileadmin/user\\_upload/Referenzen/Statements/Hintergrundpapier\\_Bio2x\\_Okt\\_2024.pdf](https://www.dbfz.de/fileadmin/user_upload/Referenzen/Statements/Hintergrundpapier_Bio2x_Okt_2024.pdf); Naumann, K.; Cyffka, K.-F.; Costa de Paiva, G.; Nieß, S.; Neuling, U.; Zitscher, T. (2026): Resources for the production of renewable fuels. DOI: 10.48480/w11j-9w27

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# Biomass as carbon source

## Significant differences in biomass potentials

 Biomass potentials [all types of biomass] in PJ  
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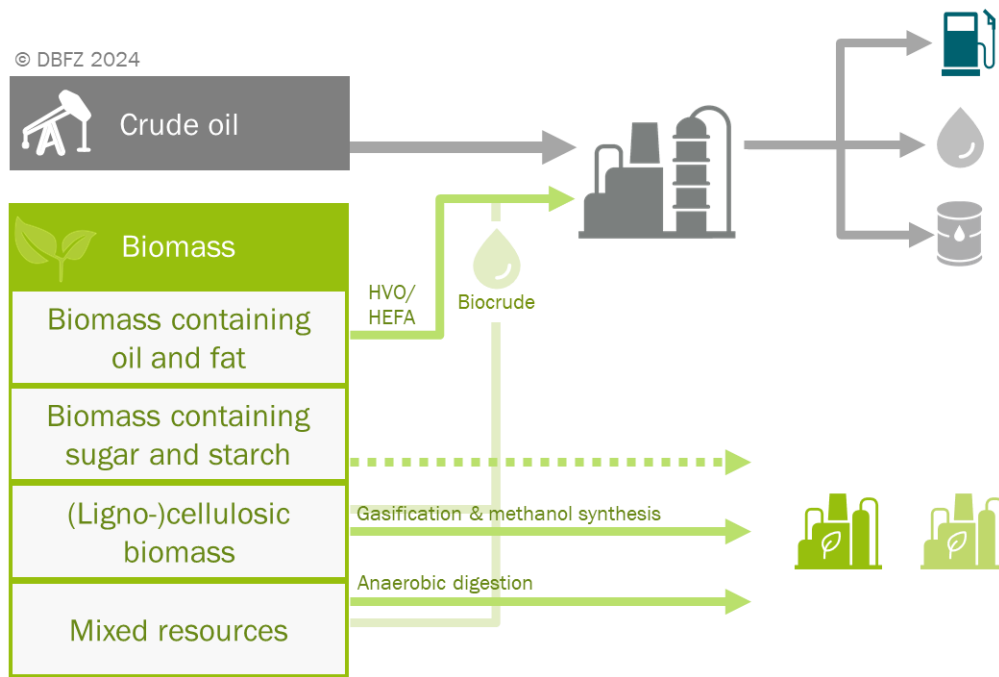
Sources: Naumann, K.; Cyffka, K.-F., Karras, T. (2024): Bio2x - Vergleichende Analyse zu nachhaltigen Biomasse- und Substitutionspotenzialen, DBFZ Hintergrundpapier, [https://www.dbfz.de/fileadmin/user\\_upload/Referenzen/Statements/Hintergrundpapier\\_Bio2x\\_Okt\\_2024.pdf](https://www.dbfz.de/fileadmin/user_upload/Referenzen/Statements/Hintergrundpapier_Bio2x_Okt_2024.pdf); Naumann, K.; Cyffka, K.-F.; Costa de Paiva, G.; Nieß, S.; Neuling, U.; Zitscher, T. (2026): Resources for the production of renewable fuels. DOI: 10.48480/w11j-9w27

+ about 34 Mt biobased CO<sub>2</sub>  
from ethanol, biogas and biomethane

# Biomass as carbon source

## Limited biobased substitution potential

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### Product potential and substitution

Diesel fuel	<0.1 Mt 0.1 – 0.3%	0.7 Mt 0.3%
Kerosine	<0.6 Mt 1.5 – 6.0%	3.7 Mt 13.8%
Naphtha	<0.3 Mt 0.6 – 2.3%	1.9 Mt 5.0%
Ethanol		
Methanol	0 - 13 Mt	3 - 91 Mt
Methane	4 - 15 Mt	31 - 131 Mt
<b>Techn. potential</b>	<b>17 – 28%</b>	<b>34 – 49%</b>
<b>Bioenergy pot.</b>	<b>7 – 28%</b>	<b>10 – 45%</b>
<b>Mobilisable pot.</b>	<b>3 – 9%</b>	<b>8%</b>
+ up to 9 Mt methanol from biobased CO <sub>2</sub>		+ up to 25 Mt methanol from biobased CO <sub>2</sub>

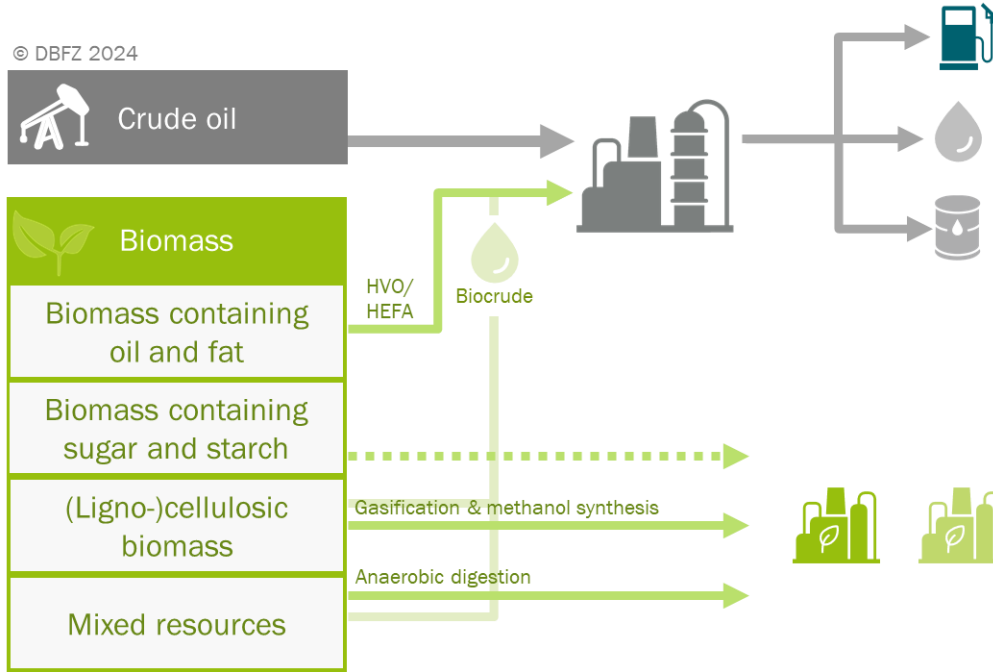
Notes: Fuel-specific values: reference to mean values and mean scenarios of the studies (quantities in Mt oil equivalent, 1 kg oil equivalent = 42 MJ) | Total potential bandwidths also include min/max scenarios, resources not considered here: starchy crops, sugar from sugar beet (ethanol) | rape seed, sunflower, soya seed (diesel fuel, kerosine, naphtha) | lignocellulosic crops, stemwood, forest wood (methanol) | Mt = million metric tons

Source: Naumann, K.; Cyffka, K.-F., Karras, T. (2024): Bio2x - Vergleichende Analyse zu nachhaltigen Biomasse- und Substitutionspotenzialen, DBFZ Hintergrundpapier, [https://www.dbfz.de/fileadmin/user\\_upload/Referenzen/Statements/Hintergrundpapier\\_Bio2x\\_Okt\\_2024.pdf](https://www.dbfz.de/fileadmin/user_upload/Referenzen/Statements/Hintergrundpapier_Bio2x_Okt_2024.pdf)

# Biomass as carbon source

## Limited biobased substitution potential

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### Product potential and substitution

- Due to **low share of oil-containing biomass**, **mature conversion processes are not suitable for directly replacing the petroleum industry's current product portfolio** (in terms of both variety and volume) based on residue and waste potentials.

- Depending on the study, e.g. the **bioenergy potential in Germany could replace 7–28%** and in the EU **10–45% of current refinery output**

**Techn. potential** 17 – 28%  
**Bioenergy pot.** 7 – 28%  
**Mobilisable pot.** 3 – 9%

**34 – 49%**  
**10 – 45%**  
**8%**

+ up to 9 Mt methanol from biobased CO<sub>2</sub>

+ up to 25 Mt methanol from biobased CO<sub>2</sub>

Notes: Fuel-specific values: reference to mean values and mean scenarios of the studies (quantities in Mt oil equivalent, 1 kg oil equivalent = 42 MJ) | Total potential bandwidths also include min/max scenarios, resources not considered here: starchy crops, sugar from sugar beet (ethanol) | rape seed, sunflower, soya seed (diesel fuel, kerosine, naphtha) | lignocellulosic crops, stemwood, forest wood (methanol) | Mt = million metric tons  
 Source: Naumann, K.; Cyffka, K.-F., Karras, T. (2024): Bio2x - Vergleichende Analyse zu nachhaltigen Biomasse- und Substitutionspotenzialen, DBFZ Hintergrundpapier, [https://www.dbfz.de/fileadmin/user\\_upload/Referenzen/Statements/Hintergrundpapier\\_Bio2x\\_Okt\\_2024.pdf](https://www.dbfz.de/fileadmin/user_upload/Referenzen/Statements/Hintergrundpapier_Bio2x_Okt_2024.pdf)

# Conclusion

- » High **import dependencies** for **oil-based Annex IX A feedstocks**, also due to relatively low shares among residue and waste potentials
- » **EU bioeconomy strategy: Reducing import dependencies and diversify feedstocks** (domestic supply and imports from non-EU countries) in order to increase security and resilience
- » **For the integration of Annex IX part A feedstocks** (mostly digestible) in established **refining processes**, the targeted (further) **development of suitable conversion** and process chains is **required**
- » **Non-food crops from severely degraded** (and marginal) **land could** potentially **address** these **key topics**

Looking forward to keep in contact

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**DBFZ Resource Database**

The DBFZ Resource Database covers numerous biogenic waste and residues. The access to diverse resource potentials supports the **German Bioeconomy Strategy** aiming towards a sustainable and bio-based economy in alignment with the **Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations**.

The data volume extends along five dimensions: biogenic resource, estimated quantity (e.g. Tonne/2023), theoretical or technical biomass potential, space and time (e.g. Season 2023), and underlying methodology. Below, you find several interactive views on the yet incomplete data volume within the DBFZ Resource Database.

 <p><b>DE Top Biomasses</b></p> <p>Ranking of the national top biomass, generally and regarding residues for a target sector.</p>	 <p><b>DE Biomass Monitor</b></p> <p>Research national biomass potentials and use over one to 17 selected biomass commodities by selecting a biomass target product (e.g. biorefinery) and returning the volume of different biomass for a target sector (e.g. transport sector).</p>	 <p><b>EU Biomass Potential Atlas</b></p> <p>The top level and</p>
 <p><b>Biomethane Formation Kinetics</b></p> <p>The study of fermentability and biomethane formation kinetics of 12 selected agricultural residues allows the prediction of their technical methane potential.</p>	 <p><b>More Information</b></p> <p>Continual and methodological details behind the database, further documentation, and references.</p>	 <p><b>API</b></p> <p>Graphical</p>





**Renewable energies in transport**  
Monitoring report

[www.dbfz.de/en/monitoring-renewables-transport/](http://www.dbfz.de/en/monitoring-renewables-transport/) Deutsches Biomasseforschungszentrum DBFZ

**Interesting publication**