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## BIOENERGY AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR FEEDING THE WORLD WITHOUT COOKING THE PLANET



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Moderation: Ao.Univ.-Prof. Dr. Helmut Haberl

Deforestation now contributes roughly 15% of greenhouse gas emissions, and nearly all strategies for addressing climate change depend on eliminating it by 2050. That will be challenging in a world that must also produce perhaps 70% more food by that date. Bioenergy could potentially use hundreds of millions of additional hectares. Although potential sources of biomass for energy exist that could reduce greenhouse gases, Searchinger argues that most optimistic views of bioenergy are based on a simple accounting error and in effect double-count carbon that plants and soils will absorb and store anyway. Bioenergy at the same time threatens large food price increases for the world's poorest people. Proper bioenergy policies should focus only on ways of capturing „additional carbon.“

Tim Searchinger is a Research Scholar at Princeton University and a fellow of the German Marshall Fund of the U.S. He has published several papers in the journal Science on the implications of bioenergy for international land use and greenhouse gas emissions. Although originally trained as a lawyer at the Yale Law School, his research now mixes ecology, economics and policy and focuses on the challenge of feeding an expected population of nine billion people by 2050 while reducing greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture.

To get more information please have a look at <http://www.princeton.edu/~tsearchi/>

IFF, 1070 Wien, Schottenfeldgasse 29, 3.Stock/T2/Seminarraum 3  
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