Competition for Land Fuel v Food

Michael Doran Tuesday 5 May 2009 3379

Objective

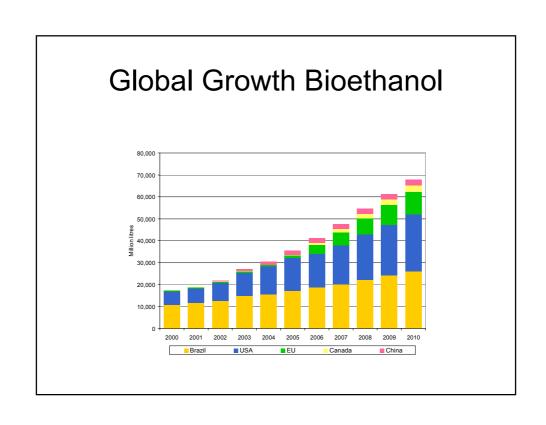
To develop a project that will consider the implications of competition for ground between food crops and energy crops

FIG Objective

"....how surveyors should be developing a response to Social, Economic, Technological, and Environmental change.."

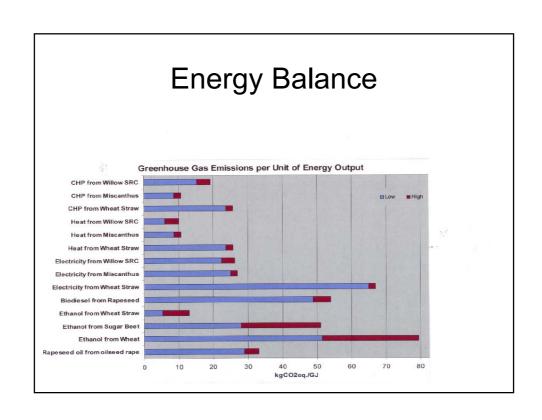
Background

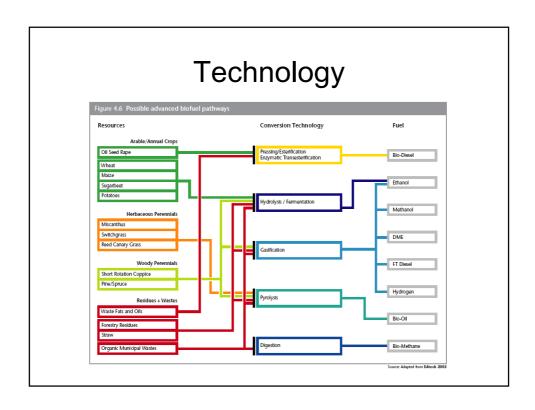
- In December 2007 FAO reported that world food prices had risen by approx 40% in the previous 12 months
- In July 2008, World Bank Policy Research Working paper concluded "..large increase in biofuels production in the US and Europe main reason behind steep rise in food prices"
- Egypt banned rice exports
- China price fixing on grain, meat, milk, eggs to maintain stability in the market
- · Indonesia soya bean shortages
- Pakistan wheat shortages



Factors to Consider

- 1. Energy Balance
- 2. Technology
- 3. Cost Effectiveness
- 4. Policy
- 5. Need
- 6. Water Resource
- 7. Sustainability





Cost Effectiveness

- Cost of producing the crop/making the fuel
- Cost at which sell the fuel/crop
- · Cost of carbon saving

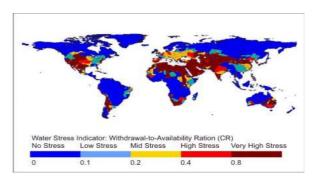
Policy

- Tangibles
- 1. Climate change mitigation
- 2. Energy Security
- 3. Research and Development Options
- Intangibles
- 1. Public Perception
- 2. Ethics

Need

- Poorer countries suffer disproportionately when price of oil goes up
- Balance food demand versus higher value market
- Agriculture is entering a new phase where there is unlimited demand for produce
- Europe exporting environmental problem by creating demand for liquid biofuels

Water Resource



Takes 1700 litres water to make 1 litre ethanol

Sustainability

- Feedstock Production
- · Land Use Land Diversification
- Biodiversity
- Balanced Eco systems
- Whole Life Costing (not just fuel)
- Environmental Pollution
- Social Aspects
- Economic Aspects