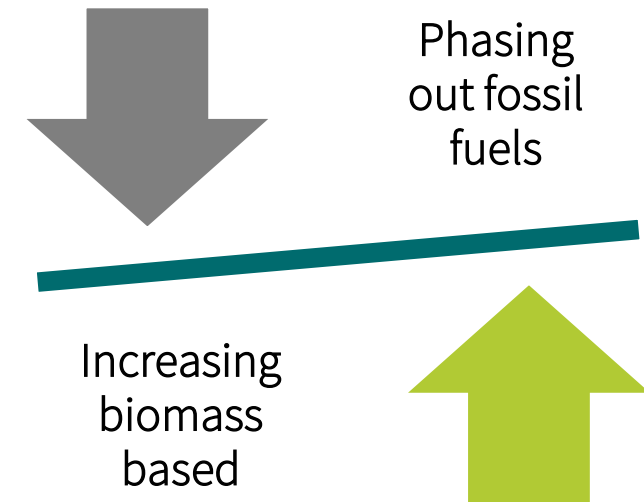
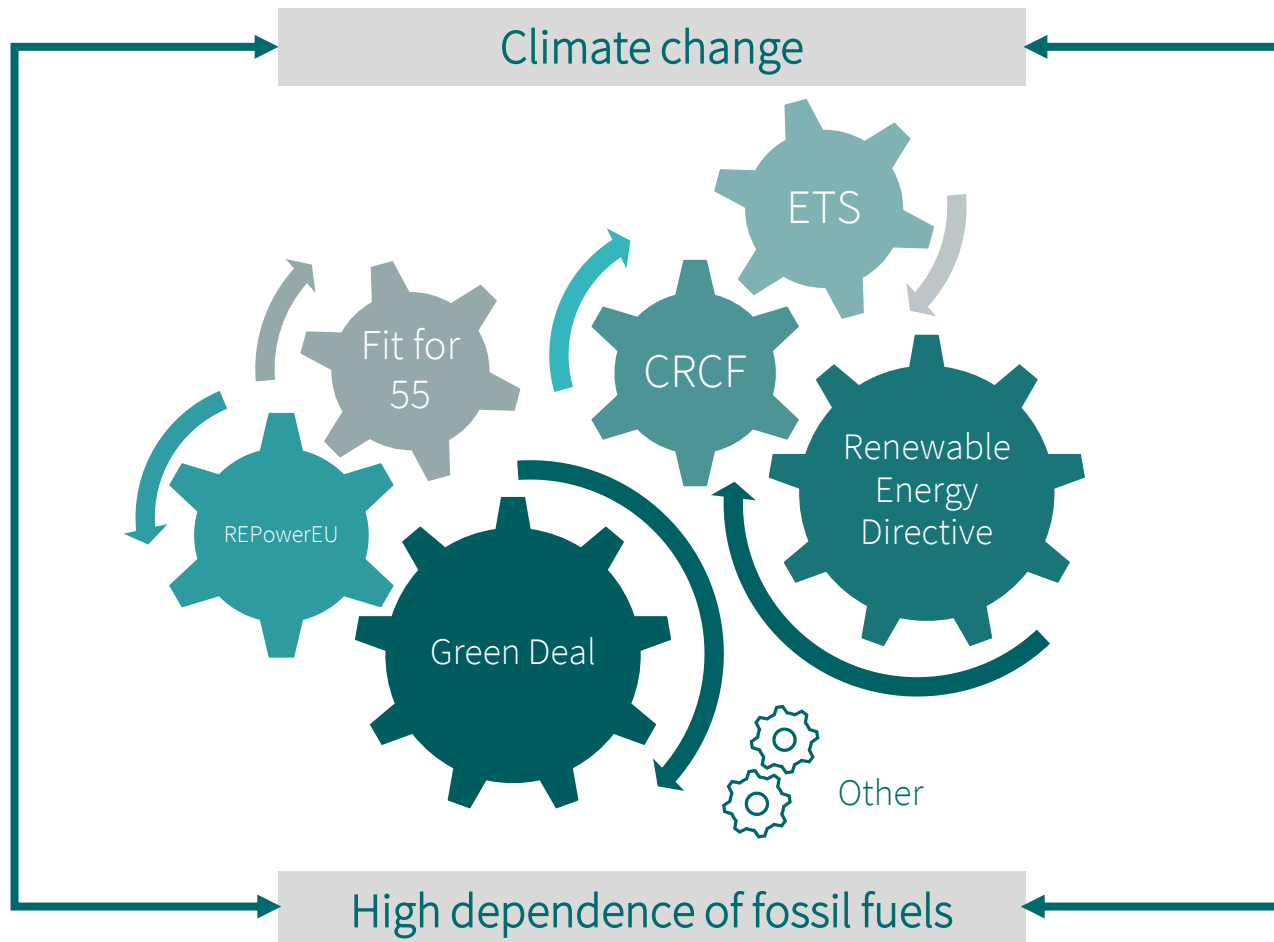




The relevance of certification: benefits beyond the Renewable Energy Directive

Maria Erlemann
Biogas and Legislation | May 2025

A complex public policy response to tackle complex challenges



But 'bio-based' does not automatically mean 'sustainable'

Regulation aims to ensure sustainability while promoting the use of biomass ...

- ✓ Sustainability requirements as a **binding condition** to access benefits
- ✓ **Certification** as means to proof compliance



... with impacts on the economic operators

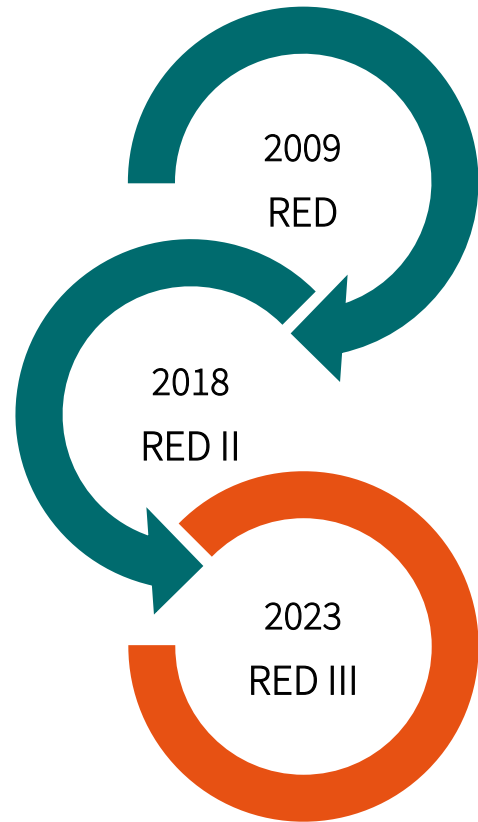
- ✓ **Restrictions** on the use of biomass (environment – economic/production trade-offs)
- ✓ **Bureaucratic** obligations (reporting, providing evidence, training staff, development a system, etc)

Renewable Energy Directive RED (Directive (EU) 2009/28)

- ✓ Creates a framework for the promotion of renewable energies in EU.
- ✓ Sets the EU target of renewables in 20% by 2020, and the EU member states commit to national targets.
- ✓ The renewables can only
 - be counted towards a national target for renewable energies or GHG reduction,
 - be used to meet national quota targets in the transport sector, or
 - benefit from direct financial supportif **binding sustainability requirements and greenhouse gas reduction targets are met.**

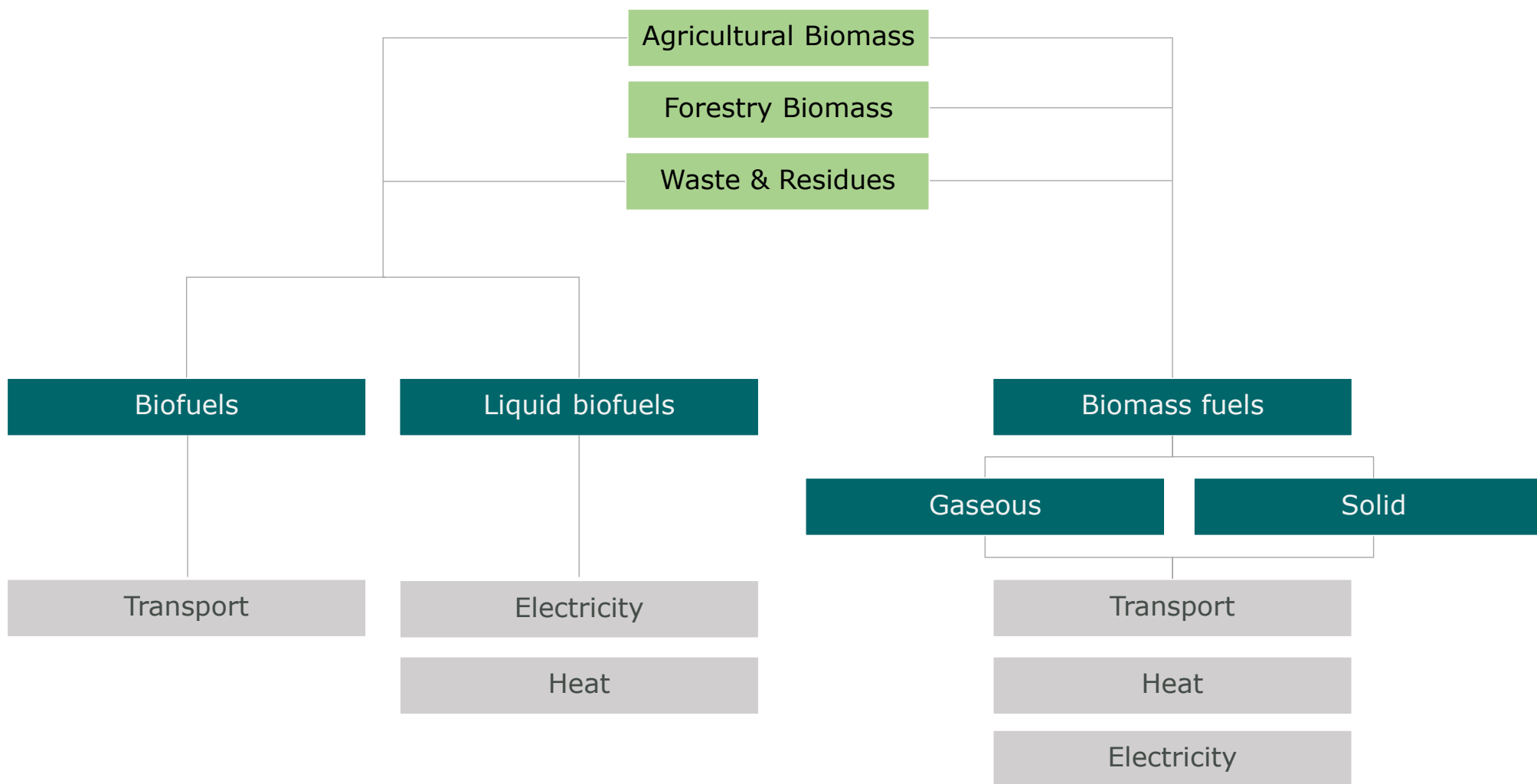
The requirements set out in the RED must be verified by means of independent certification by **certification systems** recognized by the EC for this purpose.

Sustainability requirements in RED evolved, as the targets for renewables increase



- ✓ EU target of renewables: 20% by 2020
- ✓ Biofuels and bioliquids
- ✓ Introduces binding sustainability requirements and GHG emission targets
- ✓ EU target of renewables: 32% by 2030
- ✓ Adds solid and gaseous biomass
- ✓ Expands the sustainability criteria to forest as feedstock
- ✓ Includes Criteria to avoid ILUC
- ✓ EU target of renewables: at least 42.5% by 2050, aiming at 45%
- ✓ Extends scope of affected operators
- ✓ Strengthens sustainability criteria mainly for forest biomass
- ✓ Changes in reporting obligations

RED defines criteria for biomass



RED III: Who is obliged?

Article 29 (1): Biomass fuels shall fulfil the sustainability and GHG criteria if used in installations with a rated thermal input of:

- ✓ Solid biomass: 7.5 MW (reduction from 20MW in RED II)
- ✓ Biogas: 2MW

It embraces companies that

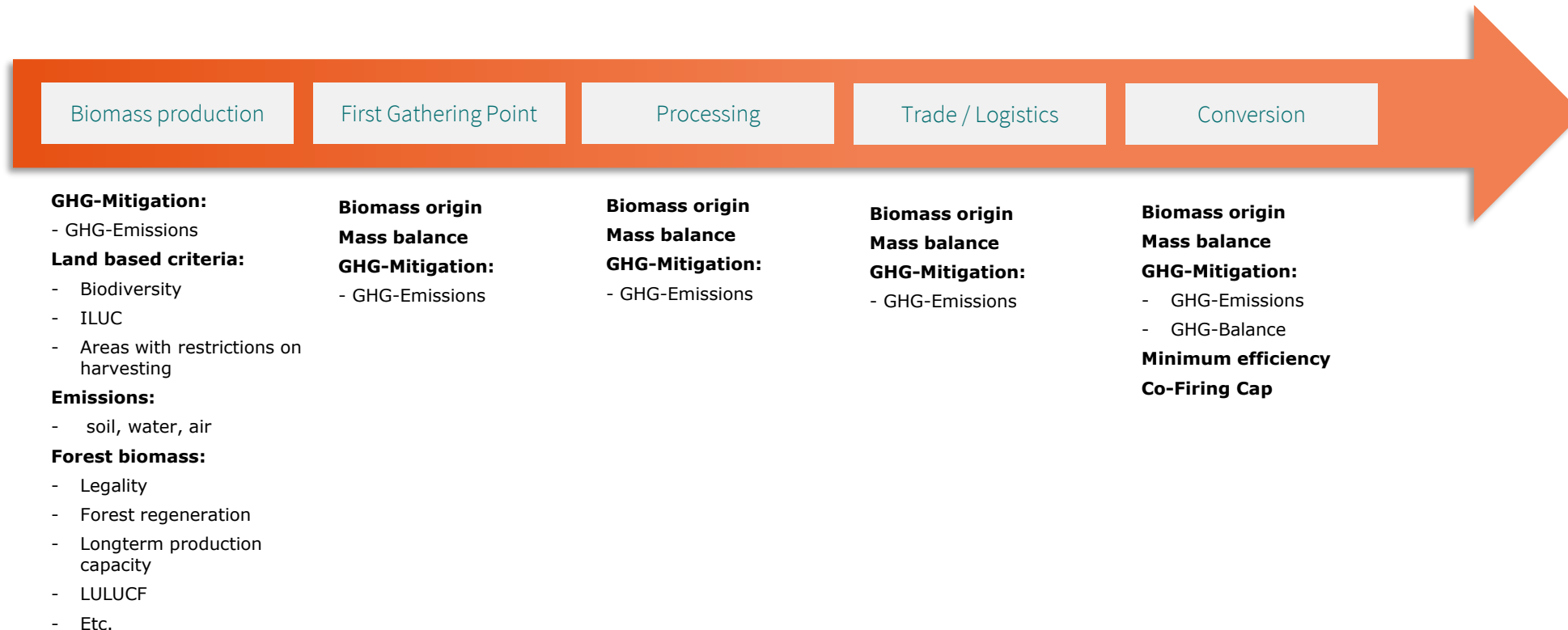


operate a biomass installation which is within the national scope of application



produce or deliver biomass fuels (wood chips, wood pellets, agropellets, straw etc.)
to obligated plants

RED III: Which are the requirements for the companies?



Key requirements for Biogas

Sustainability requirements for **agricultural biomass** or Requirements on **waste and residues**

GHG emissions savings

Min. 70% - 80% under RED III

Traceability

- Obligation to keep a mass balance
- Complete traceability
- Obligation to use the Union Database
- Issue of PoS

How to comply with RED?

Article 30 (3), (4):

- ✓ **Economic operators** submit reliable information regarding the compliance with the sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions saving criteria
- ✓ These information have to be verified by **independent auditing**
- ✓ The Commission approves **voluntary national or international schemes** as means of verification of compliance with the sustainability criteria set out in RED II

Two strong players joining forces

Bienergy
EUROPE

REDcert
Gesellschaft zur Zertifizierung
nachhaltig erzeugter
Biomasse mbH



SURE ✓
SUSTAINABLE RESOURCES
Verification Scheme GmbH

SURE's objectives

SURE was founded by the **bioenergy industry** to

- ✓ provide a solution for a **lean**, easy and practical RED implementation for all biomass feedstock and uses
- ✓ enable the **involvement** of affected economic operators in the implementation of RED
- ✓ enable compliance in a most **cost-efficient** way
- ✓ to allocate certification costs in a **fair** and **solidarity-based system to** all scheme users

FACTS & FIGURES

Scheme users

5,400

Valid certificates

4,700

Biogas plants

2,500

Certification bodies

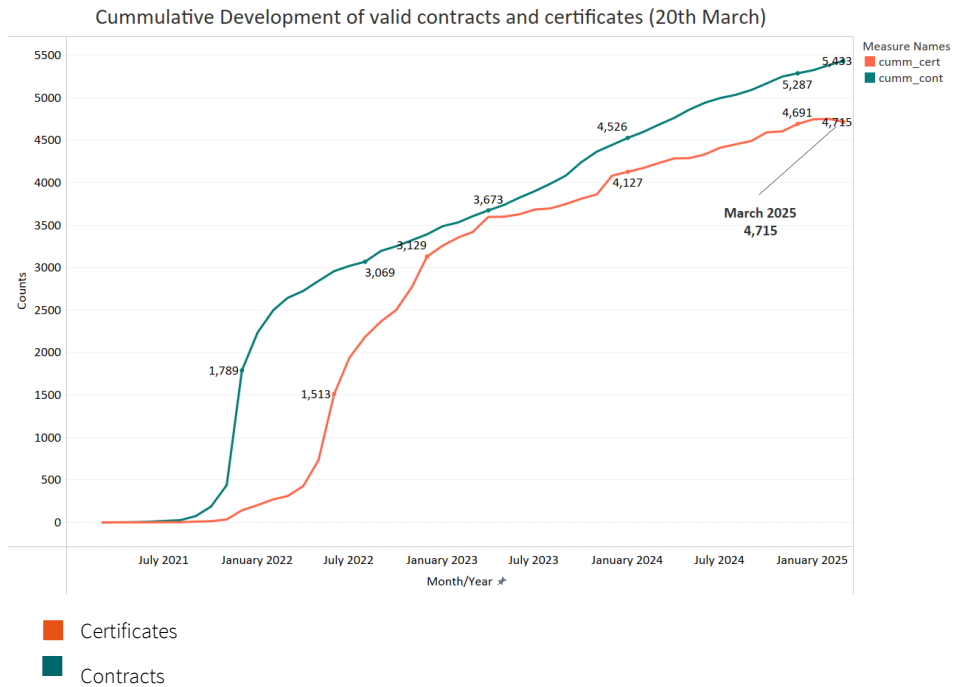
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Auditors

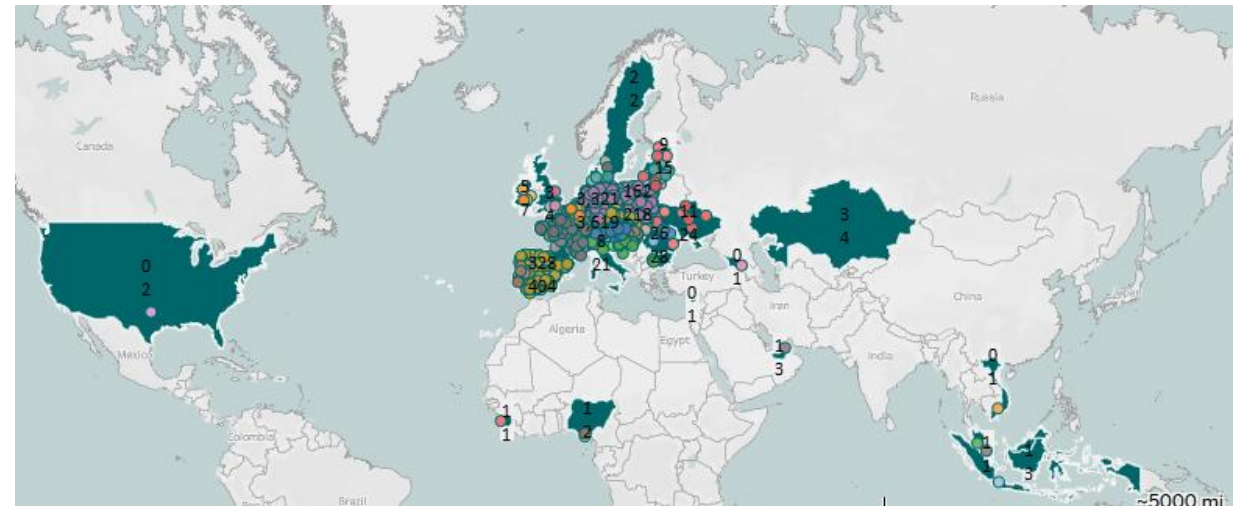
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The presence of SURE in the market has grown steadily

SURE contracts and certificates Cummulative number



Number of contracts per country



Full scope certification ...

SURE defines criteria for the certification of



Forestry Biomass



Agricultural feedstock



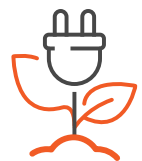
Waste & Residues



Biomass plants



Biogas plants



Electricity



Heating & Cooling



Biofuels



... made easy.

The SURE-System provides:

✓ Legal requirements easily explained in

- **Scheme principles** with requirements, rules and recommendations for each operator in the supply chain
- **Technical procedures** with guidance for processes and methodologies
- Individual **checklists** to verify compliance with the scheme
- Dedicated **self-declarations** for producers of forest- and agricultural biomass and waste & residues
- Additional **information** and country (risk) reports

✓ Information provided in multiple **European languages**.

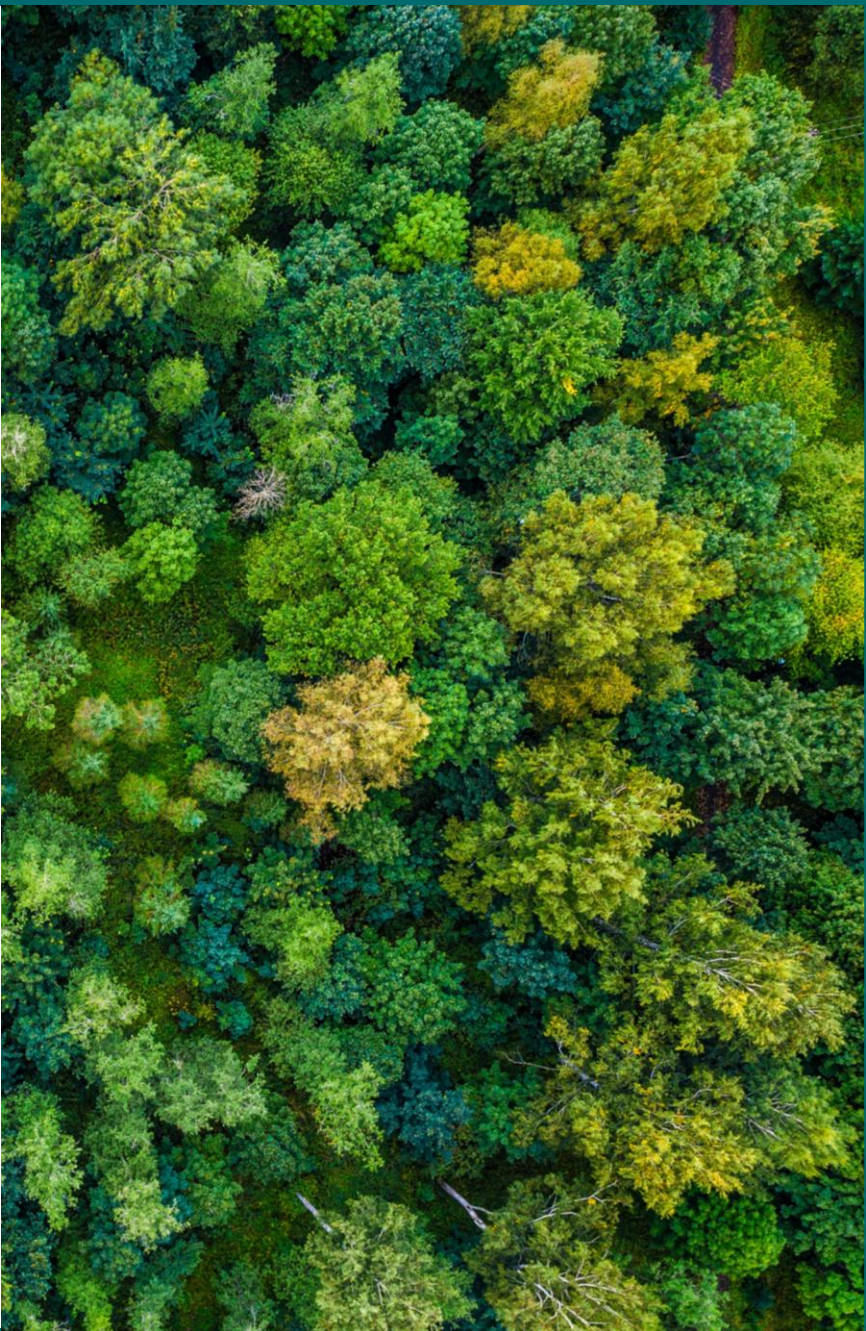
✓ **Local partners** in the relevant countries as first contact point.

✓ **Technical solutions** that facilitate reporting and gathering evidence (e.g. FLIK-Suche).



We are a national partner





SURE counts with ...



- ✓ Sound expertise translating legal frameworks into intuitive, user-friendly system principles.
- ✓ Extensive experience navigating the RED II regulatory processes.
- ✓ Recognition by the European Commission, in multiple evaluation assessment periods.

... which allows users to

- ✓ Proof compliance with European regulations in a lean, practical and cost-effective way
- ✓ Demonstrate sustainability beyond legal requirements.
- ✓ Strengthen market acceptance with verifiable sustainability credentials

be RESPONSIBLE | be SUSTAINABLE | be **SURE**

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