

Title of the Official Side Event	Considerations, policies and measures to promote sustainable bioenergy development
Side Event Theme / Description	<p>Bioenergy has great potential to contribute to powering a green economy, but at the same time comes with a number of risks related to what is produced and used where and how. Sustainability will be a decisive factor in determining whether this sector will be able to grow. More and more governments are putting in place biofuel targets and blending mandates, in some cases flanked with measures to mitigate environmental and social risks. The side event will discuss how policy makers can build a robust national bioenergy strategy and how to translate it on the ground with effective policies and mandates, responding to national objectives. It will discuss the potential risks that need to be mitigated, and the development and economic opportunities that can be harnessed if a appropriate planning process are facilitated both on a national and a project level. Regional case studies on sustainable bioenergy strategy and policy will be showcased, building on the ongoing research project undertaken under the Global Network on Energy for Sustainable Development on ensuring that bioenergy contributes to poverty alleviation, and, the Decision Support Tool (DST) developed by the FAO and UNEP under UN-Energy, which helps to build multi-ministerial task forces to ensure an integrated bioenergy planning process, and measures such as agro-ecological zoning to designate areas suitable for bioenergy development.</p>
Potential speakers and panelists	UNEP, Brazil, Mozambique, TERI, ENDA Speakers: Speaker #1: Martina Otto, Head of Policy Unit, Energy Branch, UNEP. <i>Introduction and presentation of UN-Energy</i>