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## Switching to efficient technologies in traditional biomass intensive countries: The resultant change in emissions

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#### Abstract

This paper aims to quantify the benefits of switching from a system dependent on traditional biomass to systems running on more efficient fuels and technologies. It is estimated that even when open fires burning fuelwood are replaced by improved cooking stoves (ICSs) and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) stoves, and biomass is processed in dedicated biomass power plants, a net reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions is still obtained. The ICS/LPG stove/biomass combustion power plant configuration could provide an average net reduction of 84 kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM. Meanwhile, a net reduction of 105 kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM could be obtained when implementing a ICS/LPG stove/biomass gasification power plant scheme. Main factors influencing the net reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are technology efficiency and the fraction of non-renewable fuelwood use.

The switch from traditional biomass to modern biomass in traditional

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biomass intensive countries must not only be done to reduce  $CO_2$  emissions but also to avoid indoor pollution and energy poverty. Health improvements should be more important than energy savings. Results also indicate that the use of modern biomass systems not only could provide a reduction of local environmental pollution, but also could boost the local economy by the creation of biomass infrastructures.

Keywords: Traditional biomass; Bioenergy; Developing countries;  $CO_2$  emissions.

#### 1 1. Introduction

In the last few decades, fossil fuels have played a leading role in the global 2 energy mix. The reason for this dependence could be explained by the still 3 abundant fossil fuel resources and reserves (AGS, 2011), which has put on 4 the soft pedal the exploitation of other energy resources. In average, during 5 the period 2003-2013, around 87% (BP, 2014) of global primary energy was 6 supplied by fossil fuels: coal, oil and natural gas. Despite the fact that 7 renewable energy (RE) stills play a relatively minor role in global energy 8 consumption, RE shows an upward trend increasing its participation from 9 0.7% in 2003 to 2.2% in 2013 - excluding hydro (BP, 2014). It is clearly seen 10 that the quest for energy self-sufficiency, combined with the promotion of 11 green energy policies (e.g., green targets introduced by the Kyoto Protocol), 12 is motivating countries to increase the participation of renewable resources 13 in their energy mix. While the production of modern energy carriers from 14 renewable resources has taken place for several decades, in some parts of the 15

world renewable resources such as biomass (e.g., fuelwood) are still used in
its most basic form (from the conversion perspective) to meet energy needs
such as domestic cooking and space heating. It is estimated that around
2.6 billion people worldwide (Masera et al., 2015), half the population in
developing countries, burn solid biomass to meet their basic energy needs.
Figure 1 presents world biomass consumption for ten years prior to 2010.

#### [Figure 1 about here.]

According to data released by World Bank (2016), the average traditional 23 biomass usage for the period 2000-2010 was around 72% of global biomass 24 consumption. Traditional biomass consumption "hotspots" are concentrated 25 in Sub-Saharan Africa, Easter Asia, Southern Asia, South Eastern Asia and 26 Latin America & the Caribbean. Although it is seen in Figure 1 that there 27 has been an expansion of modern biomass, traditional biomass consumption 28 in 2010 was 17% higher than the year 2000 and its consumption is expected 29 to increase at least through 2030 (Masera et al., 2015). In some regions, 30 biomass usage is expected to increase at the same rate as the population 31 (Karekezi et al., 2004). Thus, it is clear that traditional biomass is a major 32 global problem and disproportionately affects the world's low-income regions. 33 The main problem of the use of traditional biomass is that when used as fuel, 34 biomass is burnt in enclosed areas, directly exposing humans to emissions and 35 particulates such as carbon monoxide (CO), benzene  $(C_6H_6)$  and other poly-36 cyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), which are a threat to human health. 37

22

These compounds are usually found in house dust, which is a key route of ex-38 posure to contaminants either by ingestion or inhalation (Choi et al., 2010). 39 Furthermore, studies indicate that traditional wood fuels, via unsustainable 40 harvesting and burnt through low efficient technologies (incomplete combus-41 tion), contribute approximately to 2% of global greenhouse gases (GHG) 42 emissions (Bailis et al., 2015). Obviously, depending on the degree of de-43 pendence that countries have on unsustainable biomass, this behavior leads 44 to lower or higher levels of risk to the environment and human health. For 45 instance, it is known that only in Central America (CA) around 37 thousand 46 people (World Bank, 2013) die annually caused by indoor air pollution. It is 47 also estimated that about 50% of the population in CA uses fuelwood in open 48 fires to meet their basic energy needs (ECLAC, 2010) and around 7 million 49 people (Dolezal et al., 2013) have limited or no access to electricity. Other 50 impacts of the use of traditional biomass have been extensively investigated 51 and discussed in a review paper by Masera et al. (2015). The review covers 52 the available literature regarding the role of traditional biomass on deforesta-53 tion and forest degradation, emissions from traditional biomass combustion 54 and the barriers preventing the adoption of more sustainable technologies 55 (e.g., stacking). 56

The aim of this paper is to estimate the  $CO_2$  abatement potential by the implementation of schemes with high efficiency biomass technologies against the performance of open fires. In this study, four technologies were explored and evaluated across a series of "what-if" scenarios, (1) ICSs, (2) LPG stoves,

(3) biomass combustion power plants and (4) biomass gasification power 61 plants. As the environmental performance of the scenarios considered here 62 has a strong dependence on the conversion efficiency, the net reduction of 63  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  emissions is compared in terms of the electrical efficiency and overall 64 efficiency of the power plants. So far, very few papers have quantified the 65 benefits of different technologies and fuel combinations for catering to differ-66 ent energy needs in traditional biomass intensive systems. Of these studies, 67 Johnson et al. (2009) estimate the carbon savings from improved biomass 68 cookstove projects. This paper uses fuel consumption and emission esti-69 mates obtained from community-based sampling, combined with spatially 70 explicit community-based estimates of the fraction of non-renewable fuel-71 wood use (fNRB), to estimate the  $CO_2$  savings from replacing open fires 72 with improved Patsari stoves in a region of central Mexico. The results 73 indicate that  $CO_{2e}$  savings ranged from 1.6 to 7.5  $tCO_{2e}/home/yr$  for renew-74 able and non-renewable biomass use in individual communities, respectively. 75 Martínez-Negrete et al. (2013) analyzed if the modernization of a Mexican 76 village made it more energy efficient and cleaner from an environmental per-77 spective. The study reports a rise of  $CO_2$  emissions, mainly due to an increase 78 in the share of fossil fuels used for electricity generation and transportation. 79 Unlike Johnson et al. (2009), the authors considered more advanced energy 80 carriers such as LPG and electricity (fossil fuel power generation) but es-81 timates of fNRB are not considered in the calculations. Martínez-Negrete 82 et al. (2013) assume that all fuelwood consumption is renewable. 83

Our paper extends these previous contributions by adding more complex 84 technologies than ICSs such as small-scale dedicated biomass power plants. 85 The main new contribution of this work is that an integrated approach is used 86 to examine the interplay between a wide portfolio of fuels and technologies, 87 considering an energy penalty on the use of LPG and the fraction of non-88 renewable fuelwood use in the calculation of the  $CO_2$  abatement potential. 89 The use of the fNRB in the calculations is crucial as it prevents overesti-90 mating the  $CO_2$  savings from displacing traditional biomass by avoiding the 91 assumption that all biomass burnt in open-fires and ICSs is non-renewable. 92 According to data reported by Masera et al. (2015), in 2014, on the 287 93 projects being implemented in 47 countries to generate carbon credits by 94 reducing traditional biomass consumption, the median fNRB used to esti-95 mate the emission reductions was 89%. Nevertheless, a recent pantropical 96 assessment on traditional biomass reports fNRB values 60-70% lower than 97 the median value used in those 287 projects. It is estimated that the share of 98 unsustainable biomass represented 27-34% (depending on the region) of the 99 global fuelwood harvested in 2009 (Masera et al., 2015). Therefore, for the 100 present calculation, we considered a fNRB value of 30% in accordance with 101 Bailis et al. (2015). Further, in order to show the long-term environmental 102 impact of implementing the systems proposed here, we estimate the potential 103 net reduction in  $CO_{2e}$  emissions for 2050. 104

#### 105 2. Materials and Methods

In this study, biomass is classified as either traditional or modern, based 106 on the end-use of biomass and the conversion technology employed. Tradi-107 tional biomass is used for cooking and space heating, usually burnt in open 108 fires or three-stone cooking stoves, while modern biomass can be used for the 109 previous two uses with efficient technologies and for the centralized produc-110 tion of refined energy carriers such as power and heat, as well as biofuels. It 111 is noteworthy that some studies classify biomass that is directly combusted 112 in improved devices such as ICSs and improved kilns (Karekezi et al., 2004) 113 as "improved biomass". 114

The methodology presented here focuses on estimating the net reduction 115 of  $CO_2$  emissions (positive or negative) that could be obtained by replacing 116 open fires with ICSs/LPG stoves and displacing fossil fuel power generation 117 (system of reference) with efficient technologies based on thermochemical 118 processes. Two thermochemical processes were evaluated: combustion and 119 gasification. These technologies are the main near term options under de-120 velopment that offer the highest conversion efficiency and lowest technical 121 complexity (Task 33, 2014). 122

Additionally, it is well known that regions in which traditional biomass consumption is high, there is usually a significant percentage of households (especially in rural areas) that cannot afford electricity/appliances or are not even connected to the grid. Thus, this study considers four "what-if" scenarios that go from improved biomass to modern biomass schemes. • Scenario 1 (S1): Fuelwood is burnt in ICSs rather than in open fires.

• Scenario 2 (S2): Fuelwood is burnt in ICSs and modern cooking fuels are introduced into the household's fuel portfolio. This assumption is in accordance to the progression suggested by the fuel-device stacking model (Masera et al., 2000).

• Scenario 3 (S3): Fuelwood is processed by dedicated biomass combustion 133 power plants or gasification power plants. Therefore, if all biomass is central-134 ized, fuelwood would no longer be available for households requiring them to 135 switch to other fuels. This paper proposes the use of LPG as a substitute 136 of fuelwood in order to meet household's energy demand. Also, as most of 137 the biomass is usually gathered and consumed in the residential sector (es-138 pecially in rural areas), this study only considers feasible the deployment of 139 small-medium scale power plants for the production of refined energy carri-140 ers. 141

• Scenario 4 (S4): Fuelwood is burnt in ICSs, LPG is introduced into the household's fuel portfolio and fuelwood is transformed into refined energy carriers in dedicated biomass power plants. This scenario aims to simulate stacking patterns (household accumulation of fuels, and consequently technologies), prioritizing cooking practices and cultural preferences of households.

The four energy systems considered for this study are presented in Figure 2. The economics of adopting these scenarios or the competition by different sectors for biomass are out of the scope of this paper. Nevertheless, it is noteworthy that a strong energy policy would be needed in order to achieve
fuel switching, especially in rural communities where economic resources are
scarce and there are significant economic, cultural and social barriers to move
away from traditional cooking methods.

155 [Figure 2 about here.]

Despite the potential adverse effects of introducing LPG into the house-156 hold's fuel portfolio, one of the main benefits of the systems proposed in 157 Figure 2 is that the use of both ICSs and LPG stoves provides households 158 more flexibility to adapt to the specific conditions of each region. Rural areas 159 where people do not have cash incomes and LPG is not available or accessi-160 ble will remain highly dependent on fuelwood burning in ICSs, while more 161 peri-urban and urban areas will depend more on LPG. The combination of 162 ICSs and LPG stoves also represents the cleanest alternative to traditional 163 biomass. According to a study made by Masera et al. (2000) studying the 164 transition from traditional to modern fuels in rural Mexico, switching from 165 the traditional three-stone cooking stove to an ICS-LPG system reduces the 166 respirable particulate matter and carbon monoxide from 625  $\mu/m^3$  to less 167 than 125  $\mu/m^3$  and 745 mg/m<sup>3</sup> to 2.5 mg/m<sup>3</sup>, respectively. With the new 168 generation of ICS currently available, the reduction will be enough to meet 169 the WHO IAP target of 35  $\mu/m^3$  (Ruiz and Masera, 2016). 170

The net reduction of  $CO_{2e}$  emissions ( $R_N$ ) expressed in kg- $C_e/tDM$  may be calculated as follows

$$R_N = R_G - R_T \tag{1}$$

$$R_T = R_P + R_{CB} + R_{TB} + R_{PT} + R_{FF}$$
(2)

where  $R_G$  is defined as the gross  $CO_{2e}$  reduction per tonne of dry biomass. That is, the  $CO_{2e}$  emissions that could be avoided by switching from open fires to a more efficient technology taking into account the non-renewable fraction of fuelwood use (fNRB).  $R_T$  is defined as the total  $CO_2$  released during biomass power generation and comprises five processes (partly based on Ogi and Dote (2003) methodology):

179 1. 
$$CO_{2e}$$
 released during biomass production  $(R_P)$ , establishment  $(R_e)$  to  
180 harvest  $(R_h)$ .

<sup>181</sup> 2.  $CO_{2e}$  released from collection of harvested biomass ( $R_{CB}$ ).

<sup>182</sup> 3.  $CO_{2e}$  released from transporting biomass to the power plant ( $R_{TB}$ ).

<sup>183</sup> 4.  $CO_{2e}$  released during the pretreatment of biomass for power generation <sup>184</sup> ( $R_{PT}$ ).

<sup>185</sup> 5.  $CO_{2e}$  released from households burning LPG instead of fuelwood ( $R_{FF}$ ). <sup>186</sup>

The units of  $R_N$ ,  $R_G$ ,  $R_T$ ,  $R_P$ ,  $R_{CB}$ ,  $R_{TB}$ ,  $R_{PT}$ , and  $R_{FF}$  are kilograms of C equivalent per tonne of dry biomass [kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM]. It is important to mention that this study only considers the more restricted set of Kyoto<sup>190</sup> sanctioned gases ( $CO_2$  and  $CH_4$ ).

From here onwards, the parameters used as input data for the calculation 191 of  $R_N$  are described. With respect to the biomass origin, three land-scenarios 192 were evaluated: woodlands, native forests and fuelwood plantations. In the 193 first scenario, it was assumed that every year, both dead trees and fallen 194 timber from the woodlands are collected. In the second scenario, it was as-195 sumed that fuelwood is annually collected from the native forest floor and 196 also stem, bark and branch material from dead trees. In the third scenario, it 197 was assumed that a coppiced plantation is grown only for fuelwood produc-198 tion. Table 1 presents the main parameters to estimate  $R_P$  for the different 199 land types from which biomass can be extracted. That is, biomass yield (Y), 200 standing period of biomass (S) and  $CO_2$  released during establishment ( $R_e$ ) 201 to harvest  $(\mathbf{R}_h)$ . 202

The  $CO_2$  released during biomass production was estimated based on equation 3:

$$R_P = R_e + R_h \tag{3}$$

It was considered an average value for  $R_h$  of 4 kg- $C_e/tDM$  (Table 1), in accordance to a study made by CSRIO (2003). The  $R_h$  value varies depending on the harvest system selected, i.e., small scale harvest (6.1 kg- $C_e/tDM$ ) or commercial harvest (2.8 kg- $C_e/tDM$ ) (CSRIO, 2003). On the other hand, the value of  $R_e$  is zero for woodlands and native forests (Table 1) because it was considered that these plots were already established.

The input data used in the present study to estimate  $R_{CB}$ ,  $R_{TB}$ ,  $R_T$  and R<sub>G</sub> are tabulated in Table 2.

214

The CO<sub>2</sub> released from the collection of harvested biomass  $(R_{CB})$  was determined with

$$R_{CB} = \frac{C_{CB} \ D_a \ L_{CB}}{A \ Y} \tag{4}$$

The loading capacity of the truck  $(L_{CB})$  was set at 8 tDM. The CO<sub>2e</sub> release unit of the tractor  $(C_{CB})$  was considered to be 0.1 kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM/km. D<sub>a</sub> is defined as the distance for annual collection of biomass and A, the area of the plantation with an inner radius R<sub>o</sub>. These parameters were estimated based on Ogi and Dote (2003) methodology.

The CO<sub>2</sub> released from transporting the biomass to the power plant ( $R_{TB}$ ) was calculated using

$$R_{TB} = C_{TB} \ D_{TB} \tag{5}$$

Based on a small-medium scale power plant scenario, the distance of transport to the power plant ( $D_{TB}$ ) was set at 50 km. This value is in accordance with (CSRIO, 2003), which indicates that this is the normal distance to transport fuelwood from the source to the consumer for small-scale systems. The CO<sub>2e</sub> released by the vehicle transporting the biomass to the power plant ( $C_{TB}$ ) was set at 0.4 kg- $C_e/tDM/km$ .

The gross  $CO_{2e}$  reduction ( $R_G$ ) was estimated based on equation 6, 7 230 and 12, depending on the scenario under study (see Figure 2). In equation 231 6-12, the subscript notation OF/B, ICS/B and TP/oil refers to open fires 232 burning biomass, ICSs burning biomass and conventional fossil fuel power 233 plants, respectively. Meanwhile, the subscript PP/B indicates the biomass 234 power plant type and therefore, depending on which conversion technology 235 is used, PP/B can change to CP/B referring to biomass combustion power 236 plants or GP/B referring to biomass gasification power plants. The arrow 237 symbol in each of the subscripts points the switch of a technology. Further, 238 in order to avoid overestimating the potential reduction in  $CO_{2e}$  emissions, it 239 was considered an fNRB value of 30% in accordance with Bailis et al. (2015). 240

• Scenario 1:

$$R_{G} = R_{OF/B \to ICS/B} = \theta_{OFR/B} \left(1 - fNRB\right) H_{B} \left[1 - \frac{\eta_{OF/B}}{\eta_{ICS/B}}\right] + \theta_{OFNR/B} \left(fNRB\right) H_{B} \left[1 - \frac{\eta_{OF/B}}{\eta_{ICS/B}}\right]$$

$$(6)$$

• Scenario 2: The value for  $R_G$  can be estimated using equation 6 because the technology to transform biomass is the same as in scenario 1 (i.e., ICSs). The CO<sub>2e</sub> released by burning LPG is included in  $R_{FF}$ .

• Scenario 3:

$$R_G = R_{OF/B \to PP/B} + R_{TP/oil \to PP/B} \tag{7}$$

$$R_{OF/B \to PP/B} = \theta_{OFR/B} \left(1 - fNRB\right) H_B \left[1 - \frac{\eta_{OF/B}}{\eta_{PP/B}}\right] + \theta_{OFNR/B} \left(fNRB\right) H_B \left[1 - \frac{\eta_{OF/B}}{\eta_{PP/B}}\right]$$
(8)

$$R_{TP/oil \to PP/B} = \theta_{TP/oil} \ H_B \left[ \frac{\eta_{PP/B}}{\eta_{TP/oil}} \right]$$
(9)

• Scenario 4: Aims to simulate stacking patterns. That is, where multiple technologies and fuels are available in the energy system to meet certain energy needs. Therefore, the total  $R_G$  for scenario 4 can be defined as the sum of the gross  $CO_{2e}$  reduction ( $R_G$ ) defined for scenarios 1 and 3. The expressions to estimate  $R_{OF/B \rightarrow ICS/B}$ ,  $R_{OF/B \rightarrow PP/B}$  and  $R_{TP/oil \rightarrow PP/B}$  for scenario 4 can be extracted from equation 6, 8 and 9.

$$R_G = R_{OF/B \to ICS/B} + R_{OF/B \to PP/B} + R_{TP/oil \to PP/B}$$
(10)

R<sub>G</sub> was calculated using a low heating value (H<sub>B</sub>) for fuelwood of 16 GJ/tDM, while emission factors assuming renewable use ( $\theta_{OFR/B}$ ) and nonrenewable use ( $\theta_{OFNR/B}$ ) in open fires were set at 2.5 kg-C<sub>e</sub>/GJ and 28.8 kg-C<sub>e</sub>/GJ, respectively (Johnson et al., 2009). The emission factor for fossilfuel power plants ( $\theta_{TP/oil}$ ) was assumed to be 28 kg-C<sub>e</sub>/GJ.

With regards to efficiency, the efficiency of open fires  $(\eta_{OF/B})$  was set to 10% (Bhattacharya et al., 2002), while for the ICSs it was assumed an efficiency of 29% (Chan et al., 2015). On the other hand, the electric efficiency of the oil power plants  $(\eta_{TP/oil})$  was set at 39%, while for the power plants processing biomass, the electric efficiency  $(\eta_{CP/B} \text{ and } \eta_{GP/B})$  was obtained from regression curves based on commercial systems in operation (Figure 3).

This study also investigates the CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction that could be achieved by further application of combined heat and power (CHP) systems. Figure 4-(a) and Figure 4-(b) present the overall efficiency of biomass CHP plants based on combustion and gasification, respectively. The solid line is the fitting curve for the values obtained from literature. Here, the overall efficiency is defined as the sum of the electrical power output and useful heat output over the total fuel input.

With respect to the plant scale  $(C_A)$ , for scenario 3, the base case value 271 for the biomass combustion power plants was set at 10  $MW_{th-input}$ . This 272 value is in accordance with data presented by IPCC (2011) for direct com-273 bustion of wood log, residues, chips and agricultural wastes. The reference 274 value for the scale of the biomass gasification power plants  $(C_A)$  was set to 275  $0.3 \text{ MW}_{th-input}$ . This value is in accordance to recent data available related 276 to the smallest downdraft gasifier coupled with a gas engine (DG/GE) un-277 der operation (Electrolabel, Belgium and Wallonia Municipalities) (Task 33, 278 2014). 279

With regards to the plant scale for scenario 4, it was considered that 280 ICSs have a penetration rate of 50%. In other words, power plants could 281 only access 50% of the biomass available in scenario 3 consequently reducing 282 their capacity in half. That is, 5  $MW_{th-input}$  for biomass combustion power 283 plants and  $0.15 \text{ MW}_{th-input}$  for biomass gasification power plants. These 284 values are in accordance with Bauen et al. (2009), who indicates that there 285 are a growing number of viable biomass combustion plants and gasification 286 plants that range from 5 to 10  $MW_{th-input}$  and from 0.1 to 1  $MW_{th-input}$ , 287 respectively. 288

To evaluate the last two terms of equation 2,  $R_{PT}$  and  $R_{FF}$ , the  $CO_{2e}$ released during the pretreatment of biomass for power generation ( $R_{PT}$ ) was set at 7 kg- $C_e/tDM$  (Dote et al., 2008). Meanwhile, the  $CO_{2e}$  released by burning LPG was determined with

$$R_{FF} = \theta_{FF} \ H_B \tag{11}$$

It was assumed that LPG has an average emission factor ( $\theta_{FF}$ ) of 18 kg-C<sub>e</sub>/GJ. The value of H<sub>B</sub> was set to 16 GJ/tDM.

Finally, we estimate the potential net reduction in  $CO_2$  emissions (ex-295 pressed in Mt of  $CO_{2e}$ ) for year 2050. This calculation was performed using 296 data reported by Smeets and Faaij (2007) regarding the global bioenergy po-297 tential from forestry in 2050 and the  $R_N$  values obtained for scenario 4 (see 298 Figure 6). The projection provided by Smeets and Faaij (2007) was obtained 299 by comparing the future demand with the future supply of industrial round-300 wood and fuelwood. For the present calculation, we only take into account 301 the projected biomass coming from surplus growth forest and logging residues 302 reported by Smeets and Faaij (2007). Estimates by Smeets and Faaij (2007) 303 for the future biomass production were presented for five different scenarios: 304 (I) theoretical, considers the maximum wood production potential of forests; 305 (II) technical, includes the wood production taking into account the potential 306 technical barriers (e.g., steepness of terrain); (III) economical, considers the 307 technical potential that could be produced at economically profitable level; 308 (IV) ecological, includes the theoretical potential taking into account criteria 309 such as biodiversity and soil erosion and (V) economical-ecological, consid-310 ers a criterion to prevent a further decrease of biodiversity in undisturbed 311

312 forests.

In order to put these results into context, the potential net reduction in  $CO_{2e}$  emission in 2050 has been compared to the amount of emissions that could be released to the atmosphere if all biomass available in 2050 was burnt in open fires:

$$E_{OF/B2050} = M_{2050} \ \theta_{OFR/B} \ (1 - fNRB) + M_{2050} \ \theta_{OFNR/B} \ fNRB$$
(12)

Where  $M_{2050}$  refers to amount of biomass projected for year 2050.

#### 318 3. Results

Biomass, if used sustainably and transformed by low-carbon and efficient 319 conversion technologies, can lead to a net  $CO_2$  emission reduction. The 320  $CO_2$  abatement potential by using high efficiency technologies to transform 321 fuelwood into refined energy carriers is presented from here on. Values for the 322 gross  $CO_2$  reduction ( $R_G$ ) are only presented for the scenario where biomass 323 is obtained from woodlands due to  $R_G$  is not influenced by the origin of the 324 biomass (section 2). Any specific changes related to the origin of biomass 325 are taken into account in the  $CO_2$  emissions released during biomass power 326 generation,  $R_T$  (equation 2, section 2). For illustration purposes, values 327 for  $R_T$  (grey bars) have been plotted on the negative side of the axis to 328 distinguish them from the reduction in  $CO_2$  emissions. 329

#### 330 3.1. Dispersed biomass energy systems

331

[Figure 5 about here.]

Figure 5 presents the net reduction in  $CO_{2e}$  emissions for scenarios one, 332 two and three. According to Figure 5, the introduction of efficient technolo-333 gies such as ICSs (S1) to replace open fires would allow an average<sup>1</sup> net  $CO_2$ 334 reduction  $(\overline{R_N})$  of 105 kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM (R<sub>FF</sub>=0). Unlike S1, in the case where 335 both ICSs and modern cooking fuels are introduced into the household's fuel 336 portfolio (S2), the amount of carbon that could be offset by S2 is negative 337 (green bars with red border). In other words, the system will no longer pro-338 vide a reduction in  $CO_2$  emissions. This is attributed to the assumption of 339 an energy penalty related to burning modern cooking fuels (section 2), which 340 provides a scenario where the amount of carbon released by the production 341 of biomass and the use of LPG ( $\overline{R_T} = -260 \text{ kg-C}_e/\text{tDM}$ , gray bar) is higher 342 than the amount of carbon that could be offset ( $\overline{R_G} = 109 \text{ kg-C}_e/\text{tDM}$ , pur-343 ple bar). Thus, scenario 2 will be emitting 151 kg of C equivalent per every 344 tonne of biomass burnt (see negative axis in Figure 5, green bar with red 345 border). On the other hand, if it is considered a scenario where instead of re-346 placing open-fires by ICSs, biomass is processed in dedicated biomass power 347 plants (displacing fossil fuel power generation), and households instead of 348 using fuelwood use LPG, an average net  $CO_2$  reduction of 7 kg- $C_e/tDM$  (S3-349 C, green bar) could still be obtained when using 10 MW combustion power 350

 $<sup>\</sup>overline{(\overline{R_N})}$  = Average of scenario for woodlands, native forest and fuelwood plantations.

plants or 10 kg- $C_e/tDM$  (S3-G, green bar) when using 0.3 MW gasification power plants.

#### 353 3.2. Fuel-Device Stacking systems

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Figure 6 shows the reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions that could be obtained in a hypothetical scenario where there is stacking of fuels and technologies. In other words, where ICSs, LPG stoves and dedicated biomass power plants coexist in the same system.

[Figure 6 about here.]

As can be seen in Figure 6, the assumption that multiple devices and fuels 359 are used to satisfy household's energy needs (S4) still yields a net reduction in 360  $CO_{2e}$  emissions. It is estimated that the average gross amount of carbon that 361 could be offset  $(\overline{R_G})$  by the use of ICSs, LPG stoves and combustion plants 362 is about 376 kg- $C_e/tDM$  (S4-C; sum of purple, light blue and light red bars). 363 Meanwhile, if instead of using biomass combustion plants, gasification plants 364 are introduced, values for  $\overline{R_G}$  would be around 397 kg-C\_e/tDM (S4-G; sum 365 of purple, light blue and light red bars). Subtracting the carbon released 366 by the production of biomass and the use of LPG (gray bar), a net  $CO_{2e}$ 367 reduction of 84 kg- $C_e/tDM$  could be obtained when deploying combustion 368 plants (S4-C, green bar) or 105 kg- $C_e/tDM$  when using gasification plants 369 (S4-G, green bar). 370

371 3.3. Electricity-only to CHP plants: influence of the overall efficiency

Figure 7 presents the net  $CO_2$  reduction  $(R_N)$  for scenarios one, two and three in case dedicated biomass power plants in Figure 5 and Figure 6 are replaced or converted from electricity-only to CHP plants. In case dedicated biomass power plants in Figure 5 and Figure 6 are replaced or converted from electricity-only to CHP plants, higher values for the net  $CO_2$  reduction  $(R_N)$ are observed (see Figure 7).

378

Results show that the deployment of CHP plants lead to a mean gross 379  $CO_{2e}$  reduction ( $\overline{R_G}$ ) of 1027 kg- $C_e/tDM$  (S3-C, sum of purple and light 380 red bars) when using power plants based on combustion or 992 kg- $C_e/tDM$ 381 (S3-G, sum of purple and light red bars) when using CHP plants based 382 on gasification. The mean value for  $\overline{R_T}$  for all scenarios is around 287 kg-383  $C_e/tDM$  (gray bar). Thus, it is estimated that the average net  $CO_2$  reduction 384  $(R_N)$  that could be achieved by adopting biomass CHP plants would amount 385 to 740 kg- $C_e/tDM$  for 10 MW<sub>th-input</sub> combustion plants (S3-C, green bar) 386 and 705 kg- $C_e/tDM$  for 0.3 MW<sub>th-input</sub> gasification plants (S3-G, green bar). 387 It should be noted that in practice, CHP systems are not always feasible as 388 demand for heat is not always required. 389

For the stacking scenario, the results shown in Figure 8 indicate that it might be possible to achieve a 1130 kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM mean gross CO<sub>2e</sub> emission reduction ( $\overline{R_G}$ ) when using ICSs, LPG stoves and CHP plants based on <sup>393</sup> combustion (S4-C, sum of purple, light blue and light red bars), while a 1103 <sup>394</sup> kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM gross CO<sub>2e</sub> reduction when using ICSs, LPG and CHP plants <sup>395</sup> based on gasification (S4-G, sum of purple, light blue and light red bars).

[Figure 8 about here.]

396

Even though this scenario considers stacking patterns, it is estimated that a mean net reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of 839 kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM could be achieved when using ICSs, LPG stoves and CHP plants based on combustion (S4-C, green bar). In case of gasification CHP plants, a 811 kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM net reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions could be obtained for scenario S4-G conditions (green bar).

# 403 3.4. From traditional to modern biomass: projected reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emis 404 sions through 2050

Finally, in order to put in perspective the results obtained in this work, 405 Figure 9 gives an overview of the projected net reduction in  $CO_{2e}$  emissions 406 that could be achieved if instead of using the potential biomass available in 407 2050 (Smeets and Faaij, 2007) as traditional biomass, a system as the one 408 presented in scenario 4 is implemented (Figure 6). That is, using ICSs, LPG 409 cooking stoves and dedicated biomass power plants. The potential net reduc-410 tion of  $CO_{2e}$  emissions for the year 2050 was calculated by multiplying the 411 amount of biomass projected for the year 2050 by the average  $R_N$  obtained 412 for the stacking scenario. Thus, for the scheme where ICSs, LPG cooking 413 stoves and combustion power plants are used, the value of  $\overline{R_N}$  was set to 84 414

kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM (Figure 6, S4-C). Meanwhile, for the scenario where ICSs, LPG cooking stoves and gasification power plants are deployed, the potential net  $CO_{2e}$  reduction ( $\overline{R_N}$ ) was fixed at 105 kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM (Figure 6, S4-G). Results for Latin America & Caribbean (LAC & C) are also presented as according to Smeets and Faaij (2007) this region will be the most promising wood supplier in 2050. Values presented in Figure 9 are expressed in Mt of  $CO_{2e}/yr$ .

421

According to Figure 9, if the biomass projected for 2050 is burnt in open 422 fires, taking into account the fNRB, the global  $CO_{2e}$  emitted to the atmo-423 sphere based on the theoretical, technical, economical, economical-ecological 424 and ecological potential of wood supply would be 2347 Mt of  $CO_{2e}$ , 2148 Mt 425 of  $CO_{2e}$ , 643 Mt of  $CO_{2e}$ , 159 Mt of  $CO_{2e}$  and 428 Mt of  $CO_{2e}$ , respectively 426 (Figure 9, light red bars). Values for LAC & C are projected to be in the 427 rage of 15 Mt of  $CO_{2e}$  (economical-ecological potential) to 799 Mt of  $CO_{2e}$ 428 (theoretical potential). 429

Using the  $R_N$  values obtained for the stacking scenario (Figure 9, S4-C, green bars), the expected net reduction in global  $CO_{2e}$  emissions would be in the range of 80 Mt of  $CO_{2e}$  (ecological-economical potential) to 1181 Mt of  $CO_{2e}$  (theoretical potential). The reduction of  $CO_{2e}$  emissions in LAC & C would be between 8 Mt of  $CO_{2e}$  (economical-ecological potential) and 402 Mt of  $CO_{2e}$  (theoretical potential).

 $_{436}$  Lastly, the global net  $CO_{2e}$  reduction in case biomass is processed under

S4-G conditions is between 100 Mt of  $CO_{2e}$  (ecological-economical potential) and 1476 Mt of  $CO_{2e}$  (theoretical potential). Values for LAC & C are projected to be in the range of 10 Mt of  $CO_{2e}$  (economical-ecological potential) to 502 Mt of  $CO_{2e}$  (theoretical potential).

#### 441 3.5. Sensitivity analysis

As the results presented for the net  $CO_{2e}$  reduction  $(R_N)$  are sensitive 442 to the parameters assumed in this work (e.g., biomass yield, distance to the 443 power plant, efficiency and fNRB), a sensitivity analysis was conducted. As 444 an example, the sensitivity test was made for scenario 4 (stacking) conditions 445 using biomass coming from native forests only. This is due to scenario 4 is the 446 one that has more similarities to a real-life system where multiple technologies 447 and fuels are available. That is, using ICSs and LPG stoves to meet the 448 demand of the residential sector and dedicated biomass power plants for 449 electricity generation. With respect to the origin of the biomass, fuelwood 450 from native forests was selected as fuel because this type of biomass was 451 the one that reported the highest  $CO_2$ -emissions mitigation for all scenarios 452 considered in this study. A sensitivity analysis for the case when the electrical 453 efficiency is replaced by the overall efficiency was not performed, as similar 454 trends would have been obtained. 455

456 [Figure 10 about here.]

As can be seen in Figure 10-a, the influence of the efficiency of the biomass power plants on  $R_N$  is strong. If the efficiency of the biomass combustion <sup>459</sup> power plants is increased by 1%, the net reduction of  $CO_{2e}$  emissions rises <sup>460</sup> up to 87 kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM (set value,  $R_N = 84$  kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM). In case of gasification <sup>461</sup> power plants, if the efficiency is increased by 1%, the net reduction of  $CO_{2e}$ <sup>462</sup> emissions increases up to 108 kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM (set value,  $R_N = 105$  kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM).

With respect to the biomass yield (Figure 10-b), the sensitivity analysis 463 indicates that the biomass yield has very little influence on  $R_N$ . If yields 464 increase up to 12 t/ha/y (around 240% variation), the value of  $R_N$  only 465 increases up to 84.6 kg- $C_e/tDM$  for the ICS/LPG stove/biomass combustion 466 power plant configuration and 105.2 kg- $C_e/tDM$  when using gasification-467 based power plants. On the other hand,  $R_N$  is very sensitive to the LHV of 468 biomass. A 10% increase in the LHV of biomass would increase the value of 469  $\mathbf{R}_N$  to 96 kg-C\_e/tDM for the scheme using biomass combustion power plants 470 and 119 kg- $C_e/tDM$  for the configuration using gasfication power plants. 471

With respect to the transportation distance ( $D_{TB}$ , Figure 10-c), the impact of  $D_{TB}$  on  $R_N$  is moderate. For an additional 20 km distance, the reduction of  $CO_{2e}$  emissions is cut down by 4 kg- $C_e/tDM$  for both combustion and gasification power plants configurations.

Finally, it can be seen that  $R_N$  is very sensitive to the non-renewable fraction of fuelwood (fNRB, Figure 10-d). If the fNRB increases from 0.30 to 0.35, the net reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions rises up to 108 kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM for the combustion scheme and 130 kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM for the ICS/LPG stove/biomass gasification power plant configuration.

#### 481 4. Discussion

The main benefit of using modern biomass in traditional biomass intensive 482 countries is that "low-cost" and "clean" energy carriers can be produced 483 from local resources that are already being collected. This demands the 484 need to foresee systems capable of offering a wide portfolio of energy carriers 485 depending on the needs of the end-users and the matureness of the biomass 486 infrastructure. This study estimates the abatement potential of different  $CO_2$ 487 reduction technologies with wide differences in the scale of complexity, from 488 ICSs to gasification power plants. These systems aim to provide a portfolio of 489 options for biomass intensive countries affected by indoor pollution resulting 490 from traditional biomass, while achieving a net reduction in  $CO_2$  emissions. 491

#### 492 4.1. Transitioning from open fires to ICSs and LPG stoves

In the short-term it is clear that cooking fuels and ICSs will have to 493 play a more important role in biomass intensive countries due to their low 494 complexity. Although both technologies represent a healthier alternative 495 to open fires, in  $CO_2$  mitigation terms, implementing only ICSs and LPG 496 stoves do not deliver all the potential benefits. This is clearly illustrated by 497 the  $\mathbf{R}_N$  values obtained for scenario 2 which indicate that there would be a 498 net increase of  $CO_2$  emissions instead of a reduction in the environmental 499 impacts of bioenergy use when both ICSs and LPG stoves are implemented. 500 At the same time, under scenario 2 conditions, no further use of the saved 501 biomass in modern systems will be encouraged. In practice, scenario 2 may 502

become an imperfect substitute to traditional biomass because it has been 503 observed (Masera et al., 2015) that open fires are used for different tasks than 504 those that could be provided by both ICSs and LPG stoves, and thus leading 505 to stacking. For instance, studies show that stacking of stoves (open fires and 506 gas stoves) is still a current practice in Mexico 27 years after the introduction 507 of LPG (Masera et al., 2000) and persists even when such fuels are heavily 508 subsidized, as in the case of Indonesia (Andadari et al., 2014). Also, a study 509 by Ruiz-Mercado et al. (2011) evaluating the adoption and sustained used 510 of ICSs in Mexico's highlands showed that after the adoption of ICSs only 511 10% of the households abandoned open fires completely. If electricity from 512 biomass is added to the energy mix, then the needs for continuing using the 513 open fires would be reduced and mitigation will be increased. 514

# 515 4.2. Transitioning from open fires to ICSs, LPG stoves and biomass power 516 plants

The scenario that reports the highest net reduction of  $CO_{2e}$  emissions 517  $(\mathbf{R}_N)$  is the stacking scenario, either when combustion or gasification power 518 plants are used. This is mainly attributed to the displacement of fossil fuel 519 power generation and the assumption that the native forests are already 520 established, setting the value of  $R_P$  (CO<sub>2e</sub> released during biomass produc-521 tion) to zero. There is, however, a slight difference in the  $R_N$  values among 522 the aforementioned technologies (combustion or gasification) and this is at-523 tributed to the efficiency of the gasification plants. On the other hand, from 524

the biomass user's perspective, the stacking scenario is the most promising as it considers the production of different energy carriers catering to different energy needs.

Finally, according to the findings presented in Figure 7 and Figure 8, it is clear that energy systems perform better when they are oriented to produce high value energy carriers from biomass, such as the production of heat and power. Results indicate that there is a significant potential for near-term  $CO_2$ reduction from biomass CHP plants, but their implementation in traditional biomass intensive countries will be highly dependent on whether or not there is a heat demand.

#### 535 4.3. Degree of influence and sensitivity analysis

Results of the sensitivity analysis indicate that the main driving factors 536 for  $CO_2$  reduction are technology efficiency and fNRB. An increase in effi-537 ciency is accompanied with increases in the net reduction of  $CO_{2e}$  emissions. 538 For instance, per every 1% increase in electrical efficiency, in average, 3 kg-539  $C_e/tDM$  could be reduced by implementing the conditions of the stacking 540 scenario. On the other hand, if the fNRB rises from 0.30 to 0.35, the value 541 of  $R_N$  increases by 20%. These results therefore emphasize not only the 542 importance of considering the fNRB, but also the relevance of assuming a 543 modest value of fNRB when this cannot be extracted from field studies to 544 avoid overestimating the  $CO_2$  savings. 545

Yield was another parameter that influenced  $R_N$ , in less extent than effi-

ciency and fNRB, but enough to establish a difference between systems that 547 use biomass from native forests as fuel from systems that use either biomass 548 coming from woodlands or fuelwood plantations. Further, it is important to 549 mention that changes in the transportation distance  $(D_{TB})$  are not significant 550 here because this analysis only considers scenarios with small/medium scale 551 plants under a short distance transportation scheme. Thus, if larger power 552 plants are deployed, the  $D_{TB}$  parameter will play a more important role as 553 longer transport distances will be required, increasing significantly the  $CO_2$ 554 emissions. 555

#### 556 4.4. Global impacts of traditional biomass emissions

With regards to the projected net reduction in  $CO_2$  emissions in 2050, 557 even under the most strict of the scenarios projected by Smeets and Faaij 558 (2007), the economical-ecological scenario, it is estimated that the implemen-559 tation of the ICSs/LPG stove/combustion power plant configuration could 560 provide a global net  $CO_2$  reduction of 80 Mt of  $CO_{2e}$ , while the use of the 561 ICSs/LPG stove/gasification power plant scheme reports a global net CO<sub>2</sub> 562 reduction of 100 Mt of  $CO_{2e}$  (see Figure 9). Nevertheless, several studies sug-563 gest that phasing out traditional biomass will be a difficult task specially in 564 countries which have large domestic resources of biomass and low economic 565 development. This highlights how challenging it will be to replace tradi-566 tional biomass with modern biomass, since leaving three-stone cooking fires 567 will represent significant stranded assets. Thus, successful implementation 568

of modern biomass systems in traditional biomass intensive countries will strongly depend on local policies. Governments and policy makers have to realize that in order to evade an underutilization of biomass there must be a diversification of biomass resources/technologies, institutional strengthening and long-term policy commitments.

Energy mixes highly dependent on one major fuel such as fuelwood repre-574 sent a policy opportunity to encourage and support the exploitation of other 575 biomass feedstocks for the production of refined energy carriers (Cutz and 576 Santana, 2014). Expanding the use of modern biomass in traditional biomass 577 intensive countries should involve the development of entire biomass chains 578 including land-use transformations, establishment of biomass supply-chain 579 infrastructures, development of new conversion technologies and establish-580 ment of new markets for biomass based products (Cutz et al., 2016). Fur-581 thermore, considering that traditional biomass consumption is an indicator of 582 unmet demand for more efficient fuel (Roy, 2000), it can be stated that there 583 is a market of sufficient size equivalent to the percentage of the population in 584 biomass intensive countries who lack access to modern fuels and technologies. 585 Thus, modern biomass systems in regions dependent on traditional biomass 586 provide a field of opportunity for different sectors, especially for developers 587 in the manufacturing process and investors/stakeholders in the clean cooking 588 and power sectors. 589

<sup>590</sup> Evidence also indicates that institutions play a key role when supporting <sup>591</sup> green energy policies in countries with abundant natural resources. Thus, when institutions are weak, that is, having high levels of bureaucracy and corruption, institutions are unable to take full advantage of the natural resources (Mehlum et al., 2006). Therefore, the expansion of modern biomass will highly rely on how traditional biomass intensive countries manage to make an efficient use of resources to invest in fuel switching and efficient technologies.

Finally, it is important to highlight that besides the importance of achieving a reduction of  $CO_2$  emissions in traditional biomass intensive countries, the main concern is to reduce indoor air pollution as the exposure to the smoke and particulate matter from the use of traditional biomass leads to severe health problems.

#### **5.** Conclusions

The problems related to the use of traditional biomass, such as forest 604 degradation (if wood is extracted faster than it can be regenerated), forced 605 resettlement of nearby communities and indoor air pollution are well known. 606 Clearly, these problems are more severe in traditional biomass intensive 607 countries, where this resource is used to produce energy carriers through 608 low-efficient processes, e.g., burning fuelwood in open-fires. The intensity 609 in which this practice occurs demand actions to design systems capable of 610 switching the traditional biomass consumption of countries that are endowed 611 with abundant biomass resources to what is called the "sustainable develop-612 ment pathway". 613

This study proposes and evaluates several schemes to switch from tradi-614 tional to modern biomass systems in biomass intensive countries. Neverthe-615 less, results show that not all fuel-technology combinations result in lower 616 emissions than traditional biomass systems. The results from this analysis in-617 dicate that despite burning a modern cooking fuel and centralizing fuelwood, 618 a net reduction of  $CO_2$  emissions could be achieved in all scenarios, except for 619 scenario 2. Results obtained for scenario 2 where both ICSs and LPG stoves 620 are implemented indicate that there would be a net increase of  $CO_2$  emissions 621 instead of reducing the environmental impact. All these suggest that coun-622 tries should prioritize developing infrastructures that could help complement 623 and maximize the use of the available resources. In this sense, electricity 624 production from biomass is a good option for diversifying and adding value 625 to energy carriers in traditional biomass intensive countries. The creation 626 of small cooperatives handling the biomass and supplying the biomass mar-627 ket might be a feasible option to achieve modern biomass systems. Larger 628 structures as cooperatives are also more exposed to access financing, cooper-629 ation and knowledge transfer than spread households, which is crucial when 630 implementing new technologies. 631

<sup>632</sup> On the other hand, results of this paper strengthen the evidence base to <sup>633</sup> consider fuel stacking a long-term strategy rather than a transient state. A <sup>634</sup> strategy where the total environmental impact could still be reduced if well-<sup>635</sup> designed systems are implemented. According to the results obtained for the <sup>636</sup> stacking scenario, it is estimated that a net reduction of 84 kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM could <sup>637</sup> be obtained when deploying ICSs and LPG stoves to meet the demand of <sup>638</sup> the residential sector, and electricity is produced in power plants based on <sup>639</sup> biomass combustion. Meanwhile, a net reduction of 105 kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM could <sup>640</sup> be obtained for the ICS/LPG stove/gasification power plant system. Notice <sup>641</sup> that under these schemes cleaner fuel and technologies would be available for <sup>642</sup> households, while at the same time households would increase their options <sup>643</sup> for meeting their energy needs.

Finally, based on the demand of fuelwood and industrial roundwood in 2050, it is projected that if all bioenergy (economical-ecological potential) is used as modern biomass, a global  $CO_2$  reduction of 80 Mt of  $CO_{2e}$  or 100 Mt of  $CO_{2e}$  could be achieved by the implementation of the ICS/LPG stove/combustion power plant or ICS/LPG stove/gasification power plant scheme, respectively.

#### 650 Notation

- <sup>651</sup>  $A = \text{area of the plantation } [\text{km}^2];$
- 652  $C_A$  = installed capacity [MW];
- $C_{CB} = CO_{2e}$  release unit of the tractor [kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM/km];
- $C_{TB} = CO_{2e}$  release by the vehicle transporting the biomass to the power plant [kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM/km];
- $D_a = \text{distance for annual collection of biomass [km];}$
- $_{657}$   $D_{TB}$  = distance of transport to the power plant [km];
- $E_{OF/B2050}$  = emissions that could be released to the atmosphere if all biomass

- available in 2050 was burnt in open fires [Mt of  $CO_2 e$ ];
- fNRB =fraction of non-renewable fuelwood use;
- <sub>661</sub>  $H_B = \text{low heating value [GJ/tDM]};$
- $L_{CB}$  = loading capacity of the truck [tDM];
- $M_{2050}$  = amount of biomass projected for the year 2050 [t];
- $R_{e} = CO_{2e}$  released during establishment [kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM];
- $R_{CB} = CO_{2e}$  released by collection of harvested biomass [kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM];
- $R_{FF} = CO_{2e}$  released by households burning LPG instead of fuelwood [kg- $C_e/tDM$ ];
- $R_G = \text{gross CO}_{2e} \text{ reduction } [\text{kg-C}_e/\text{tDM}];$
- $R_h = CO_{2e}$  released during harvest [kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM];
- $R_N = \text{net reduction of CO}_{2e} \text{ emissions } [\text{kg-C}_e/\text{tDM}];$
- <sup>671</sup>  $R_o =$  inner radius of the plantation [km];
- $R_P = CO_{2e}$  released during biomass production [kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM];
- $R_{PT} = CO_{2e}$  released during the pretreatment of biomass for power genera-
- 674 tion [kg- $C_e/tDM$ ];
- $R_T = \text{total CO}_2$  released during biomass power generation [kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM];
- $R_{TB} = CO_{2e}$  released by transporting biomass to the power plant [kg-C<sub>e</sub>/tDM];
- S =standing period of biomass [year];
- Y = biomass yield [t/ha/year];
- 679

#### 680 Greek

681  $\eta_{OF/B}$  = efficiency of open fires;

- 682  $\eta_{TP/oil}$  = efficiency of oil power plants;
- 683  $\eta_{CP/B}$  = efficiency of biomass combustion power plants;
- 684  $\eta_{GP/B}$  = efficiency of biomass gasification power plants;
- $\theta_{OFR/B}$  = Emission factors assuming renewable use in open fires [kg-C<sub>e</sub>/GJ];
- $\theta_{OFNR/B}$  = Emission factors assuming non-renewable use in open fires [kg-C<sub>e</sub>/GJ];
- $\theta_{TP/oil}$  = Emission factors fossil-fuel power plants [kg-C<sub>e</sub>/GJ];
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Figure 1: World biomass consumption. Note: Data was extracted from World Bank (2016). Traditional biomass is defined as biomass used in the residential sector, while modern biomass is defined as biomass used for the production of heat and power.



Figure 2: Schematic diagram of the energy systems considered for evaluation. (a) scenario 1, ICSs; (b) scenario 2, ICSs and LPG stoves; (c) scenario 3, LPG stoves and dedicated biomass power plants (No ICSs); and, (d) scenario 4, stacking (ICSs, LPG stoves and dedicated biomass power plants).



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plants. Stacking scenario. Note:  $R_G$  is defined as the gross  $CO_{2e}$  reduction per tonne of dry biomass.  $R_T$  refers to the  $CO_{2e}$  released by the production of biomass and use of LPG as cooking fuel (grey bars). Figure 8: Net reduction in  $CO_{2e}$  emissions ( $R_N$ , green bars) by deployment of ICSs, LPG stoves and dedicated biomass CHP





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	Units	Woodlands	Native forests	Fuelwood plantations
Y	t/ha/y	2.5	3.6	5.1
$\mathbf{S}$	у	35	35	15
$\mathbf{R}_{e}$	$kg-C_e/tDM$	0	0	1
$\mathbf{R}_h$	$kg-C_e/tDM$	4	4	4

Table 1: Parameters used for estimating  $R_P^{[a]}$ 

[a] CSRIO (2003).

	Units	Fuelwood	Ref		
$\overline{\mathrm{C}_A}$	MW	Combustion: 10			
		Gasification: 0.3			
Υ	t/ha/y	See Table 1			
S	У	y See Table 1			
$L_{CB}$	$\mathrm{tDM}$	8	[a]		
$H_B$	GJ/tDM	16			
$\mathbf{R}_{o}$	km	0.5	[a]		
$C_{CB}$	$kg-C_e/tDM/km$	0.1	[a]		
$D_{TB}$	km	50	[b]		
$C_{TB}$	$kg-C_e/tDM/km$	0.4			
$\mathbf{R}_P$	$\mathrm{kg}-\mathrm{C}_{e}/\mathrm{tDM}$	See Table 1			
$\mathbf{R}_{PT}$	$\mathrm{kg}-\mathrm{C}_{e}/\mathrm{tDM}$	7	[a]		

Table 2: Parameters used for estimating  $\mathbf{R}_{CB},\,\mathbf{R}_{TB},\,\mathbf{R}_{T}$  and  $\mathbf{R}_{G}$ 

<sup>[a</sup>]Dote et al. (2008). <sup>[b</sup>]CSRIO (2003).