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Life Cycle Assessment of Secondary Mangrove Forest in Bintuni Bay, West Papua, Indonesia

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Abstract

The life cycle assessment is conducted in order to assess the impact of mangrove woodchip production in Bintuni bay, West Papua Indonesia on the environment. Study includes the analysis of non-renewable energy use (MJ), global warming potential or carbon footprint (kg CO_2), acidification potential (kg SO_2) and ozone creation potential (kg O_3) of mangrove logging, processing and shipment. Mangrove woodchip productionconsumes 960 MJ of non-renewable energy and gives out 59.59 kg CO_2 , .383 kg SO_2 and30.39 kg O_3 , which is the lowest in comparison with other wood products. Mangrove processing in cur less fuel because it is delivered in bulk to the processing area via barges in comparison to other wood products. The current shipping of mangrove woodchips to customers has the greatest environmental impact because of the use of bunker fuel. The processing of mangrove woodchips used diesel exclusively for fuel in its power sources. Forest residues from logging can be a source of renewable fuel and may also be another source of new products.



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Introduction

Mangrove forests are among the world's most productive ecosystem. They enrich coastal waters, yield commercial forest products, protect coastlines, and support coastal fisheries. It thrives on tropical climate and on coastal waters in Asia, Africa and South America. They thrive on the harshest environments, usually waters with high salinity,

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extreme tides, strong winds, high temperatures, muddy and anaerobic soil1. As of year 2011, it is estimated that the remaining mangrove forest worldwide stands at 13 million hectares, 42% of which is in Asia. Indonesia has the largest area of mangrove forest in the world, with a total of 3.1 million hectares of mangrove forest, 22.6% of the world's total mangrove forest followed by Australia and Brazil which has 1 million hectares of mangroves in each country². Mangroves diverse role to the environment ranges from coastal protection, lessening the effect of climate change and local source income from timber production³.

Decrease in the area of mangroves due to deforestation and conversion to prawn production is alarming. Methods on how to preserve the current mangrove areas and reforestation are being done by different governments around the world. One example is by doing sustainable harvests for mangrove forest, a silvicultural practice where a schedule of regeneration of the forest for harvest is made. The purpose of this method is to decrease the impact of logging. Sustainable harvesting of mangroves may have minimal impact on the forest in the perspective of regeneration, but harvesting and manufacturing inputs like fuel and its effect to the environment cannot be ignored.

The prime objective of this study is todetermine and characterize the environmental impact of harvesting mangroves for wood chip production from Bintuni, West Papua, Indonesia. The cradle to gate plus transportlife cycle analysis is employed from harvesting and processingto shipping the wood product to the market. The next objective isto assess the environmental impacts while producing and transporting mangrove products and compare it to other wood harvesting activities and find ways to decrease the effect by introduction of new methods and reduction of non-renewable inputs used. Thecategories employed for comparison are non-renewable energy (NRE) used, carbon footprint, acidification, and ozone creation. Finally, the study explores opportunities for the proper management of this impact considering the sustainability framework which accounts for society, ecology, and economy. Sustainable forest management is a framework adapted in this study. It looks at the perspective of the environment, the society and economic impact the forest brings to the local community. The concept of sustainable forest management guides the company to create sound decision in how to sustainably harvest the forest and leave as little impact to the environment with its operation.

Mangrove Forests in Various Locations

Most mangroves thrive in 300N and 300S latitude but can still be found in the coastal areas of Japan, Southern Australia, South Africa and New Zealand⁴. The most concentrated mangrove population are found in South East Asia and Australia, of which is composed of islands that is surrounded by coastal areas. Over the last century, mangrove areas declined worldwide because of deforestation and conversion.

South East Asia

Mangroves have been systematically exploited in Indonesia since 1800, especially for the development of brackish water shrimp aquaculture and for timber harvesting. By the end of the 1960s, Indonesia is estimated to have lost more than 200,000 hectares of its mangroves. The rate of mangrove loss started to dramatically increase in the 1970 when exploitation shifted to new areas, encouraged by government policies to boost timber production, followed by policies to expand ponds in 1980s and large scale ponds development triggered by increased shrimp price during Asian financial crisis in 1997. This results the loss of nearly 800,000 ha of mangroves in only 30 years, mostly in the form of low productivity or abandoned ponds. In recent years, timber harvesting activities in Indonesia's mangroves appear to have become more sustainable^{5,6}. The decline of Philippine mangroves from half a million hectares in 1918 to 120,000 ha in 1994 may be traced to local exploitation for wood and conversion to agriculture, salt beds, industry and settlements. But brackishwater pond culture, whose history is intertwined with that of mangroves, remains the major cause of loss7.

South Asia

Mangrove forests in of Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka revealed that the areal extent of mangrove forests in South Asia is approximately 1,187,476 ha representing 7% of the global total. Results showed that, 92,135 ha of mangroves were deforested and 80,461 ha were reforested from 2000

to 2012 with a net loss of 11,673 ha. Major causes of deforestation in South Asia include conversion to other land use (conversion to agriculture, shrimp farms, development, and human settlement), overharvesting(grazing, browsing and lopping, and fishing), pollution, decline in freshwater availability, flooding, reduction of silt deposition, coastal erosion, and disturbances from tropical cyclones and tsunamis⁴.

South America

Brazilian mangroves, despite the existence of severe protection legislation are being deforested. Conversions to aquaculture, industrial and urban development among others, have destroyed more than 50,000 ha (about 4% of the total mangrove area in the country) over the past three decades. Restoration efforts have somewhat minimized losses, but has recuperated only a 5% of the total degraded area. Around 70% of Brazilian mangroves are today inside preserved areas.⁸

Mangrove Wood Harvesting in Bintuni, West Papua, Indonesia

Bintuni Bay is located in the south of the Birds Head Peninsula of West Papua, Indonesia, and is composed of a series of mangrove stands divided up by rivers of various sizes. Globally mangroves have been noted to exhibit huge variation in forest structure and speciescomposition due the array of environmental factors that impact their survival9. Mangrove deforestation poses a threat over 300,000 ha mangrove ecosystem in the Bintunibay area of Indonesia¹⁰. Mangrove forests conversion into shrimp farms may be the biggest reason for deforestation. It is not sustainable and hence not allows mangroves to grow back on its own. Sustainable mangrove wood harvesting would not involve any conversion and would therefore allow the growth of new mangroves for reforestation.

Bintuni Bay hosts a wide variety ofmangrove species that produce diversely structured forests. Predominantspecies in this forest include *Rhizophora Apiculata, Bruguiera Parviflora* and *CeriopsTagal.* These mangrove species are actively undergoing a forest management focused upon woodchip production as well assustainable forest management. Currently, the area is approaching its first 25-year

rotation cycle, meaning that within the concession there are stands at various stages of regeneration from harvest ranging from 1 to 25 years¹¹. The mangrove forest concession awarded tocompany is approximately hectares in size; approximately 86% is approved for mangrove wood extraction while the remaining is used for buffer and protection zones. Primary forest surveys report that the dominant species are *Rhizophora spp.* (69%), most commonly *Rhizophora Apiculata* and *Rhizophora Mucronata*. Other common mangrove species present in the concession include *Bruguiera spp.* (20%) most commonly *Bruguiera Gymnorrhiza*, *Bruguiera Parviflora* and *CeriopsTagal*(10%)¹².

Scope of the Study

The study using the cradle to gate plus transport approach in life cycle assessment. The study would be focusing on harvesting of mangroves to finished woodchips and transportation to customer. Fuel consumption included in the study is from raw material extraction to transporting of mangrove woodchips to customers only. The area of study is in Bintuni Bay, West Papua, Indonesia. The area of harvest from 2014-2016 was set by the company, based on their manufacturing schedule. The type of logs harvested includes Rhizophora Spp., Bruguiera Spp. and CeriopsTagal, with the majority of the Rhizophora Apiculata. The power required by the production of woodchips comes exclusively from generator sets, fuelled with diesel. A portion of the power is also provided to the small local community. Thus, the fuel used for production includes the power required for household use.

Methodology

The data needed for the life cycle assessment were collected both from the field and production area on the inclusive dates of January 2014 to May 2016. Manufacturing inputs involved were taken from operation (logging using chain saw), transportation (log boats to carry logs from forest to production plant), production (conversion of logs to wood chips) and shipping (transporting woodchips from production plant to customers). Non-production activities that involve the use of fuel (speed boats for transportation of workers, supply and water) were also included.

Data Collection

Woodchip production converted in volume (m³) was used for determining the amount of woodchip produced in the manufacturing facility. The types of fuel used in the harvesting of mangroves (logging), transportation of wood to manufacturing facility, processing into woodchips and transportation to customers are gasoline, diesel and bunker fuel. The amount of fuel used in production were converted into kilogram (kg). Bunker fuel used in the ship that carry the mangrove woodchip were computed according to the frequency of their shipment in the last 3 years. Customer distances were also taken into consideration and the length of time the ship will travel from the manufacturing plant to the location of the delivery. Transportation from the customer back to manufacturing area was also included in the computation. The energy content of diesel, gasoline and gas were estimated based on carbon emissions of fuel database¹³. Specific gravity for diesel and gasoline were estimated based on specific gravity of liquids database¹⁴. Bunker fuel energy content were based on the geography of transport systems¹⁵.

Impact Assessment

The environmental impact was estimated using the indicators which are based on cumulative nonrenewable energy carbon footprint, acidification and ozone creation. These indicators were used because they are the basis for all other minor assessment (soil erosion, human and freshwater toxicity, etc.). Data for comparison with other wood products are available for benchmarking. Listed in Table 1 are all the impact categories and their respective description and unit used. Energy use is based on the potential energy that can be generated by using a unit of fuel in terms of metric joules (MJ). Global warming potential is measured by amount of CO₃ or its equivalent. Acidification is the amount of SO₂ or its equivalent emitted by burning fossil fuel. Nitrous oxides is the amount of NO created by using fossil fuels. The categories were based on TRACI 2.1 2014 database shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Life Cycle Impact Assessment Categories Using TRACI Indicators

| Category Indicator | Impact Category | Description | Unit | References |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Energy Use | Non- Renewable Energy Use | A measure of the total amount of primary energyextracted from the earth. PE is expressed in energydemand from non-renewable resources (e.g.petroleum, natural gas, uranium, etc.) Efficiencies in energyconversion (e.g. power, heat, steam, etc.) are takeninto account. | MJ | [14] [16] [17] |
| Climate Change | Global Warming Potential (GWP) Carbon Footprint | A measure of greenhouse gas missions, such as CO2and methane. These emissions are causing an increasein the absorption of radiation emitted by the earth, magnifying the natural greenhouse effect. | kg CO ₂ and Equiv. | [18] [16] [13] [19] [20] [21] |
| Acidification | Acidificatio n Potential (TRACI) | A measure of emissions that cause acidifying effects to the environment. The acidification potential isassigned by relating the existing S-, N-, and halogenatoms to the molecular weight. | kg SO ₂ and Equiv. | [16] [20] [19] |
| Ozone Creation in Troposphere | Photo chemical Ozone Creation Potential (POCP) Smog Air (TRACI) | A measure of emissions of recursors that contributeto low level smog, produced by the reaction ofnitrogen oxides and VOC's under the influence of UVlight. | kg O ₃ Equiv kg NO _x equiv | [16] [20] [19] |

Comparison with environmental impacts in other wood products was also used in the study for comparison with mangrove production and transport. There are differences between the harvesting, processing and delivery of hardwood in comparison to mangrove woodchip, but the unit used for the impact assessment were all converted into m³. All hardwood used in comparison of producing 1 m³ of mangrove woodchip, its environmental impact and amount of fuel used were compared with producing 1 m³ of rough-sawn, kiln-dried U.S. white oak lumber 2.54 cm thick²².

Results

Table 2 summarizes all the inputs needed for mangrove harvestingduring the period of January 2014 to May 2016. Diesel is used for the generator sets for the processing of woodchips and fuel for boatsused in hauling logs, supplying water and transporting people. Gasoline is used primarily for logging and felling of trees.

Table 2: Mangrove Harvesting Yield and Fuel Used

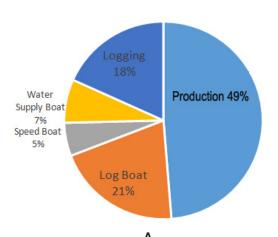
| | 2014 | 2015 | Jan-May 2016 |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Woodchips Produced(m³) | 93,178 | 69,609 | 31,909 |
| Diesel(kg) Gasoline(kg) | 312,691 66,252 | 301,145 59,696 | 120,289 29,204 |

Non-Renewable Energy Usage

Figure 1 shows the ratio of non-renewable energy (NRE) used in harvesting and production of mangrove woodchips. NRE usage can be attributed largely to Diesel (82%), which is used for processing of woodchips and for logistics operations. Gasoline contributes to 18% of NRE use which is used exclusively on logging operations. About 49% of the NRE used is from the processing of woodchips while 33% is used on transport (log boat, speed boat and water supply boat). Result shows that 49% of the NRE use is forprocessing woodchips, 21% forhauling

logs, 18% for logging, 7% for water supply boat and 5% for speedboats in the two years (Jan2014to May 2016).

Non-Renewable Energy Use Distribution



Type of Non-Renewable Energy Used

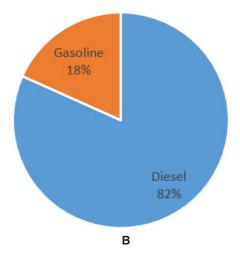


Fig. 1: Non Renewable Energy (A) Distribution in type of operation used and (B) Type of Fuel used.

Carbon Footprint

Figure 2 will show the ratio for carbon footprintused in harvesting and production of mangrove woodchips. Diesel(82%) accounts for the largest contribution of carbon emission. Gasoline(18%) comes in second. About 49% of the carbon emissions used is from

the processing of woodchips while 33% is used on transport. From January 2014 to May 2016, 49% of the carbon footprint is from processing woodchips, 21% from hauling logs, 18% from logging, 7% from water supply boat and 5% from speedboats.

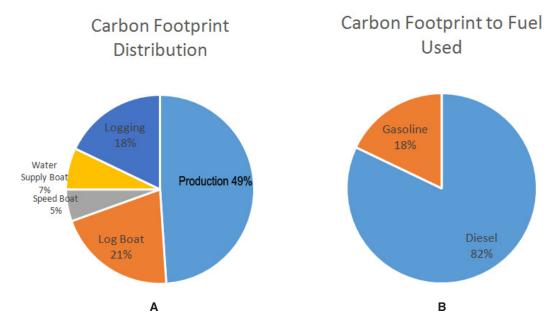


Fig. 2: Carbon Footprint (A) Distribution in type of operation used and (B) Type of Fuel used

Table 3: Cradle to Gate Environmental Impact of 1m³ of Woodchip

| Impact Category | Total |
|---|--------|
| Non-Renewable Energy(MJ) | 196.03 |
| Carbon Footprint(kg CO ₂) | 14.69 |
| Acidification(kg SO ₂) | 0.001 |
| Ozone Creation-Smog Air(kg O ₃) | 3.39 |
| *MJ/Liter of Diesel ²³ | 41 |

Cradle to Gate Life Cycle Assessment Result

Table 3 shows that the total NRE used in processing 1 cubic meter of woodchips is 196.03 MJ. In comparison, potential NRE used by a liter of diesel fuel is 41 MJ or around 5 liters of diesel is used to produce 1 cubic meter of woodchips,the total carbon footprint produced is 14.69kg CO₂, the total

acidification produced is 0.001 kg ${\rm SO_2}$ and total ozone creation-smog air produced is 3.39 ${\rm O_3}$.

Table 4 shows that more than half (95.5 MJ) of the NRE used is on the generators for production of woodchips and local energy source of the community. The logboat for transporting the timber from harvest area to processing and logging operation comes second and third in terms of NRE use with 40.13 MJ and 35.86 MJ for every 1 cubic meter of woodchips produced respectively While more than half (7.19kg CO₂) carbon footprint produced comes from the generators for production of woodchips and local energy source of the community. The log boat for transporting the timber from harvest area to processing and logging operation comes second and third in terms of carbon footprint with 3.02 kg CO, and 2.62 kg CO, produced respectively. More than half (0.00079kg SO₂) of the acidification

produced comes from the diesel used in generators for production of woodchips and local energy source of the community. The log boat for transporting the timber from harvest area to processing and comes second in terms of acidification with 0.00033 kg SO₂ produced. More than half (1.67kg O₃) of the ozone creation-smog air produced comes from the diesel

used in generators for production of woodchips and local energy source of the community. The log boat for transporting the timber from harvest area to processing and logging operation comes second and third in terms of ozone creation-smog air with 0.70 kg O₃ and 0.59 kg O₃ for every 1 cubic meter of woodchips produced respectively.

Table 4: Cradle to Gate Environmental Impact of 1m³ of Woodchip

| Operation or Process Step | NRE(MJ) | Carbon Footprint (kg CO ₂) | Acidification (kg SO ₂) | Ozone Creation- Smog Air(kg O ₃) |
|------------------------------|---------|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| Production | 95.50 | 7.19 | 0.00079 | 1.67 |
| Log Boat | 40.13 | 3.02 | 0.00033 | 0.70 |
| Speed Boat | 10.63 | 0.80 | 0.00008 | 0.19 |
| Water Supply Boat | 13.89 | 1.04 | 0.00011 | 0.24 |
| Logging | 35.86 | 2.62 | 0.00011 | 0.59 |

Cradle to Gate Plus Transport Life Cycle Assessment Result

Mangrove woodchips are delivered to customers in bulk using medium type shipping vessels. Amount of bunker fuel used by ships is computed by amount used/day multiplied to the number of days travelled by the vessel. Customer distance from the manufacturing facility is taken from customer delivery for the last 3 years, its frequency and days of travel.

Consumption of bunker fuel was based on distance and average speed of most cargo vessels of same kind and average consumption of fuel²⁴.

Table 5 shows the use of non-renewable energy in transporting woodchips is the largest contributor to the negative impact on the environment, considering the distance from production to supplier and the frequency of delivery.

Table 5: Cradle to Gate Plus Transport Environmental Impact of 1m³ of Woodchip

| Operation or Process Step | NRE(MJ) | GWP-Carbon Footprint (kgCO ₂) | Acidification (kgSO ₂) | Ozone Creation -Smog Air(kgO ₃) |
|------------------------------|---------|---|------------------------------------|---|
| Production(Diesel) | 95.50 | 7.19 | 0.00078 | 1.67 |
| Logboat(Diesel) | 40.13 | 3.02 | 0.00033 | 0.70 |
| Speedboat(Diesel) | 10.63 | 0.80 | 0.00008 | 0.19 |
| Water Supply Boat(Diesel) | 13.89 | 1.04 | 0.00011 | 0.25 |
| Logging(Gasoline) | 35.86 | 2.62 | 0.00011 | 0.59 |
| Shipping(Bunker) | 764.18 | 44.90 | 0.38213 | 27.00 |
| Total | 960.22 | 59.59 | 0.38357 | 30.39938 |

Discussion

This data would be compared to other wood products LCA in order to gauge the efficiency of the company in terms of environmental protection.

Figure 3, shows that comparison to other wood products, mangrove woodchips has the lowest NRE use. The use of less NRE on the harvesting and

processing may attribute to low fuel consumption. Logs are delivered in bulk to the processing area via barges and incur less fuel in comparison to harvested logs that are delivered by trucks.

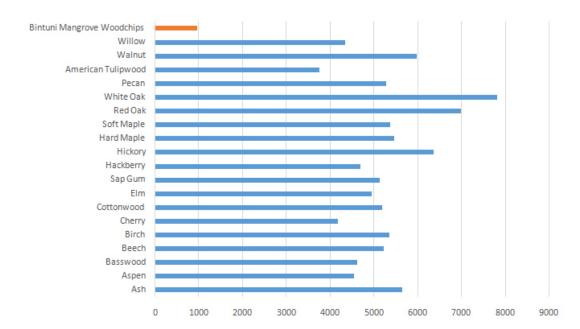


Fig. 3: Comparison of Non-Renewable Energy Use (MJ) of Different Wood Products.Sources of data for other wood products from American Hardwood Export Council²²

Figure 4, reflects that mangrove woodchips has the lowest global warming potential - carbon footprint. The less use of fuel may attribute to the low contribution of CO_2 to the air. Unlike other wood

products, mangrove woodchips are transported without drying, while other wood products are kiln dried before being delivered to customers.

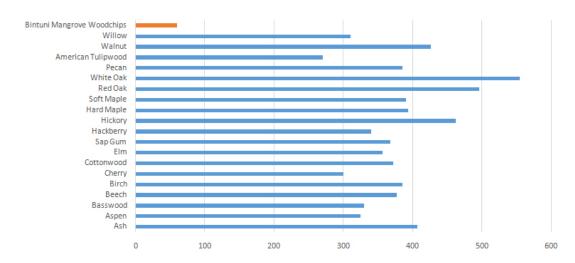


Fig. 4: Comparison of Global Warming Potential (kg CO₂) of Different Wood Products. Sources of data for other wood products from American Hardwood Export Council²²

Figure 5, shows that mangrove woodchips has the lowest acidification emission. The less use of fuel may attribute to the low contribution of SO₂ to the air.

The use of euro 3 gasoline and diesel also helped in the low sulphur level of operation and production of mangrove woodchips.

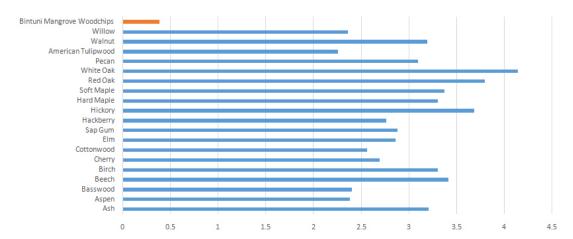


Fig. 5: Comparison of Acidification Potential (kg SO₂) of Different Wood Products. Sources of data for other wood products from American Hardwood Export Council²²

Figure 6, reflects that mangrove woodchips produce the lowest amount of smog air emission among all wood products. The Shipping of mangrove chips to the customers consumes a lot of bunker fuel and releases a lot of nitrogen oxides to the air. NO_x were converted to O_3 equivalents using Traci index.

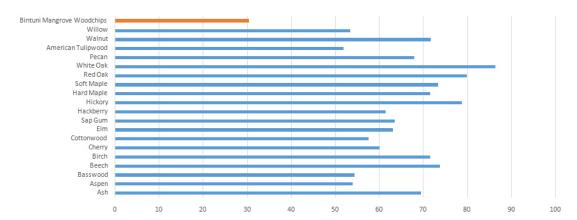


Fig. 6: Comparison of Ozone Creation (kg O₃) of Different Wood Products. Sources of data for other wood products from American Hardwood Export Council²²

Opportunities to Decrease Impact to Environment Identified in the Life Cycle Analysis

Life cycle analysis result can enable companies to make decisions that would decreasethe impact of mangrove harvesting to the environment. Existing result in the cradle to gate plus transport life cycle assessment shows encouraging result because out of most wood products, it has the lowest environmental impact on all 4 above mentioned categories. However, there are still some improvements that can be done to enhance the production and transportation even more. Here are some of the opportunities found to be able to decrease the impact caused by farming and processing operations.

Decrease in amount of bunker fuel used for shipping

Increase efficiency of shipping by decreasing the number of delivery to customer and increasing the size of shipment, can be done by proper scheduling of shipping to decrease the frequency of shipping. Market demand would determine the increase and decrease of shipment, but increasing the volume would lessen the number of shipments/year and would result to a decrease the use of bunker fuel.In the future, they can use ships having high carrying capacity (20,000 m³)of woodchips. Increase in its volume/shipment for the next cargo in using the high capacity ships, the difference is equal to 57 in 7 months or 1 shipment saved per year, equivalent to 25% decrease in NRE used, carbon footprint, acidification potential and ozone creation because of the decrease in use of bunker fuel.

Decrease in amount of diesel used for generators

Increase efficiency of diesel generators through proper scheduling, maintenance and replacement of generators can be done to decrease the fuel used for generators. Since the company has multiple generators for different time of use, proper scheduling of when to use the large generators for large load and the small generators for smaller load may be studied further. Procurement of newer and much more efficient generators is needed to decrease the consumption even more.

Make use of other sources for energy and venture into more renewable energy

A lot of biodegradable biomass (bark, leaves, branches) are left in the forest after harvesting the mangrove trees. The use existing mangrove bark for biomass as fuel may be studied to decrease the dependence on diesel and gasoline in harvesting to production of mangrove wood chips. Mangrove barks that are left in the area can reach between 1840 kg to 4490 kg per hectare²⁵. Normally the company may harvest between 800-1000 hectares of mangroves per year. It would generate a minimum of 1,470 tons of bark alone as a biomass fuel. Harvested barks therefore has the potential of producing 5,000 MWh of electricity²⁷. Currently, debarking of wood is done on the forest site. The use of barks for biomass, debarking may be done in the production

plant. This will result in a more efficient harvesting of wood and lesser manpower needed on the forest. Non-renewable energy source may also be studied for a cleaner source of energy. Since all mangroves grow in coastal areas, energy from tides and current of water may be installed to decrease dependence on non-renewable energy sources.

Conclusion

The cradle to gate plus transport life cycle assessment gives us an idea of how mangroves are harvested, processed and shipped to its customers. The objective would be to quantify the impact that can contribute to global warming, the use of non-renewable energy in relation to renewable energy, the acidification potential it can contribute to the air and the ozone creation potential in contributes to the atmosphere. Benchmarking with other wood processors will give the market more knowledge of the product they buy, thus producers should make more effort in taking care of the environment, making consumption and production sustainable.

As with mangrove processingand shipping the product to clients has the highest NRE, carbon footprint, acidification potential and ozone creation. Consumption of bunker fuel in the shipping is the major cause of the problem. In the processing the mangrove to woodchips, the production are has the highest environmental impact because of diesel use in generators. By decreasing the frequency of shipmentcan maximize the volume being transported, the company will not just be able to save on cost, but also decrease the use of bunker fuel. Proper scheduling of generators to accommodate the electrical load may decrease the consumption of diesel. Maintenance and replacement of generators may also be done to decrease the consumption of fuel. Employing other means of renewable energy like wave may also be ventured in the future to decrease reliance on non-renewable source. Accumulation of forest residues from logging may be a source of renewable energy and other value added products.

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