

A biofuel terminal is a part of the logistical chain from a forest stand or agricultural source to usage site. Transports of solid biomass fuels and industrial round wood are likely to be compounded. This poses a challenge for the space arrangements, measuring technology and storage management in the terminals.

BEST

BIOMASS TERMINAL AS A CONCEPT FOR ADDING VALUE TO BIOENERGY

VIRKKUNEN MATTI and RAITILA JYRKI, VTT

The main objective of biomass terminal concept studies is to radically improve the cost efficiency and flexibility of the biomass supply through a nationwide biomass fuel terminal network.

This will be done by designing and modelling multi-fuel biomass terminals or hubs which convert collected biomass feedstock into high quality fuels and secure the year round supply for large scale users.

The predicted future demand of biomass fuel shows that there will be regional deficiency in the availability of biomass. The new terminal concept will provide possibilities for long haul (> 200 km) supply of biomass fuels via road and railway network.

The overriding ambition is to provide the best quality, most securely, with the lowest possible costs.

Terminal as a concept for adding value

For a biomass fuel user:

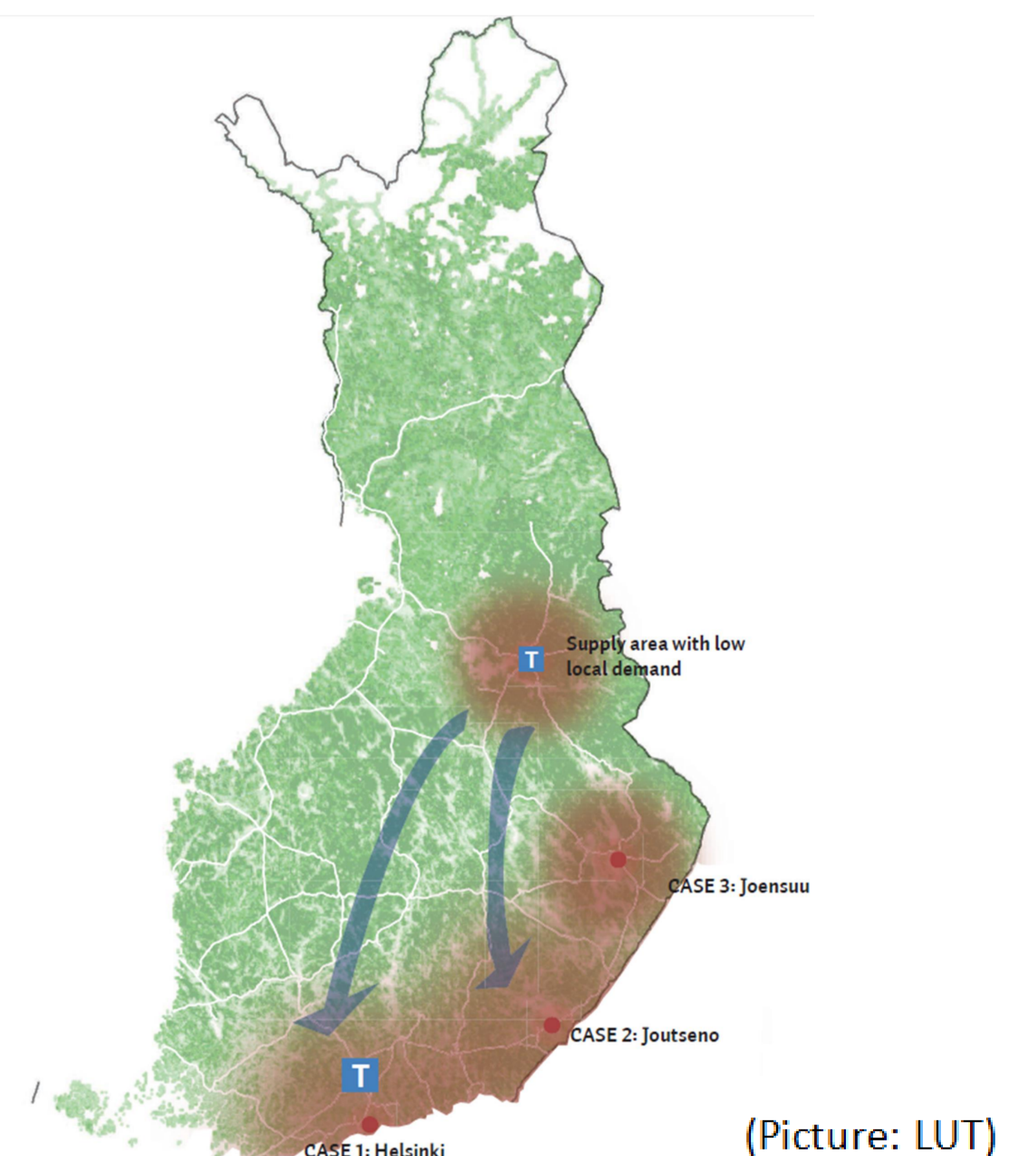
- Security of supply – constant fuel flow with predictable price throughout the year
- Steady price – long term supply contracts possible
- Simplicity in fuel purchasing – more from one supplier

For fuel a biomass producer

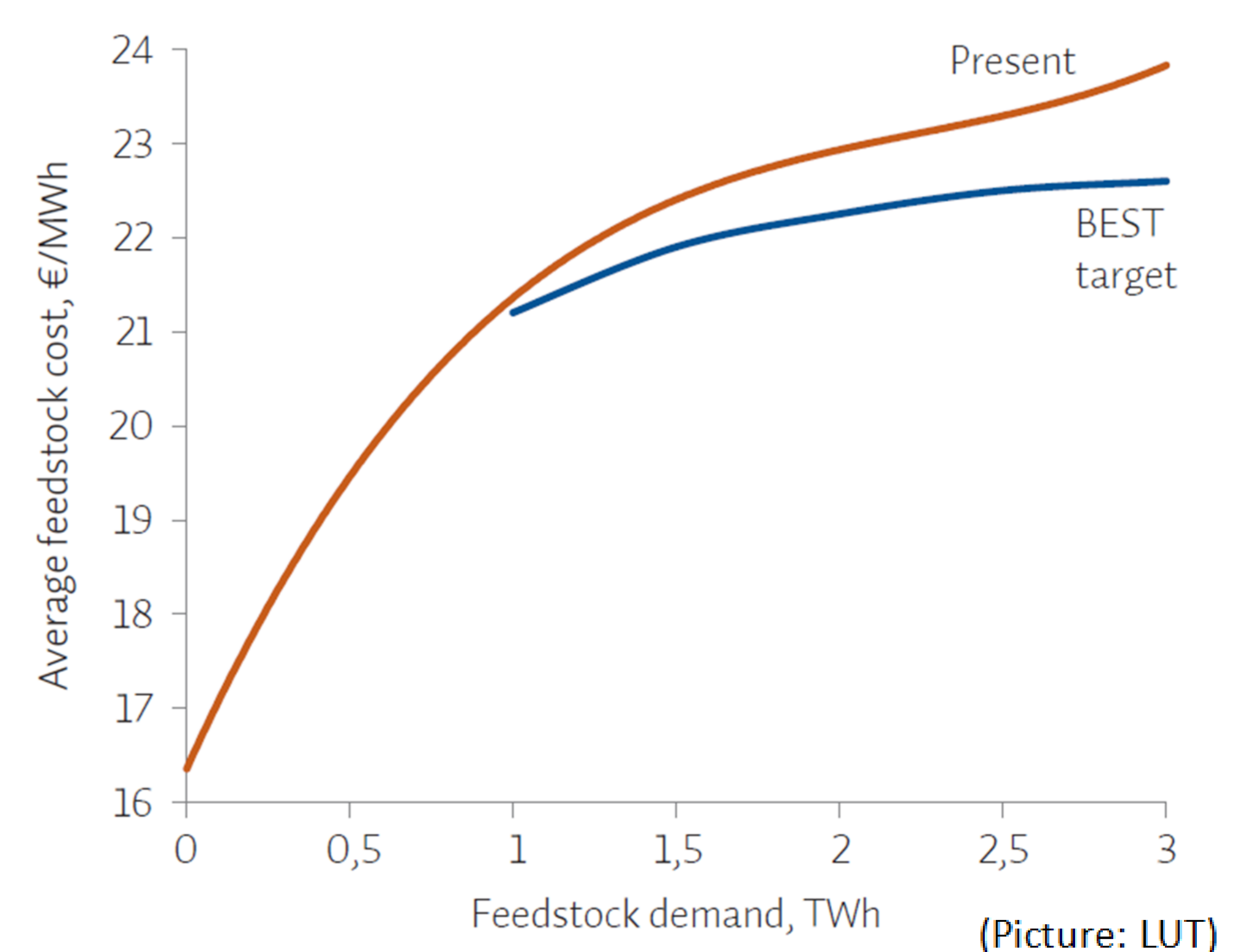
- Possibility to utilize heavy duty machines in optimal environment
- Lower unit costs for processing machinery – high utilization rate of machinery
- Ongoing operations throughout the year – steadier employment of the personnel and machinery

For the society

- New business opportunities for biomass supply companies
- Employment to the rural "low consumption" regions
- Imported fossil fuels replaced by domestic biomass fuels



Long haul biomass fuel supply will be studied



One of the main targets is to decrease the costs of feedstock delivered through terminals