Exploiting the potentialities of solid biomasses in EU Parks

BIOEUPARKS

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Project Summary

BIOEUPARKS project aims to increase the use of biomass deriving from the forests sustainable management and agricultural residues, to develop an efficient and sustainable biomass supply chain in 5 European Nature Parks (Italy, Slovenia, Hungary, Austria, Greece) and promoting short chains and small-scale installations.

The expected results of the project are:

• 108.500 tons of ‘solid biomass’ stocked per year,
• 54.200 kWhel/year produced, 82.300 kWhth/year thermal energy,
• 170 Nature Park managers, engineers and technicians trained,
• Participation of 100 selected people on the International Conference,
• Transferring the project’s know-how to further 15 Nature Parks,
• 300 local key actors and stakeholders (public and private) directly or indirectly 1.800 citizens involved in project’s activities,
• 7.200 citizens directly reached by local awareness and communication activities.
Background

The importance of the utilisation of biomasses to produce heat and energy is growing in all Europe. The EU’s policy on renewable energy can be summarised by the 20/20/20 target (20% renewable energy, 20% greenhouse gas reduction and 20% reduction in energy consumption by year 2020), in this context, the production of heating and energy by biomass constitutes an important part.

In this framework, BIOEUPARKS will develop a methodology for setting-up and managing a local sustainable biomass supply chain based on the following 4 criteria:

• **Environmental sustainability**: the environmental impact, as well as the influence on the lives and healthy safe of locals, will be reduced at the minimum.

• **Sharing with locals**: participation sharing and co-planning with all relevant key actors, as a transparent and democratic method will overcome the social conflicts.

• **Long term perspective**: the capability of the system to maintain itself over time under social, economic and environmental aspects.

• **Local Income**: contribution to the increase of the income of local economic activities.
Objectives and main steps

The huge quantity of biomass produced from the forest management and agricultural residues at the moment is an important potential unexploited in many part of Europe.

BIOEUPARKS wants to develop new sustainable way to exploit this potential ensuring to the local communities within and nearby natural area throughout Europe:

• Secure, clean and low cost electric and thermal energy for households, firms, and local authorities;
• New business opportunity for local economic actors who can take profit from the harvesting, conversion and energy production;
• New green job for people living in nature area and nearby

To obtain those results we have to:

• Explain to people which opportunity could derive from biomass exploitation according with sustainable criteria
• Cluster all the actors potentially interested in the harvesting, conversion and energy production
• Setting up a sustainable supply chain
• Attract new public and private investments on the supply chain in particular in the setting up of new small scale plant to produce electric and thermal energy to the local communities
Expected impacts

Thanks to the project:

• At least 20 local authorities will have in their territory more plants which can provide them secure, clean and low cost electric and thermal energy;

• At least 200 firms will be provided by secure, clean and low cost electric and thermal energy;

• At least 1000 households will be provided by secure, clean and low cost electric and thermal energy;

• At least 25 local economic actors will develop new business in the field of sustainable exploitation of biomass;
Partners and Contact

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Agency for Renewable Resources (FNR), Germany
Democritus University Of Thrace (DUTH), Greece
Management Body of Rodopi Mountain Range National Park (RNP), Greece
Danube-Ipoly National Park (DINP), Hungary
Sila National Park (PNS), Italy
Kozjansko Regional Park (KRP), Slovenia
Slovenian Forestry institute (SFI), Slovenia
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