

# Forest Bioenergy in the Protected Mediterranean Areas

Report on the external events



Workpackage 2 - Communication  
Activity A 2.6. – Participating to external events  
Deliverable 2.6.1: Report on the external events

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<i>Workpackage 2</i>	Communication
<i>Activity A 2.6</i>	Participating to external events
<i>Deliverable 2.6.1</i>	Report on external event
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<i>Involved partner</i>	PP8 Public institution Nature Park Velebit
<i>Responsible partner</i>	PP7 Zadar County
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## **BRIEF EVENT DESCRIPTION**

Specialized Conference on Biomass and Renewable Energy Sources was held on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2018 in The Westin Hotel in Zagreb – Croatia. Public institution Nature Park Velebit (PP8) was participating on this event, actively promoting the project ForBioEnergy with the presentation – Forest Bioenergy in the Protected Mediterranean Areas (Forest biomass as renewable energy source).

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Conference was organized in order to discuss two main topics – wood biomass and renewable energy sources.

The topic of biomass and renewable energy sources is on a high list of European and Croatian priorities, which was demonstrated at the conference held in Zagreb.

The wood industry and the whole forest-based sector of Republic of Croatia are of crucial importance to the whole economy. Although the sector, which accounts for 1% of world pellet production, points to the lack of support in strategic documents, it still has a large number of investments and jobs, especially in rural areas where majority of forests are present.

### **1. 1. Location**

Specialized Conference on Biomass and Renewable Energy Sources was held on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2018 in The Westin Hotel (Kršnjavoga 1, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia)

### **1. 2. Who attended**

The conference hosted over 230 participants from the wood processing industry, biomass producers, wood and agricultural pellets, technology suppliers, representatives of institutions from Croatia and the EU, cities and municipalities who want to make better use of renewable energy sources for regional development. The main partners of the conference were European associations: European Biomass Association (AEBIOM), World Bioenergy Association (WBA) and European Pellet Council (EPC). Two Croatian Members of European Parliament, Jozo Rados and prof. dr. Davor Skrlec also attended conference. The conference was opened by the Croatian Minister of Environment and Energy, dr. sc. Tomislav Coric. Key-note speakers at the Conference were: Eric Vial – European Pellet Council, president; Remigijus Lapinskas – World Bioenergy Association, president and Raoul Cvecic Bole – CROBIOM, president.

## BRIEF OUTLINE OF KEY ISSUES AND CHALLENGES ADRESSED IN THE EVENT

Thematic emphasis was put on EU energy policies, the RED II directive and the market position of biomass and wood fuels.

Key topics of this conference were:

- influence of the new REDII directive and the market position of biomass and wood fuels
- pyrolysis and wood degradation in the context of new technologies
- lack of cogeneration quotas
- introducing excise to renewable energy sources
- trends in pellet and biomass exports
- legal regulation and EU harmonization
- need to reduce the VAT rate on pellets
- use of biomass and pellet in state power plants, biomass and EU programs / Smart S3 specialization strategy and wood raw material and agricultural residues.

### 1.3. Purpose and scope

The main topics – wood biomass and renewable energy sources – were discussed at the 8<sup>th</sup> International Energy Conference, organized by the Croatian Wood Cluster and CROBIOM – Croatian Biomass Association. Thematic emphasis was put on EU energy policies, the RED II directive and the market position of biomass and wood fuels, as well as the new technologies, combined heat and power (CHP) plant's quotas, trends in pellet and biomass exports and the greater use of EU funds.

### 1. 4. Key messages, outcomes, recommendations and synergies with thematic community project

- Raoul Cvecic Bole pointed out that it is necessary to increase local biomass utilization in accordance with the EU principles.
- Minister of Environment and Energy, dr. sc. Tomislav Coric emphasized the need to increase domestic pellet consumption through increased awareness and greater use in the public sector
- At the end of the conference, the CROBIOM and the World Bioenergy Association (WBA) signed and published Bioenergy Agreement as a guideline for the development of bioenergy in Croatia towards 2030

## Conclusions

World Bioenergy Associations (WBA) President Remigio Lapinskas stated that Croatia has great potential in biomass energy production. Croatia can contribute to European energy independence and global challenges in climate changes combating efforts. It is necessary to improve the energy policy in sustainable one that

will encourage the development of new fuels and replace the imported fossil fuels. At the end of the conference, the Bioenergy Agreement between World Bioenergy Associations (WBA) and CROBIOM was signed.

## Presentation material

1 POWER POINT PRESENTATION OF THE FORBIOENERGY PROJECT: general information, countries involved, project partners, pilot areas, objectives, main criticalities, future challenges, main target groups and expected results

### LEAFLET OF THE CONFERENCE:



8<sup>th</sup> International Energy Conference: <http://www.wood-energy.info/en/>

## Forest Bioenergy in the Protected Mediterranean Areas



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ASSESSORATO REGIONALE DELL'AGRICOLTURA,  
DELLO SVILUPPO RURALE  
E DELLA PESCA MEDITERRANEA  
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