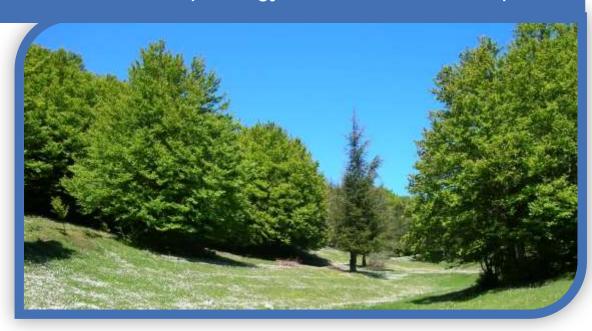


Forest Bioenergy in the Protected Mediterranean Areas

Technical panel in Valencia (Spain)

4th workshop (3rd thematic workshop) Energy and sustainable development



Workpackage 4 - Transferring Activity A.4.2. - Technical panels



TECHNICAL PANEL REPORT

Workpackage 4 **Transferring**

Activity A.4.2 Technical Panel

Deliverable D.4.2.1 Workshop' Reports

Pilot Area	Comunitat Valenciana - Valencian Community
Involved	Association of Forest Municipalities of the Comunitat Valenciana (AMUFOR)
partner	Official Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Services and Shipping of Valencia (COCINSV)
Responsible partners	Project Partner (PP5) – AMUFOR PP6 – COCINSV
Work mode	Thematic session: n.3 "Planning biomass for energy - energy and sustainable development"
Location	Headquarters of COCINSV: C/Poeta Querol 15 - 46002 Valencia (Valencia)
Date	18.12.2018
Participants	54 participants:
	Regional and local public authority, higher education and research, SMEs, enterprises, business support organisation, general public and other enterprises or SMEs not linked directly in the field of the energy sector.
Experts	D. José Vicente Latorre - Manager of Energy Savings and Efficiency Department of IVACE Energy.
	Dr. Pere Fullana i Palmer - Director of the UNESCO Chair in Life Cycle and Climate Change ESCI-UPF.
	D. Javier Urchueguía Schölzel - Professor at the UPV. President of the European GeothermaL Panel and Vice President of RHC ETIP (Renewable Heating & Cooling European Technology and Innovation Platform)
Workshop	Presentations distributed in 3 main lectures and 2 theme tables.
Material	Main lecture:
	- Energy policy of the European Union, energy efficiency
	 Climate change and other impacts, data and emotions, who and how does it decide?
	- Energy transition, an opportunity for change towards a sustainable model
	Theme tables:
	 Energy and environment. To fight against climate change.
	- Energy and society; energy efficiency, sustainable development.
Workshop's Outline	At European level, among the basic objectives of the EU Energy Policy, the aim is to guarantee the functioning of the energy market, the security of supply in the EU, to promote energy efficiency and energy savings, as well as the interconnection of energy networks (Treaty of Lisbon). Therefore, it has to take
	into account:



- 2020 Energy and Climate Change Package [European Council Agreement of December 17, 2008], objective 20/20/20
- Framework on Climate and Energy 2030 [European Council Agreement of October 23, 2014]
- Winter Package 2016 "Clean energy for all Europeans"

The Directive 2012/27/EU of 25 October 2012, on energy efficiency (Modified by Directive 2018/844) is the main instrument to achieve the EU's energy efficiency targets by 2020, in which standards aimed at eliminating barriers in the energy market and overcoming market deficiencies that hinder the efficiency in energy supply and consumption.

Regarding the new challenges in the "Long-term strategy 2050: a Clean Planet for All": it is noted the total decarbonisation of energy in 2050 in which is established that more than 80% of the EU's electricity be produced from renewable energy sources; innovation, energy efficiency and use of renewables in the industry; recycling and the circular economy also as fundamental axes of energy transformation.

At the level of the Valencian Community, in the "estratègia valenciana de canvi climatic I energia - Valencian strategy for climate change and energy", the abandonment of rural areas is considered among the main socioeconomic impacts. Regarding its mitigation and adaptation measures, it is pointed out:

- Energy (7), carbon footprint (1) and sinks (9) among the 49 mitigation measures. Specifically, the energy section details the promotion of renewable energies and the improvement of energy efficiency, as well as reducing dependence on oil and promoting self-consumption. With regard to the sinks, the carbon absorption capacity is evaluated, measures aimed at the preservation and fight against fires and combat and minimization of their side effects.
- Biodiversity (5), emergencies (1) and landscape (1) between the 24 adaptation measures. Regarding the scope of biodiversity and forestry, the measures included are based on identifying and mitigating the main impacts on ecosystems and promoting the resilience of the forests of the Comunitat Valenciana, detecting the most vulnerable habitats in the region, favouring the adaptation of forest ecosystems, pest control, detect invasive species and start a program of elimination.
- 7 common measures of mitigation and adaptation; among them, these are divided into research-development-technological innovation (3),



awareness-training-participation (3) and cooperation and sustainable development (1). In raising awareness, the objectives are directed to promote awareness, better understanding, awareness and training of the Valencian society in everything related to climate change and the necessary energy transformation: environmental education actions as a basis to achieve the necessary will to move towards a low carbon and resilient society facing climate change.

The Sustainable Energy Plan "Plan de Energía Sostenible" (PES) 2020 of the Valencian Community is based on the following principles:

- To promote the transition to a low carbon energy system based on autochthonous renewable energy sources.
- To promote the rational and efficient use of energy resources in different economic sectors.
- To prioritize self-consumption systems favouring their use in households, businesses and public administrations.
- To optimize the energy consumption in the facilities of the Generalitat Valenciana, improving its energy efficiency and incorporating renewable energies.

Regarding the objectives of the PES, these refer to the improvement of the final energy intensity by 1.5% year-on-year between 2014 and 2020 and the reduction of primary energy consumption of 20% in 2020 (on the 2007 trend scenario). Specifically and concerning the promotion of renewable energies and selfconsumption in the buildings, infrastructures and equipment of the public sector of the Generalitat (PAEEG), the objective is to achieve an energy saving of 12% in 2020 (above the reference level of energy consumption Global Public Sector of the Generalitat in 2014).

The energy transition is necessary to tackle climate change, to reduce energy dependence and have energy security, to stimulate technological innovation and the green economy, to strengthen local economies and to provide social justification, as well as an integral system of governance which contributes to the decision making based on data.

Main criticalities

The administrative barriers slow down the use of biomass for energy purposes; apart from the lack of coordination between public administrations linked to forest management and energy.

Moreover, there is a lack of awareness about the benefits of renewable energies; a part of the society does not know the environmental and socioeconomic benefit derived from the use of biomass for energy purposes and therefore, there is not a demand of this resource.

On the other hand, two thirds of GHG emissions have an energy origin; a great



effort is required to achieve the 2020, 2030 and 2050 objectives.

Therefore, the sustainable use and active management of biological-based natural resources are key elements that must be recognized by society in the transition to carbon neutrality and achieve a sustainable growth. It has to have a security in the energy supply, self-supply and energy self-consumption, a reduction in the energy dependence, a stable fuel price and an improvement in the quality of life of the population. The rural depopulation has to be combatted by generating local employment (use and valorization of the obtained resources, for example through an establishment of a district heating) and finally, the future of the next generations has not to be compromised.

The society does not have to have doubts about the benefits of biomass and for this; public administrations have to serve as an example making use of this energy in public buildings.

Main solutions

Forests are the largest carbon sinks which exist. So, through a sustainable forest management their capacity to preserve carbon is increased. It is important to note the role of forest products as dynamic carbon sinks; carbon storage is prolonged in forest products as they are substitutes for other products from fossil fuels.

The circular bioeconomy is an opportunity to promote low-carbon sectors and innovative SMEs through active rural development. Therefore, transnational cooperation is required and addressing common challenges of energy (mainly thermal energy) recovery of forest biomass in the protected Mediterranean areas; transversal and cooperation policies at all levels are essential.

Among the objectives for 2030, the governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action establishes a simplified governance that ensures that the EU and the States can work together to achieve the 2030 objectives and commitments of the Paris Agreement. In addition, each Member State has to prepare a national energy and climate plan for the period 2021 to 2030, which takes into account the longer-term perspective (2050).

Therefore, energy management is a strategic tool in the fight against climate change and the potential of the sector should be used as a pillar to move towards a sustainable and competitive model.

New tools are required to internalize the environmental benefits of forest management and preserve biodiversity, in an economically and socially sustainable way. The forest-based bioenergy value chain has to be legally guaranteed in the long term and the multifunctionality of forests has to be integrated into the different existing forest management tools.

To conclude, it is highlighted that forest management, harvesting and transport can generate 30 jobs (20.000 tons/year) and a woodchip combustion plant for a district heating can create 8 jobs. It is outlined that 300 has of woodland equals 1 job.



Programme and agenda of the workshop









Forest Bioenergy in the Protected Mediterranean Areas

forbioenergy.interreg-med.eu



















Disclaimer

The sole responsibility for the content of this publication lies with the authors. It does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the European Communities. The European Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.