



TIMBER News Update

Timber!

The TIMBER project is now actively running for over 6 months. And a lot has happened since the official start. Not only have we received the first outcomes on the regional studies, we also gained a lot of knowledge during the study visit in Stockholm and by exchanging Best Practices. This is all very valuable input for the development of the standardized model, that will be discussed with all partners during the meeting in Krakow on 31 March – 1 April 2011. The first steps in coming to this model have been made and the project group is now looking into how the model can be as practical as possible, without being too specific and thereby losing its usability for a large amount of regions. What is especially interesting to see, that the project as a whole has triggered some spontaneous spin-off as well. In the province of Cádiz for example some citizens and a municipality asked for additional information on biomass boilers and its appliance for domestic heating. As for the MEERI Institute, they decided that they

would prepare a scientific paper in Polish, describing the experience in other countries, based on the experiences of the partners. Also, the results of TIMBER will be used in the Energy Plan of the Malopolska region.

In the Province of Noord-Brabant some spin-off is starting to develop as well. From the stakeholders committee several initiatives will be carried out by the members, such as trying to coordinate the supply side of biomass and looking into the possibilities to set up a project to further develop the potential of biomass in rural areas. In a regional cooperation of 21 municipalities and 2 water boards TIMBER has also been included as one of the projects that could serve as a best practice for the region. Several actions will be taken the following period to actively connect the different biomass initiatives in the region in order to cooperate in a biomass 'network' that will make it easier to exchange knowledge and perhaps in the future will make it easier to cooperate on executive level as well.

This newsletter gives you a global view on how the project is running, if you would like some more information please contact Maaïke de Wijk (municipality of Boxtel), +31 411 655 803 or mwi@boxtel.nl

Kick-off meeting Boxtel fruitful start for a valuable cooperation

The 27th and 28th of May the kick-off meeting of TIMBER took place in Boxtel, The Netherlands. The meeting was not only good for building a strong project team, it also created a general overview on the project by having presentations about all subprojects within Timber. But we've gone further than this; the second day a brainstorm session took place in which all project members discussed the regional model. The content of this session will form the first draw for the model. For pictures of the Kick-off meeting click [here](#).



Project TIMBER aims to design a standardised model for the regional development of sustainable, renewable energy based on biomass resources. Each partner carries out several studies (such as regional sustainable analyses in biomass production, feasibility studies on several kinds of biomass, location studies, logistics studies) on which the standard regional model will be based. This model will be usable in other regions in Europe. Project Timber is funded by the InterregIvc Programme POWER.

For more information click [here](#)

Timber in the media

<http://bit.ly/evouwy>

<http://bit.ly/ek50gv>

<http://bit.ly/ek7m4o>

Upcoming events

Project Group meeting in Krakow 31 March 2011- 1 April 2011

Project Group meeting in Cádiz 30-31 May 2011



Two study days about large scale use of biomass in the Stockholm Region

Around 20 participants from the TIMBER consortium took part in a two days study trip to Stockholm, 14 and 15 of October 2010. The purpose of the two days was to show how a large scale use of biomass works in a metropolitan area.

The program contained presentations on how different biomass related systems work in Stockholm and site visits of the Högdalen waste incineration plant, the Henriksdal biogas production plant and the recently inaugurated CHP in Södertälje-Igelsta. A final discussion on day 2 with senior energy and planning experts gave the participants the possibility to discuss obstacles and potentials of biomass use and bring home experiences from the Stockholm region that has worked since a long time with large scale biomass applications.

Today almost 20 percent of the total energy demand of 55 TWh in the Stockholm region comes from biomass including waste and sludge for biogas production. Biofuels as ethanol and biogas are used in the transport sector, but the largest share of biomass is used for heating or cogeneration purposes. The district heating systems in the Stockholm region, which deliver 13 TWh heat per year, use all sorts of biomass: wood and forestry rests, wooden industrial waste, bio oils, olive



chars, etc. The base production of the district heating system in the region's central part is though based on a continuous incineration of household waste – more than 500 000 tones are burned up each year.

The district heating systems in Stockholm will be entirely interconnected in a near future. This allows use of the best CHPs that only run on biomass. By that expensive and fossil driven top demand heating plants during cold winter periods can be avoided. The last big CHP fired by coal will be transferred into a biomass plant and the entire Stockholm region's district heating system will be free of fossil fuels by 2020.

The biogas production in the Stockholm region is today based on sludge. Around 0.1 TWh is produced at four big waste water treatment sites. During the next 5 to 10 years it is planned to increase the production by several hundred percent. Mainly organic household waste and rest products from the agricultural sector will be used to do that. Maybe 0.4- 0.5 TWh could be

“ The most interesting for the Polish participants was the visit in CHP Iglesta, supplied in 90% by biofuel and connected to the municipal heating system in the region of Stockholm. In Poland, most of the CHP plants use coal as a fuel and biomass in such large systems is just extra fuel burned in separate installations or co-fired with coal. Opportunity to familiarize with the technology for burning biomass and power of 200 MW heat and 85 MW of electricity was a very interesting experience, especially in the context of the use of such technology in Malopolska region. “

Lukasz Lelek, MEERI Institute, Poland

produced in 2020 and deliver 3 to 4 percent of the entire fuel demand in the region's transport sector.

The study trips gave the participants insights in well functioning biomass logistics, recycling mechanism and energy production chains. The example of the Stockholm/Högdalen CHP shows that waste incineration in a densely populated area is possible – guaranteed that no harmful emissions are spread into

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the environment. The example of a biogas production site at Henriksdal/Stockholm that uses local material cycles is another example to be followed elsewhere. Probably the most impressive example of advanced energy technology is the new CHP at Igelsta/Södertälje where all sorts of biomass and industrial waste products are used. They are delivered via the harbor or trains/lorries – a just-in-time business that must work all the time and even under harsh weather conditions.

The discussions between participants and invited senior experts resulted in some final conclusions. For the Stockholm region it is clear that its large scale use of biomass has become a global business with supply chains that even reach other continents. To build up large scale biomass based energy systems prerequisites a couple of important factors:

- The availability of biomass to reasonable prices requires long term contracts with suppliers from near regions, but also globally
- Biomass and waste fuels must be certificated in order to guarantee their quality and energy contents
- Logistic chains that are reliable and that are based on sustainable transports modes (by train and/or shipping) as well as regional biomass stocks (need a lot of space) that are strategically located
- Demand of heat and cooling energy that justifies a large district heating systems on the basis of CHP:s – a biomass fueled CHP need to have an effect of at least 5 MW
- Trust and cooperation between the public and the private sector
- A long term planning perspective and planning initiatives that generally come from the public authorities or politics
- Pay-back times that have to be clear and insured before major investments are made
- Technical know-how that develops under a long time (e.g. waste incineration that is “no problem ” any more in Sweden)
- Political frameworks give space for investments as it highly affects profitability and the choice of fuels/burning techniques
- Public relationship work that includes politicians and the public from the beginning of major changes/investments in new energy facilities

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Best Practices Report for Timber

One of the objectives of the Timber! Project is to have every partner collect several good practices in order to exchange the knowledge that is already available in the partner regions. This was put together in one report on Best Practices (which you can download [here](#)) In this you will find the following Best Practices:

- Biomass plant Beetsterzwaag
- New sustainable location for regional waste service in 's-Hertogenbosch
- Pilot project bio energy, De Lier
- System to support the construction of heating systems using biomass
- Cooperation between potential buyers of biomass with local authorities
- Municipal Indoor Pool Heating with Biomass in Medina Sidonia
- Biomass Thermal Energy supply in the Hotel Balceló
- BIOPTIMA International Fair of Biomass and Energy Services
- Eco-labeled district heating and district cooling at Norrenergi
- Igelsta CHP-plant
- Biomass in Schools Programme
- Online Energy Assessment Tool
- RE:FIT



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TIMBER activities in Malopolska

From June 2010 till December 2010 Malopolska has carried out several activities for TIMBER. A quick overview on their first results:

- Analysis of data about the building of Malopolska Centre for Agricultural Consultancy in Karniowice and existing heating system in order to upgrade and implement a system using biomass for heat and power purposes. This analysis enabled the assessment of technical state of buildings and old heat installation, for which further studies on the possible implementation of the biomass plant biomass will be carried out .
- Analysis of existing biomass resources and their future potential in the Malopolska region, originating from agricultural crops
- Analysis of existing biomass resources and their future potential in the Malopolska region, originating from the timber industry. These studies have helped to draw important conclusions about the potential of biomass resources in the Malopolska province as well as identified the most important sources of biomass in the region.
- Organization of meetings with the owners of buildings (public and private) where installations on biomass is used for energy purposes. The purpose of the meetings was to obtain data about the problems and benefits of using this type of installation. Discussions carried out during the meeting were related with financial, technical and logistical issues, and obtained data helped to identify best practices in the region.



Results of first research Ngage Solutions

The research that has been carried out by Ngage Solutions (Buckinghamshire) showed that a number of businesses in Buckinghamshire are commercially harvesting timber and producing wood-fuel, but that the opportunity to fully exploit the local natural woodland resource is not being fully realised. This is because of a high degree of fragmentation in the current biomass supply chains and because of a potential shortfall in funding. Whilst implementing the use of renewable energy sources is a priority for many users of heat and power in the UK, there are still barriers to overcome before the strong potential of the local woodland resources can be fully

realised. Whilst some of the current blockages (including the need for capital investment and shorter payback periods) in the market are likely to be addressed by the imminent announcement about the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI), others - such as buyers commitment to local sourcing and overcoming the fragmentation in the supply chain - are largely only likely to be overcome through local initiatives and actions.

In order to address these issues, TIMBER aims to create a practicably applicable model for linking local wood-fuel suppliers to those organisations that are looking to implement renewable energy on a large

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wood-fuel suppliers to those organisations that are looking to implement renewable energy on a large scale such as local authorities, schools, and larger local businesses; creating a sustainable source of biomass in Buckinghamshire.

The next stage of the TIMBER project will be to try and identify opportunities for 'supply consortia' to work together to supply specific biomass installations that are planned locally. The study, which was carried out by Bio-Regional and the Silva Foundation, has been part funded by the INTERREG IVC POWER programme, financed by the European Union's

Regional Development Fund, Wycombe District Council, Buckinghamshire County Council and Chilterns Conservation Board.

"Biomass energy possesses a significant potential to deliver environmental and financial benefits to the local economy. However, this research study demonstrates that maximum benefits will only be achieved if we can establish more effective processes for linking local woodland owners and local users of woodfuel."

Jim Sims, Ngage Solutions

Regional Workshop in Medina Sidonia

The Energy Management Agency study-visit to Stockholm and the Province of Cádiz (APEC) has organized in the framework of TIMBER project a Technical Workshop about "Good Practices in the Energy Use of Biomass in the Province of Cádiz".

The workshop took place in the municipality of Medina Sidonia (Cádiz, Spain) at 25 November 2010. The Workshop was divided in two parts: in the first of them experts from APEC, engineering firms and local SMEs specialized in biomass clarified to the attendances the environmental and economic benefits of biomass and its different applications. They also explained different biomass projects carried out in the province. The second part consisted on an onsite demonstration of how domestic biomass boilers work. This demonstration was also open to the general public from 25th afternoon till Friday 26th.

The workshop included a specific presentation about TIMBER project: explanation of the objectives and working plan, recapitulation of the achievements, and a review of the

study-visit to Stockholm and the feasibility studies done in the province.

There were more than 35 attendees coming from different target groups: including local decisionmakers, municipal technicians, promoters, SMEs and general public. Technical and financial aspects of biomass were the topics that raised further question from the audience. The event was also gathered by 6 different media.

The variety of attendees and the attention the workshop got from different media, show that biomass is definitely a very current topic in the province. By combining forces and organizing a workshop with all these different speakers, APEC was able to give the participants an overview of the best practices in the region, opportunities and threats and even make the topic very interactive and practical by demonstrating how biomass boilers work.

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