



Newsletter 3/2010  
The Baltic Sea Region Bioenergy  
Promotion project

The Baltic Sea Region Bioenergy Promotion project 2009 - 2012. Promotion for sustainably produced bioenergy as a growing business in the Baltic Sea Region.

**Commission adopts biomass sustainability report**

A mandatory sustainability scheme for biofuels and bioliquids is presented in directive 2009/28/EC on the promotion and use of energy from renewable sources. In February the European Commission also published the requirements for a sustainability scheme for the use of solid and gaseous biomass for electricity, heating and cooling.  
Read more [here ->](#)

**Facilitation Workshop in Gdansk – awaking the sleeping potential**

Facilitation Workshop entitled “Biogas for Pomerania” was organized by the Baltic Eco-Energy Cluster on the 10-11th of May 2010 in the Institute of Fluid Flow Machinery Polish Academy of Sciences, Gdańsk, Poland. Event attracted ca. 150 participants from the Pomerania and Mazury as well as Baltic Sea Region.  
Read more [here ->](#)

**Promoting sustainable bioenergy production and use - policies, showcases and business solutions in the Baltic Sea Region conference, Kaunas 26th - 27th of November 2010**

The first project conference was held 26th - 27th of November 2009 in Helsinki, Finland with the theme Bioenergy in the Renewable Energy Action Plans - Policy Dialogue in Baltic Sea Region. Continuation is forthcoming as the second project conference will be organized on 25th - 26th of November in Kaunas, Lithuania.  
Read more [here ->](#)

**Baltic 21 Lighthouse Projects**

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**Bioenergy Promotion has been selected as Flagship project**

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## Commission adopts biomass sustainability report

*A mandatory sustainability scheme for biofuels and bioliquids is presented in directive 2009/28/EC on the promotion and use of energy from renewable sources. In February the European Commission also published the requirements for a sustainability scheme for the use of solid and gaseous biomass for electricity, heating and cooling.*

The recently published report concluded that binding measures are not needed at this stage. However, the Member States are encouraged to develop national sustainability schemes for the use of solid and gaseous biomass and it is recommended to ensure that the sustainability schemes in all possible aspects are the same as those for biofuels and bioliquids.

The work on sustainability criteria in task 3.1 within the Bioenergy Promotion project considers both biofuels and solid and gaseous biomass and will therefore become useful in this context. The criterion formulated in task is the key to fulfil some basic principles for sustainable bioenergy. The principles define our objectives concerning biodiversity, resource efficiency, energy efficiency, climate mitigation efficiency, social aspects and economic issues. The principles and criteria are to be presented in a report which is available at the project [website](#).

### **For more information:**

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The Commission report can be found [here](#).



## Facilitation Workshop in Gdansk – awaking the sleeping potential

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Picture: Ewa Domke

The objective of the workshop was to provide a platform for networking in order to support already existing connections as well as stimulate new ones. In addition, exchange of experiences and facilitation of discussions of potential common projects and initiatives in the future were goals for the workshop.

Biogas production from agricultural waste is currently a hot topic in Poland and in other Baltic States. Workshop was attended by many stakeholders of this emerging market in Poland and thus played a role of a facilitation platform – technology providers; representatives of local administration as well as farmers had the opportunity to discuss potential investments. Special sessions "face-to-face" meetings were organized with business entities (namely technology providers). Additionally, there were sessions given by banks interested to finance such initiatives.

The event was organized under the honorary patronage of the Polish Ministry of Agriculture and Rural development, Mr Marek Sawicki as well as Marshal of Pomorskie Voivodeship, Mr Mieczysław Struk.

We are looking forward to possible future outcomes of this event. Fingers crossed for new installations!

**For more information:**

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## **Promoting sustainable bioenergy production and use - policies, showcases and business solutions in the Baltic Sea Region**

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The conference will continue the theme presented in Helsinki, but now it will concentrate on the implementation of the Renewable Energy Action Plans as well as on business world and opportunities among with good practice cooperation between (sub)regions.

More information will be provided later on in the Bioenergy Promotion [website](#) and in the newsletter. Remember to mark already the dates in the calendar!

### **For more information:**

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## Baltic 21 Lighthouse Projects

The Baltic Sea Region Bioenergy Promotion project is one of the Baltic 21 Lighthouse Projects.

The concept of Lighthouse Projects was a component of the Baltic 21 Strategy Guidelines originally presented to the Fifth Baltic Sea States Summit in June 2004. The term, "Lighthouse Project" has been coined to denote projects "designed to demonstrate sustainable development in action".

The Lighthouse Project Quality label is being awarded by the Expert Group. Lighthouse Projects conform with set of criteria specifically focused on value-added contribution to the regional sustainability and high visibility. They also involve the participation of stakeholders from as many countries as possible and aim to ensure equal opportunities.

Currently there are 6 ongoing Lighthouse Projects, 8 completed and 4 with funding pending.

Source:

<http://www.cbss.org/Environment/baltic-21-lighthouse-projects>





## EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

The European Commission adopted a Communication on the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region on 10 June 2009. This followed a request from EU Member States. This is the first time that a comprehensive Strategy, covering several Community policies, is targeted on a 'macro-region'.

About eighty flagship projects are listed in the accompanying Action Plan, which will be reviewed regularly.

The Strategy aims at coordinating action by Member States, regions, the EU, pan-Baltic organisations, financing institutions and non-governmental bodies to promote a more balanced development of the Region. The four cornerstones of the Strategy are to make this part of Europe more:

1. Environmentally sustainable (e.g. reducing pollution in the sea);
2. Prosperous (e.g. promoting innovation in small and medium enterprises);
3. Accessible and attractive (e.g. better transport links);
4. Safe and secure (e.g. improving accident response).

The Bioenergy Promotion project has been selected as a **Flagship project** in the Action Plan accompanying the **European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region**. The Bioenergy Promotion project has also become a Baltic 21 Lighthouse project.

Source:

[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/cooperation/baltic/](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/cooperation/baltic/)



## New reports published

### *Task 3.1 Development of sustainability criteria*

The objective of WP 3 Policy within the project Bioenergy Promotion is to promote a sustainable production and use of biomass for energy purposes. As a part of WP 3, task 3.1 has been working on the development and formulation of principles and criteria for a sustainable production of bioenergy.

The work within task 3.1 is now finalized and the resulting report, [Sustainable bioenergy production, defining principles and criteria](#), and is available.

### *Task 4.2 Assessment of potential for biomass utilisation in regions*

The report compiles facts and figures for bioenergy resources in 16 Bioenergy Promotion (sub-)regions as "testing grounds". It summarizes information provided by 22 project partners in more than hundred individual questionnaires for different bioenergy resources from agriculture, forestry and other land-use. The report gives a cross-regional overview for these resources in general descriptions, figures and aspects concerning sustainability.

The [Regional Bioenergy Potential](#) report is available as pdf for download.

The final report on Task 4.2 is provided by the Chamber of Agriculture Lower Saxony, Germany.



## **Event information**

Bioenergy Promotion up-coming project meetings and conferences

- Bioenergy Promotion second project conference, November 25th - 26th, Kaunas, Lithuania