

# FOSTERING SUSTAINABLE FEEDSTOCK PRODUCTION FOR ADVANCED BIOFUELS ON UNDERUTILISED LAND IN EUROPE

REPORT ON TRAINING EVENTS IN THE OUTREACH COUNTRIES (BELGIUM, POLAND, ROMANIA, HUNGARY, UNITED KINGDOM)



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# 1. Objectives

The main objective of the capacity building events in the outreach countries is to put together landowners, farmers, local actors and biomass supply chain stakeholders with the aim of encouraging them to initiate the setting up of sustainable local bioenergy supply chains on underutilised land. The events will inform stakeholders about the results of the project mainly the agronomic and techno-economic feasibility of the case study done in the target countries pointing out that such projects are economically feasible and by presenting the results of the sustainability assessment which shows that the process is sustainable. The events will also be an opportunity to discuss policy barriers in the country with the aim to identify actions to remove them.

In order to increase the outreach to a maximum of stakeholders, some partners proposed to make 2 events, 1 day each and in different regions and others thought to have 1 event of 2 days as it was foreseen.



# 2. Capacity building events in Belgium

# 2.1. First training event

# 2.1.1. Introduction

In order to share with a maximum of local stakeholders ELO organized two Info Days, 1st taking place in Flanders and 2nd in Walloon region.

The 1st Info Day took place on 22 May in Café Trappisten in Westmalle. All the presentations and debates were in Flemish to ensure a good dissemination within local stakeholders (land owners, farmers, energy crop producers, local decision takers). It was a perfect opportunity to learn more about similar projects realized or on-going due to the exchange with researchers. 23 participants attended the event.

# 2.1.2. Invitation





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Landelijk Vlaanderen vzw heeft de eer u dit laar uit	Programma Algemene Ledenvergadering							- 1		
te nodigen op haar Algemene Ledenvergadering in	Pseochiecentrum van Westmalle, St. Juzellei 27, 2300 Westmalle									
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Na ean voorstelling van het Europese onderzoeksproject FORBIO geven specialisten van het Institust voor Ristuur en Bosonderzoek (INBIO) en het Centrum voor Milieukunde van	16:45 Vanuit de Vlaamse Dierheid (Sonja Vantalaers, administrateur- generaal, Agentachap Chriserend Erligoed)			auque				1	D Merch	and a
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# 2.1.3. Agenda



#### INFO DAY | 22.05.2018

Café Trappisten, Antwerpsesteenweg 487, 2390 Westmalle; (rechtover de Abdij)

#### In Flemish only

Workshop FORBIO: Hoe houtige biomassa in Vlaanderen inzetten tegen bodemverontreiniging (phytoremediatie)? Na een voorstelling van het Europese onderzoeksproject FORBIO geven specialisten van het Instituut voor Natuur en Bosonderzoek (INBO) en het Centrum voor Milieukunde van de UHasselt een actueel beeld van het gebruik van bos en landbouwgewassen bij de bestrijding van bodemvervuiling.

Ook wordt ingegaan op de belangrijke rol die populier en wilg hierbij kunnen spelen.

#### Agenda:

10:30 | Welcome (Jurgen Tack, Landelijk Vlaanderen)

10:45 |Introduction into FORBIO

(Valérie Vandenabeele, Aanspreekpunt Privaat Beheer Natuur en Bos)

11:05 | Phytoremediation: how does it work, how can you make use of it, some cases in Flanders (Mario Clemmens, CEO Bio2clean)

11:45 | The use of Poplar and Willow for phytoremediation (Marije Steenackers, Research Institute for Nature and Forest, FAO advisor)

12:15 | Debate with the participants

12.45 | Lunch for the participants

 $14.00\hbox{-}16.15$  | Scientific walk around the abbey discussing the role and place of biomass in Flanders



# 2.1.4. Summary of presentations

**Dr. Jurgen Tack**, Director general of Landelijk Vlaanderen and Scientific Director explained the reasons to involve ELO in this Horizon 2020 project.

**Valérie Vandenabeele**, Aanspreekpunt Privaat Beheer Natuur en Bos, presented the FORBIO project to the participants of the Info Day, explaining the objectives and the achieved results.

**Mario Clemmens and Dirk Dubin** presented the Bio2clean project focused on phytoremediation: how does it work, how can you make use of it, some cases in Flanders. With this technique, plants (including trees) are used for the capture, removal, conversion and/or degradation of harmful substances in soils or (ground) water. They underlined the link with FORBIO objectives.

**Marije Steenackers**, Research Institute for Nature and Forest, FAO advisor, gave the example of Poplar and Willow for phytoremediation to explain better the numerous links between projects like FORBIO and Bio2clean, enhancing how important for researchers is to understand the needs of local stakeholders. The most important conclusions were that phytoremediation is a lot cheaper than classical soil remediation as the soil remains undisturbed and there is no need for transport. Therefore, this technique is much less damaging to the environment.

A very interesting debate followed these presentations.



Participants of the event



### 2.1.5. Conclusions

The main objective of the Info Day was to show the results of the agronomic and techno-economic feasibility of the case studies. The participants were especially interested by the economic feasibility of various presented projects. The debate focused also on the possibility to replicate the explained examples, especially taking into consideration that the sustainability conditions can be different even between regions in the same country.

As in the Flanders case, the participants pointed on the need to continually improve the cooperation between the researchers and the stakeholders. They were pointing out how important is to bring years of science expertise about topics dealt with in the past and ongoing projects to the market. Here various form of collaboration should be supported by local and national governments (ie in the Bio2Clean case via a spinoff start-up).

The conclusions of the Info Day were largely disseminated in the Landelijk Vlanderen organisation magazine edited quarterly. The magazine is printed in 1200 copies.



















# 2.2. Second training event

## 2.2.1. Introduction

The 2nd Info Day was organized on 28 July at the Foire de Libramont. The Libramont agriculture, forestry and agribusiness Fair is the largest open-air yearly fair in Europe, welcoming nearly 220,000 visitors and 800 exhibitors. It is an exceptional showcase of rural life, which it approaches from many angles: machinery, livestock, forestry, agribusiness, horticulture, market gardening, civil engineering, research, education and culture. The targeted audience were local stakeholders, but also general public interested by energy and agricultural topics.

Special invitation, in presence of the Walloon Minister for Budget, Finances, Energy and Climate JeanLuc Crucke was shared with the members of the NTF organization during their General Assembly, which took place on 12 June. The GA was attended by 150 participants, which a perfect opportunity to communicate on the FORBIO Info Day and project itself. The Info Day was organized in French to ensure a better dissemination towards the Walloon region.

24 participants attended that event.

#### 2.2.1. Invitation





# 2.2.2. Agenda



# 2.2.3. Summary of presentations

**Dr Jurgen Tack**, Scientific Director ELO explained why such an organisation was involved in FORBIO project.

**Marie-Alice Budniok**, Legal Director and Coordinator of the projects presented the summary and the objectives of the FORBIO project. She presented the case studies emphasising the possibility to replicate them in different EU countries. She highlighted the economic and sustainability points during her presentation.

**Dr Aricia Evlard and Ir Lucas Gossiaux** presented the special case of ValBiom, tackling with phytomanagement and dedicated crops to better explain the ongoing projects. The main objectives of the ValBiom association is to stimulate and facilitate the realization of sustainable initiatives integrating the production of biomass and its transformation into energy and materials.

The presentations were concluded by a discussion with the participants of the Info Day.







**Participants of the event** 

# 2.2.4. Conclusions

The participants were especially interested by the economic results of the case studies. They highlighted that special case of the Walloon region when dealing with specific sustainability requirements. They also emphasized the importance of sharing the good practises to ensure additional incomes by avoiding mistakes when planning such investments. They were very interested in the conclusions and the follow-up of the FORBIO project. All underlined that a tool enabling to collect case studies like those analysed by FORBIO would be very useful – it is very time consuming to find relevant examples.



The members of the NTF (Propriétaires ruraux de Wallonie) were interested in how to better exchange the existing expertise and enhance collaboration among professionals in the sector. It was crucial for them to know that if they choose to implement the solutions proposed in a project like FORBIO they will be able to have a scientific support when needed and that the provided analysis are of best quality.

All agreed on the importance of better communication with the general public to explain that in projects such as FORBIO there is no direct competition between producing food/feed and energy. Everyone pointed out how important is also to communicate such projects to public authorities. Without their support, farmers and land managers can't invest in new activities bringing additional income. Such investments need a long term perspective, and it is crucial to know that the local/national government will not change every year the decision to support willow,poplar or miscanthus for another type of plants.

Final comments were focusing on the ongoing debate on the European level on the future of biobased economy.



# 3. Capacity building events in Poland

# 3.1. First training event

### 3.1.1. Introduction

In order to increase the outreach to a maximum of stakeholders POLBIOM decided to organize 2 events, 1st day organized in Warsaw was FORBIO Info Day informing stakeholders about the project by showing results of the agronomic and technoeconomic feasibility of the case study done in the target countries and pointing out that such projects are economically feasible and the process is sustainable.

**FORBIO Info Day** was held in Warsaw on 24 May 2018 at The Institute of Technology and Life Sciences (ITP) premises Rakowiecka 32 street.

30 participants attended the event representing wide range of stakeholders: energy crops producers, biomass trading company, researchers (agriculture sector and advanced biofuels value chain), but also companies looking for new areas of activities in the bioenergy sector.

### 3.1.2. Invitation

Invitation (in Polish)



#### **ZAPROSZENIE**

#### Szanowni Państwo

Zapraszamy na seminarium Info Day projektu FORBIO "Promowanie zrównoważonej produkcji surowców dla zaawansowanych biopaliw na gruntach niewykorzystanych w Europie". Seminarium odbędzie się 24.05.2018, w godz. 10 -14, miejsce ITP ul Rakowiecka 32 sala 210. Poniżej podany jest program seminarium. Prosimy o potwierdzenie przybycia telefonicznie lub e-mailem.

CZAS TRWANIA	PROGRAM	REFERENT
9.40 - 10.00	Rejestracja / Powitaniekawowe	
10.00 - 10.10	Otwarciespotkania	Anna Grzybek / POLBIOM



10.10.10.05		
10.10 -10.35	Uwarunkowania produkcji biopaliw	Magdalena Rogulska/PIMOT
	zaawansowanych w UE	POLBIOM
10.35 - 10.45	FORBIO – przedstawienieprojektu	Anna Grzybek / POLBIOM
10.45 - 11.10	Wskaźniki wykorzystywane do oceny	Maria Śmietanka/ KPK,
	zrównoważonej produkcji surowców dla	POLBIOM
	zaawansowanych biopaliw w FORBIO	
11.10 - 11.25	Analizy przypadku w wybranych krajach	Marek Hryniewicz /ITP,
	zrealizowane w ramach projektu FORBIO	POLBIOM
11.25 - 11.50	Dostępność biomasy w Polsce	Ryszard Gajewski
		Polska Izba Biomasy
11.50 - 12.10	Przerwa kawowa	
12.10 - 12.35	Ocena zrównoważenia technologii	ŁukaszBaran/
	przetwarzania energii z biomasy	PolitechnikaWarszawska
12.35 -13.00	Emisje szkodliwych gazów z produkcji	AleksanderMuzalewski/
	surowców dla zaawansowanych biopaliw	ITP
13.00 -13.25	Bariery utrudniające wykorzystanie	ŁukaszKujda /ITP,
	surowców dla zaawansowanych biopaliw w	POLBIOM
	FORBIO	
13.25 – 13.50	Dyskusja	
13.50 - 14.00	Podsumowanie	
14.00	Poczęstunek	

The e-mail informing about the event with an enclosed invitation (in Polish) was sent to POLBIOM contact list.

Information about the event and the invitation were placed on POLBIOM webpage and several other webpages eg.:

http://www.biomasa.org.pl/aktualnosci-oferty-kalendarium/aktualnosci/336-zapraszamy-naseminarium-info-day-projektu-forbio-24-05-2018r.html

# Zapraszamy na Seminarium Info Day projektu FORBIO 24.05.2018r.

# 10 maj 2018

Serdecznie zapraszamy na Seminarium Info Day projektu FORBIO "Promowanie zrównoważonej produkcji surowców dla zaawansowanych biopaliw na gruntach niewykorzystanych w Europie", które odbędzie się w dniu 24.05.2018 roku w Warszawie w godzinach 10 - 14, w siedzibie Instytutu Technologiczno-Przyrodniczego przy ul. Rakowieckiej 32 sala 210

więcej informacji: www.polbiom.pl PROGRAM



# 3.1.3. Agenda

Agenda of FORBIO Info day held in Warsaw

Date: 24.05.2018. Place: ITP Rakowiecka 32 room 210

Chairman: Anna Grzybek

TIME	PROGRAM	SPEAKER
9.30 - 10.00	Registration / Welcome coffee	
10.00 - 10.10	Opening of the meeting	Anna Grzybek / POLBIOM
10:10 -10:35	Determinants of advanced biofuels production at the EU level	Magdalena Rogulska/PIMOT, POLBIOM
10:35 - 11.00	FORBIO – project presentation	Anna Grzybek / POLBIOM
11.00 - 11.25	Examples of indicators used to assess the sustainable production of raw materials for advanced biofuels in FORBIO	Maria Śmietanka/ POLBIOM
11.25 - 11.50	Case studies implemented in selected countries within the FORBIO project	Marek Hryniewicz /POLBIOM
11.50 - 12.15	Availability of biomass in Poland	Ryszard Gajewski Polska Izba Biomasy
12.15 - 12.30	Coffee break	
12.30 - 13.00	Emissions of harmful gases from the production of raw materials for advanced biofuels	Aleksander Muzalewski/ ITP
13.00 -13.25	Evaluation of the sustainability of energy conversion technologies from biomass	Łukasz Baran/ PolitechnikaWarszawska
13.00 -13.25	Barriers that hinder the use of raw materials for advanced biofuels in FORBIO project	Łukasz Kujda /ITP, POLBIOM
13.25 – 13.50	Discussion	
13.50 – 14.00	Summary	
14.00	Lunch	

# 3.1.4. Summary of presentations

According to the agenda of the seminar there were 8 speakers.

The first speaker was Dr. **Magdalena Rogulska**, who has discussed the determinants for the production of advanced biofuels in the EU. She presented directives and other documents regarding biofuels in force in the EU, in particular she pointed to REDII. She presented the state of knowledge in the field of technological readiness of various advanced biofuel production technologies according to the IRENA 2016 report. She has provided examples of advanced biofuels plants in Europe. She presented in the graph how the production costs of bioethanol from various raw materials are shaped on the basis of the BIOLYFE project, as well as the current and forecasted production costs of biofuels. She pointed that FORBIO project is an



example of projects looking for the answer to main challenges of advanced biofuels deployment.



Magdalena Rogulska, POLBIOM

The next speaker was prof. **Anna Grzybek** - Polish coordinator of the project. She presented the basic goals of the FORBIO project. One of the objectives of the project is to develop a method for assessing the potential of bioenergy production from raw materials produced on available land not used for agriculture (polluted, fallow land, etc.) at the national and local level. She discussed the tasks of 12 project partners from 9 countries. The project is innovative; supports the removal of non-economic barriers (improvement of legislation related to bioenergy). It has a positive impact on the environment because it concerns the development of methods for the management of contaminated land, abandoned or abandoned land for the cultivation of plant raw materials for the production of bioenergy. Reclamation of land with contaminated lands, abandoned open-cast mines or wastelands can serve the public. The effects of the project have been presented.

The indicators used to assess the sustainable production of raw materials for advanced biofuels at FORBIO were presented by the next speaker from POLBIOM team – **Maria Śmietanka**. These indicators elaborated by FAO concern three areas: economic, social and environmental. In the economic area, it is: productivity (yields, technologies), energy balance of the life cycle, value of production, infrastructure and logistics. In the social part: changes in incomes, workplaces, use of bioenergy to enable access to new energy services. Environment: greenhouse gas emissions in the life cycle, soil quality indicators, emissions to air of other substances than greenhouse gases, water consumption, water quality, biodiversity, changes in land use.





Maria Śmietanka, POLBIOM

Next speaker **Marek Hryniewicz** presented case studies implemented within the FORBIO project in three countries, namely Italy, Germany and Ukraine as well as FORBIO results from these case studies. In Italy, Arundo Donax (reed cane) was grown for the production of second generation bioethanol. In Germany, management of abandoned fields after drainage of sewage and development of open-cast mines was studied and in Ukraine - the industrial cultivation of energy willow. In German studies, attention was paid to barriers to the introduction of energy plants, especially in post-mining areas. Research related to the selection of promising energy plant species for cultivation in settlement fields has been given. The Ukrainian case study deals with the management of land in the Ivankovsk region, where the Chernobyl exclusion zone is located. Experiences from field cultivations for willows and a technological operation card on an industrial plantation were presented.

The representative of the **Polish Chamber of Biomass** spoke about the availability of biomass in Poland. About 5500 thousand tons of forest biomass and 4500 thousand tons of straw can be obtained for energy purposes in the country. The statistics concerning cultivation of energy crops in Poland in 2010-2015 has been given. Particular attention was paid to three basic species: willow, poplar, and miscanthus. The demand for biomass was presented by 2030, broken down into economic sectors and areas potentially suitable for the production of perennial energy crops on the basis of the SERENE project.

**Aleksander Muzalewski** presented the results of his assessments of the emission of harmful gases from the production of raw materials for advanced biofuels. The author presented how CO2 emissions are shaped in the cultivation of willow, miscanthus and *Sida hermaphrodita* in Polish conditions.



The assessment of the sustainability of energy conversion technology from biomass was the subject of the next presentation of Mr. **Łukasz Baran**. An original method of studying the assessment of the sustainability of the biomass energy conversion process and its verification on real objects was presented. Criteria were chosen to study the assessment of the sustainability of the energy conversion process from biomass. The assessment of the sustainability of the energy conversion process from biomass can be carried out for a defined single process. The assigned value of the sustainability coefficient cannot be compared between the plants because they operate within different limits of external sustainability assessments. An interactive tool for this assessment is available at <a href="https://www.beo.info.pl">www.beo.info.pl</a>.



Łukasz BARAN, PolitechnikaWarszawska

The last speaker Łukasz Kujda from POLBIOM presented bbarriers that hinder the use of raw materials for advanced biofuels in FORBIO project.



Participants of the FORBIO Info Day in Warsaw



### 3.1.5. Conclusions

Main outcomes from the discussion during the meeting

- The currently discussed document at the EU level RED II is crucial for the development of the biofuels sector, including Poland.
- The announcement of a linear increase in the share of energy from RES in the balance sheet to 27% and the related constant growth dynamics may prove to be a critical challenge for the support mechanism in Poland.
- The challenge for energy production from biomass is to achieve competitiveness by reducing production costs and resolving raw material supplies (production cost, logistics, sustainability aspects)
- In Poland, we have large land resources that could be allocated for new afforestation and dedicated cultivation of perennial energy crops.
- Biomass should be used locally by individual recipients in dedicated highefficiency boilers, or in high-efficiency cogeneration units for the production of electricity and heat.
- The use of this potential could play an important role in reducing CO2 emissions.

The participants appreciated the value of the FORBIO project, which responds to challenges related to the production of raw material for the production of advanced biofuels. The results of the FORBIO project (the agronomic and techno-economic feasibility of the case study done in the target countries as well as the sustainability assessment) has shown that growing energy crops on underutilized land is economically feasible and the process is sustainable. In participants opinion such projects can bring a number of benefits for local communities. For Polish conditions especially interested in the German case study on post-mining areas.

FORBIO Info Day organised by POLBIOM was an important element of discussion about sustainability of biomass and bioenergy production among different stakeholders involved in this subject.

It was decided that  $2^{nd}$  event will be organized in early September and will be concentrated on German case study on post-mining areas. The event will also be an opportunity to discuss barriers in the country with the aim to identify actions to remove them.



# 3.2. Second training event

### 3.2.1. Introduction

Second Polish event was held in Płońsk, Mazovian voivodeship. The Płońsk city and commune took the first place in the Polish municipalities ranking in the field of renewable energy sources. Among other things, there is CHP for biomass in the town, that is why the second FORBIO event was organized in this place.

The main goal of the event was to introduce FORBIO results, especially concerning German case on post-mining side, to wide range of stakeholders and to discuss barriers in the country on basis of questionnaire elaborated by FAO.

50 participants attended the event representing wide range of stakeholders: farmers, local administration, municipal heating company, entrepreneurs from Mazovian Science and Technology Park (energy sector, agro-food production, agriculture), researchers (agriculture and bioenergy sector) and students from RES & agriculture sector.

#### 3.2.2. Invitation

Invitation (in Polish)







#### **ZAPROSZENIE**

#### Szanowni Państwo

Zapraszamy na seminarium projektu FORBIO "Promowanie zrównoważonej produkcji surowców dla zaawansowanych biopaliw na gruntach niewykorzystanych w Europie". Seminarium odbędzie się 4.09.2018, w godz. 9:30 -15:00, w Miejskim Centrum Kultury w Płońsku, ul. Płocka 50. Seminarium organizowane jest przy współpracy Mazowieckiego Parku Naukowo –Technologicznego w Płońsku. Prosimy o potwierdzenie przybycia telefonicznie lub e-mailem.



# **Program seminarium**

CZAS TRWANIA	PROGRAM	REFERENT
9.30 – 10.00	Rejestracja / Powitanie kawowe	
10.00 - 10.10	Otwarcie spotkania	Anna Grzybek/ POLBIOM
10:10 - 10:30	FORBIO – charakterystyka projektu	Anna Grzybek/ POLBIOM
10.30 – 10.50	Produkcja biopaliw zaawansowanych na poziomie UE	Magdalena Rogulska/PIMOT
10.50 – 11.20	Wskaźniki wykorzystywane do oceny	Marek Hryniewicz//ITP,
	zrównoważonej produkcji surowców dla	POLBIOM
	zaawansowanych biopaliw na przykładzie projektu FORBIO	
11.20 – 11.40	Biomasa dedykowana dla energetyki	Ryszard Gajewski
		Polska Izba Biomasy
11.40 – 12.00	Rodzaje barier utrudniających wykorzystanie	Łukasz Kujda/ ITP,
	surowców dla zaawansowanych biopaliw w Polsce	POLBIOM
	zidentyfikowane w ramach projektu FORBIO	
12.00 – 12.20	Przerwa kawowa	
12.20 – 12.40	Możliwości rekultywacji terenów zdegradowanych	Włodzimierz Majtkowski/
	związane z uprawami roślin drzewiastych	IHAR
12.40 – 13.00	Emisje szkodliwych gazów z produkcji surowców	Aleksander Muzalewski/
	dla zaawansowanych biopaliw	ITP
13.00 – 13.20	Analizy zagospodarowania terenów	Maria Śmietanka/ / KPK,
	zdegradowanych w wybranych krajach	POLBIOM
	zrealizowane w ramach projektu FORBIO ze	
	szczególnym uwzględnieniem przypadku	
	niemieckiego	
13.20 – 13.40	Wyniki doświadczeń rekultywacyjnych na terenach	Włodzimierz Majtkowski/
	zdegradowanych w Polsce	IHAR
13.40 – 14.00	Finansowanie badań i innowacji w zakresie	Maria Śmietanka / KPK
	bioenergii z programów badawczych Unii	
	Europejskiej.	
14.00 – 14.20	Dyskusja	Moderator: Magdalena
		Rogulska
14.20 – 14.30	Podsumowanie	Moderator: Anna Grzybek
14.30	Lunch networkingowy	

E-mail informing about event with enclosed invitation (in Polish) was send to POLBIOM, Poświętne Agricultural Adviser Centre and Mazovian Science and Technology Park contact lists.

Invitation was placed on POLBIOM website and other websites such as:

http://www.biomasa.org.pl/aktualnosci-oferty-kalendarium/aktualnosci/340-seminarium-pt-promowanie-zrownowazonej-produkcji-surowcow-dla-zaawansowanych-biopaliw-na-gruntachniewykorzystanych-w-europie.html

https://mpnt.pl/pl/news



# 3.2.3. Agenda

Agenda of second FORBIO event held in Płońsk:

Date: 04.09.2018. Place: Płońsk, City Culture Centre, Płocka 50 Str.

Chairman: Anna Grzybek

DURATION	PRESENTATION	PRESENTER	
9.30 - 10.00	Registration/Coffee welcome		
10.00 - 10.10	The Seminar opening	Anna Grzybek/POLBIOM	
10:10 - 10:30	FORBIO – project characteristic	Anna Grzybek/POLBIOM	
10.30 - 10.50	Advanced biofuels production at EU level	Magdalena Rogulska/PIMOT	
10.50 – 11.20	Indicators used to assess the sustainable	Marek Hryniewicz/ITP,	
	production of raw materials for advanced biofuels	POLBIOM	
	on the FORBIO project example		
11.20 – 11.40	Biomass dedicated to energy production	Ryszard Gajewski	
		Polish Biomass Chamber	
11.40 – 12.00	Review of barriers hindering the use of raw	Łukasz Kujda/ ITP,	
	materials for advanced biofuels in Poland identified	POLBIOM	
10.00 10.00	under the FORBIO project		
12.00 – 12.20	Coffee break		
12.20 – 12.40	Possibilities of degraded areas reclamation related	Włodzimierz Majtkowski/IHAR	
	to the cultivation of woody plants		
12.40 – 13.00	The production of raw materials for advanced	Aleksander Muzalewski/ITP	
	biofuels as source of harmful gases emissions		
13.00 – 13.20	Development analyses of degraded areas in	Maria Śmietanka/ KPK,	
	selected countries implemented as part of the	POLBIOM	
	FORBIO project, with particular reference to the		
12.20 12.10	German case	100 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
13.20 – 13.40	Results of reclamation experiments in degraded	Włodzimierz Majtkowski/IHAR	
12.40 14.00	areas in Poland	Mania Émiliata de AMPM	
13.40 – 14.00	Financing research and innovation in the field of	Maria Śmietanka/ KPK	
	bioenergy from European Union research		
14.00 – 14.20	programs.	Madaratar: Magdalana	
14.00 - 14.20	Discussion	Moderator: Magdalena Rogulska	
14.20 – 14.30	Summary	Moderator: Anna Grzybek	
14.30	Networking lunch	Moderator. Arma Grzybek	
14.30	I METMOLKING INHOLI		

# 3.2.4. Summary of presentations

The seminar was led by prof. Anna Grzybek - Polish coordinator of the project. The participants of the seminar were greeted by **Mr. Andrzej Pietrasik**, Mayor of Płońsk, who talked about the achievements of the Płońsk city and the municipality in the use of renewable energy sources (Fig.5).





Andrzej Pietrasik, Mayor of Płońsk and prof. Anna Grzybek, POLBIOM

The first speaker- **Anna Grzybek** presented the goals and assumptions of the project as well as the method of financing and partners. She presented the tasks of 12 project partners from 9 countries. She characterized the project particularly in the aspect of innovation. An innovative feature is to support the removal of non-economic barriers and, as a result, to improve legislation related to bioenergy, what is especially important in Polish conditions. The case studies analyzed in the project concern the assessment of the potential of bioenergy production from raw materials produced on land not used for agriculture (contaminated land, fallow land, etc.). In Poland, there are also post-mining areas where the methods developed within the FORBIO project can be applied.



Magda Rogulska, PIMOT

The next speaker was **Dr. Magda Rogulska** from the Automotive Industry Institute PIMOT, who presented the conditions for the production of advanced biofuels in the EU. She discussed the most important EU directives on biofuels, and in particular she



drew attention to the directive RED II, applicable after 2020. She pointed out the challenges of transport and how FORBIO is answering them. Next she shortly presented the state of development of advanced biofuel technologies in Europe - from the laboratory to the industry. She gave examples of plants producing advanced biofuels in Europe, including the production costs of bioethanol from cellulose.



**Marek Hryniewicz, IPT-POLBIOM** 

The indicators used to assess the sustainable production of raw materials for advanced biofuels on the example of the FORBIO project were discussed by **dr inż. Marek Hryniewicz** from the Institute of Technology and Life Sciences ITP (Fig.7). In his lecture he presented two case studies: production of bioethanol in Sardinia (Italy) from arundo grass and cultivation of willow in Ukraine.



Ryszard Gajewski, Polish Biomass Chamber



Next the President of the Polish Biomass Chamber - **Ryszard Gajewski** spoke about the availability of biomass in Poland. The demand for biomass for energy by 2030, broken down into economic sectors, has been presented. He gave the areas potentially suitable for the production of perennial energy plants on the basis of the previously implemented SERENE project.



Łukasz Kujda, ITP-POLBIOM

Barriers impeding the use of raw materials for advanced biofuels in the FORBIO project were discussed by Łukasz Kujda. The production of biofuels raises a lot of controversy. Hence, frequent changes of legal regulations can be observed. However, based on direct research, it can be concluded that greenhouse gas emissions from advanced biofuels are lower than those from fossil fuels. Air pollution is considered from two perspectives: direct emissions from the production chain (CO, PM, NOx, SOx, VOC, etc.) and indirect emissions from cultivation of contaminated lands. Social barriers include: availability of land, employment in agriculture, receiving novelties. As technical and economic barriers, he specified: profitability, including market conditions for biomass production, average costs and revenues, access to credit, tax breaks. The decision-making process and policy in the area of unused land for the development of bioenergy is not yet comprehensively and evenly developed at the European and national level.

The questionnaire concerning barriers prepared by FAO was discussed point by point and distributed among the participants.

Next speaker **Włodzimierz Majtkowski** from IHAR presented the Polish experience with reclamation of degraded areas. He has given two lectures: "Possibilities of reclamation of degraded areas related to the cultivation of woody crops" and "Results of reclamation experiments in degraded areas in Poland". In the first lecture the author presented a collection of crops proposed for reclamation, owned by the botanical garden in Bydgoszcz. The assessment of short-rotation woody crops (SRC)



was conducted on the basis of field experiments on production plantations. On the basis of observations on recultivated objects in Poland, it was stated that short rotation willow and poplar are suitable. Recultivation with willow was carried out at the sewage treatment plant in Czersk Polski (2008). The willow showed great ability to accumulate heavy metals.

In another experiment, an ash-leaf clone (Acernegundo L.) was planted on a municipal landfill. This is an invasive species, however, cultivation in a cycle of at most 4 years prevents invasiveness. Another experience concerns the reclamation of gravel pit areas. There were used seedling plants of the variety SHANDONG. Plantation is well developing after 2 years. Biomass harvest for energy purposes is carried out every 2-4 years. Profit obtained from the sale of biomass can provide additional income, reducing the cost of reclamation.

In the second lecture, Dr. W. Majtkowski presented experiences related to reclamation of:

- heaps of ashes in Sowlany near Białystok,
- areas contaminated with heavy metals as a result of long-term mining and processing activities of Pb, Zn and Cd ores in Bytom,
- municipal landfill in Solec Kujawski,
- the protection zone of Huta Aluminum in Konin.

In the first case, on the heap of ashes, experiments with 29 grass species from the collection of the IHAR Botanical Garden in Bydgoszcz were established. The area subject to reclamation is 5.5 ha. Technical and biological reclamation of the heap was carried out by mixing ash with sludge. Bringing municipal sewage sludge to the reclamation of ashes and introduction of grassy vegetation influenced the initiation of biological life in a dead ground.

In Bytom, due to the long-term mining and processing activities of Pb, Zn and Cd ores, the soil has been contaminated with heavy metals. 8 species of plants were planted, including 5 perennial grass species. In the trials of plant material, the threshold contents of cadmium, lead and zinc were exceeded.

Four grass species, including Miscanthus sacchariflorus, were planted in Solec Kujawski on the communal rubbish dump. Covering the surface of the municipal waste landfill in Solec Kujawski with a layer of compost, after its exploitation, contributed to the improvement of fertility. The degree of heavy metal contamination in the tested samples did not exceed the natural content. The best developing species were photosynthetic grass C4 - Panicum virgatum, Spartina pectinata and Miscanthus sacchariflorus.

Phytosociological observations of vegetation occurring in the protection zone of Huta Aluminum revealed the presence of about 20 species of herbaceous and woody vegetation, forming persistent phytocenosis, which transformation into a production plant of energy plants is not justified.

In conclusion, the speaker stated that species of foreign origin predominate among the assessed plants. Introducing them to cultivation in our country requires additional research and observation on the potential invasive threat.



Next speaker - **Aleksander Muzalewski** from ITP spoke about the emissions of harmful gases from the production of raw materials for advanced biofuels. He presented how  $CO_2$  emissions are shaped in the cultivation of willow, miscanthus and sida hermaphrodita in Polish conditions. These plants occur as a potential source of raw material for the production of advanced biofuels.

Analyzes of the case studies on the degraded areas in selected countries implemented as part of the FORBIO project, with particular emphasis on the German case, were presented by **Maria Śmietanka** from the National Contact Point. In Germany, management of abandoned fields after drainage of sewage and management of open-cast mines was given. In German case studies, attention was paid to barriers to the introduction of energy plants, especially in post-mining areas. Results related to the selection of promising energy plant species for cultivation in settlement fields has been given. She also discussed the case study analyzed in Ukraine within the FORBIO project. She presented experiences from field crops for willow and a technological operation card on an industrial plantation. She referred to the Italian case study related to the cultivation of arundo grass and its use.

The final lecture on "Financing research and innovation in the field of bioenergy from European Union research programs" was given by Maria Śmietanka from the National Contact Point for Horizon 2020 program. She presented the coming calls in the bioenergy area.

Then there was a discussion led by Dr. Magdalena Rogulska. The seminar was summed up by Anna Grzybek. The discusion was continued within networking lunch.



**Discussions among participants** 



### 3.2.5. Conclusions

The main questions concerned the lack of support mechanisms for perennial energy crops. The discussion concerned the willow plantations and other energy crops which had already been liquidated by farmers, whose cultivation did not bring the expected profits. This took place mainly in the years 2012 -2016, when the prices of green certificates fell. It seems that the biomass market is slowly regulating. There was an increase in price per 1 GJ of agricultural biomass, including energy crops. After the introduction and implementation into Polish law of the RED II Directive, the dynamics of RES growth, including biomass installations, will increase. There will be a greater demand for biomass. At the same time, it should be a biomass that meets the sustainability criteria. Employees of the city office and serving CHP in Płońsk were very interested in the results of the project, especially in the indicators of sustainability. Some listeners developed discussions in the aspect of cultivation but also logistics of preparing grass grown in contaminated areas in the aspect of the lecture given by Dr. W. Majtkowski.

The participants listened carefully to the lectures, as evidenced by their substantive discussion. However, without additional support for the bioenergy market, it will be difficult to develop it further. It was difficult to direct a discussion on biomass sustainability indicators, as this was a new subject for the audience. The participants noticed that the lack of proper sectoral policy, agriculture-energy, does not enable the development of this segment of the economy.



# 4. Capacity building events in Romania

# 4.1. First training event

### 4.1.1. Introduction

On the 18th of July, in Bacau, the capital city of the Bacau County, the FORBIO partner ENERO, in collaboration with the New Energy Industry Association (APSNE SUNE), with support of the Center for Technology Transfer PETAL (Bacau) and the Technical University Gheorghe Asachi Iasi organised an information and training event, entitled "Advanced Technologies for biomass valorisation".

This event was hosted by the Telecommunication Technical College "Nicolae Vasilescu Karpen" 76 Mioriței str Bacău). 25 participants participated to the event (list of participants and photos attached), coming from academia, local and regional authorities, renewable energy production companies and farmers.

### 4.1.2. Invitation







# 4.1.3. Agenda



# 4.1.4. Summary of presentations

The event was included 5 Sessions, as following:

9.15-10.00 Session 1: Framework conditions in the Development Region North-East: strategic approach for environment-energy-agriculture and ways to promote the technological cooperation at regional level

During this session, presentations was given by the following participants:

Mr. **Adrian POPESCU** vice president of Bacau County Council – stating the support and interest of the County Council for development in bioenergy projects in the region

Mr. **Lucian SANDU** – presenting the opportunities for projects development within The Regional Operational Programme





Mr. Lucian SANDU, ADR Nord Est

Mrs. **Manuela DRAGHICESCU** – Executive Director of the New Energy Industry Association - APSNE SUNE (replacing dr. Mihai Marius VORONCA, Executive Director of the Romanian Fund for Energy Efficiency) – speaking about financing opportunities for bioenergy and energy efficiency projects



Mrs. Manuela DRAGHICESCU, APSNE SUNE

**Ioan Valer MAN** — vice-president of the New Energy Industry Association - APSNE SUNE — speaking about the technical support offered by APSNE SUNE for bioenergy projects





**Ioan Valer MAN, APSNE SUNE** 

# 10.00 - 11.45 Session 2: Linking regional strategies to energy, agricultural and environmental policies

Under this session two presentation of the FORBIO project partner ENERO (represented by Mrs. **Nicoleta ION**) were given: the first one has presented the results of the case studies carried out in the projects in Germany, Italy and Ukraine; the second one was based on the presentation prepared in English by **Marco Colangelli** (FAO) regarding the sustainability indicators for bioenergy.



Mrs. Nicoleta ION, ENERO

After the presentation, participants were implied into a discussion regarding the sustainability issues raised by a hypothetical development of energy crops for biofuels on underutilised terrains in Romania. They concluded that the situation is more or less similar to the Ukrainian case, except the existence of large abandoned agricultural areas, which is not the case in Romania anymore.



**Mr. Ioan Valer MAN** (replacing Mr. Benko Sandor) presented the experience of the company Kontrastwege with Salix Viminalis crops.

**Mr. Constantin-Perino BARAGA**, the director of the Center for Technology Transfer PETAL, talked about "Knowledge transfer and capacity building of innovative value chains in local agriculture"

**Mr. Andrei PATRUT** presented the experience of the Romanian company CALORIS regarding "High-tech installations for the recovery of biomass and farm waste"

# 11.45 - 12.45 Session 3: Role of RENEW Cluster in the Regional Strategy of the North East Dvelopment Region

During this session Mrs Manuela DRAGHICESCU and prof Alexandru MARIN from the Politechnic University of Bucharest conducted discussions about regional strategies and possible contributions of the cluster RENEW

# 13.30 - 14.45 Session 4: Some scientific results of partners

After a networking lunch, session 4 was dedicated to scientific presentations, as following:

**Mrs Manuela DRAGHICESCU**: Mitigation of the pollution level by using waste gasification technology

**Prof. Iulian CUCOS** and prof. Ion Antonescu: Hydrogen plasma systems used to convert waste into electricity, heat and raw materials

Mr. Ioan Valer MAN: Waste recovery biorefinery



**Prof. Iulian CUCOS** 







Participants of the FORBIO event in Bacau

# 16.30 - 18.00 **Session 5**: Study visit

This was organized by the Faculty of Hydrotechnics, Geodesy and Environmental Engineering of the Techical University "Gheorghe Asachi" Iasi, and participants were invited to visit the Biogas Optimization Laboratory – ENERED.











#### 4.1.5. Conclusions

The FORBIO project was appreciated by the participants, taking into account that for instance, only Bacau County has more than 100 potentially contaminated sites. Besides, according to the Annual Report on the state of the environment in Romania for the year 2016, the North-East Region is affected by different slope processes (surface and depth erosion, landslides) on a total area of 1,129,652 ha, representing 33.5% of the total affected area of Romania. This marginal areas could be used for energy crops cultivation.

The most important barriers are related to novelty acceptance by farmers and financing aspects.

The FORBIO event was reflected into the local press, as following:

https://zdbc.ro/tehologii-avansate-de-valorificare-a-biomasei/

https://donedelaeconomic.blogspot.com/2018/07/wokshop-pe-tema-valorificarii-biomasei.html

# Wokshop pe tema valorificării biomasei în Bacău

Municipiul Bacău a fost, miercuri, 18 iulie, gazda wokshop-ului "FORBIO" cu tema "Tehologii avansate de valorificare a biomasei", parte a Proiectului European FORBIO organizat în cooperare de ENERO – Centrul pentru promovarea energiei curate în România, Centrul de Transfer Tehnologic PETAL și Asociația Patronală Surse Noi de Energie SUNE, care au revenit în Bacău cu astfel de manifestări.

Sesiunile de Informare și Training s-au desfășurat între orele 9.00 – 15.00 în Sala de conferițe, et 1, a Colegiului Tehnic de Comunicații "Nicolae Vasilescu Karpen". Acestea au fost urmate de o vizită de studii, care a avut loc între orele 15.30 – 18.30 la Universitatea Tehnică "Gheorghe Asachi" din Iași, Facultatea de Hidrotehnică, Geodezie și Ingineria Mediului.

La eveniment au participat reprezentanți ai societăților comerciale, autorităților locale și ai fermelor agricole din Regiunea Nord-Est. (Petru Done)



# 4.2. Second training event

#### 4.2.1. Introduction

On the 31st of August, in Targoviste, the capital city of the Dambovita County, the FORBIO partner ENERO, in collaboration with the New Energy Industry Association (APSNE SUNE), with support of the Center for Technology Transfer PETAL (Bacau) and the University "Valahia" Targoviste organized an information and training event, entitled "Biomass from marrginal land, part of the value chain for bioenergy".

This event was hosted by the University Valahia from Targoviste, 13 Sinaia str.

16 participants attended the event (list of participants and photos attached), coming from academia, renewable energy experts, farmers.

#### 4.2.2. Invitation



# PEREO Centrul pentru promovarea energiei curate si eficiente in Romania – ENERO – este un centru independent de consultanta tehnica si cercetare nongrofit in domeniul energiei, fondat in 1999. ENERO promovarea acrecitarea, novavera si transferul tehnologic in domeniul produceri si utilizarii eficiente a energiei, al surselor regenerable si al tehnologilor curate de producere a energiei. ENERO are ac obiccitive: Devoltarea si promovarea surselor regenerable de energie si a utilizarii curate si eficiente a energiei si promovarea strategiei si politici filiumini Europene in domeniul energiei si desfasoara activitati de tip cercetari, studii. consultanta si asistenta pentru implementarea tehnologilor cenergetice noi, diseminarea dei noformati prin publicati si prin organizarea de conferinte, seminarii, cursuri, exposilis. Cea mai mare parte din activitati se derulezazi in candul programebri de cercetare si promovarea europene (Programede cadru, Energie Inteligenta pentru Europa, Orizont200, Europa de Sud-Est s.a.), dar si in cadrul altor activari internationale, sua a unor proviecte finantate din bugetul public de cercetare. 8. CTT PETAL ca departament al SC PETAL SA a primit Acreditarea MCD nr 606/11.05.2018 pe langa obiectivul principal de dezvoltare si generare de plus-valosire, are ca teb line conturat, de a contribul, is nivelul Reglumi NE si national, la crearea unel main bune l'indeginal processul de inovare je de transfer tehnologic (TT), is imbundibirea cunopritiero și abilitațion managerior de MM pentru a stăpain și sprijini acette procese dar și la cresterea competituirati si excelentei companilor (IRM unitor) prin realizarea cat mai multor servicii din domeniul Transferului Tenhologic (TT), in imbundibirea cunopritiero și abilitațior managerior de MM pentru a stăpain și sprijini acette procese dar și la cresterea competituirati si excelentei companilor (IRM unitor) prin realizarea cat mai multor servicii din domeniul Transferului Tenhologic (TT), in imbundibirea cunoprituru. 9. SUNE Asociația Pat



## 4.2.3. Agenda

#### WORKSHOP FORBIO

#### "Tehologii avansate de valorificare a biomasei"

31 august 2018 - 10:30-14:45

Sala de conferinte a Institutul de Cercetare Științifică și Tehnologică Multidisciplinară, parter, Aleea Sinaia, nr. 13, Târgoviște

10:00 - 10:30 Primirea si inregistrarea participantilor - "Welcome cofee"

Moderator: Prof. Univ dr. Ing - Nicolae OLARIU- Presedinte APSNE SUNE

#### 10.30 - 12.00 Sesiunea 1: Corelarea strategiilor regionale cu politicile energetice, agricole si de mediu

- Dr. ing. Gabriela MANTESCU Institutul de Cercetare Științifică și Tehnologică Multidisciplinară: Prezentarea ICSTM si a disponibilitatii de colaborare in domeniul serviciilor cu valoare mare adaugata
- Prof. univ. dr. ing. Mihai Marius VORONCA, Director Executiv Fondului Roman pentru Eficienta Energetica Solutii de finantare ale proiectelor de eficienta energetica
- Cristian Lungu, Membru grup lucru "Valorificarea eficenta a biomasei": Gazeificarea utilizata in valorificarea biomasei
- Nicoleta ION, Project Manager ENERO
   Rezultate ale studiilor FORBIO bazate pe analize agro-tehnico-economice la nivel European
- Manuela Draghicescu, Direxctor Executiv APSNE SUNE Transferul de cunoştinţe şi dezvoltarea capacităţii lanţurilor valorice inovative—necesitate strategica bazata pe accelerarea transferului tehnologic
- Prof. dr. Murad Erol -
- Nicoleta ION, Project Manager ENERO; Indicatori de sustenabilitate pentru bioenergie

#### 12.30 - 12.45 Sesiunea 3: Rolul Clusterului CERMAND in Strategia Regionala Inteligenta Muntenia SUD

- Manuela Draghicescu Director Executiv APSNE SUNE
- Prof. Univ. Dr. Ing. Alexandru Marin Universitatea Politehnica Bucuresti

#### 12.45 - 13.30 Networking lunch

Raportul Workshop-ului va face parte din documentele cadru de dezvoltare Cluster CERMAND si vor fi transmise participantilor

#### 13.30 - 14.00 Sesiunea 2: Vizită de studiu FORBIO

#### Motto:

"Nu vom fi niciodată destul de recunoscători față de pământul care ne-a dat totul: viața, istorie, civilizatie!" Constantin Brâncuși

#### Organizatori:

SUNE si Universitatii VALAHIA din Târgoviște, Institutul de Cercetare Științifică și Tehnologică Multidisciplinară

#### Loc de desfasurare a vizitei de studii:

Institutul de Cercetare Științifică și Tehnologică Multidisciplinară ICSTM al UVT



# 4.2.4. Summary of presentations

The event was organized into 3 Sessions, as following:

# 9:30-12.00 Session 1: Linking the regional strategies with energy, agriculture and environmental policies

During this session, presentations was given by the following participants:

**Dr. Gabriela MANTESCU** (Senior Researcher in the Multidisciplinary Scientific and Technological Research Institute): "The expertise of the Institute in projects with high added value". Dr. Mantescu presented the expertise of the host Institute redarding biomass projects, including physico-chemical analisys, training courses, pilot plants, feasibility studies etc. She mentioned the fact that sustainability assessment of any project should be based on realiable physico-chemical analisys, piloting and technoeconomic studies.



Dr. Gabriela MANTESCU, Multidisciplinary Scientific & Technological Research Institute

**Mrs. Manuela DRAGHICESCU** – Executive Director of the New Energy Industry Association - APSNE SUNE (replacing dr. Mihai Marius VORONCA, Executive Director of the Romanian Fund for Energy Efficiency) – speaking about financing opportunities for bioenergy and energy efficiency projects. The Romanian Energy Efficiency Fund is a financial institution providing commercial financing of investments projects aiming the rational use of energy (RUE). The Fund assists industrial companies and other energy consumers in adopting and use of modern technologies for efficient use of energy. Some examples of bioenergy projects financed by FREE, and future opportunities for biomass for energy projects were presented.





Mrs. Manuela DRAGHICESCU, APSNE SUNE

**Mrs Nicoleta ION** – Project Manager ENERO – FORBIO Project – Results of Agronomic- and Techno-Economic Feasibility Studies at European Level. The presentation was based both on FORBIO deliverables and presentation of project partners from Italy, Germany and Ukraine, which were responsible for agronomic and economic assessment of selected bioenergy value chains. Emphasis was given to the German case study, regarding feedstock production on former mining sites, as this kind of terrains is also met and this is a problem in Romania, including Dambovita County (where Targoviste is situated).





Mrs Nicoleta ION, ENERO

**Mrs. Manuela DRAGHICESCU** – Executive Director of the New Energy Industry Association - APSNE SUNE - Knowledge Transfer and development of innovative value chains – strategic needs based on an accelerated knowledge transfer. Mrs Draghicescu presented the steps which have to be taken in order to comply with regulation when transferring knowledge, as a mean of technical progress, including in the field of biofuels from newest generation production.

# 12:30-14.00 Session 2: Bioenergy Value Chains

**Mrs Nicoleta ION** – Project Manager ENERO – Sustainability Indicators for Bioenergy. This presentation was set up with the support of Marco Colangeli (FAO), based on the work performed by FAO within the FORBIO project. After presenting the algorithm of sustainability assessment and tools created within the project, we reviewed the tailored sustainability indicators. Calculation of some of the indicators were presented in more details. In the end, the presenter provoked the participants to discussions related to the main barriers in Romania for bioenergy value chains.

**Eng. Cristian LUNGU** (EOSOL Design and SUNE): "Gasification Used in Biomass Utilization". Mrs Lungu presented some applications of biomass gasification process, with emphasis on environmental benefits, good yield, and high level of automation.



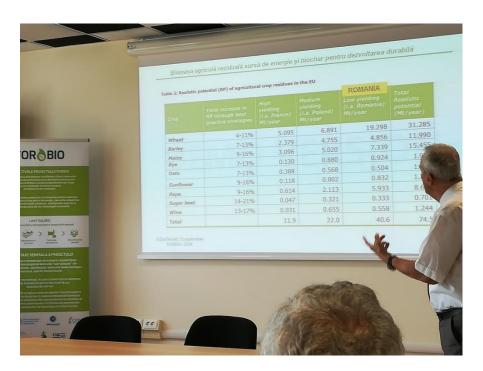


Cristian LUNGU, EOSOL Design

O.M. Ghita, C.K.Banica, N. Calin, A. Stanciu – "Study of a suitable algorithm designed for data analysis in monitoring system of landslides". This contribution presented the tools for determining the behaviour of landslides, based on mathematical models. Discussions were conducted towards the possibility of land stabilization using energetic willow, thus increasing the value of these marginal land categories.

**Prof. Dr. Erol MURAD** – "Residual Agricultural Biomass - source for energy and biochar for sustainable development". Prof. Murad presented some aspects regarding the use of agricultural and forest biomass for the simultaneous production of thermal energy and biochar. He also included some considerations about energy efficiency of some energy crops and calculated carbon footprint of some selected (bio)energy value chains.





**Prof. Dr. Erol MURAD** 



# 14:30-16.00 Session 3: Study visit and discussions

The Institute of Multidisciplinary Research for Science and Technology from Valahia University of Targoviste was visited and discussion took place about opportunities for future bioenergy project

#### 4.2.5. Conclusions

The FORBIO project was appreciated by the participants, as they saw the benefits of these value chains to environment and to making useful lands that cannot be properly used in another way. They underlined that the problem of converting lands to energy crops cultivation is always a difficult issue, as farmers are not always open to new crops. Another barrier would be the fragmentation of lands in Romania.



Access funding and/or credits could another challenge, sometimes farmers do not want to depend on borrowed money, sometimes they are scared about bureaucracy and also banks can reluctant.

It was generally accepted that the most important barriers are related to novelty acceptance by farmers and financing aspects.



# 5. Capacity building event in Hungary5.1. One event of 2 days

#### 5.1.1. Introduction

The event in Hungary in the framework of the FORBIO project aimed at gathering an expert group of people to i) present to them the FORBIO project results and ii) look into the Hungarain environment (e..g funding, projects, policies) and discuss the replicability potential of the FORBIO approach and future prospects.

The first day of the Hungarian FORBIO capacity building event was organised by Geonardo on the 6th of June 2018, hosted by Szent István University in Gödöllő, with the specific location of the "Humán Stúdió, at Institute of Nature Conservation and Landscape Management "The event was promoted with the Hungarian title of "FORBIO vállalkozói és szakértő fórum" (FORBIO entrepreneur and expert forum), which title already anticipated and emphasised the "economic-bioenergy-feasibility" angle of the event. The objectives of the capacity building were two-fold. Not only the FORBIO project was introduced through the examples of the three case studies, but also the related techno-economic and agronomic features were promoted, discussed and concluded with the audience after the presentations, with all discussions projected into the state of the art of the Hungarian bioenergy and underutilised land status quo.

Originally the targeted audience was mainly the Hungarian innovation oriented farmer and forestry community as ultimate stakeholders, with the expectation of lower level presence from governmental and university organisations as well. However, among with the 15 participants present on the first day, the balance from the expected larger number of farmer /forester stakeholders shifted a bit more towards the representatives of universities, ministries and other governmental organisations.

The second day of the Hungarian FORBIO capacity building event was organised on the 7th of June 2018. It was a study tour on the field to introduce the already bespoken best practices in Hungary to the first day's audience. The event was also organised by Geonardo and hosted by the colleagues of Szent István University and National Agro-Research and Innovation Center. The locations of the second day event were the "Szárítópuszta Demo Base of the Szent István University" and the "MGI Experimental Area of the National Agro-Research and Innovation Center". The number of participants were 6.



#### 5.1.2. Invitation



hu.forbio-project.eu

A FORBIO projekt létrehozását az a cél motiválta, hogy bebizonyítsa az Európai Uniós tagországok használaton kívüli területeinek bioenergetikai célú felhasználási létjogosultságát. A kezdeményezés olyan területeket vizsgál, ahol a fenntartható biomassza nyersanyag termelés nem veszélyezteti természetvédelmi, szabadidős, illetve élelmiszer vagy takarmány termesztése céljából fenntartott területek működését.

#### ÉRTÉKLÁNC

Fenntartható biomassza alapú innovatív értékláncok és a biogazdaság











Er a projekt az Európai Unió Horizon 2020 kutatási és innovációs program támogatásával jött létre a 691866 számú szerződés keretében. Er a kiadvány kizárdlag a szerző saját nészeteit tartalmazza, az innovációs és Hálázati Projektek Végrehajtó Úgyndkség valamint az Európai Bizottság szemmilyen feledősséget vagy közelezettséget nem vállal az e dokumentumban foglalt vagy említett információk és adatok tekintetében.



### FORBIO SZAKÉRTŐI ÉS VÁLLALKOZÓI FÓRUM

2018 JÚNIUS 6-7 | SZENT ISTVÁN EGYETEM GÖDÖLLŐ, KTI HUMÁN STÚDIÓ, TERMÉSZETVÉDELMI ÉS TÁJGAZDÁLKODÁSI INTÉZET

#### A RENDEZVÉNY CÉLJA

Nemzetközi és hazal jó gyakorlatok és sikeres példák bemutatásán keresztül egy átfogó képet nyújtani az igénybe vehető támogatásokról, a törvényi előírásokról, valamint a bioenergetikai fejlesztések környezeti és gazdasági hatásairól. A rendezvény kitűzött célja Magyarország bioenergetikai helyzetének feltérképezése a piaci szereplők közreműködésével.

A rendezvényen való részvétel díjmentes, ám előzetes regisztrációhoz kötött. Regisztrációs szándékát kérjük emailben jelezze!

#### AMIRŐL SZÓ LESZ

Rekultivációs és területfejlesztési lehetőségek ipari növénytermesztéssel

Gazdasági ösztönzők, támogatási lehetőségek és pénzügyi megtérülés

Fenntartható fejlődés és indikátorai a biogazdaságban, itthon és Európában

KAPCSOLAT: GYURIS PÉTER Email: peter.gyuris@geonardo.com Telefon: 06 20 317 208



## 5.1.3. Agenda

# Agenda of the Hungarian FORBIO Capacity Building Day





#### MEGHÍVÓ

A FORBIO szakértői és vállalkozói fórumra

#### Energetikai célú biomassza termelés és felhasználás alternatív földhasználatú területeken

 Kedvezőtlen adottságú és szennyezett területek kiaknázása, jogi és támogatási keretek, fenntarthatósági és gazdasági szempontok figyelembevételével -

2018, június 6-7.

A FORBIO projekt célja, hogy német, olasz és ukrán esettanulmányok alapján olyan mintapéldákat ismertessen Európa szerte, melyek a biomassza alapú gazdaságra való áttéréssel sikeres és gazdaságosan megtérülő növénytermesztési gyadorlatokat mutatnak be kedvezőtlen termőhelyi adoltságú területeken. A Horizont 2020 projekt a megűjuló energia, a környezetvédelem és a fenntartható fejlődés témakörökben aktív kuttáls-fejlezettési és innovációs tevékenységeket végő Geonardo Kír, feszvételével zajik.

A projekt kifejezetten olyan besorolású alul- vagý nem használt területekre főkúszál, ahol a biomassza termelés nem veszélyezteti a termézetvédelmi, szabadidős, valamint az élelmiszer- és takarmány termesztés célú földhasználátor.

- Hogyan tehető a megfelelő termékpálya (növényi nyersanyag és átalakítási technológiák) kiválasztásával gazdaságilag megtérülővé és fenntarthatóvá az infrastrukturális hátránnyal rendelkező területek, a szénhidrogénnel szennyezett földek, a felhagyott bányaterületek és a rekultiválandó szennyvíziszap-tározók hasznosítása?
- Hogyan függ az energianád, a fűz, a nyár és az akác termesztése és jövedelmezősége a helyi adottságoktól (pl. talajminőség és öntözés), a lehívható támogatási eszközöktől és a helyben vagy a régióban történő értékesítési lehetőségektől?
- Milyen külföldi és hazai sikeres példák, pályázati támogatások és pénzügyi ösztönzők elérhetők bioenergetikai célú beruházásokhoz?
- Milyen környezeti és gazdasági hatásokkal kell számolni az alternatív földhasználatú biomassza termelés során?

llyen és hasonló kérdések megvitatását célozza rendezvényünk egy kerekasztal beszélgetés formájában a téma elismert hazai szakértőivel az alkalmazhatóságról, az együttműködés és a piaci szereplők meglétéről vagy éppen azok hiányzó feltételeiről.

Rendezvényünk Önnek szól, amennyiben Ön:







 területfejlesztéssel foglalkozik, önkormányzati szereplő, ipari növénytermelő, kutató, kedvezőtlen adottságú termőterület tulajdonosa, mezőgazdasági vállalkozó, erdészettel foglalkozik, erdőtulajdonos, használaton kivúli laktanyák és felhagyott bányászati területek hasznosátásával foglalkozó szervezet.

#### FORBIO szakértői és vállalkozói fórum program

helyszín: Szent István Egyetem (Gödöllő)

Humán Stúdió, Természetvédelmi és Tájgazdálkodási Intézet (TTI)

#### Első nap - Június 6: Szerda (Gödöllő)

10.00 - 10.15: Érkezés és recepció

10.15 - 10.20: Megnyitó (Geonardo - Uderszky Attila)

10.20 - 10.30: A projekt és az esemény céljai (Geonordo - Gyuris Péter)

#### L Szekció - Szakmai előadások és gyakorlati eredmények bemutatása

10.30 • 10.50: Kedveződen termőhelyek hasznosítása energetikai célra (Nemreti Agrárkutatási és Innovációs Központ • Dr. Gyuricza Csaba)

10.50 = 11.10: Német, olasz és ukrán területhasznosítási és növénytermesztési példák (Geonordo - Uderszky Attila)

11.10 - 11.30: A COST RELY programról: megújuló energia és tájminőség (Szent István

Kérdések és feleletek az előadások után közvetlenül

11.30 - 12.00: Kérdések és feleletek, szakértői beszélgetés I. szekció

Büféebéd és kávé (30 perc)

#### II. Szekció - Gazdasági környezet, a bipenergetikai piac szereplői és befolvásolói

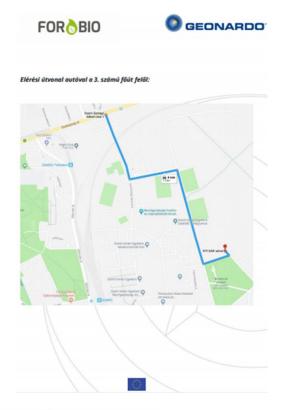
12.30 = 12.50: Európai körkép, megvalósult projektek és azok gazdaságossága (Geonordo - Uderszky Attilia)

12.50 = 13.10: Alternatív főldhasználat és a szennyvíztisztítás technológiai és gazdasági vonatkozásai főbudai Égyetem • Dr. Szoniszló Albert)













#### 47°35'30.7"N 19°21'29.8"E

#### 47.591859, 19.358287



Együttműködő partnereink:

Nemzeti Agrárkutatási és Innovációs Központ, web: https://naik.hu/

Gödöllői Agrárközpont Kht., web: http://gak.hu/

Szent István Egyetem, web: https://szie.hu/

Az eseményt az Európai Megújuló Energia Hét – 2018 (http://www.eusew.eu/ ) keretében is promótáljuk.

Támogatók:

A FORBIO projekt az Európai Unió Horizont 2020 kutatási és innovációs program támogatásával jött létre a 691846. számú szerződés keretében.

http://www.forbio-project.eu/





#### **Agenda of the study Tour**

**10.30 – 12.00** Location: Szárítópuszta Demo Base of the Szent István University - Introduction and practical explanation of woody biomass energy plantation on underutilised land – Ms. Beatrix Bakti research associate (NAIK ERTI)

**13.00 – 15:00** Location: MGI Experimental Area of the National Agro-Research and Innovation Center - Introduction and practical explanation of non-arboreal and arboreal agro-forestry bioenergy plantation on underutilised land – Mr. Bácskai István Tamás PhD student (Szent István University)

# 5.1.4. Summary of presentations in the first day

The Hungarian FORBIO capacity building event was opened by **Mr. Attila Uderszky**, who welcomed the participants and introduced the agenda.



Attila Uderszky, GEO

In the next presentation Mr. Péter Gyuris introduced FORBIO project, its main objectives and its already available results.





Péter Gyuris, GEO

The next sheeduled speaker, Dr. Csaba Gyuricza excused the day before for not being able to present, therefore instead of a presentation, a group discussion was initiated by the organisers.



Participants of the FORBIO Hungarian capacity building event

**Mr. Attila Uderszky** took the floor again and presented the best practices of the German, Italian and Ukrainian case studies, with some insights and cross-references to Hungarian bioenergy cases. WP2 information were displayed and explained about the Sulcis (IT), Ivankiv (UA) and Brandenburg region (DE). The agronomic studies and the developed value chains and their economic feasibility were presented.





Attila Uderszky, GEO

The following presentation was performed by **Dr. Csaba Centeri** from Szent István University, who provided a presentation about the COST-RELY programme. The project presentation aimed at introducing the COST RELY project that also investigated how Renewable Energies can be sustainably implemented and how can they be beneficial for society.



Dr. Csaba Centeri, Szent István University

The event was followed by a question-answer session and the following main issues were discussed. Major dicussion points were:

• land use scenarios for renewable projects (wind, solar, biomass etc.)



potentials and assessment techniques (numerical analyses and its quality)



Main topics of the Q&A session

After the lunch-break, the event continued with a European overlook and insight about best examples and successful bioenergy investments throughout Europe. The presentation was given by Mr. Attila Uderszky. The most important second generation biorefinery plants and other advanced biofuel production investments have been discussed.

**Dr. Albert Szaniszló** gave the audience a detailed update about the latest advancements in wastewater treatment technologies with special focus on its relation with underutilised lands. The research study assessed the utilization of sewage water treatment facility areas for the production of industrial crops. Also, the economic feasibilty of this value chain were calculated based on biomass production figures and available land.



Dr. Albert Szaniszló

The last presenter was **Mr. Péter Gyuris,** who described the principles of FORBIO sustainability indicators, as developed by FAO in the framework of the project. In



particular the 3 types of indicators, the data entry sheets, scenario development and the target area concept were explained to the audience.



Péter Gyuris, GEO

# 5.1.5. Summary of the study tour on the second day

**Ms. Beatrix Bakti** talked (On the field) about the short rotation forestry techniques on weak quality soils. The biomass production figures of poplar and willow, the plantation and treatment techniques were introduced to the participants as well as the results of the cultivation experiments.





FORBIO study tour on the second day

After the lunch-break, the second day continued with the presentation of **Mr. István Bácskai** who talked about cropping systems that included perennial and forestry plantations that were developed by Szent Isvtán University and it's a showroom for farmers and researchers. Plantation and treatment techniques, and a potential implementation of the cropping system supported by feedstock growth figures were discussed.



Presentation of the experimental site



The second Hungarian FORBIO capacity building day concluded in a question-answer session on the spot.



FORBIO study tour Q&A session on the second day

#### 5.1.6. Conclusions

Originally the targeted audience of the capacity building event was mainly Hungarian innovation-oriented farmer and forestry communities. The organisers think that although the event was very well promoted within Hungary and also Europe-wide (even in the framework of the European Sustainable Energy Week as well, please see at: https://www.eusew.eu/energy-days/forbio-bio-energy-capacity-building-event) it seems that the interest in bioenergy as an overall alternative to conventional crop and forest management among Hungarian farmers and foresters is still low. On the other hand, the main success of the event was that university, ministry and other governmental organisations active within sustainable land management and bioenergy could be well mobilised and they sent representatives to the event. As it could also be experienced at the event, when bioenergy came into the topic, the first question was always if there is any state subsidies or specific governmental / municipal incentives to initiate such a bioenergy investment project. It is also worth mentioning that farmers in Hungary are still concerned to opt for a bank loan.

It is also worth to note that when the European outlook presentation was going on, there was a common understanding among participants that second generation bioenergy developments are still not yet very economic without state subsidies, and several bioenergy investments in Europe did not really end in a successful commercialisation.



Based on the real-life experiments conducted during the presented research projects the technical and agronomic feasibility were discussed for "real-life" implementations. Hungarian subsidy opportunities, provided by for example rural development funds, were discussed and potential farming and soil types and geographic regions, land uses were listed as feedstock opportunities.



# 6. Capacity building event in UK6.1. One event of 2 days

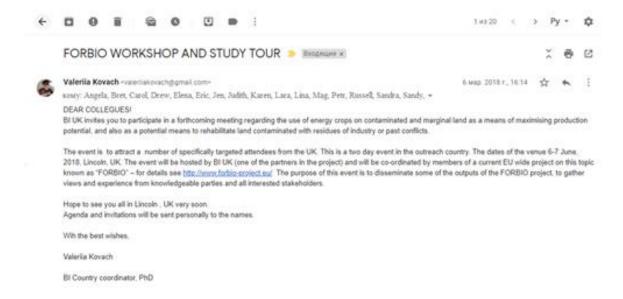
#### 6.1.1. Introduction

On the 6-7 June 2018 in Lincoln, United Kingdom a two- day event "Enhancing bioenergy among UK's farmers: potentials and barriers" took place in the frames of FORBIO project. The first day on the 6th of June 2018 was devoted to the study tour to the two Miscanthus showcasting places (Plot 1 and Plot 2). Venue took place at the Cedar Farm, South Carlton, Lincoln, United Kingdom. 16 people took part in the study tour: 5 farmers, 1 representative of regulatory body in the sphere of bioenergy production, and 10 people from 5 organizations: Pure Earth (soil pollution, sustainability of crop production), MEGANOVA (innovative company dealing with Advanced Biomass to Energy Conversion Solutions), Terravesta (manages all aspects of Miscanthus supply), Green Synergy (local NGO to promote biocrop planting) and CTI Consultants (work with farmers on growing different types of crops).

The second day of this 2 days event was an Information day about the FORBIO project. The name of the event remain the same "Enhancing bioenergy among UK's farmers: potentials and barriers" and the venue was at Holiday Inn Lincoln (Brayford Wharf North, Lincoln, LN1 1YW, UK) on the 7th of June 2018. 16 people participated.

#### 6.1.2. Invitation

BI UK sent all the invitations to name.







To: **Dr Michael Goldsworthy** Senior Consultant NNFCC The Bioeconomy Consultants

#### Invitation

Dear Dr. Michael Goldsworthy!

On the behalf of the FORBIO project consortium Blacksmith Initiative UK (BI UK) would like to invite as a speaker to the Capacity building event in the frames of the FOERBIO project on the June 7, 2018 that will take place at Hotel Inn Lincoln (Brayford Wharf North, Lincoln, LN1 1YW, UK) at 10 a.m.

Please, find the agenda enclosed in the e-mail.

Will be very happy to see you!

BR.

**Valeriia Kovach,** Country coordinator BI UK

> This Project (Contract No. 691846) is Co-funded by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme of the European Union





# 6.1.3. Agenda

2 day event, Lincoln, UK, 6-7 June 2018



# Information day and Study tour 6-7 June 2018, Lincoln, United Kingdom

# - Agenda -

Venue: Holiday Inn Lincoln ( Brayford Wharf North, Lincoln, LN1 1YW, UK )

Laptop and beamer will be available

This Project (Contract No. 691846) is Co-funded by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme of the European Union







#### Study tour

# Wednesday, 6 June 2018

Venue: Cedar Farm, South Carlton, Lincoln, United Kingdom

15.15	16.15	Return to Lincoln	
14.45	15.15	Final discussion on-site	David Hanrahan, BI UK Andrew Horsley, CTI Consultants
14.15	14.45	Recommendable sorts for energy cropping on underutilised land, cultivation methods, cropping experience and special utilization	Andrew Horsley, CTI Consultants
13.15	14.15	Drive through & Light Lunch break at the farm	
12.30	13.15	Miscanthus farm walk showcasing (Plot 2) Scientific component of field trials	Jacob Duce, Terravesta
10.30	11.30	Miscanthus farm walk showcasing (Plot 1)  Planting summary and techniques, strategy and objectives	Alex Robinson, Terravesta
09.30	10.30	Departure and trip to Cedar Farm	
09.00	09:30	Meeting point: Hall of the Holiday Inn Lincoln ( Brayford Wharf North, Lincoln, UK )	

This Project (Contract No. 691846) is Co-funded by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme of the European Union







# Information day for the local stakeholders Thursday, 7 September 2017

Venue: Holiday Inn Lincoln (Brayford Wharf North, Lincoln, UK)

15.30	16.00	Farewell		
15.00	15.30	Wrap up: Summary & final conclusions - a moderated discussion	David Hanrahan, BI UK Dr. Michael Goldsworthy, NNFCC	
14.30	15.00	Coffee break		
14.00	14.30	Science projects: summary and tours of trials fields	Jacob Duce, Terravesta	
13.30	14.00	Planting of <i>Miscanthus:</i> summary and techniques, strategy and objectives	Sam Buckby, R&D Manager	
13.00	13.30	Business and operational activity for biomass production	<i>Alex Robinson</i> , Terravesta	
12.00	13.00	Lunch break		
11:30	12:00	Policy implications for the utilisation of energy crops	Dr. Michael Goldsworthy, NNFCC The Bioeconomy Consultants	
11:00	11:30	Production of willow for short rotation coppice in UK	Jodie Fedorko, Green Synergy	
10.30	11.00	The Ukrainian case study (Ivankiv region). General perspective as a model for the UK	Julia Sinitsky, Bl	
10.00	10.30	The FORBIO project - Advanced biofuels on underutilised land in Europe	Valeriia Kovach, BI UK	
09.50	10.00	Welcome to the FORBIO information day	David Hanrahan, BI UK	
09.00	09.50	Arrival & registration of participants  Morning coffee		

This Project (Contract No. 691846) is Co-funded by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme of the European Union







# 6.1.4. Summary of the study tour

The main objectives of the study tour were to see how Miscanthus growth depends on different conditions, including the type of the seeds and the soil conditions. Different planting summaries and techniques, strategies were discussed as well as scientific component of the trials: how much time and efforts need to be invested to get the desired results. The Key of the discussion was recommendable sorts for energy cropping on underutilised land in the UK, cultivation methods, cropping experience and special way of the utilisation.

All the discussions took place in the field where were shared fears of the farmers and barriers of the companies which by securing a sustainable source of annually harvested crop from growers supply whole bale power stations with bioenergy crop, providing a reliable, home grown biomass fuel source for large energy providers.



































# 6.1.5. Summary of presentations

The FORBIO Info day started with the welcome word of the head of the venue hosting organization Blacksmith Initiative UK **David Hanrahan**. He pointed out the importance of the meeting and perspectives of the bioenergy and bioenergetic crops in the UK.





Mr. David Hanrahan, Blacksmith Initiative

**Valeriia Kovach** made a general presentation about the FORBIO project and the issues with underutilized land in Europe and the importance of not to lose such lands and work with them to make benefits anyway by producing energetic crops.





Ms Valeriia Kovach, Blacksmith Initiative

Later the floor was taken by BI UK specialists **Julia Sinitky.** In her speech she made a presentation on the Ukrainian case study site, perspectives and the barriers of the willow production in Ukraine and it was compared to the UK`s situation of the willow production. Julia pointed out that the most important is to know the soil composition that will help to choose correctly the best crop for the plot and the fertilizers to save the crop on underutilized land and to have the rich harvest.

The situation in the UK with willow growth was presented by **Jodie Fedorko** from Green Energy. For most farmers the decision of whether or not to plant any crop hinges on how profitable it will be relative to other land uses and its effect on existing enterprises. With the advent of decoupling this decision is largely unconnected with



subsidy since the Single Farm Payment will be paid irrespective of the cropping choices made. It was pointed out that since 2014 the production of willow decreased significantly in UK in comparison with Miscanthus.



**Jodie Fedorko, Green Energy** 

**Dr. Michael Goldsworthy** from the NNFCC The Bioeconomy Consultants presented "Energy crops policy and opportunities in the biofuel market" and the main objectives were drivers for energy crops to biofuels: declining cap on food crop biofuels; increasing targets for 'advanced' biofuels, reduced availability of wastes due to competition from other sectors and circular economy efforts to prevent waste generation and improve recycling so due to these facts new technologies still need to be successfully commercially demonstrated.



Dr. Michael Goldsworthy, NNFCC



Terravesta is a company of the strong conviction that Miscanthus crop has a particularly bright future in meeting the UK's energy needs. By bringing order and transparency to Miscanthus supply, growers can now enjoy best-ever prices and best-ever profits along with long-term guaranteed returns, whilst end users benefit from a secure and future-proof supply of a top quality, homegrown biomass source. So **Alex Robinson** Terravesta`s Operations manager explained "Business and operational activity for biomass production" he pointed out that ETI research suggests that to increase the supply of UK-grown biomass, there is a need to make more productive use of arable land in the UK so far as government target for energy cropping in UK is 1.4M/ha by 2050. Bioenergy has the capability to meet around 10% of future UK energy needs and deliver net negative  $CO_2$  emissions of around 55M/t per year in the 2050s. Now the company has more than 300 long term contracted growers and 6000ha of Miscanthus on contract, so it is 85% of UK Miscanthus under contract.



**Alex Robinson, Terravesta** 

**Jacob Duce** shared his experience planting of Miscanthus: summary and techniques, strategy and objectives. It was mentioned that the best for now is to plant from Rhizome as far as the next disadvantages can be seen: non-invasive; high yielding; robust; drought resistant, C4 perennial genotype; low feed quality and low moisture requirement. It was shown and explained in what way the Terravesta company is planting their rhizomes. If to talk about the economics of the Miscunthus - £529/Ha average net margin per year, no fertiliser costs, very low herbicide costs, known contract pricing so these things attract farmers to sign contracts with the company, because they are secure as far as subsidies for biofuel decreased a bit in UK.





**Jacob Duce, Terravesta** 

**Sam Backby** R&D manager at Terravesta summarized the long-term scientific experience and trials that were conducted by them. Estimates suggest around currently 20 m/ ha of surplus land in Europe and much of this land is unsuitable for standard agriculture so it can be seen significant growing interest within agriculture with regards to Miscanthus. The issues for upscaling are: current commercial variety of Miscanthus which is sterile; only propagation method is rhizome division - this method is time consuming and relatively expensive (propagation rate = 1:20) it was mentioned that the solution can be seed based hybrids: seed produced from two fertile parents; grown as a plug in a nursery in controlled conditions; transplanted from nursery to field. It can increase market opportunities and make faster return for farmers.



Sam Backby, Terravesta



#### 6.1.6. Conclusions

All the participants of the event that took place on June 6-7, 2018 in Lincoln, United Kingdom "Enhancing bioenergy among UK's farmers: potentials and barriers" in the frame of FORBIO project pointed out that it was very interesting, helpful and useful event. There was an opportunity to gather together different stakeholders and especially farmers and to show that everywhere people are trying and experimenting with different types of bioenergy crop and not every time from the first attempt it might be successful, but it can bring benefits. The main question was signing the long-term contracts, not every company wants to offer to the farmer long term contracts and fixed prices. In the discussion it was found out that now the most popular energy crop in the UK – Miscanthus – leader on the market, developing new initiatives ranging from added value energy products to fully self-contained heat supply systems. While large power stations remain the strongest source of demand for Miscanthus, here is a huge opportunity for the crop as an attractive fuel and heat source for the wider energy market.

Also, it was underlined that willow as an energy crop in UK becomes unpopular as far as almost no subsidies left for this type of crop and as far as farmers searching for benefits they are changing types of crops, everything depends on local policy and political preferences. In Ukraine willow stars its development as the energy crop and maybe if the government will allocate more support it will develop more.

On the study tour it was seen how Miscanthus can be adjusted to the different soil types even if land is underutilized. Farmers are happy to work on their land with energy crop, for example, planting Miscanthus from rhizome using well tried and tested techniques and agronomy. This can deliver attractive and reliable net margins for years to come as far as farmers are offered a long-term fixed price contracts.

All the stakeholders were interested to see how the situation with underutilized land in Europe is, what crops are planted in target countries, what are the value chains, what is the most profitable crop.