

MORE PROJECT

The main objective of the IEE MORE Project is to generate renewable energy using solid residues of olive oil production. The project involves 5 European countries: Italy, Croatia, Greece, Slovenia and Spain, by means of a partnership made up by the project leader - ARE Liguria, Liguria's regional agency for energy, Unioncamere Liguria, the regional association of the four Ligurian Chambers of Commerce (IT), IPTPO, the Institute of Agriculture and Tourism (HR); Anatoliki SA - Regional Energy Agency of Central Macedonia (REACM)(GR); UPZRS, the Science and Research Centre in Koper (SL); AGENER, the Agency for Energy Management of the Province of Jaen (S).

Running from November 2007 to April 2010, the project MORE aims to:

- Identify different methodologies to generate renewable energy using solid olive residues;
- Assess the various practical energy solutions in terms of technology, financial sustainability and management procedures and elaborate business plans in order to satisfy the different European production needs;
- Involve public and private stakeholders to develop the local markets and create distribution channels;
- Carry out educational and promotional activities;
- Define a methodology for replication in other European regions.

For more information: www.moreintelligentenergy.eu



MORE ACTIVITIES

Steering committee meetings

On days 16-17 November 2009 the partners met in **Poreč (Croatia) for their 5th Steering Committee Meeting**. The event has been very fruitful and the partners had the chance to visit 2 Croatian olive millers.

The last Steering Committee will be organized in Genova in 2010, probably within the context of Energethica Fair (4-6 march 2010).

Field Trips**1. Italy, Liguria – 14/15 September 2009**

According to the project activities, both Croatian and Slovenian partners organized a field trip for their olive millers in Italy. 22 olive millers and experts took part to the field trip.

The Italian partners arranged two visits in two areas of Liguria region for the delegation:

1. Lucchi e Guastalli Frantoio Oleario – Santo Stefano Magra, La Spezia Province
2. Cooperativa Olivicola Arnasco – Arnasco, Savona Province

Lucchi e Guastalli olive mill was the first one in Liguria to produce and commercialise the DOP olive oil "Riviera Ligure". It is a two phase olive mill and in recent times it has introduced a system patented by UNIECO which allows to combine olive pomace with lime to get a new combustible for biomass energy facilities. At the same time this technology allows the reuse of olive mill's waste waters, thus contributing to solve a annoying problem and reducing the environmental impact of mills' activities.

Cooperativa Olivicola Arnasco is a company which nowadays counts 190 members and covers 170ha cultivated with olive trees, for a average total annual production of 500q of olive oil.

The olive production's solid wastes are used as it follows:

- olive pomace is distributed on the cultivated fields as fertilizer;
- the pit is used to heat the olive mill.

The study visit has been appreciated by the delegation as it has given them the chance to confront themselves with other olive millers with longer experience and with bigger production capacity.

2. Spain

The regional Agency for energy in Andalusia, AGENER, is interested – within the project's content - in illustrating new technologies for pruning to market operators.

Then, they organised a national field trip from 17th to 20th June 2009 for local operators within the context of ASTUR FORESTA 2009, the most important Spanish fair in forestry. The field trip was named "Update on forestal machinery and the advantages of wood and biomass".

During the field trip the delegation visited the plant of pellet in Cazorla and they have compared two different residues: olive and pines residues.

Business Plan for energy facilities

The MORE Project foresees the elaboration of a business plan for energy facilities from olive oil production solid residues. On the basis of the estimation of energy demand/offer, the evaluation of available technology and the economic analysis each partner will develop a business plan which matches with the regional characteristics.

Please find below the main findings for Slovenia.

Slovenia

Deriving from the state of the art of olive residues use for energy purposes in Slovenia, University of Primorska – Science and Research Centre of Koper (UP ZRS) decided to invite all interested stakeholders, namely local olive millers, to submit their preliminary ideas for potential energy facilities in order to estimate the general interest for exploiting olive residues for energy.

In November 2009, at the fixed deadline, UP ZRS received 3 preliminary ideas from 3 different stakeholders: a municipality, a SME-olive miller and a private tourist apartments owner.

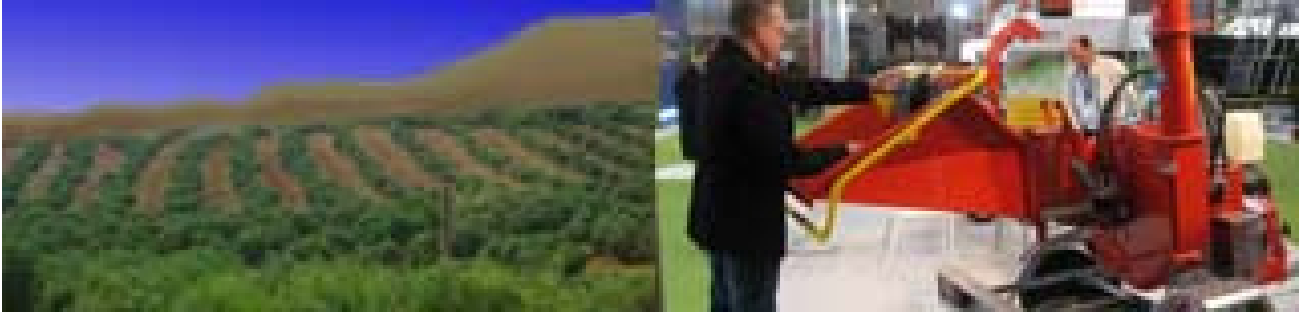
All of them focused on exploiting olive residues for heat production by replacing currently used technology.

The Municipality idea consists in substituting in local schools old stoves fed with crude oil with new stoves using biomass (olive residues, wood pellets, etc.).

The olive miller's idea is to replace current system of heating in olive mill using electricity with completely new installations based on stove using olive residues to produce heat necessary for olive mill processes and heating olive mill facilities.

The idea presented by the private tourist operator is based on the replacement of existing gas burners with new ones adapted to exploit olive residues in order to assure hot sanitary water and heat for tourist facilities.

UP ZRS has decided to support all the ideas presented. In collaboration with external experts from EcoConsulting company from Ljubljana, UP ZRS will soon transform the 3 preliminary ideas into 3 business plans for pilot energy facilities in Slovenia.



MORE FEEDBACK

The MORE project is now approaching its final semester of activity and the last Steering Committee has highlighted some crucial issues for a successful completion of the project:

1. the roadmap to be soon finalized can prove to be a key deliverable at European level because the European Institutions, namely the European Commission, are indeed promoting biomass but focusing mainly on forest biomass, as they have got information and best practices basically from forest operators but they lack feedback from olive millers and their associations. With a positive lobbying also the high energy potential of olive oil solid wastes (pomace and nut) can be fully appreciated and exploited;
2. the preparation of the five business plans (one for each region involved in the project) has put in evidence the variety of possible usage of olive oil solid wastes according to local needs which the various regional stakeholders have so far expressed;
3. the final methodology, which will be printed out in the form of "reference material" (ie: guidelines), will then represent both a dissemination and a lobbying tool;
4. closely connected to the previous points, the policy recommendations to be produced as project deliverable are of outmost importance to promote the energy market from olive oil waste residues and to make it real.



MORE HIGHLIGHTS

The Spanish partner AGENER presented the MORE Project in two distinct for a:

- at the European Future Energy Forum, which took place in Bilbao from 9th to 11th June 2009, by participating at a roundtable session about "Biomass from olive sector for thermal uses in the south of Spain" (www.europeanfutureenergyforum.com/home)
- at the 17th European Biomass Conference&Exhibition, "From Research to Industry and Markets", which took place in Hamburg from 29th June to 3rd July 2009, by managing a presentation entitled "The Chain of Values of the Olive Trees Biomass for Final Thermal Uses in the south of Spain: Key Aspects and Challenges". (www.conference-biomass.com)

The Croatian partner IPTPO has had the opportunity to discuss MORE Project's objectives within the "Energetika" Fair, held in Zagreb on 19th September 2009, at the session dedicated to alternative sources of energy.



MORE FORTHCOMING EVENTS

ENERGAIA – 9/12 December 2009, Montpellier

Unioncamere Liguria will take part to this exhibition by holding an information session on MORE Projects which will provide feedback mainly on the feasibility study for energy facilities from solid olive oil wastes. To know more about the event, please visit <http://www.energaia-expo.com>

Energethica Fair – 4/6 March 2009 – Genova

ARE Liguria and Unioncamere Liguria will be present at ENERGETHICA, the national event dedicated to energy efficiency and renewable energy sources, in order to present the MORE Project's results.

SOL Verona – 8/12 April 2010 - Verona

ARE Liguria and Unioncamere Liguria will be present at the 2010 edition of this well reputed event on olive oil production.

AEBIOM European Bioenergy Conference & RENEXPO® Bioenergy Europe –June 30th –July 1st, 2010 – Brussels

Organised by the European Biomass Association AEBIOM, the event represents a valuable location to discuss about EU legislation of the new Commission and new Parliament, the national renewable energy action plans, the sustainability criteria for biofuels and biomass, the biomass supply and the market developments (biogas, small scale heat, electricity, biofuels, district heating).

The MORE Project will be inserted in the Conference programme within the biomass supply session.

To know more about it, visit the website <http://www.renexpo-bioenergy.eu>



Intelligent Energy  Europe

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