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Fraunhofer Institute for
Factory Operation and
Automation IFF
Sandtorstr.22
39106 Magdeburg

Dr. Ina Ehrhardt
Project Management

Christian Blobner
International Project
Coordination

Best4VarioUse@fraunhofer.de

Fundación Comunidad
Valenciana - Región Europea
(FCVRE)
c/ Juristas, 10
ES-46001 Valencia
Tel.: +34 96 318 43 46

Rue de la Loi 227
B-1040 Belgium
Tel.: +32 2 282.41.60

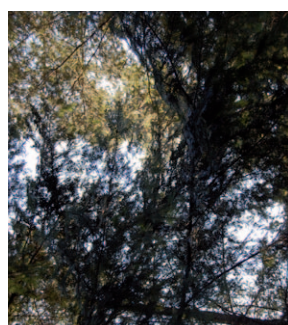
www.uegva.info
FCVRE Contact - **Marta Esteve:**
mesteve@delcomval.be

Best Practices and Technologies to Develop Green Wastes and Residues as Raw Materials for Variant Utilization

Consortium Meeting in Magdeburg on March 10-12, 2010

The most recent consortium meeting was held in Magdeburg on March 10 to 12 and was organized by the LFB and Fraunhofer IFF.

On the first day, March 10, the Spanish partners in the Best4VarioUse consortium and Fraunhofer IFF were invited on a field trip to LuG Stackelitz and LFB's field test plots for a presentation of biomass utilization, pellet production and other processes with relevance to the project partners. The field trip was a good opportunity to discuss and view project results directly with representatives.



The main consortium meeting was held at the "Haus des Waldes" at Schloss Hundisburg near Magdeburg on March 11 and 12. At the meeting, the activities completed during the first year of the Best4VarioUse project were recapitulated and the Astrale Monitoring Team reviewed the European Commission's financial reporting requirements. In addition, there were discussions about the deliverables that must be submitted to the EU and the development and the current state of Best4VarioUse project work. The partners each presented their interim results.

The topic of the third day of the meeting on March 12 was the "Coordination of Field Test Activities". The partners delivered presentations on their current state of work, individual field test planning, the current state of prototype development; material and energy recovery and the determination of sampling points and prototype development. The meeting concluded with a discussion about future actions.



Best4VarioUse Dissemination

Europa Tuya:

The series of Europa Tuya workshops and seminars is intended to improve the integration of citizens in European society by examining topics such as energy efficiency, renewable energy sources, biomass or training in depth. The series of Europa Tuya seminars enables participants to hear what European experts have to say on a variety of issues, e.g. energy, the environment, interregional cooperation, participation and volunteering.

More than 50 speakers are featured at these seminars, which facilitate direct collaboration between the Valencian Region and social entities and European representatives and thus establish the basis for future collaboration. Some of the main conferences held during the first half of the year are described below.

Castellón, May 11th

This seminar was intended to help municipalities optimize their use of European financing tools to create jobs and provide training in environmentally energy efficient construction and thus contributes to achieving the goals of various climate protection policies and the Covenant of Mayors for Energy Efficiency.

The opening ceremony was attended by the Regional Secretary for Relations with the State and the European Union, Rafael Ripoll, the Mayor of Castellón, Alberto Fabra, and the Spanish representative of the European Commission's Environment Directorate-General, Javier Ruiz-Tomás. Various presentations on energy were delivered and Jose Luis Muñoz highlighted different European projects on energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainability and the environment in which Valencia is participating. One of the projects he described was Best4VarioUse.



ETSIA, May 24th



Openinig meeting

This event was aimed at presenting European programs and projects, specifically those of professional interest for agricultural engineers, and providing an overview of the work involved in finding, disseminating and managing European projects. Various projects covering environmental, energy efficiency and sustainability issues were presented, including Best4VarioUse in Jose Luis Muñoz, Celsa Monrós and Marta Esteve's presentations.

The event was attended by the Regional Secretary for Agriculture Fish and Food, Vicente Riera, the Regional Secretary for Relations with the State and the European Union, Rafael Ripoll, the President of the Official College of Agricultural Engineers of Valencia and Castellón, Isabel Pérez, and the Director of the Technical School of Rural Environments and Oenology, Santiago Guillem.

Benissa May 27th

This meeting was intended to present project ideas and disseminate best practices by taking projects co-presented by the Valencian Region as examples.

At the conference, staff from the FVCRE explained what projects can be worked on and how they can provide European funding for Valencian municipalities. Moreover, information was also provided on the Interreg IV C program and projects in local entities such as Best4VarioUse.



Mayors and Councillors

Other European events:

Intercoop – The project RuralE-Evolution aims to identify means to facilitate collaboration between the public and the private sector in order to undertake projects related to the production of renewable energy in rural areas.

Armando Fizzarotti, lead manager of the RuralE-Evolution project, presented the project. Marta Esteve described the financing opportunities for energy projects with funds from the European Union and, in this context, explained Best4VarioUse.

In addition, the presentation provided a clear example of energy responsibility. This type of project helps achieve two of the currently most important objectives, firstly, to support and encourage the use of renewable energy, slow down climate change and promote energy sufficiency, and, secondly, to promote rural zones, prevent rural flight and furnish rural areas new added value by diversifying their activities.

Corso di Formazione – The Region of Campania offered a training course centered on the region's priority sectors: agriculture and fishing. One of the modules was held at the FCVRE office in Brussels where its Director Juan Manuel Revuelta, presented Best4VarioUse in the context of European projects and rural and environmental development.



Mrs. Marta Esteve presentation

Info Day - A seminar was hosted at the Valencia Stock Exchange as part of the Europa Tuya project entitled "Tools for encouraging the citizens to participate in European policies". The event was attended by many participants such as the Regional Secretary for Relations with the State and the European Union, Rafael Ripoll, the General Director of Commerce and Consumption, Silvia Ordiñaga, and various consumer representatives and experts on the subject.



Best practices in European Projects and Best4VarioUse roller

Bulgarian Delegation Visit – Last June 16, a delegation from the municipality of Varna visited our office in Brussels. It was provided information on the Fundación, the services provides citizens, entities and organizations of the Valencia Community, and examples of best practices by participation in European projects in cooperation with other European regions. One of the projects presented was Best4VarioUse.

The FCVRE set up a stand to disseminate its projects and one of them that raised the most interest was Best4VarioUse.

Regional Approach: Development and Progress of the Best4VarioUse Project in the Valencian Community

In its first eighteen months the main core of the Best4VarioUse project in the Valencian Community has been developed in the region and some results have already been obtained.

AIDIMA, the Spanish research institute in the consortium, has developed a prototype assessment system to determine the potential biomass that is likely to be used from agricultural and forestry residues. The assessment system has been adapted to different regional circumstance and, thus two versions have been generated, one for the region of Saxony-Anhalt based on biomass formulas and one for the Valencian region based on biomass factors. The implementation of the assessment system has raised awareness of the biomass potential in both regions.

In addition, field tests have been performed on agricultural fields and forest plots to assess and test potential methods of harvesting, collection, extraction, transport and storage, which improve the sustainable use and efficiency of biomass.

Meeting with ASTRALE GEIE-IDOM in Valencia on February 2nd, 2010

A meeting was held with Astrale, the Life+ monitoring team, at AIDIMA in Paterna. The aim of the meeting was to examine the different aspects of the project.

The technical aspects included the description of the activities undertaken, deliverables prepared, problems that arose and actions during the next period. Administrative/financial issues were also reviewed as were aspects of dissemination.



Mrs. Salvatella, Life+ Monitoring expert and Mrs. Lerma

BIOMASS WORKING GROUP:

Biomass opportunities in the Valencian Community

As part of its communication and dissemination tasks in the Best4VarioUse project, the FCVRE wanted to add value to the activities and ensure the project's continuity by promoting the strategic energy sector. Therefore, the creation of a biomass forum or working group with a participative methodology was proposed in order to attract regional partners, renewable energy experts, representative organizations and relevant innovative actors. The latter will meet periodically and thus constitute a platform for the exchange of experiences and the promotion of discussion to identify opportunities of biomass, define the appropriate framework to present other European initiatives and develop related activities that add value to the Valencian Community and its European regional partners.

To launch this idea, a first meeting will be held on September 28. At it, the main actors, city councils, experts, technicians and the Spanish members of the Best4VarioUse consortium will assemble to present innovative solutions and opportunities based on biomass use.

The event is intended to inform city councils about the tools that promote research in the local entities' own most important economic sectors and improve competitiveness in relation to other cities in the European Union. It is also aimed at fostering an exchange of experiences with related projects with other city councils.

The use of biomass as an energy source cuts the levels of CO₂ and sulfur emissions into the atmosphere. The use of agricultural and forest waste also boosts the socioeconomic situation rural areas, prevents depopulation and encourages rural employment.

Moreover, the use of agricultural and forest waste is instrumental in generating autochthonous energy in these isolated rural environments as well as finding innovative solutions for other uses. It additionally helps prevent fires and keep forests clean. Finally, biomass can generate sustainable momentum for regional development.



Europa Tuya Flyer

Partners Description:



The Fraunhofer Institute for Factory Operation and Automation IFF specializes in applied research and development in the fields of logistics systems and networks, virtual engineering, automation and process and plant engineering.



Stackelitz provides forest owners comprehensive service packages for all necessary forestry work, e.g. consulting and support for forest owners, forest cultivation (tending of young plantations, thinning and mature stand thinning), short wood and log skidding, timber transport (short timber), lumber sales and even road construction and forestry technology implementation.



The Landesforstbetrieb optimally and sustainably exploits and markets the resource wood, cares for the forests, carries out necessary forest conversion and regeneration based on the locality and preserves and improves its assets.



IBERDROLA RENOVABLES is a private utility company that provides electricity primarily generated from renewable sources and is the world's leader in the operation of such power. Its main generation technologies are wind farms but it also runs biomass, solar-thermal and wave-marine energy plants. Offshore wind farms and marine-tidal generation are in planning.