



# 17th European Biomass Conference & Exhibition From Research to Industry and Markets

## Daily Bulletin: 29 June 2009

*Bringing you all the news and highlights from the Conference!*

*Available Monday to Friday at the registration desk and in the exhibition hall*

### Editorial

Last year the 16th edition of the European Biomass Conference & Exhibition in Valencia gathered more than 1,500 participants from over 72 countries to discuss the latest developments in bioenergy. The speakers of the past edition highlighted the key role that biomass will play to meet the targets set by the European Union within the so called 20-20-20 package.

A huge effort will be necessary from all sectors of renewables to achieve this challenging target; biomass in particular can give an important contribution to this mission, as it is one of the few options which can provide a substantial part of this share in the near future. The financial crisis that hit the world in 2009 certainly has had a negative impact on the development of bioenergy, delaying the implementation of ambitious projects and forcing several companies to reconsider their business strategies. The current "credit crunch" is forcing the bioenergy sector to operate at a severe selection of the most profitable and economically sound projects based on the most solid and reliable technologies. Nevertheless, it is widely accepted by the financial and scientific community and by policy makers, that renewables and bioenergy can play a leading role in stimulating the world's economic recovery towards a more sustainable development.

In addition, the issue of economic and environmental sustainability of bioenergy has been widely debated recently, the foreseen adoption by the EU of sustainability criteria for biofuels and enlarging this to all biomass use in Europe, will hopefully contribute to the advancement and the maturity of this sector and will set the base for a stable and long term development of bioenergy in the world.

This year's Conference will provide an international platform for the exchange of opinions and knowledge among research, industry, finance and policy makers. More than ever this event will give a unique overview of the opportunities that must be seized and the barriers that need to be addressed to drive the evolution of the biomass sector in this rapidly evolving and challenging context.

**Follow our daily bulletin for a summary report of the main highlights from all the sessions!**

### What's going to be discussed in the next five days

This year's programme is devoted to five main areas, **Biomass Resources, Biomass Conversion, Fuels from Biomass, Market, Policies and Sustainability**. Over the next five days, the sessions will be divided in oral sessions and key plenary sessions to be chaired by experts with a long history of excellent work in the bioenergy community.



### Monday

Key highlights in today's plenary session include presentations on the future of liquid biofuels; a state of the art of biorefinery systems and an overview of the opportunities of algae as an innovative bioenergy resource.

Do not miss the **opening session** (Hall 2 at 10 A.M.). The Chairman **Giovanni Federigo De Santi**, director of the Institute for Energy, European Commission, will

welcome the Conference; subsequent, high-ranking international personalities from Europe, US, Russia and Brazil will present their point of view concerning the role of Biomass for research, industry and climate protection. The keynote speakers are:

- **Michael Müller**, Parliamentarian Secretary of State at the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, will welcome the audience on behalf of the host country Germany
- **Fabrizio Barbaso**, European Commission, Deputy Director General for Energy and Transport will give an opening speech about "Promoting Biomass in the EU and the Role of Biomass in the Renewable Energy Directive"
- **Valri Lightner**, Biomass Program Manager at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) will present an overview of the US Biofuels effort
- **Josè Moreira**, Director CENBIO – Brazilian National Biomass Reference Centre will give a speech about "The Brazilian biomass challenge - how the biomass sector in Brazil developed and where it is targeting to"
- **Sergey Mazurenko**, Head of the Federal Agency for Science and Innovations Russia, will give an overview of the Russian Research & Development in bioenergy sector.

**Please be seated by 09: 50 AM!**

The **European Linneborn Award Ceremony** will also take place during the opening session following the keynote speeches. The Laudatio will be awarded for outstanding contributions to the development of energy from biomass.

Monday's sessions will continue morning and afternoon focusing mainly on the various aspects of thermochemical and biological conversion of biomass by combustion fermentation and enzymatic processes.

### Exhibitors Reception and EUBIA Award 2009

The **Exhibitors Reception** will take place on Monday evening (18.30-20:00) in the exhibition area. We kindly invite all conference delegates, exhibitors and exhibition visitors to the welcome reception. Cocktails and snacks will be served while you take the opportunity of networking with your peers!

This year the **EUBIA Award** will be presented during the Exhibitors Reception at 18:30 (look for the stage next to the bar!). The EUBIA award now in its 7<sup>th</sup> edition recognizes a company for its outstanding contribution to the development of the Biomass Energy Sector.

### Tuesday

The morning and afternoon oral presentations will cover a number of talks mainly focused on **gasification and pyrolysis**. A critical overview on the state of pyrolysis technologies will be given in the morning plenary; **market oriented sessions** will also begin in the morning, as well as two sessions on **biomass resources** in the afternoon.

**Side events** will begin on Tuesday with two interesting workshops:

- **Bioenergy for Rural Development in Africa and Asia** (jointly organized by COMPETE and RE-IMPACT projects);
- **New Biomass Co-firing Concepts** (by IEA Bioenergy Task 32).

### Wednesday

Wednesday sessions will deal with a host of different topics. The morning plenary will be opened with a talk on optimizing the wood pellet supply with sustainability requirements and a presentation about ERANET Bioenergy: pulling bioenergy research together. The afternoon oral sessions will continue focusing on biomass resources by giving an outlook on **biomass yields and environmental issues related to energy crops**. Other key talks in the afternoon sessions will be devoted to **liquid biofuels**, showing the latest developments in the biodiesel sector, as well market and policy issues introducing the latest sustainability and certification issues in the EU context and GHG calculations.

Wednesday's **side event** will be the **3<sup>rd</sup> Biomass Industry Day** organized in Hall 6 by EUBIA where the bioenergy industry will meet to discuss financing and investing in biomass in the current climate and promote sustainable large scale deployment of bioenergy.

### Thursday

Biomass resources and biofuels will be the main topics treated in Thursday's sessions. Highly topical and widely debated issues, will be given high relevance in **two plenary sessions in the morning**. The first plenary kicks-off with a speech on the the Global Biofuels Supply and Demand Outlook, a speech on Improving Investments in 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Biofuels and concludes with highlights of the European Biofuels Technology Platform.

The second plenary promises to be equally exciting featuring presentations on bioelectricity in the UK, trade offs linked to bioenergy for sustainable development, barriers and opportunities of bioenergy trade, sustainable land use and closes with the vision for new bioenergy RTDD results in Northern European Industry.

Thursday's **side events** will continue with two workshops on:

- **Advanced Biorefinery Concepts and Technologies** (by Biosinergy project)
- **Barriers and Opportunities for bioenergy trade and increased utilization** (jointly organized by EUBIONET III project and IEA Bioenergy Task 40)

### Friday

The final day of the conference includes sessions ranging from biomass production, hydrogen production and syngas to policy-oriented sessions on national and regional policies. In the latter sessions make sure to attend presentations on Barriers to European Bioenergy Expansion, linking regional and national biomass action plans, the RES Directive and national targets and strategies in Belgium and Finland. The **Closing session** ends the Conference and will include a synthesis presentation from the Technical Coordinators about the content of the week. Further to this **the poster award ceremony** will honour the most outstanding visual presentations selected by a jury of experts.

### VISUAL PRESENTATIONS

This year the posters related to the Visual Presentations will be displayed on the allotted boards for the full 4 days from Monday to Thursday. **More than 500 presentations** will be displayed. Remember to take a look at your conference programme booklet to find the "Programme per day" ordered by topics and the "Programme outline" with the scheduled times when the authors will be present at the poster session to answer your questions. During non-scheduled time slots you can leave a message or your business card in the envelope which is fixed to every poster panel to be contacted by the authors.

### Practical Information

Speakers and Chairpersons of Plenary and Oral Presentations on the Conference Programme will meet in the Conference room 15 min prior to the assigned sessions. Speakers must hand in their presentation on site to the Presenters' Desk.

All Visual Poster Presentations can be presented the full four days from Monday –Thursday in the Poster Area. Please set up your poster after registration as early as possible this morning (29 June) and to remove them on Thursday late afternoon (2 July) after the last session.

Opening hours for deliver for manuscripts to be published in the Conference Proceedings are on Monday 07:30-19:00, Tuesday-Thursday 08:00-13:30. Please sign the Copyright Agreement to include your paper and poster file for publication in the Proceedings.

### Enjoy the Conference and have an excellent week in Hamburg!

This issue is written and edited by Maurizio Cocchi and Eibhilin Manning. The digital editor is Valentina Davitti.  
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