



## Solid biomass in European Protected Areas: Sustainable supply chain models

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016, Brussels, Committee of the Regions

## INVITATION

We are pleased to invite you to the final conference of the BioEUParks project. During the conference, keynote speakers from the EU institutions will provide a framework of the current priorities and initiatives to improve energy sustainability in Europe. Project partners will provide an in-depth analysis of the project results, presenting case studies of setting up local biomass supply chains in Protected Areas. Further, with the contribution of other partner organisations, we will have a chance to discuss the challenges and opportunities arising from sustainable exploitation of solid biomass in Europe. The complete programme can be seen in the following page.

**The conference is generously hosted by the Committee of the Regions (CoR) with the patronage of Mr. Roby Biber, Member of the Committee of the Regions and rapporteur on the fitness check of Nature Directives.**

## CONTEXT

**BioEUParks** is a three-years Project applied under European **Intelligent Energy Europe Programme (IEE)**, which promotes pilot initiatives aimed at supporting energy efficiency and renewable energy policies, addressing the 2012 proposed priority **'Solid biomass'**.

**The project, directly involving 5 European Parks** from Austria, Hungary, Slovenia, Italy and Greece, **aims at testing new sustainable supply chain developed within European Protected Areas** matching the concept of Solid Biomass Exploitation and Sustainable Forest Management.

## OBJECTIVES

- To set up sustainable short range supply chains of solid biomass within and nearby park area respecting the criteria of Sustainable Forest Management and Nature conservation priorities
- To engage local public and private actors in short range supply chain with the aim to increase the sustainable use of solid biomass improving the share from fossil to renewable energy sources
- To promote investments in small scale CHP plants as a key lever for the creation of new green job and business opportunities
- To favour engagement of the European Park in European energy policies

### About Biomass

*The importance of using biomass for heat and energy production is rapidly growing in Europe. In the context of the EU's policy on renewable energy summarized as the 20/20/20 target (20% renewable energy, 20% greenhouse gas reduction and 20% reduction in energy consumption by the year 2020), the production of heat and energy through biomass constitutes an important pillar.*

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# BIOEUPARKS

[www.bioeuparks.eu](http://www.bioeuparks.eu)

## PROGRAMME

**9:00 - 9:30 Registration**

**9:30 - 9:45 Opening Session**

- **Roby Biwer**, Member of the CoR and rapporteur of Fitness check of Nature Directives
- **Miapetra Kumpula-Natri**, MEP - Industry, Research and Energy Committee and Chair of the Bioeconomy WG - Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development Intergroup
- **Mauro Albrizio**, Policy Officer - Legambiente EU Office

**9:45 - 10:15 Introduction to the Intelligent Energy Europe Programme and the BioEUParks project**

*Promotion of Solid Biomass for energy in the Intelligent Energy Europe Programme:*

- **Silvia Vivarelli**, BioEUParks Project Officer - EASME - European Commission

*BioEUParks in-sights:*

- **Diego Mattioli**, BioEUParks - project coordinator

**10:15 - 11:15 Panel discussion 1: Nature Conservation and Biomass Exploitation**

**Theme:** Can the exploitation of wood biomass be compatible with biodiversity conservation priorities and the management of natural resources in European Protected Areas?

**Moderator:** Federico Minozzi, EUROPARC Federation Managing Director

**Case studies - BIOEUPARKS Project:**

- **Danube Ipoly National Park (Hungary)** - **Zsófia Tomcsányi**, Project Manager:  
*From the alien species removal to the activation of a multimodal short-range supply chain.*
- **Sölkttäler Nature Park (Austria)** - **Volkhard Maier**, Park Director :  
*Nature conservation and landscape management as a sustainable source of biomass.*

**Panel discussion:**

- **Linde Zuidema**, FERN - Bioenergy and export credit agencies campaigner
- **D.I. Bernhard Budil**, Land&Forst Betriebe Austria - Secretary General / European Landowners' Organization (ELO)
- **Peter Löffler**, DG Environment, Unit Agriculture, Forest and Soil  
*Finding the right balance - Biomass use and EU policies on biodiversity and nature*

**Conclusion:**

- **María Gafo Gómez-Zamalloa**, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, Unit Bioenergy, Climate Change and Forests - European Commission

**11:15 - 11:30 Coffee Break**



Co-funded by the Intelligent Energy Europe Programme of the European Union

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### 11:30 - 12:30 Panel discussion 2 - The contribution of Protected Areas to the EU Energy Policy

**Theme:** Protected Areas leading new models for local development based on sustainable energy: a way to contribute to the EU climate and energy targets?

**Moderator:** Dr. Nike Krajnc, Slovenian Forestry Institute - Head of Department for Forest Technique and Economics

#### Case studies - BIOEUPARKS Project:

- Kozjansko Regional Park (Slovenia) - Teo Hrvoje Orsanic, Park Director:  
*Model of social responsible energy thermal district in protected areas.*
- Sila National Park (Italy) - Dr. Michele Laudati, Park Director  
& Rodopi National Park (Greece) - Christos Karachristos, Senior Expert:  
*Models of sustainable biomass supply chain in protected areas.*

#### Panel discussion:

- Sini Eräjää, European Environmental Bureau - Policy Officer: EU Bioenergy
- Jean-Marc Jossart, The European Biomass Association - Secretary General

#### Conclusion:

- Giulio Volpi, DG Energy, Unit Renewables and Carbon Capture and Storage Policy - European Commission

### 12:30 - 13:00 Final remarks

**BioEUParks contribution to the EU debate on biomass:** Matthias Mossbauer, Fachagentur Nachwachsende Rohstoffe e.V. (FNR) - Agency for Renewable Resources - Advisor for EU Affairs

**Conference conclusions:** Ignace Schops, President of the EUROPARC Federation

### 13:00 - 13:15 Questions & Answers for media

*A seasonal walking buffet will be offered after the event.*

## VENUE

This event is generously **hosted by the Committee of the Regions**

#### Address:

Committee of the Regions  
rue Belliard 101  
B - 1040 Brussels

#### [View on a map](#)

#### Access:

**Train station:** Bruxelles-Schuman (IC, S4, S5, S8)  
**Metro station:** Maelbeek (lines 1 and 5)  
**Bus station:** Park Leopold (21, 27)

## REGISTRATION

The conference is free of charge, but registration is compulsory (seats are limited).

**Please REGISTER here before 27th February.**

#### For further information please contact:

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