

STRATEGIC TOOLS TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIOMASS FOR LOW CARBON DOMESTIC HEATING

Dear reader,

Welcome to the first edition of our BB-CLEAN newsletter. The purpose of this newsletter is to inform you about the aims and the activities foreseen by the BB-CLEAN project which is funded by the Interreg Europe Alpine Space Programme, to let you know what has been done during the last months and to introduce you with our partner consortium.

We hope you will enjoy our first edition.

If you would like to keep up with our latest activities and developments, please follow us on our website:
<http://www.alpine-space.eu/projects/bb-clean/>

ABOUT BB-CLEAN PROJECT

In the BB-CLEAN project 8 partners from 5 countries of the Alpine Region (AR) are working together to develop transnational policies for a sustainable use of biomass for domestic heating to minimize its negative impact on air quality and improve a smart use of biomass in the AR.

Biomass covers a large share of heat demand in the AR which can reach 90% for small municipalities in the Alps. That is why there is a need to support a better use of local resources and increase the energy self-sufficiency while reducing the impacts on climate and the environment. Biomass is available and affordable RES and its combustion involves critical aspects related to atmospheric particulate (PM) emissions, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Often unknown to population and local administrators is that biomass burning (BB) leads to consistent particulate matter (PM) emissions. They have an impact on natural ecosystems, on human health and even on climate change considering Black Carbon concentrations contained in PM emitted from BB.

The project will focus on innovative open-source and interactive approaches for the awareness raising of citizens and local administrators about the critical aspects linked to BB and on the definition of strategic technological, economical and regulative tools to reduce the impact of BB in the Alpine valleys. The development of shared policy-relevant documents will favour the application of harmonized regulations for a sustainable use of biomass in the AR.



KICK OFF MEETING



From the 21st to the 22nd of June 2018 the BB-CLEAN project partners met for the first time in Brescia, Italy. The meeting was hosted by the Lead partner, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore. Representatives from 7 project partners attended the meeting and, on the basis of their specific competences, participated in discussions to share common decisions on the direction to give to the BB-CLEAN Project.

BB-CLEAN AT EUSALP 2nd CONFERENCE



The Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, as Lead Partner of the BB-CLEAN project, attended to the 2nd EUSALP Energy Conference “Energy Transition in the Alps”. The event was organized by EUSALP Action Group 9 under the patronage of the Tyrolean EUSALP Presidency 2018.

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The geographic and structural characteristics of the Alps provide good potentials to turn the EUSALP territory into a European “Model region for energy efficiency and renewable energy”. Representatives from politics, research & science, energy suppliers, associations, NGOs and civil society have been invited in Innsbruck to discuss how to support the energy transition in the Alps.

On the 2nd of October 2018, an EU Commission representative presented the targets (mid and long term targets of 2030 and 2050) in terms of CO₂ emissions reduction and decarbonisation of energy production.

A great emphasis has been given to E-mobility to be implemented even in the Alpine Region.

Focus was also put on hydropower for electricity production to be implemented in the Alps and on energy storage systems linked to the adoption of RES to produce electric energy (PV, WIND and HYDRO mainly).

UCSC also participated to the EU Workshop focused on the collection of suggestions to EUSALP policies coming out from projects cofounded by the Alpine Space Programme.

At the workshop there were a few participants working on ongoing AS Projects (THE4BEES, GRETA, BB-CLEAN and PEACE ALPS). Two representatives of the Energy Agency of Tirol coordinated the workshop.

Aim of this meeting was to discuss potential policies to be recommended to EUSALP coming from the experience gained during the projects duration. The recommendations that came out from the discussion were mainly focused on the need of tools to link a top down approach to a bottom up approach to develop policies in the Alps; the need to replicate experiences started in pilot areas in other areas (difficult task: transferability of experiences); local and regional policymakers have to deal with environmental and climate change topics mandatorily.

In general, from the workshop the role of thermal energy production (and energy efficiency measures related to energy consumption reduction in domestic heating) were covered by the focus on electricity production, e-mobility and the need for new solutions for (electric) energy storage at EU level.



PROJECT PARTNERS



UNIVERSITÀ
CATTOLICA
del Sacro Cuore

BB-CLEAN is coordinated by the Environmental Physics and Ecophysiology Laboratory Research Group of the Department of Mathematics and Physics of UCSC. The EPE Lab staff has great expertise in different research areas (mainly micrometeorology; ecophysiology and ecotoxicology, urban pollution and sustainable energy systems) even thanks to the participation to several national and EU projects.

ARPA Valle d'Aosta, operative since 1997, is the technical support of local and regional administrations for environmental protection activities. The main activities of ARPA concerns the control of the physical, chemical and biological processes that characterize the environment in its different components: air, water, soil. ARPA Valle d'Aosta ensures dissemination of information on environmental issues, through the publication of technical reports and environmental data, also by online website."



The CCPMB is a public authority regrouping 10 municipalities located in the Northern French Alps. Environmental protection, transport and waste management are some of the fields that fall under its responsibility. It has been working actively on air and climate issues as European air pollution standards are often exceeded on its territory. It carries out environmental awareness campaigns and recently launched its Climate Air Energy Plan.

Atmo Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes is an observatory approved by the French Ministry for Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy to monitor and provide information about AQ in the AURA Region with 5 missions: OBSERVE AQ, HELP decision-makers, INFORM and encourage citizens to act at improving AQ, PLAN AHEAD while integrating emerging issues, MANAGE the organization's strategy in consistency with national guidelines



KSSENA offers a substantial amount of expertise relevant to the project thematic, gained through the successful implementation of numerous activities in the field of energy efficiency, exploitation of renewable energy sources and energy management of local communities. The Agency has experience in the development of local energy concepts, sustainable energy action plans as well as providing feedback on proposed national energy strategies.

E-zavod mission is to support sustainable development, specifically environmental protection, innovative economy and social welfare. E-zavod goal is to introduce new trends and technologies in Slovenia and contribute to the openness of the country and its inhabitants. E-zavod implements number of projects to support energy efficiency, renewable energy, open innovation and SME support.



FH JOANNEUM was established in 1995. With its 50 degree programmes in the areas of Management & Technology, Architecture & Civil Engineering, Business, Information Engineering, Media & Design and Social & Health Services it is one of the leading universities of applied sciences in Austria. Research and development are a core area of activity. It carries out research with the aim of contributing to social development and solving complex problems of our time.

Econcept supports since more than 20 years industrial and governmental clients in developing environmentally friendly products, business models and visionary designs. Further we have gathered detailed know-how and +10 years project experience on business model innovation and use a comprehensive Ecodesign toolbox. Moreover we have developed the first online crowdsourcing open innovation platform focusing on sustainability issues (www.innovatives.com).



ABOUT US



**Interreg
Alpine Space**

European Regional Development Fund



EUROPEAN UNION



Follow us on our website and social media profiles:

<http://www.alpine-space.eu/projects/bb-clean/>

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