



Interreg



EUROPEAN UNION

Danube Transnational Programme

ENERGY BARGE

Building a Green Energy & Logistics Belt

Newsletter #1, May 2017

A stream of cooperation

**ENERGY BARGE is co-funded by the
European Regional Development Fund
(ERDF)**



Danube Transnational Programme
ENERGY BARGE

Building a Green Energy & Logistics Belt

Welcome



The team of ENERGY BARGE

Welcome to the ENERGY BARGE project newsletter.

ENERGY BARGE is a project implemented under the INTERREG Danube Transnational Programme, co-financed by European Union funds.

A unique feature of this project is its cross-sectoral approach between the bioenergy industry and the navigation logistics sector along the Danube River.

This newsletter presents the project's progress, highlighted related events, new calls and news from ENERGY BARGE partners.

The team of ENERGY BARGE

The partners

There are 15 partners involved in the project from 7 countries:

7 partners from the biomass/bioenergy sector

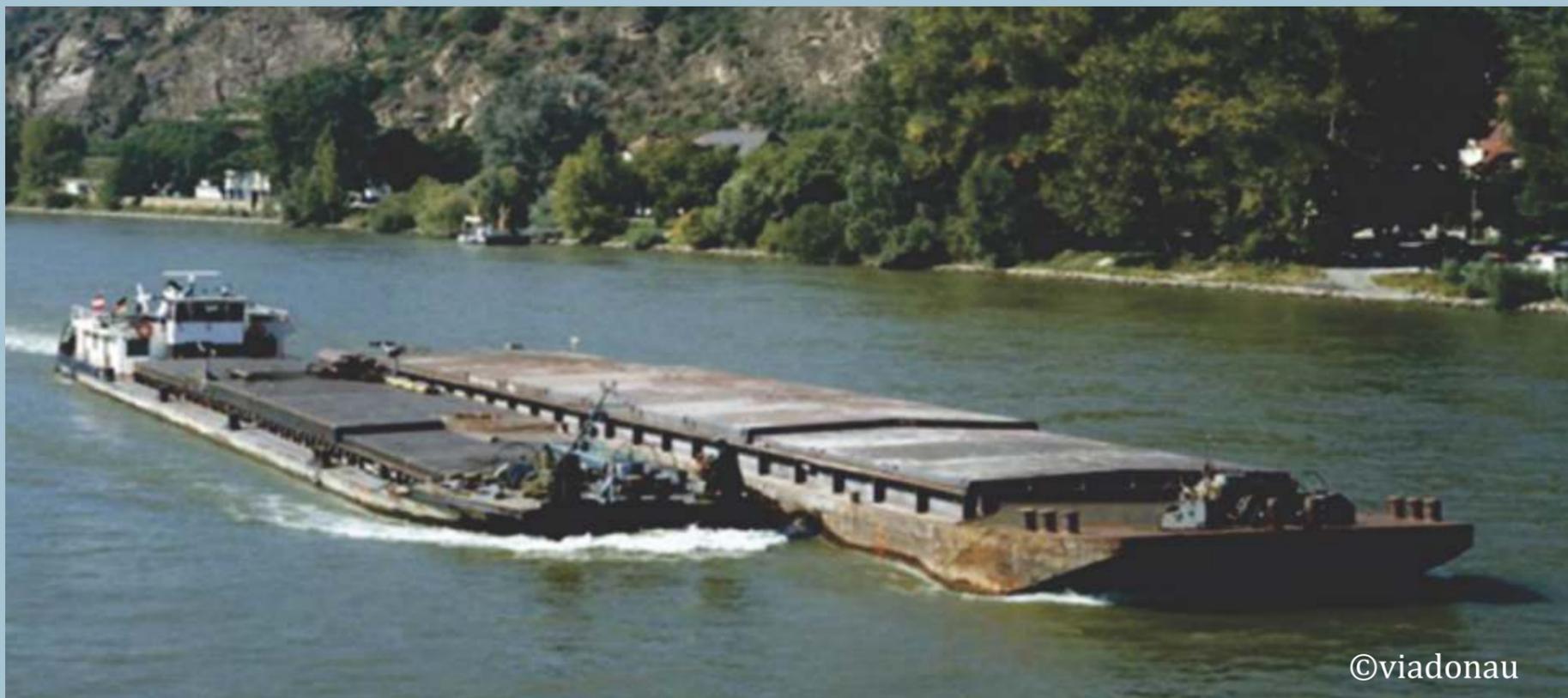
6 partners from the logistics sector including 5 ports

3 partners from the field of research that provide either special knowledge needed for the implementation of the project (spatial modelling) or who have special knowledge and networks in their regions (biofuels and biomass).



Building a Green Energy & Logistics Belt

About the project



The main objective of the project ENERGY BARGE is to exploit the potential for green energy in the form of biomass along the Danube River in a sustainable way, thereby increasing energy security and efficiency in the Danube countries, considering the Renewable Energy Directive 2009/28/EC, the EU2020 climate goals and EU Danube Region Strategy's objective.



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An outstanding feature of the ENERGY BARGE project is its cross-sectoral approach: the project will bring together key actors along the entire value chain, stakeholders from the bioenergy industry, Danube ports as well as relevant public authorities and policy stakeholders. This shall support transnational know-how transfer and cooperation.

ENERGY BARGE will build a platform for the exchange of experiences and best practices, extending the deployment of biomass for energy production in the Danube region.

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Focus on results

An increased use of Danube logistics will help to reduce emissions, to establish a low-carbon transport system and to improve the environment performance along the entire bioenergy value chains.

The project's promotion of ports as locations for processing, handling and storage of biomass for energy production supports port development. To map value chains and facilitate market uptake of biomass for energy production in the Danube corridor the project will put great emphasis on disseminating the results of the project specifics and findings through newsletters, articles, news and interactive social media activities.

The project in particular contributes to the implementation of the action plans elaborated in Priority Area (PA) 2 "Energy" and PA 1a "Inland Waterways" of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR).

Kick-off meeting Linz, Austria 28th February 2017



The kick-off meeting of the project ENERGY BARGE, took place on 28th February in Linz, Austria.

The partners presented the benefits of ENERGY BARGE for the bioenergy industry and Danube logistics sector. Mr. Thies Fellenberg from the Agency for Renewable Resources (FNR - Germany) underlined the aim of the project to increase the sustainable deployment of biomass for energy production in the Danube region through secure, efficient and sustainable supply chains along the river. This will be done by analyzing the biomass availability and potential as well as the Danube ports infrastructure for the transport and handling of biomass. In the frame of the project pre-feasibility pilot studies and pilot actions will be conducted in close cooperation with regional biomass producers and suppliers.

Mr. Christian Schlagitweit from proPellets Austria outlined the growing European market for wood pellets and its potential for cargo on the Danube. The possibility of shipping the wood pellets from the area of the Black

Sea to Austria provides access to a huge potential. There is a strong production of wood pellets in Russia and Romania. Bulgaria and the Ukraine are also expanding their production in this area. Consequently this provides security of supply as the pellet consumption in Germany and Austria is increasing, but the local production is limited and cannot fulfill the demand.

Mr. Jina from the First-DDSG Logistics Holding GmbH gave an overview to the company. He demonstrated the routes of transport on the Danube waterway and also gave an impression on the dimensions and capacity of different vessels used by his company. Through this presentation, the project consortium has been given an impression of the possibilities of water transport and its limitations. The key note presentations from the external guest speakers outlined how important the transport of goods on the Danube is and that the project meets current requirements.

Live Social Media Coverage

The Kick-off meeting was covered live on twitter with followers having the chance to get informed on real time for the main topics of the event!



UPCOMING EVENTS

European Biomass Conference & Exhibition

(Stockholm, 12-15 June 2017)

The European Biomass Conference and Exhibition (EUBCE) is a world class annual event which, since 1980, is held at different venues throughout Europe.

The EUBCE will host a dynamic international Exhibition for companies and research labs to showcase their latest products and bringing scientists, technologists and key players together with leading Biomass industries and organizations.

<http://www.eubce.com>

EU Sustainable Energy Week 2017

(Brussels, 19 - 25 June 2017)

EU Sustainable Energy Week is back for its 12th edition. It takes place in Brussels from 19 to 25 June 2017 to promote energy-saving and renewables and is complemented by a two-month series of events around Europe.

<http://www.eusew.eu/>

RoEnergy Trade Fair 2017 South-East Europe

(Bucharest, 21 - 23 June 2017)

RoEnergy Trade Fair 2017 South-East Europe is a specialized International Trade Fair and Conferences of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency.

This event is held under the patronage of Ministry of Regional Development, Public Administration and European Funds (MDRAPFE) and National Energy Regulatory Authority (ANRE).

<http://bucuresti.roenergy.eu>

Energy from research to the market.

(Wien, 22nd of June 2017)

The annual energy research survey provides an overview of public expenditure on energy research in Austria. The market statistics comprise a documentation and analysis of the market development of the technologies for the use of renewable energies in Austria.

More information:

<https://goo.gl/8DnQkz>

ENERGY BARGE – 2nd project meeting

(Ruse, 27-28 June 2017)

The 2nd ENERGY BARGE project meeting, including a national workshop, will be held on 27th and 28th June 2017 in Ruse, Bulgaria. Do you want to learn more about the great potentials of biomass for green energy and the support of better connected transport systems for green logistics in the Danube Region?

Please save the date and event in your calendar. More detailed information about the event will follow shortly on our project website:

<http://www.interreg-danube.eu/energy-barge>

First Bavarian Waterway and Inland Shipping Day

(Nuremberg, 30th June 2017)

This first-of-its-kind event organized by the German Waterway and Shipping Association Rhine-Main-Danube aims at bringing together actors along the entire inland water logistics supply chain to create synergies; a draft programme can be found here:

<http://schiffahrtsverein.de/?p=6538>

German project partners will aim at presenting ENERGY BARGE and its potential for the inland logistics sector at this cross-sectoral event.

C.A.R.M.E.N. e.V. Symposium: „Watt, Wärme, Werkstoffe – Smart und Sauber“

(Straubing, 10-11 July 2017)

The renowned CARMEN Symposium, a two-day event, this year focusses on the status quo of the „Energiewende“ and the potentials of biomass and renewable raw materials therein:

<https://goo.gl/njas4v>

Workshop “Smart Specialization Strategy in the Field of Biotechnologies in Europe:

(Bratislava, 4 - 6 September 2017)

The JRC-EC - CEI - ICGEB European Workshop is focused on evaluation of current state and prospects of development of R&I areas included within RIS3 strategy in many European countries with particular focus on regional cooperation of CEE countries. This Workshop is open to researchers, technologists, industrial experts and representatives from international organizations and NGO, governmental officers, involved in the field from the whole Europe.

www.ris3-eu-biotech-workshop-2017.eu

“Biobasierte Chemie im Fluss - Wertschöpfungspotenziale der Bioökonomie in urbanen und ländlichen Räumen“

(Straubing, 24 -25 October)

This conference organized by the German Association for Chemical Technologies and Biotechnology, DECHEMA, focuses on the latest trends of biobased chemistry, cascading use of biomass and its potentials for rural areas, especially regarding feedstock security and supply sourced from the Danube region. New opportunities and challenges along the value and supply chains will be discussed. ENERGY BARGE will be presented here by the project partners' viadonau and BioCampus Straubing GmbH:

<http://dechema.de/BCIF17.html>

news.

EU supports synergies between transport and energy sectors

Based on a proposal of the European Commission, the EU Member States will invest 22.1 million Euro in seven projects to enhance the use of alternative energy sources, with a special focus on electrification and multimodal transport. According to the Transport Commissioner Violeta Bulc, the transport systems in the EU are still largely depending on oil for up to 94% of its entire energy demand.

A cross-sectoral approach to enable synergies between the energy and transport sectors, referring to Climate Action and Energy Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete, can increase the efficacy of EU funding as well as improve the integration of the internal energy market.

For more: <https://goo.gl/n0XnMy>

New all-time record high on waterside handling in April 2017 in port of Straubing-Sand:

In March 2017, the port of Straubing has generated a new all-time record in terms of waterside freight transhipped in a single month:

97,534 tons were handled, of which the majority has been agricultural biomass, mainly oil seeds, going into the biofuels industry as well as side products from the crushing process. This makes March 2017 the strongest month in the history of the Straubing port. Overall, with 177,000 tons, the first quarter of 2017 has shown a 42 % rise compared to the same period last year regarding waterside transshipment.

Shippers day in Passau

Andreas Löffert, managing director in the port of Straubing, participated in a newly-created conference format called „Verladertag Binnenschifffahrt“ (shippers day) in Passau, Lower Bavaria.

This event organized by the Chamber of Commerce of Lower Bavaria on March 9th 2017 focussed on strengthening the role of inland waterway navigation as an attractive logistics alternative for shippers and logistics customers across all sectors. Shippers from branches such as the building sector, the wood industry, the automotive, engineering industry and others informed about their previous experiences with shipping on Bavarian rivers. Afterwards, they were invited to voice their requirements and demands for a sustainable, economical and flexible inland waterway logistics sector that is attractive for their logistics needs and fits their products and intermediary goods.

Representatives from ports, logistics and forwarding companies and politics responded, creating a creative and constructive dialogue. Important bottlenecks identified were infrastructural requirements and needs for modernization and flexibility, also e.g. in terms of vessel technology, political and administrative barriers and a lacking positive image of the branch. In the end, it was agreed to establish an ongoing exchange between the participating stakeholders in order to strengthen cooperation and to increase the lobbying position of the Bavarian inland waterway navigation towards all kinds of

shippers but also towards politics and administrative authorities. As a representative of this stakeholder group, also ENERGY BARGE associated partner, the government of Lower Bavaria, participated in the meeting. An article on the event can be found here:

<https://goo.gl/Yicz6E> (German).

Hungarana LTD invests 4,800,000 euro in Hungarian Biomass Power Plant

A foundation stone was laid at Hungarana Ltd's new biomass plant at Szabadegyháza. With the 1.5 billion HUF investment the company will cover 100 % of its production related steam and heat demand.

Fazekas Sándor minister of agriculture emphasised in his speech: "The Company is planning on long-term, demonstrated by successful development works year by year". He added: "Besides progression the company takes environmental protection seriously as well, as it only uses Hungarian, GMO-free raw materials, produce bioethanol for vehicles and are expanding the biomass furnace released in 2012". For more: <https://goo.gl/dEoGop>

Bioenergy experts gather in Estonia

The Bioenergy for the Future workshop held in Tallinn, Estonia, brought together over 70 participants, including policy makers, bioenergy technology experts, industry representatives from Estonia, Latvia, Finland, Sweden as well as international experts from the IEA and other international organizations.

Participants recognized that a concerted effort is needed to accelerate the development and deployment of advanced bioenergy technologies. National and regional bioenergy roadmaps can play a key role in assisting decision makers identify pathways that are tailored to local resources and priority actions to overcome economic and non-economic barriers.

Read more: <https://goo.gl/PWDVc3>

Slight upward trend in freight transport on the Danube 2016: Transport volume rose by 5.5%

On the Austrian part of the Danube 9.1 million tons of goods were transported in 2016 according to calculations by Statistics Austria. Compared to 2015 the transport volumes increased by 5.5% or 0.5 million tons respectively. The total transport capacity (product from transport volume and distance travelled) rose by 11.3% to 9.3 billion ton kilometers (billion tkm), of which 2.0 billion tkm (+8.7%) were reached within the federal territory.

On the other hand, the number of loaded journeys decreased by 2.4% from 8,658 to 8,448. The increase in transport volumes and capacity, despite the declining number of loaded journeys, can be explained due to the higher utilization per kilometer (+7.6%). After the marked declines because of the weather-related low water in 2015 (-15.0% to 8.6 million tons compared to 2014) a slight upward trend regarding the freight transport on the Danube can be registered again for 2016. (Source: Statistik Austria).

news.



ENERGY BARGE at the international trade show „transport logistic“ in Munich

On May 11th, **Milica Gvozdic (VIA)** and **Ann-Kathrin Kaufmann (BCG)** participated in a panel discussion called „Young professionals build on the Danube“ taking place during the international trade show „transport logistic“ in Munich.

The panel discussion, organized at the joint exhibition stand of the Austrian public ports and viadonau, aimed at analysing the potentials of the Danube region for inland waterway navigation.

A particular focus was on building materials and their

suitability for transport and transshipment on the Danube.

Both Ms. Kaufmann and Ms. Gvozdic took the chance to also highlight the aims of ENERGY BARGE to connect actors along the biomass and bioenergy value chain through elements of Danube logistics and to emphasize the importance of transnational and particularly transeuropean cooperation in current times and among European countries, people and industrial sectors.

Bioenergy policies and status of implementation - New report by BIOENERGY 2020+ published

BIOENERGY 2020+ has recently prepared the “IEA Bioenergy Countries’ Report – Bioenergy policies and status of implementation”. The report was prepared from IEA statistical data, information from IRENA, and IEA Bioenergy Tasks country reports, combined with data as provided by delegates to the IEA Bioenergy Executive Committee. All individual country reports were reviewed by the national delegates to the Executive Committee.

The report provides information on bioenergy in a comparable manner across all featured countries. These countries show great variation regarding GDP, area, population, climate and total energy production and consumption.

Contrasting and comparing these countries is herewith enabled for the interested reader, facilitating the evaluation of policy measures and informed decision making processes. References and links to further information sources expand the information accessible to the reader far beyond that given in the report alone.

<https://goo.gl/fs17M6>

The full report is available for download from the IEA Bioenergy website: <https://goo.gl/qQUAVs>

S2Biom toolset

The S2Biom project has developed an user friendly toolset which is intended to aid research, industry and policy makers in their work. This service is free of charge and open to everyone. S2Biom toolset and the respective data sets cover information and data for EU28, Western Balkans, Moldova, Turkey and Ukraine.

S2Biom provides data on the following types of lignocellulosic biomass: forest biomass from primary forestry production, forest industry residues, agricultural biomass from primary field activities, dedicated perennial crops, agro-industrial residues, bio-waste and post-consumer wood.

The toolset consists of several tools, which can be used by researchers, policy makers, regional and development planners as well as biomass project developers and investors involved in the whole lignocellulosic biomass supply chain. Check out the S2Biom tools at www.biomass-tools.eu.

Networking meeting Algae

On 03.04.2017 about 40 experts from science and industry participated in the Aalgae network meeting. The event was organized by the Federal Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology (bmvit) in cooperation with JOANNEUM RESEARCH in Graz. Within the framework of the eleven lectures, the latest developments and projects in Austria with the reference to the raw material algae were presented. Another focus of the event was the networking of the D-A-CH countries in the algae sector. For this reason, speakers from Germany and Switzerland were invited and relevant activities were presented in these three countries. BIOENERGY 2020+ is part of the planning team of the Algae network and was therefore involved in the planning and implementation of the workshop. Follow the link for further information: <https://goo.gl/Q01Vyp>

Interreg Volunteer Youth Initiative

Interreg Volunteer Youth (IVY) is a great initiative of EU Regional Policy (DG REGIO) that offers the possibility to young Europeans aged 18-30 to serve as volunteers in cross-border, transnational or interregional programmes and related projects.

The initiative is aimed at involving young volunteers to support, promote and report the concrete achievements of Interreg programmes and projects, as well as generally promote cooperation across European borders and related values such as solidarity.

Each EU project partners can host an Interreg Volunteer and join this exciting adventure.

Please find further information:

<https://goo.gl/BduV82>

Get to know the ENERGY BARGE partners!

Lead Partner:



The Agency for Renewable Resources (FNR) is the central coordinating institution for research, development and demonstration projects in the field of renewable resources for the use of energy purposes as well as bio-based materials in Germany.

Being an agency associated to the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL), FNR's main tasks are the implementation of the R&D programme "Renewable Resources" and the "Energy and Climate Fund". It is also in charge of data collection and holds a biomass information service.

Currently the staff amounts to 87 employees. On European level FNR currently is involved in around 20 projects. Additionally it contributes to national as well as international committees and is well-connected with stakeholders in the biomass sector.

Please follow the link and find more information about FNR and its EU projects: <https://goo.gl/AN5izu>

Follow us on Social Media:



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