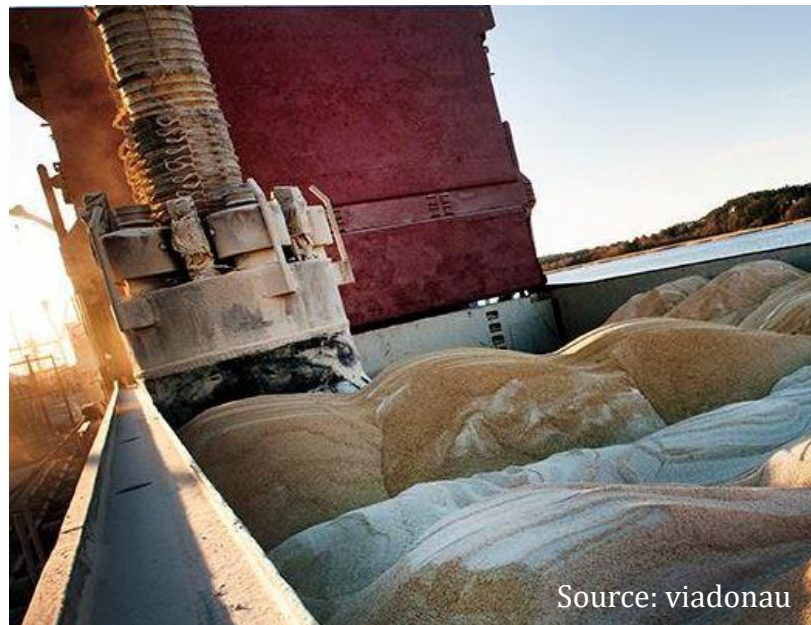


# ENERGY BARGE

## Newsletter #18



Source: viadonau

Welcome to the 18<sup>th</sup> newsletter of the ENERGY BARGE project!

In the course of the ENERGY BARGE project, our partners from the logistics sector prepared pre-feasibility studies to define development plans and investment needs required to strengthen Danube ports as logistics hubs for the bioenergy sector. In this issue, the study conducted by MAHART-Freeport to evaluate the installation of a biomass power plant at the port site is presented.

Furthermore, we take a look back on the bioenergy site delegation exchange programme and the second ENERGY BARGE business-to-business meeting, which both took place in Bratislava in November.

We hope you enjoy reading!  
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).



# MAHART – Freeport’s Preliminary Feasibility Study at the Budapest Freeport

The Port of Budapest is located at a convenient site for the implementation of a biomass-based energy production project. The necessary raw materials could be supplied through a waterway-based logistics network. Future infrastructural upgrades include the planned Galvani bridge over the Danube near the Freeport, as well as a key district heating network. This network could serve as an ideal opportunity for the production of local heat energy through biomass feedstocks.

To explore the possibilities for green energy production at MAHART-Freeport, a preliminary feasibility study was conducted in the frame of the ENERGY BARGE project. The objective of this study was to assess the viability of establishing a biomass-based energy production unit in the port, which would utilise wood, wheat straw and industrial waste wood as solid fuels.

During the assessment of the project, key values of necessary investments, possible revenues, and operational costs for four different scenarios were calculated. In each case, both electricity and heat production, as well as sales were assumed. For raw material supply, the use of the Danube waterway was preferred.



The preliminary calculations showed that the operation of a biomass power plant could be economically feasible at MAHART-Freeport. However, many aspects of the investment criteria will have to be clarified in a more detailed study and through high-level negotiations with key stakeholders and partners.

Furthermore, the study points out the risks accompanying the project. These include the availability and pricing of energy biomass, supply and demand for heat energy, as there are current plans for a conventional power plant nearby, and the ability to secure feed-in tariffs from the Hungarian Energy and Public Utility Regulatory Authority (HEA) through a competitive bid.

Prior to a potential realisation of the project, further negotiations with important stakeholders, comprising of the Metropolitan District Heating Company (FŐTÁV), Budapest waterworks, biomass feedstock suppliers (e.g. state forestry companies), and logistical partners would be required. A more detailed technical feasibility analysis along with a survey mapping the heat energy needs of current MAHART tenants would round off the additional preliminary investigations. The results of these efforts will serve to secure the necessary funding for the project’s completion.

The full study can be accessed via this [link](#).



# Bioenergy Site Delegation Exchange Programme in Slovakia

The first round of the ENERGY BARGE bioenergy site delegation exchange programme has been conducted on 21 November in Bratislava. Organised by our partners from ICARST (International Centre of Applied Research and Sustainable Technology), the project consortium got the opportunity to present the project and especially the online tools on [www.energy-barge.eu](http://www.energy-barge.eu) to Slovak experts and stakeholders, joining us in a workshop.



Afterwards, the participants travelled to Central Slovakia to visit the „Energy Edge“ CHP plant in Žarnovica and learnt about the concept, plans for expansion and related logistics requirements. The next bioenergy site visit will be organised in Vukovar, Croatia, on 5 February 2019.

## Project Presentation at the “Green towns, livable locality” Conference

On 21 November 2018, MAHART-Freeport Ltd. attended the *Green towns, livable locality* conference in Visegrád, Hungary, which was organised by the Association of Environmental Enterprises. The external expert Mr László Bús presented the ENERGY BARGE project, its objectives and contributors, as well as the results achieved so far.

Examples and developmental solutions for the configuration and operation of livable and sustainably developing towns were presented at the meeting, which can contribute to improving and simplifying the living and working conditions for the residents of a town. The participants learnt about difficulties and challenges arising in connection with the design of a livable urban environment. Among the presenters were key players from both the public and private sectors involved in environmental protection and sustainable development.





# Regional B2B Meeting on Green Bioenergy Logistics in Bratislava

The second business-to-business meeting of the ENERGY BARGE project took place on 22 November in Bratislava. The focus of the event, organised by the project partner Slovak Shipping and Ports JSC, was on green bioenergy logistics in Slovakia.

After an introduction to the EU Strategy for the Danube Region and explanations on the upcoming revision of the Action Plan of the EUSDR, the importance of inspection services in the realisation of trade and transport of biomass in order to avoid damaging effects on agricultural products were outlined. To foster the exchange of knowledge beyond the project area, the experiences of the Port of Antwerp regarding the transshipment and storage of biomass products were presented. This also comprised information about cargo shipped from Antwerp towards Central Europe as well as the possibility to handle biodiesel in the port.



Source: Slovak Shipping and Ports JSC

The Slovak Shipping and Ports JSC gave an outlook from the shippers and port operators' perspective on the transport and transshipment of agricultural products and wood pellets in the ports of Bratislava and Komárno. Apart from risk factors in the transport of these products, like contamination or nautical conditions, especially the risk of low and high water levels and the most critical bottle necks on this regard in the Danube region were discussed.



Source: Slovak Shipping and Ports JSC

In the afternoon session, the audience moved to the ENERGY BARGE B2B matchmaking event organised by Slovak Shipping and Ports JSC. Scheduled in advance, actors along the supply chains could book brief 15-minute business dates with potential partners of interest to facilitate first contacts. Overall, 25 B2B meetings were requested by participants from Slovakia, Serbia, Croatia, Hungary and Austria. The feedback from the participants indicated that the B2B meetings proved to offer favourable opportunities to exchange information and expand business networks in the sector of Danube logistics.

## B2B meeting on bioenergy logistics in Budapest

On 30 January 2019, the third ENERGY BARGE business-to-business meeting will be held by our project partner MAHART-Freeport in Budapest.

The aim of the business-to-business meeting is to provide a platform for know-how exchange and for establishing new business contacts. The event will offer a favourable framework for strengthening the Danube as a logistics axis for biobased cargo. A port visitation at MAHART-Szabadkikötő will conclude the workshop.

Participation in the business-to-business meeting is free of charge, but registration is obligatory. Please register by **16 January 2019 via e-mail: [szanto.krisztina@mahart.hu](mailto:szanto.krisztina@mahart.hu)**. The agenda will be available on the ENERGY BARGE website shortly. The event will take place at the Novotel Budapest Danube Hotel, Bem rakpart 33-34, 1027 Budapest.

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