

ENERGY BARGE

Newsletter #21



Source: MAHART-Freeport, Zoltan Író

Welcome to the 21st newsletter of the ENERGY BARGE project!

In this issue, we look back at the latest ENERGY BARGE workshops that were successfully held at the end of January in Budapest and at the beginning of this month in Vukovar.

Both events also comprised Business-to-Business (B2B) matchmaking events. The B2B meeting platforms and events proved to be very effective tools to offer logistics service providers and cargo owners (potential users from the biomass and bioenergy industry) a personalised networking opportunity. It is events like these that facilitate sustainable business contacts and support a modal shift towards the Danube waterway – one of the main objectives of the ENERGY BARGE project.

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).



DanuBeGreen 2019

On 30 January 2019, the 4th national ENERGY BARGE workshop took place in Budapest. The workshop was part of the joint conference [DanuBeGreen 2019](#) that was organised in cooperation with the Hungarian-Slovakian CEF-funded (Connecting Europe Facility) project “National Port Development Masterplan”.

Preceding the workshop, participants had the opportunity to take part in a site visit at Csepel Freeport. During this site visit, the commercial docks, the grain storehouse, as well as the premises of Ferropport Kft. were visited. A forklift, which was recently purchased in the frame of the ENERGY BARGE project to handle biomass of different commodity groups in the Csepel Freeport, was presented to the visitors. The small scale investment will be a pilot exercise to demonstrate how the handling of biomass can be launched as a new service in the port and how it can contribute to the attraction of biomass cargo.

After a brief networking coffee, Szávó Sztilkovics (MAHART-Freeport) welcomed all participants in the name of the ENERGY BARGE project, before Zoltan Haasz (MAHART-Freeport) provided an introduction to the project. Prior to the session's conclusion with Ann-Kathrin Kaufmann's (BioCampus Straubing GmbH) presentation of the [ENERGY BARGE modal shift platform](#), our guest speakers delivered four interesting presentations.



Márk Alföldy-Boruss, head of the department for decarbonisation within the Hungarian Ministry for Innovation and Technology, highlighted the novelties brought by the amendment of the EU Renewable Energy Directive (EU 2018/2001). Ágnes Törőcsik (REKK Foundation) elaborated on the specific effects the new directive will have on the biomass sector in Hungary and the Danube region. After János Matáncsi gave an overview of the possibilities of wood based biomass in Hungary, Tibor Orbán (President of the Association of Hungarian District Heating Enterprises) was the final guest speaker with his contribution on the possible role of biomass in heat production for Budapest district heating systems.

In the afternoon session, the audience moved to the ENERGY BARGE B2B matchmaking event organised by MAHART-Freeport. Scheduled in advance, actors from the bio-energy supply chain could book brief 15-minute business dates with partners of interest to facilitate first contacts. Overall, 20 B2B meetings were requested by the participants. 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. Overall, 170 participants turned the DanuBeGreen 2019 event into a successful conference.

Regional B2B meeting on bioenergy logistics in Vukovar

The event that was jointly organised by the Croatian Wood Cluster and the Port Authority Vukovar, started with a site visit at the company Spačva d.d. in the city of Vinkovci, Croatia. The site visit took place within the framework of the so-called bioenergy site delegation exchange programme, which aims to facilitate learning interactions with good practice locations in the Danube region – like Spačva d.d. – and actors from the biomass and Danube logistics sectors. Ivan Perković, board member of Spačva d.d., guided the visitors through the production halls of the company.

Spačva d.d. with its 860 employees is one of the largest parquet (400,000 m²/a) and veneer producers (up to 9 million m²/a) in Croatia. 80% of the products are made of Slavonian oak, which is of high economic importance for the region as well as for the entire Croatian wood industry. 55,000 t of pellets and briquettes are produced from wood residues annually. Half of the produced amounts are exported. The largest importer is Italy. The transport of pellets and briquettes via inland waterways is currently not an option because the produced quantities are considered to be too low.



Source: FNR



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Before starting the second part of the workshop, a short stop was made at the Port of Vukovar. The Port of Vukovar has recorded a slight upward trend regarding the volume of goods handled in recent years, which currently amounts to around 500,000 t/a. In search of new goods that could be transhipped in the port, the Port of Vukovar is particularly interested in biomass cargo.

A total of 80 representatives of the biomass/bioenergy and Danube logistics sectors from Croatia, Serbia, Hungary and Bosnia and Herzegovina participated in the event. The 4th ENERGY BARGE B2B matchmaking event was successfully held during the afternoon session. A total of 59 personal conversations were arranged to facilitate first contacts between potential business partners.



Source: FNR



Source: Port Authority Vukovar

Save the date – Workshop & site visits in Straubing

ENERGY BARGE site delegation exchange visit, Tuesday, 19 March 2019: “Biobased economy in the Danube region: Workshop and site visit to good practice case Straubing, Region of Renewable Raw materials”.

9:30-13:00 thematic workshop on the Danube region and its potential for the biobased economy and energy in the port of Straubing,

13:00-17:00 site visits to bioethanol demoplant, Port of Straubing and the [KoNaRo Center of Excellence for Renewable Raw Materials](#).

External participants are highly welcome. Participant number is limited, please contact ann-kathrin.kaufmann@biocampus-straubing.de for more information and registration.

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