

REGIONAL BIOMASS ACTION PLANS

Successful examples from European regions – Zilina, Slovakia

Zidek Lasislav
Biomasa

BIOMASA, Association of legal entities in Kysucky Lieskovec is **leader in biomass utilization** in Slovakia. Its management team is well experienced from a long-time acting in the field of RES and energy efficiency and intensive works on the use of biomass wood waste residuals from 1995.

BIOMASA Association has been implemented a series of activities addressing children or youngster in the form of “School Competitions” and “Pellet Camp” as well as organising a series of “open door” actions as “Pellet Days” in pellet production plant since 2006.

The main idea of these school activities was to make children and young people aware of the issue of biomass being a renewable energy source, bringing closer the possibilities of its using and the reasons why it is necessary to use renewable resource of energy. By the means of own experiences and game children and young people get information that wood and wood waste are one of the most ecological ways of heating and that they are mainly renewable source of energy.

Results of realized school activities:

- Increasing knowledge and awareness of teaching staff in a double function: as multipliers and potential private investors
- Motivating school administration to think about wood as a possible energy fuel in case of a future modernisation of the heating system.
- Informing schoolchildren - when participating in the competition the children and teenagers will look into the subject thoroughly.
- Transmitting the topic to families. Parents of participants are likely to be made aware about advantages of wood heating systems.



- Giving the regional campaign additional attention.

The pellet production plant uses to be open for students of technical middle schools every year. **Open doors** begin with a presentation

during which a lecture on renewable energy sources and wood pellet production is projected and presented for students. After the presentation there is a time for debate with the students and answering their questions. The pellet production plant is also shown to the students.

BIOMASA has organized a **competition** in collecting cones with the slogan “Heating is also possible with cones” in cooperation with primary schools in member municipalities. The competition was launched in 2007 and 2008. Five primary schools, with 39 classes from Klokocov, Kysucky Lieskovec, Lubochna, Povina and Zariecie participated.

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For bringing the renewable energy sources close to children BIOMASA organized in 2008 the **summer pellet camp** in the nature. The program of the summer pellet camp consisted



from the discussion on environmental protection focused on reduction of the fossil fuel consumption and the lecture on pellet production and utilization.

During two afternoons the schoolchildren made different products – visual arts creations from the pellets supplied by BIOMASA Association. Except the pellets they used glue, tempera paints, natural materials, paper.

Training in Ranc Oskedra in 2007



The training was aimed on decision makers from local and regional levels – municipalities employers of regional administration, mainly environmental and building offices, universities, as well as general public interested on this field.

The program was organised through presentations, description of practical problems and solutions as well as successful realisations. Practical visit of nearby pellet boiler room in school Povina and presentation of pellet stoves were offered to interested persons at the end of the day. Target technologies: small biomass heating systems (forcefully to pellets ones) in combination with solar systems (mainly hot water preparation systems).



Training for market players in 2007 in Luky

The training was led by the expert trainers for theoretical and practical part as well as discussion. Servicemen of BIOMASA Association, with long-term experiences with operation of biomass (pellet) boilers participated at the training too and contributed to the professional discussion during the training.

The training was aimed on producers, vendors and installers of biomass and solar technologies, energy service companies, consultants in heating and energy systems, designers and small biomass systems operators.



Training course in 2007 in Zilina

Training course on the topic “Modern technologies to produce and use wood fuels for heating” was organised in Zilina in 2007. The training was located in the regions of the Northwest Slovakia, where BIOMASA is active and where several installations and sites for visits are available. In addition, majority of partner institution involved are from/or nearby Zilina region. Nevertheless, participants were almost from

the whole Slovakia. The training was organised with expert support in preparation and lectures from Zilina University.



DREVNÉ PELETY

– výborná voľba na vykurovanie



Domy, školy, výrobné priestory, penzióny ...

BIOMASA prepared and printed in own capacities 1 500 copies of **MARKET GUIDE** pellet producers in Slovakia, pellets burners producers and also installers in Slovakia. This Market Guide was on the end of June 2008 sent to more than 1000 persons, stakeholders and institutions after the insertion in Slovak Economy newspaper.

BIOMASA has opened door not only for student but also for installers, stakeholders, experts in lot of boiler rooms for pellets and also pellets production plant. The boiler rooms and the pellet production plant are permanently open for visiting.

15 producers participated on **OPEN DOOR for producers** of pellets in BIOMASA pellets production plant. Association of pellet producers from Slovakia has been preliminary established on this meeting and BIOMASA is responsible for preparation of basic documents.

BIOMASA organises **OPEN DOOR for stakeholder** and for pellet burners and plant operators in the pellets production plant in Kysucky Lieskovec.