

Press release

From : EurObserv'ER consortium
Subject : EurObserv'ER **Solid Biomass Barometer** published

Free download at <http://www.eurobserv-er.org/downloads.asp>
(PDF, 22 pages, English/French language, 2 MB)

Date : December 2009
Pages : 2

EurObserv'ER releases Solid Biomass Barometer

*Primary energy production in the EU increases by 2.3%,
electricity production increases by 10.8% relative to previous year*

Primary energy production of solid biomass in the European Union (EU) member states increased in 2008 by 2.3%, which represents a gain of 1.5 million tonnes of oil equivalent over 2007. This growth was particularly marked in electricity production from solid biomass which increased output by 10.8% over 2007, an additional 5.6 TWh.

The breakdown of the above-mentioned data is provided in the publication for primary energy production (► Table 1 on pdf pages 3 and 4) and electricity generation (► Table 3 on pdf page 12). For 17 countries (representing almost 80% of the EU biomass production, 54.5 Mtoe) breakdowns by types of solid biomass fuel are presented. In the 2008 primary energy production wood and wood waste accounted for 76.4%, black liquor for 16.6% and waste categories (straw, harvest residue, solid food-processing industry waste, etc.) (► Table 1 on pdf pages 3 and 4).

All countries of the European Union make use of solid biomass for energy purposes. The five leading producer countries have remained the same as in the year 2007 (Germany, France, Sweden, Germany, Finland and Poland) representing 57% of primary energy production coming from solid biomass. Ranked at a per capita base, Finland, Sweden, Latvia, Estonia and Austria are the top-5 countries relying to a large extent on solid biomass (ranging from 1.3 to 0.5 toe/inhabitant ► Table 2 on pdf page 8).

The Barometer also presents the heat sold via a community heating network (► Table 4 on pdf page 15). Combined generation of heat and power (CHP) has increased considerably and provides 62,6% of all electricity produced from solid biomass. Biomass-based electric power production in the EU has practically tripled since 2001 (from 20.3 TWh in 2001 to 57.4 TWh in 2008) (► Graph 2 on pdf page 9).

Topics in the newly released Barometer

Besides the 2008 realisations *per EU Member State* other subjects that are discussed in the Solid Biomass Barometer are:

- Renewable energy policies
- Selected country reviews
- Industry overview
- Projection to the year 2010

In February 2010 the next EurObserv'ER Barometer is expected, focusing on **wind power**.

About the EurObserv'ER Barometer

Targeting the press and the interested general public, the EurObserv'ER consortium releases 'thematic barometers' every other month. The barometers focus on the latest state of renewable energies (solar energy, wind power, hydropower, geothermal energy and bioenergy) in EU member states. An annual update also summarizes socio-economic effects (employment and sector turnover) of renewable energies in the EU. The most recent annual update is available at <http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/bilan8.asp>

EurObserv'ER provides **e-mail notifications** at each Barometer release. Signing-in by entering your e-mail address will keep you informed on future publications. See <http://www.eurobserv-er.org>

The EurObserv'ER barometer is a project supported by the European Commission within the DG TREN "Intelligent Energy Europe" programme. It is also supported by Ademe, the French Environment and Energy management Agency.

Intelligent Energy  Europe

Free download

The bilingual (French/English) EurObserv'ER Barometers are available for download in PDF format at the following website:

<http://www.eurobserv-er.org>

Note: the **interactive database** on the website (click on '*Interactive EurObserv'ER Database*' on the www.eurobserv-er.org homepage) allows you to download the Barometer data separately. This allows you to create your own graphs to be used in your publication.

Note to the editors, not for publication

For further information on this barometer, please contact:

Mr Frédéric Tuillé or Mr Gaëtan Fovez
Observ'ER
Tel: 33 (0) 1 44180080
E-mail: observ.er@energies-renouvelables.org



Request to the editor: in case you use this press release for an article, the consortium would appreciate a short reference to the article. The reference can be sent to the e-mail address mentioned above. When including a web link to an article on the Barometer, please use <http://www.eurobserv-er.org/downloads.asp> or <http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro194.asp> and not a direct link to the PDF file.

The EurObserv'ER Barometer is the result of the investigation and research work of its authors. The European Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.