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Press release

The EurObserv'ER thematic barometers are now being published in unilingual versions: French and English Barometers will be separate documents. All versions are freely downloadable at: www.eurobserv-er.org/downloads.asp

From: EurObserv'ER

Subject: **Released: Biofuels Barometer**
http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro222_en.asp
(PDF, English language, 14 pages)

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Date: July 2014

Pages: 4

Key data for the year 2013:

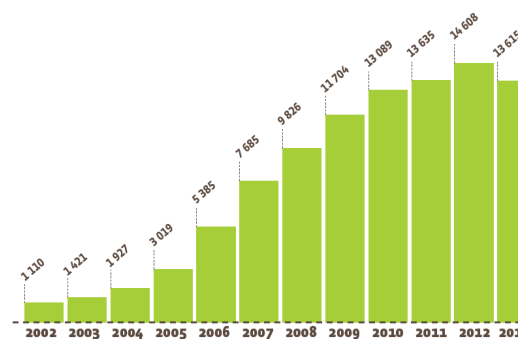
- Total EU biofuel consumption in transport: 13.6 Mtoe (14.6 Mtoe in 2012)
- Decrease in EU biofuel consumption in transport: -6.8% from 2012 to 2013
- The biofuel incorporation rate in transport across the EU: 4.7%
- Share of consumption certified as sustainable: 86%

New EurObserv'ER Biofuel Barometer: first time ever for EU-consumption of biofuels to decrease

The growth of biofuel consumption for use in transport in the European Union (EU-28) has dwindled in the past few years and finally dropped by about 1 million tonne oil equivalent (toe, 6.8%) between 2012 and 2013 according to EurObserv'ER, to a consumption level of 13.6 million toe. Nevertheless, sustainable biofuel consumption, certified and thus eligible for inclusion in European targets increased slightly by 0.8% to 11.8 Mtoe.

Looking at the historical trend, this is the first time that consumption of biofuels decreases since the European Union's industrial expansion of biofuels, as indicated in the graph on the right.

Trend of the European Union (EU-28) biofuel consumption for transport (ktoe)



* Estimate. Sources: Data from 2002 to 2011 (Eurostat 2013), data from 2012 to 2013 (EurObserv'ER 2014).

After an analysis of the individual country consumption trends our conclusion is that the European Union no longer has an overall trend; the decline in biofuel consumption in 2013 is essentially related to Spain (where incorporation targets were cut) and Germany, where biofuel consumption declined after abolishing the last tax exemptions enjoyed by the biodiesel sector from 2013 onwards. In contrast, a number of countries – the United Kingdom, Sweden and Denmark – significantly increased their incorporation rates, while others such as France, Austria and Belgium, kept steady incorporation rates in 2013.

According to EurObserv'ER certified biofuel consumption increased from 11.7 Mtoe in 2012 to 11.8 Mtoe in 2013. Bearing in mind the overall sharp drop in consumption, its share of total biofuel consumption is therefore surging and now accounts for 86.5% in 2013 up from 79.8% in 2012. Just a handful of EU countries, including Spain, Finland, Bulgaria, Greece, Cyprus and Malta were in the throes of setting up an effective system for certifying their biofuel consumption in 2013.

Countries status:

- Biodiesel taxed at 100% in Germany;
- Spain cuts its biofuel consumption;
- Sweden has an incorporation rate of 11%;
- Biofuel consumption increases by 13% in the United Kingdom;
- France sets its sights on a 7.7% biodiesel incorporation rate.

Besides the 2013 realisations per EU Member State and the abovementioned renewable energy policy developments in selected Member States other subjects that are discussed in the new barometer are:

- Industry overview
- Comparison with National Renewable Energy Action Plans

Check out the Press Corner http://www.eurobserv-er.org/press_corner.asp

For additional information on renewable energy issues (data referring to 2012, EU Member State renewable energy employment, turnover and investments) see also the annual EurObserv'ER publication '*The State of Renewable Energies in Europe*', 2013 edition: <http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/bilan13-gb.asp> (PDF, English, 200 pages, 12 MB).

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 will allow you to create your own graphs to be used in your publication.

About the EurObserv'ER Barometer

The EurObserv'ER Barometer regularly publishes indicators reflecting the current dynamics in renewable energies (solar, wind, hydropower, geothermal and biomass, biogas, biofuels) worldwide and within the European Union.

Barometers published are all available for download. Direct links to all 2014/2013/2012 EurObserv'ER publications:

Biofuels Barometer

(July 2014, PDF, English language, 14 pages)

http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro222_en.asp

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Solar Thermal Barometer (CSP and solar water heaters)

(May 2014, PDF, 18 pages, English language, 3.6 MB)

http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro221_en.asp

Solar Photovoltaic Barometer

(April 2014, PDF, 16 pages, English language, 2.9 MB)

http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro-jdp11_en.asp

Wind Power Barometer

(February 2014, PDF, English, 14 pages, 2.8 MB)

http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro-jde14_en.asp

'The State of Renewable Energies in Europe', 2013 edition

(January 2014, PDF, English language, 200 pages, 12 MB)

<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/bilan13-gb.asp>

Solid Biomass Barometer

(December 2013, PDF, English language, 14 pages, 2.9 MB)

http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro219_en.asp

Heat Pump Barometer

(October 2013, PDF, English language, 18 pages, 2.5 MB)

<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro218.asp>

Biogas Barometer

(December 2012, PDF, English/French language, 14 pages, 2.0 MB)

<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro212biogasEu.asp>

Renewable Municipal Waste Barometer

(December 2012, PDF, English/French language, 12 pages, 1.9 MB)

<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro212mswEu.asp>

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Note to the editors

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