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# Press release



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From: EurObserv'ER

Subject: **Released: 'The State of Renewable Energies in Europe': European Union renewable energy shares in 2011, including employment, turnover and highlights of seven EU regions**

Free download of the bi-lingual report  
(PDF, English/French, 240 pages, 15 MB):  
<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/bilan12.asp>

Date: February 2013

Pages: 4

## Key data for the 27 European Member States:

- Renewable energy share of gross final energy consumption: 13.4% in 2011 (12.5% in 2010)
- Renewable energy share in total electricity consumption: 20.6% in 2011 (20.0% in 2010)
- Renewable energy based employment: 1.19 million people in 2011 (1.11 million in 2010)
- Renewable energy based economic activity: 137 billion euro (132 billion euro in 2010)

## New EurObserv'ER release 'The State of Renewable Energies in Europe' provides background to 13.4% renewable energy share in 2011

*Annual overview barometer provides background data on renewable energy, employment, turnover and some regional highlights*

*The annual EurObserv'ER report 'The State of Renewable Energies in Europe' has been released, in which not only background information is provided on the renewable energy realisations and the renewable energy share, but additionally estimates have been presented for renewable energy related employment and turnover in the EU Member States.*

In a press release in December 2012 EurObserv'ER already announced the estimates for the renewable energy shares for the European Union (EU) Member States (MS) for the year 2010. This newly published report provides refined estimates and all underlying information.

## EU-27 renewable energy shares

The renewable energy share of gross final energy consumption amounts to 13.4% in 2011 against 12.5% in 2010, which represents an increase of 0.9 point (rounded data).

This increase can be explained by the combination of a slightly higher gross consumption of final energy from renewable energy sources – 151.5 Million Tonnes of Oil Equivalent (Mtoe) (against 148.5 Mtoe in 2010) – and of a significant decrease of the total gross final energy consumption (1 126.6 Mtoe in 2011 against 1 184.6 Mtoe in 2010).

Gross final energy consumption from renewable energy sources increased by 2,0% (+3,0 Mtoe) whereas total gross final energy consumption decreased by -4,9% (-58.0 Mtoe). This important decrease is the consequence of an exceptionally mild winter in Europe, which has contained the need for heating, and of a slow down in economic activity.

The relatively small increase of renewable energy consumption is due to a lower consumption of wood fuel and to a relatively small increase of biofuels consumption. It is not linked to the important decrease of the European hydroelectricity production in 2011, since the calculations presented here are based on a normalised hydroelectricity production and not on effective production.

The interactive database on the website (click on '*Interactive EurObserv'ER Database*' on the [www.eurobserv-er.org](http://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.

## Socio-economic indicators

Two main indicators shed light on the socioeconomic impact of the renewable sectors across Europe: employment figures and sales turnover, both for 2010 and 2011. All 27 European Union countries are covered individually, detailing nine renewable sectors.

2010 estimates for all 27 European Union Member States, with a breakdown per technology can be found at the end of the section:

- Employment figures (pages 172-173)
- Sales turnover (pages 174 – 175)

### Employment

The renewable energy sectors, taking all 27 European Union Member States together, have more than 1 186 000 people employed. This is a 3% increase on the 2010 figure (of 1 148 600). The top employer is PV with more than 311 000 jobs, followed by solid biomass and wind power with respectively 274 150 and 270 250 jobs estimated for 2010.

### Turnover

The economic activity of the 27 European Union Member States for 2011 stemming from renewable energies is valued at more than 137 billion euro – a 3% improvement on the 2010 figure of 132 billion euros. PV leads the ranking with sales of 45 924 million euro in Europe's markets. Photovoltaic is followed by the wind power and solid biomass sectors.

Important: both for the energy indicators as well as the socio-economic indicators relevant notions have been put forward in **methodological notes**. For the energy indicators the methodological note is displayed on **pages 11 and 111**, for the socio-economic indicators methodological note is displayed on **pages 114 to 117**.

## Regional case studies

A separate report section focuses on seven regions in the EU. The following case studies have been analysed in '*The State of Renewable Energies in Europe*' :

- Germany, Barnim Uckermark (page 180)
- Denmark, Billund municipality (page 144)
- Spain: Catalonia (page 190)
- United Kingdom: Cornwall (page 196 )
- Poland, Silesia (page 202)
- The Netherlands, South Holland (page 208)
- Italy, Trento (page 214)

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See also the EurObserv'ER policy files at [www.eurobserv-er.org/policy.asp](http://www.eurobserv-er.org/policy.asp) for an overview of renewable energy policies in all 27 EU Member States for all technologies

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### **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 2012/2011 EurObserv'ER publications:

#### **Solid Biomass Barometer**

(December 2012, PDF, English/French language, 16 pages, 2.1 MB)  
<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro212biomassEu.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>

#### **Biofuels Barometer**

(July 2012, PDF, English/French language, 21 pages, 3.6 MB)  
<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro210.asp>

#### **Solar Thermal Barometer**

(June 2012, PDF, 24 pages, English/French language, 3.7 MB):  
<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro209.asp>

#### **Solar Photovoltaic Barometer**

(April 2012, PDF, 24 pages, English/French language, 4.3 MB):  
<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro208.asp>

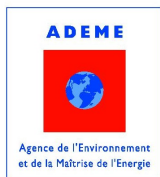
#### **Wind Power Barometer**

<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro207.asp>  
(February 2012, PDF, English/French, 28 pages, 4.6 MB):

#### **Ground source Heat Pump Barometer**

(September 2011, PDF, English/French language, 20 pages, 2.6 MB)  
<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro205.asp>

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## Note to the editors

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For further information on this barometer, please contact:

Ms Diane Lescot  
Observ'ER  
146, rue de l'Université  
75007 Paris - France  
Tel: +33 (0) 1 44 18 73 53  
E-mail: [diane.lescot@energies-renouvelables.org](mailto:diane.lescot@energies-renouvelables.org)

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