



## ENERGY AND BIOMASS



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# Moldova Energy and Biomass Project Newsletter

### Moldova Energy and Biomass Project

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*Life, Nature and Energy are of feminine gender. Dear Women, let the Spring of Love fill you hearts with the joy and perfume of all its flowers. We wish you to have a beautiful Women's Day – the 8th of March!*

*Sincerely, The Team of the Energy and Biomass Project*

*We are proud to work as a team with professional women: school Principals, kindergarten Directors, Mayors, Teachers, Educators, Community Leaders, Businesswomen, etc. Below we present the Success Story of one of them.*

*Women can be extraordinary leaders! Here is the Success Story of Mrs. Taisia Patrascu, Director of kindergarten from Sudarca Village, Donduseni District, the woman who has brought biomass energy to the Village.*

*Taisia Patrascu has led the kindergarten from Sudarca Village of Donduseni District for 20 years. Children who attended the kindergarten two decades ago now bring their children to the same kindergarten led by the same Director. "She is a very kind and good hearted woman, a true professional, exactly how a kindergarten Director should be", Victor, the Operator of the new biomass heating plant, has pointed out.*

*Since 2012, the kindergarten from Sudarca Village has switched to biomass energy. The new briquette-fired heating system replaced the old stoves built in each room. "I am proud we managed to employ the funding provided by the Energy and Biomass Project. In previous winters we were forced to gather all children in one room heated with coal. The room was smoky and cold. Now it is warm in the whole premises, and it is safer", Taisia Patrascu has said.*



*Along with the role of Manager, the Director, who has a medical background, takes care of children's health as well. She is well known as human life rescuer. Quite long ago, thanks to the first aid properly provided to a child, the latter was rescued from death. Parents stay calm because their children are in good hands. In Sudarca Village children grow up well thanks to Taisia*

# PROJECT NEWS



## IN 2013, ENERGY AND BIOMASS PROJECT WILL COVER THE ENTIRE TERRITORY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

In 2013, Energy and Biomass Project will be present in all the regions of the Republic of Moldova. This year, EU-UNDP Project „Energy and Biomass in Moldova” will be launched in 12 new districts, thus covering the entire country.

Straseni, Taraclia, Causeni, Calarasi, Nisporeni and Ialoveni are the first districts covered by the project this year. The project team visits each district and, during public meetings, presents in details the Energy and Biomass Project and explains the conditions that should be met by villages willing to heat their public institutions with renewable energy. Mayors, agricultural entrepreneurs, directors of public institutions from all the villages of the district are invited to participate at these meetings.

Afterwards, interested communities from districts mentioned above shall submit Expressions of Interest to the Energy and Biomass Project. “Communities willing to install biomass heating systems shall undergo four stages of selection: (1) evaluation of expressions of interest, (2) assessment of project proposals, (3) energy performance of the buildings, (4) final evaluation and approval of projects for investments” Alexandru Ursul, Energy and Biomass Project Manager, said.

Selection criteria may be accessed on Energy and Biomass Project's website:

<http://biomasa.aee.md/selection-criteria-ro/>

In the first two years of its activity, Energy and Biomass Project covered 20 districts and TAU Gagauz Yeri. 104 rural communities from these regions have already been selected to connect their public institutions to heating systems alternative to existing ones. In total, modern biomass heating systems have been installed (are in process of installation) in 121 schools, kindergartens, community centers and mayors offices with the financial support of Energy and Biomass Project. More than 75.000 persons will benefit from securely supplied energy and increased heating comfort. The new heating systems contributed to the creation of tens of new businesses on pellets and briquettes production. The total investment of Energy and Biomass Project in these communities amounted to 8 million 143 thousand USD, communities contributing with 2 million 434 thousand USD.

In total, by 2014 at least 130 schools, kindergartens, other public institutions will install biomass heating systems on European money.





### **27 VILLAGES IN STRASENI, IALOVENI, CALARASI, NISPORENI, CAUSENI, TARACLIA PASSED THE FIRST SELECTION PHASE**

Rural communities from districts Straseni, Ialoveni, Calarasi, Nisporeni, Causeni and Taraclia, which expressed interest in connecting their public institutions to biomass heating systems, passed the first selection phase.

The Selection Committee, consisting of representatives of the Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, Ministry of Regional Development and Constructions, Energy Efficiency Agency, EU Delegation to Moldova and UNDP, have selected 27 villages from these districts for the next stage of the competition: Cojusna, Micleuseni, Vorniceni (district Straseni), Hirbavat, Meleseni, Radeni, Saseni, Tibirica, Valcinet (district Calarasi), Misovca/com. Gangura, Pojareni, Puhoi, Ruseatii Vechi (district Ialoveni), Bratuleni, Soltaneati, Valea-Trestieni (district Nisporeni), Ciuflesti, Cirnatenii Noi, Constantinovca, com. Pervomaisc, Plop-Stiubei, Tanatarii Noi, Ucrainca (district Causeni), Budai, Cairaclia, Cealic, Ciumai, com. Vinogradovca, Novoseolovca (district Taraclia).

In February, a team of engineers and community mobilization experts from Energy and Biomass Project visited each selected village and organized public meetings with the participation of villagers. At these meetings, villagers learned in detail about the Energy and Biomass Project activities, about the benefits of installation of alternative biomass heating systems, financial and logistical support provided by the Energy and Biomass Project, and the responsibilities and community contribution. At the same time, the experts checked the accuracy of the information contained in the expressions of interest.

After these meetings, local project Committees have been created in every village consisting of representatives of LPA and public institution, which will switch to biomass energy source, local NGOs, entrepreneurs and local leaders. Representatives of local project committees developed the project proposal for connection of the public institution to biomass heating system and presented it to the Energy and Biomass Project. The project proposal will be analyzed on 16 March by the Evaluation Committee members.



### **ACADEMY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LAUNCHED A COURSE ON RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

Academy of Public Administration launched on 27 February a course on renewable energy and energy efficiency for public officials. The course represents a joint initiative of EU-UNDP Energy and Biomass Project and the Energy Efficiency Agency.

Starting of that day, local elected officials are learning how to make use of renewable energy sources and undertake energy efficiency measures in their communities and districts. "The topics discussed today are of great interest for everyone. I would like to learn as much as possible about the ways natural sources can be converted into energy; how can energy be better conserved and the energy performance of buildings be increased in such a way that we do not end up heating the cold air outside, and at the same time, pay excessive bills for minimum comfort. We are also interested to learn from the successful cases of those communities that are already using renewable energy. I hope that this course will help me find answers to these questions", says Petru Cosoi, vice-president of Calarasi district, one of the participants at the new training course.

The training course on renewable energy and energy efficiency is an integral part of the annual Training Program carried out by the Academy of Public Administration, and is being delivered by Vasile

Marina, the Rector of the Academy. „It is for the first time that the Academy tackles such a topic, one of key importance for Moldova. I am hopeful that this course not only enables the local officials with knowledge in the area of renewable energy and energy efficiency, but also motivates them to actually make use of renewable energy sources in their communities, thus making them more energy efficient and decreasing their dependency from fossil fuels", declared Vasile Marina, the Rector of the Academy of Public Administration.

„We are glad that our initiative to bring the topic of renewable energy and energy efficiency to a nation-wide level was very well received by the Academy of Public Administration. It is important that local and regional decision makers are familiarised with the energy efficiency measures that they can use, but also about the possibilities to convert renewable sources into energy, increasing in such a way the energy security at local level, starting new businesses, creating new jobs, and not lastly, protecting the environment", asserts Victoria Ignat, Training and Capacity Building Specialist with the Energy and Biomass Project.

### **A MOLDOVAN BUSINESS MISSION WILL GET ACQUAINTED WITH THE EXPERIENCE OF THE EU MEMBER STATES IN MANUFACTURING BIOMASS BOILERS**

A Moldovan Business Mission will visit Poland, the Czech Republic and Romania during 16-29 of March to get acquainted with the technologies for manufac-

turing and assembling biomass boilers. Thus, seven businessmen – Managers of National Companies from the Energy Sector, as well as Experts of the Energy Efficiency Agency will visit enterprises manufacturing biomass-fired boilers, share their experience, meet businessmen from the Bio-energy Sector, as well as national authorities in charge for renewables and energy efficiency in the European countries. The Moldovan businessmen will gather additional information aimed at developing the local market of biomass boilers manufactured by developed countries, collect data on boiler technological performance, type of fuel required for its proper operation, automation level, autonomous operation, etc.

The Business Mission is organised with the support provided by the Energy and Biomass Project. This is just one of the activity ranges intended to set a reliable, competitive and sustainable system to make the local assembly of biomass boilers possible.



#### **MAYORS FROM TARACLIA WENT TO HANCESTI TO SEE IN REALITY WHAT BIOMASS HEATING MEANS**

Mayors, schools, kindergardens, communitary centers directors from villages of Taraclia district, as well as district authorities, visited on 13 February several villages from Hancesti district that are heating their public institutions with biomass energy. Six villages from Taraclia district, that passed their first selection stage, have to decide what type of biomass fuel they want to use in their public institutions.

„Today’s visit helped me to make the correct choice. We’ll choose the installation of a mixt boiler that burns briquettes, and as well pellets. The experience of the villages Carpineni and Crasnoarmeiscoe that have installed such heating systems convinced me about their efficiency”, says Tatiana Lantinova, kindergarten director from Novosiolovca village, Taraclia district. Here the kindergarten is heated with stoves on coal or wood. Because of the inefficient heating system and also because of the high price

on the coal and wood we are heating just the groups where are the children, the rest of the premises remaining cold.

We specify that Taraclia district is one of the 6 districts where the Moldova Energy and Biomass Project has been launched. 6 villages from this district – Budai, Cairaclia, Cealic, Ciumai, Vinogradovca and Novosiolovca – have passed the first selection stage.

#### **FIVE LOCAL COMPANIES ANNOUNCED THEIR INTENTION TO ASSEMBLY LOCALLY BIOMASS BOILERS WITHIN THE PROGRAMME LAUNCHED BY THE PROJECT**

The Energy Efficiency Agency, in partnership with the EU-UNDP funded “Moldova Energy and Biomass Project”, following a public bid, has identified five local companies to assembly-manufacture pellet- and/or briquette-fired boilers. At present, five files have been submitted for consideration and approval within the Programme aiming at purchasing biomass boilers for households to be launched by the Energy and Biomass Project in March 2013. It is worth stressing that this Programme will cover as many as 600 households, which would get subsidies for purchasing pellet- and/or briquette-fired boilers.

The selected companies will assembly locally boilers to be provided afterwards to households under advantageous conditions. The boilers to be provided within the Grant Programme will have the following technical parameters:

Characteristics	Boiler Type			
Fuel Type	Pellet-fired	Briquette-fired	Mixed	Universal
Diameter (mm)	≤10	≤100	≤100/≤10	≤100/≤10
Length (mm)	≤30	≤500	≤500/≤30	≤500/≤30
Power (kW)	12-25	12-25	12-25	12-25
Efficiency (%)	>75	>75	>75	>75
Autonomous operation (hours without the Operator’s intervention)	min 6	min 6	min 6	min 6
Power supply (V)	230	230	230	230
Automated control panel	optional	optional	optional	optional

**We would like to specify that the registration and evaluation of applications to participate to the Accreditation Programme is an ongoing process. Details about the application procedure are available at: <http://biomasa.aee.md/news-ro/1736/>**



### ONGOING PROGRAMME FOR MARKETING, BY INSTALMENT, BIOMASS BALING AND BRIQUETTING MACHINES

Individuals willing to lease purchase biomass baling and/or briquetting machines are required to submit their files at the appointed institutions. It is worth reminding that the European Union disbursed one million euro aimed at implementing the Programme for marketing, by instalment, biomass baling and briquetting machines, launched by the Energy and Biomass Project.

Individuals willing to purchase briquetting equipment are required to call the Energy Efficiency Agency, which has been subcontracted for this purpose.

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The Programme envisages to encourage the Moldovan biofuel production market and is intended to facilitate the lease purchasing of a wide range of machinery for biomass baling and/or briquetting by the private sector entities. The equipment is provided under advantageous conditions for a three-year period with 0% commission, 0% interest and 0% VAT.

Individuals willing to purchase baling and bale-handling equipment are required to call the Japanese Project Implementation Unit 2KR, which has been subcontracted for this purpose.

*Phone #: +373 22 278 463, Mob: +373 69119129. [www.2kr.md](http://www.2kr.md)*



### RENEWABLE ENERGY HEATS OUR HOUSES, NOT THE PLANET

„Renewable energy heats our houses, not the planet,” this is the message promoted by the boys from FurioSnails in a commercial produced by Energy and Biomass Project in Moldova. This video represents a concert of the boys from FurioSnails where all their musical instruments are powered by solar energy. It was the first time when the equipment of a band from Moldova was powered by renewable energy.

„We care about our environment. We want to keep it clean. „ Today our equipment is powered by solar batteries. „”This park is illuminated at night due to wind energy.” „And to protect the environment in our country people can heat their homes with briquettes and pellets” these are the lines spoken by boys from the FurioSnails video.

All videos which are part of the communication campaign on pro-renewable energy, produced by Energy and Biomass Project could be found on the website: [www.biomasa.aee.md](http://www.biomasa.aee.md)



### ENERGEL FORESHADOWS SPRING

Spring is coming with Energel – the fan of Nature energy! As the Mascot of the Educational Campaign launched by Energy and Biomass Project, Energel, by the means of video-spots, urges us to resort to renewable energy and use it wisely.

Please visualise the range of video-spots “Energel” at <http://biomasa.aee.md/video-ro/> and follow its advice.

## ENERGY AND BIOMASS PROJECT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

16-29 March	Business Mission to Poland, the Czech Republic and Romania “Getting acquainted with the technologies for manufacturing and assembling biomass-fired boilers in the EU Member States”.
14 March	Meeting of the Selection Committee to choose the rural communities from Ialoveni, Straseni, Calarasi, Nisporeni, Causeni, and Taraclia Districts willing to connect their public institutions to biomass heating systems; Second Phase;
Martie (tbd)	Launching the Grant Programme to purchase biomass boilers for households.

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**The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union and UNDP.**